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BI-CENTENNIAL HISTORY OF ALBANY.

HISTORY

OF THE

COUNTY OF ALBANY,

N. Y.,

FROM 1609 TO 1886.

WITH PORTRAITS, BIOGRAPHIES AND ILLUSTRATIONS.

HOWELL. ❋ TENNEY.

ASSISTED BY

LOCAL WRITERS.

NEW YORK:
W. W. MUNSELL & CO., PUBLISHERS,

1886.

PREFACE.

THIS volume is the work of many writers. It will therefore exhibit various characteristics of style, and each writer will be responsible only for what he wrote, and the Editor-in-Chief answers only for the outward form of expression, and not for the substance of the narrative.

The publishers have shown no little perseverance in overcoming obstacles in the progress of the work, and have spared no pains or expense to secure a valuable history for the subscribers and the public.

An exhaustive history of Albany and its many thousands of citizens would need twenty volumes of the size of this to include a full history of all the men, women and events that have contributed both directly and indirectly to its history and present prosperity.

A judicious selection of material has, therefore, been found necessary, and even some pruning to make publication possible.

The issue of the work has been delayed beyond our hopes and expectations simply on account of the immense labor in accumulating facts and reducing them to a connected narrative.

Not only was it necessary to embody here for the present generation the history of the past, but also to present a pen picture of what Albany and Schenectady Counties are at the present time for the benefit of future generations.

It has been the aim of the publishers to have given also biographies of some of the representative men of all professions, and a representative exhibit of the various industries in the two counties.

It is the hope of all concerned in the book that a valuable contribution to the history of two of the oldest counties in the State is now offered to the public.

George L. Howell.
Editor-in-chief.

PREFACE.

THE part we have performed in the preparation of this History of the County and City of Albany is indicated at the headings of the principal divisions and in the Table of Contents. The labor involved in this planning, writing and editing is far greater than we had anticipated, or than any but a careful historian can appreciate.

We have had valuable aid in special contributions from writers whose names are given; and many others have contributed facts and suggestions which have been gratefully received.

We have sought for "the truth of history" from every source in our reach, and patiently gathered what seemed best fitted to our purpose.

We could have made a smaller volume, but many facts and factors demanded recognition. More easily we could have made a larger one, but duty to our worthy publishers urged all possible condensation.

We think all will notice with approval the strictly topical presentation and discussion of our subjects. We have tried to make a book of facts, well selected and well arranged. We have sacrificed nothing to figures of speech or "words of learned length."

We commit this volume, with its excellencies and defects, to the friends who have encouraged us, and whom we have tried to please; and to no one with more confidence than to the honest and faithful student of history, who will most readily appreciate what is good and pardon what is faulty in it.

Jonathan Tenney

Editor.

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CORRIGENDA.

Inaccuracies in proof-reading, easily corrected by any intelligent reader, are not noted.

Page 1.—The note at the bottom of the page, contradicting the text, inserted without the knowledge of the writer, is regarded by him as making statements not founded on the best authority.

Page 2.—Omit the two last periods in Chapter II, first paragraph, beginning with "The Hudson River;" also, the gratuitous note at the bottom of the page.

Page 14.—Last line, first column, read "2.61 feet" instead of "17½ feet;" and in the note, a little less than three feet.

Page 41.—Under July, 1698, read "Hendrick Hansen" instead of "House."

Page 43.—Last line save one, in first column, "probably" should read "properly."

Page 73.—Line 11, from bottom of second column, read "Joel" instead of "Jared L." Mayer, 1838-41. Also, line 20, "Colonel Philip," of revolutionary fame, and not "Mayor Philip," had his seat at Cherry Hill. See page 291.

Page 618.—Tabernacle in place Emmanuel.

Page 675.—First line of note, read "Barnard" instead of "Brainard."

Page 679.—David P. Page was first Principal of Albany Normal School. The "Legislative Act" was passed May 7, 1844.

Page 691.—Read "Academian" in place of "Academician."

Page 697.—In line 33, second column, read 1849, and "Lodge" in place of "Lady's"

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SCHENECTADY COUNTY, N. Y.

ALBANY COUNTY, N. Y.

OUTLINE HISTORY

OF THE

STATE OF NEW YORK.

REVISED AND CORRECTED BY PROF. JONATHAN TENNEY, PH.D.

CHAPTER I.

DISCOVERY OF NEW YORK—THE INDIANS OF THE FIVE NATIONS.

IN 1524, John de Verazzano, a Florentine navigator in the service of Francis I. of France, made a voyage to the North American coast, and, as is believed from the account which he gave, entered the harbor of New York. No colonies were planted; no results followed; and the voyage was almost forgotten.

Though discoveries and settlements were made by the French north from this point, and colonies were planted by the English farther to the south, it is not known that New York was again visited by Europeans till 1609,* when the Dutch East India Company sent Henry Hudson, an Englishman by birth, on a voyage of discovery, in a vessel called the *Half Moon*. He reached the coast of Maine, sailed thence to Cape Cod, then southwesterly to the mouth of Chesapeake Bay; then, coasting northward, he entered Delaware Bay, on the 28th of August. From thence he proceeded northward, and on the 3d of September, 1609, anchored in New York Bay. On the 12th he entered the river that bears his name, and proceeded slowly up to a point just above the present site of the City of Hudson; thence he sent a boat's crew to explore farther up, which probably passed above Albany. September 23d he set sail down the river, and started on his return to Europe, October 4th.

In 1609 Samuel Champlain, a French navigator, sailed up the St. Lawrence, explored its tributaries, and on the 4th of July, in that year, discovered the lake which bears his name.

At the time of the discovery of New York by the whites, the southern and eastern portions were inhabited by the Mohegan Indians; while that portion west from the Hudson River was occupied by five confederate tribes, afterwards named by the English the Five Nations, by the French the Iroquois, and by themselves called Hodenosaunee —people of the Long House. The Long House formed by this confederacy extended east and west through the State, having, at its eastern portal, the Mohawks, and at its western the Senecas; while between them dwelt the Oneidas, Onondagas, and Cayugas; and, after 1714, a sixth nation, the Tuscaroras, southeast from Oneida Lake. Of these Indians, Parkman says that at the commencement of the seventeenth century, "in the region now forming the State of New York, a power was rising to a ferocious vitality, which, but for the presence of Europeans, would probably have subjected, absorbed, or exterminated every other Indian community east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio."

"The Iroquois was the Indian of Indians. A thorough savage, yet a finished and developed savage, he is, perhaps, an example of the highest elevation which man can reach without emerging from his primitive condition of the hunter. A geographical position, commanding, on the one hand,

* And yet there is abundant evidence from the older French, Spanish and Italian writers of the frequent visits of French traders to that part of America lying between the northeastern part of Florida and the coast of Newfoundland, and even up the Hudson River to Cohoes Falls. This view is confirmed by the map of Visconte de Maiollo of Genoa, in 1527, where the territory above named is clearly shown by a boundary line and the arms of France, with the name of Francesca designating it, and capes and headlands all along the coast indicated and named: by the map of Gerard Mercator, made in Duisburg in 1569, where the Hudson River is shown to the north of the junction of the Mohawk: and by the map in the "Cosmographie Universelle" of André Thevet, printed in Paris in 1575, where the Hudson River is shown as in the map of Mercator above mentioned. The very name of this section of the country, Norumbega, is doubtless of French origin, being a corruption of "L'anorme berge," "the great rock ledge, or escarpment," now called the Palisades. For these facts and for an examination of the maps mentioned, I am greatly indebted to the late work of Mr. A. J. Weise, entitled, "Discoveries of America to 1525." G. R. H.

the portal of the great lakes, and, on the other, the sources of the streams flowing both to the Atlantic and the Mississippi, gave the ambitious and aggressive confederates advantages which they perfectly understood and by which they profited to the utmost. Patient and politic as they were ferocious, they were not only the conquerors of their own race, but the powerful allies and the dreaded foes of the French and English colonies; flattered and caressed by both, yet too sagacious to give themselves without reserve to either. Their organization and their history evince their intrinsic superiority. Even their traditionary lore, amid its wild puerilities, shows at times the stamp of an energy and force in striking contrast with the flimsy creations of Algonquin fancy. That the Iroquois, left under their own institutions, would ever have developed a civilization of their own, I do not believe."

These institutions were not only characteristic and curious, but almost unique. Without sharing Morgan's almost fanatical admiration for them, or echoing the praises which Parkman lavishes on them, it may be truly said that their wonderful and cohesive confederation furnished a model worthy to be copied by civilized nations; while, so long as they were uncontaminated by the vices of civilization, they possessed, with all their savagery, many noble traits of character, which would adorn any people in their public, social, or domestic relations.

They made themselves the dreaded masters of all their neighbors east of the Mississippi, and carried their victorious arms far to the north, the south and the east. Their dominance is thus eloquently pictured in Street's "Frontenac":

> "The fierce Adirondacs had fled from their wrath,
> The Hurons been swept from their merciless path;
> Around, the Ottawas, like leaves, had been strewn,
> And the lake of the Eries struck silent and lone.
> The Lenape, lords once of valley and hill,
> Made women, bent low at their conqueror's will.
> By the far Mississippi the Illini shrank
> When the trail of the TORTOISE was seen on the bank;
> On the hills of New England the Pequod turned pale
> When the howl of the WOLF swelled at night on the gale;
> And the Cherokee shook in his green, smiling bowers,
> When the foot of the BEAR stamped his carpet of flowers."

It will hereafter be seen that the Iroquois acted an important part in the early history of the State.

Space will not permit a description of their league, or confederation, a sketch of their tribal relations, and their religious, social, and domestic customs, or a history of their warlike achievements. Nor is it necessary. Every one has heard or read the story.

CHAPTER II.

NEW YORK UNDER THE DUTCH—ENGLISH GOVERNORS TO 1765.

IN 1610, another vessel was sent from Holland to trade with the natives. Soon after others followed. A small fort and a few rude buildings were erected at the southern extremity of Manhattan Island, in 1612, and the place was named New Amsterdam. In 1614, the States General of Holland granted a charter to the merchants engaged in these expeditions, under the title of United New Netherlands Company, giving exclusive privileges of trade for four years. The Hudson River had been ascended by Hendrick Corstiaenssen, and in 1623 a fort and trading house were erected on the east bank of the river about fifteen leagues above Manhattan Island, called Fort Nassau. This was the first of four forts built by the Dutch on the Hudson River, all of which were erected in the same year.*

In 1621, the Dutch West India Company was chartered, and in 1623, a small fort was built near the Hudson River, in what is now the City of Albany, called Fort Orange, and traders were sent to occupy and to carry on traffic in furs and peltry with the Indians. In 1626, Peter Minuit, as director-general of the province, arrived with other settlers, and purchased the island of Manhattan from the Indians for trinkets valued at about $24. In 1629, the Company offered grants and privileges to patroons who should found settlements in the province of New Netherlands of fifty or more adults. Several availed themselves of this offer. In 1632, Minuit was recalled and Wouter Van Twiller appointed in his place. During his administration a controversy concerning jurisdiction was commenced between the Dutch and the English. The latter claimed the country on the ground of prior discovery by Cabot and the grant of James I. covering the territory.

In 1638, the weak and rapacious Van Twiller was succeeded in the government of the colony by William Kieft. Hostilities, long and merciless, occurred with the Indians, for which the rash and

* The first Dutch traders on their arrival at the present site of Albany, found the remains of a fort or *chateau* on Castle Island, took measurements of it (which are recorded on an old map in the New York State Library) and called it Fort Nassau, but they at that time built no fort there. The old fort on Castle Island, which suggested the name for the island itself, was undoubtedly the relic of a previous occupation by the French as a trading port. The name of Fort Orange, a fort on the mainland at the foot of State Street, Albany, was on September 1, 1673, changed to Fort Nassau, and the name of the settlement Beverwyck to Willemstadt. G. R. H.

cruel Kieft was deservedly censured. He was recalled, and succeeded by the sturdy and honest Peter Stuyvesant, in 1647. Controversy concerning jurisdiction and general disorders troubled his administration, till, in 1664, Charles II. of England, regardless of the claims of the Dutch, granted to his brother, the Duke of York and Albany, afterwards James II., the whole country from the Connecticut to the Delaware, including the entire Dutch possessions. A fleet was sent under Col. Richard Nicolls by the Duke, to enforce his claim, and on the 3d of September, 1664, the province was surrendered without bloodshed, and the government of New Netherlands passed into the hands of the English.

Col. Nicolls at once assumed the functions of governor; the name New Amsterdam was changed to New York, and Fort Orange to Albany; laws for the government of the province were prescribed, and courts for their administration established. In 1668, the unpopular Nicolls resigned, and was succeeded by the odious Col. Francis Lovelace. England soon became involved in a war with Holland. July 30, 1673, New York surrendered to the Dutch without resistance. Capt. Anthony Colve became Dutch governor; but on the conclusion of peace between the two powers, February 9, 1674, the province, by treaty, reverted to the English. A new patent was issued to James, confirming the first, and Sir Edmund Andros was commissioned governor. The despotic agent of a despotic ruler, he was unpopular, and became involved in difficulties with the neighboring colonies. He was recalled, and Thomas Dongan, his successor, arrived August, 1683. October 17th of the same year, the first Colonial Assembly was convened; many needed reforms were instituted, counties were erected, and better times appeared to have dawned. The most important act of this Assembly was the adoption of a charter of liberties and privileges, or bill of rights. The hopes thus raised were soon disappointed. On the accession of James II. to the English throne, in 1685, he refused confirmation of the privileges which had been granted while he was Duke of York, prohibited the Assembly, forbade the establishment of a printing press in the colony, and filled the principal offices in the province with partisan Roman Catholics. During Dongan's administration, a war broke out between the Iroquois and the French. The country of the former had been invaded by De la Barre and M. Denonville successively; and, in retaliation, the Iroquois, twelve hundred strong, fell upon the French on the south side of the island of Montreal, "burned their houses, sacked their plantations, and put to the sword all the men, women and children without the skirts of the town. A thousand French were slain in this invasion, and twenty-six were carried into captivity and burned alive." The French yielded their claim to the territory south of Lake Ontario, and peace returned.

In 1688, New York was placed in the same jurisdiction with New England; the liberal Dongan was recalled, and Francis Nicholson temporarily succeeded him. The arbitrary and foolish King James II. abdicated in 1688, and in 1689 William and Mary ascended the English throne. Sir Edmund Andros was seized at Boston, and the popular Jacob Leisler held the fort at New York, awaiting the policy of the new sovereigns. During the two years of Leisler's control, the French and English made a descent on Schenectady, February 8, 1690, and massacred about sixty of the inhabitants. The danger by which they were threatened induced all the people, many of whom were opposed to Leisler—to submit to his authority for the time. On the arrival, in March, 1691, of Col. Sloughter, who had been commissioned governor, Leisler was unfairly tried by a special commission, and unjustly sentenced to death. The governor refused to sign his death warrant, until over-persuaded while intoxicated. Leisler was murdered by his enemies before the governor had recovered from his intoxication. Sloughter died after a weak administration of only a few months.

In August, 1692, Benjamin Fletcher arrived with a commission as governor. He was narrow, violent, avaricious and bigoted, and his administration was a continual exhibition of these qualities.

During his time, the Episcopal Church became the religion of the province, as the Dutch Reformed had previously been. In 1696, Wm. Bradford established the first printing-office in New York. Bold piracies, reaching into the very harbor of the city, crippled the commercial interests. The war with France raged, and the French and Indians under Count Frontenac invaded the country of the Iroquois, killing and taking prisoners. The Indians retaliated by hostile incursions among their enemies, but the peace of Ryswick, between France and England, in 1697, terminated these hostilities.

Gov. Fletcher was succeeded in 1698 by Richard, Earl of Bellomont. He died in 1701, leaving a name honored for integrity, capacity and sympathy with the people. In his time the citizenship and estate of the Leisler family were restored, and piracy was checked. John Nanfan succeeded him till the

arrival of the next governor, Lord Cornbury, in 1702. The administration of this governor was chiefly distinguished for religious intolerance, dishonesty and licentiousness—the worst governor under the English regime. He was succeeded, in 1708, by Lord Lovelace, who soon died. Under Lieut.-Gov. Ingoldsby, who administered the government after his death, an unsuccessful expedition against Canada was undertaken, and he was removed. June 14, 1710, Gov. Robert Hunter arrived. In 1711, another disastrous expedition against Canada was made; but in 1713, the treaty of Utrecht terminated the war between England and France. In 1719, Hunter returned to England, in failing health, and Peter Schuyler was governor, *ad interim*, till the arrival of William Burnet in 1720. On the accession of George II. the accomplished Burnet was transferred to the government of Massachusetts, succeeded, in 1728, by John Montgomerie, who died in 1731. Rip Van Dam, by virtue of seniority in the council, was his successor, till William Cosby, the next governor, began, in 1732, an administration memorable for its arbitrary proceedings and tumult, rather than for striking or important events. The libel trial of Zenger was in his term. Cosby died in 1736, and was succeeded by George Clark, senior counselor after Van Dam. Clark was commissioned lieutenant governor in the following October. During his term, the "negro plot" and the disfranchisement of the Jews were leading matters. An antagonism had been growing during some time between the democratic and the aristocratic parties in the colonies. Clark, at first, sought to conciliate both, but in the end had the confidence of neither, and his retirement, on the arrival of his successor, Admiral George Clinton, in 1743, was little regretted. The administration of Governor Clinton was characterized by a continual conflict with the people, represented in the provincial Assembly. Unable by repeated prorogations and dissolutions to coerce them into submission, he resigned after an administration of ten years, and was succeeded, in 1753, by Sir Danvers Osborne. After an administration of a few days he committed suicide by hanging, deranged, probably because of the embarrassment by which he was surrounded and domestic grief. He was succeeded by Lieut.-Gov. James De Lancey, till the arrival, in 1755, of Sir Charles Hardy, who, though nominally governor, surrendered the duties of the office into the hands of De Lancey. Gov. Hardy resigned in 1757, and De Lancey became governor. He died in 1760, and Cadwallader Colden, president of the council, took charge of the government until October, 1761, when Gen. Robert Monckton assumed the gubernatorial functions; but on the 13th of the following month he left the administration of affairs in the hands of Colden, and went on an expedition against Martinique. Colden's administration continued till 1765.

CHAPTER III.

WAR WITH FRANCE AND COMMENCEMENT OF THE REVOLUTION.

As early as 1722, a trading post was established at Oswego by Gov. Burnet, with the view of establishing others farther west on the lakes, and securing the trade of the western Indians. To intercept this, and secure this trade for themselves, the French established a post and erected a fort at Niagara, with the design of extending a chain of military posts to the Ohio River, and thus limiting the English trade.

In March, 1744, war was declared between France and England, in which the colonies of New York and New England participated. During its continuance the country north from Albany was frequently ravaged by parties of French and Indians. Saratoga was burned, and nearly all the inhabitants either killed or made prisoners, and the village of Hoosic taken.

In 1746, an unsuccessful expedition against Canada was undertaken, for which the colony of New York furnished sixteen hundred men. Peace was concluded at Aix La Chapelle in 1748, and a period of nominal tranquillity followed, though the frontier was desolated by savage parties, encouraged by the French.

In 1755, with the view of checking their encroachments, four expeditions were sent against them, two of which were in the colony of New York. One of them, that against Niagara, under Gov. William Shirley, was unsuccessful; and the other, against Crown Point, under Sir Wm. Johnson, achieved only a partial success.

It was not till 1756 that the English ministry aroused from its imbecility and formally declared war. In the campaign of 1756, the English and colonial forces met with no success, but the two forts at Oswego were lost, with 1,600 prisoners and much war material. The campaign of 1757 was equally unsuccessful and disastrous. Fort William Henry, on Lake George, with 3,000 men, fell into the hands of the French under Montcalm.

On the accession of William Pitt to the head of

the British ministry, in 1758, new energy was infused into its measures, and a fresh impulse given to the colonies. Success soon turned in favor of the English, and, with few exceptions, continued till Canada was subdued. Louisburg surrendered in 1758; Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Niagara and Quebec fell in 1759; and Montreal, Detroit, Michilimackinac and all other Canadian posts in 1760. The French power in America was ended. A great obstacle to the prosperity of New York was removed by the conquest of Canada. There were no further hostile incursions of French and Indians into its territory. The treaty of peace was signed in 1763.

During many years the government of Great Britain had attempted to make encroachments on what the colonists regarded as their rights, but without complete success. The taxation of the people without their consent was sought to be accomplished in some insidious manner, and was steadfastly and watchfully guarded against by the colonists through their representatives in the colonial Assembly. In 1765, the notorious Stamp Act was passed, and its enforcement in the City of New York and elsewhere attempted. It was resisted by the populace; the effigy of Gov. Colden, who was charged with its execution, was hanged and burned in the streets, and a quantity of the stamped paper was seized and consumed in a bonfire.

Through the influence of London merchants, whose colonial trade suffered by reason of the act, the odious law was repealed in 1766; but its repeal was followed by a declaration by Parliament of the right "to bind the colonies in all cases whatsoever." Troops were quartered in New York City, for the purpose of enforcing the laws that Parliament might enact. Collisions occurred between these troops and the people, and the Assembly refused appropriations for their support. Parliament declared the legislative powers of the Assembly annulled until compliance with the demands of the government. In June, 1767, a bill was enacted by Parliament imposing duties on tea and certain other articles imported into the colonies. This was followed by a revival of the non-importation agreement that had previously been entered into by the colonists, and again the interests of the English merchants procured the repeal of all these duties, except that on tea.

Sir Henry Moore succeeded Gov. Colden in 1765, and his administration continued till his death, in 1769, when the government again devolved on Cadwallader Colden. Between the soldiers and the Sons of Liberty animosities continued to exist. On the 18th of January, 1770, a collision between patriot citizens and the soldiery occurred at Golden Hill, in New York City, in which several of the citizens were wounded.

In October, 1770, Lord Dunmore superseded Colden. In 1771, he was transferred to Virginia, and succeeded in New York by William Tryon.

The non-importation agreement was continued so far as related to tea, and the East India Company suffered severely in consequence. Determined to maintain the assumed right of taxation, the British government remitted to the company the export duty on tea shipped to the colonies, and demanded 3d. per pound to be paid in America. Regardless of this appeal to their cupidity, the people made such demonstrations of resistance that the consignees in New York resigned, and when an attempt was made to land a quantity of tea clandestinely, it was thrown overboard by the vigilance committee, April 22, 1774, as it had been done in Boston on the 16th of the previous December. It is hardly necessary to say that the oppressive acts of the King and Parliament met with as firm resistance in the other colonies as in New York. The battle of Lexington, April 19, 1775, was the signal for a general rush to arms throughout all the colonies. The first Continental Congress met September 5, 1774.

In New York City the arms in the arsenals were seized and distributed among the people, and a provisional government for the city was organized. Ticonderoga was seized on the 10th of May, 1775, by Vermont and Connecticut patriots under Col. Ethan Allen, and two days later, Crown Point was taken by Seth Warner. Thus the command of Lake Champlain was secured.

The adjourned Continental Congress, with five members from New York, assembled in Philadelphia on the 10th of May. The Provincial Congress assembled in New York April 20th and May 22d.

It authorized the raising of two regiments, encouraged the making of powder and muskets, projected forts, and appointed a Committee of Safety.

In the autumn an armament was collected by Gen. Philip Schuyler, at Ticonderoga, and an expedition went against Canada, under Gen. Richard Montgomery, who fell at Quebec, December 31, 1775. The forts at Chambly, St. Johns and Montreal were taken, and Quebec was assaulted; but the colonial force was finally repulsed by overwhelming numbers, and driven out of Canada,

after much brave fighting and heroic endurance, in the summer of 1776.

CHAPTER IV.

REVOLUTIONARY EVENTS IN NEW YORK—THE STATE GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED.

WASHINGTON, by appointment of Congress, took command of the Continental army July 3, 1775, at Cambridge, Mass. Early in 1776, Gen. Charles Lee, with a force of twelve hundred men, occupied the City of New York against Sir Henry Clinton. On the 25th June, General Howe, who had previously evacuated Boston and sailed for Halifax, appeared off Sandy Hook with his army, where he was soon afterwards joined by his brother, Admiral Howe, with a force of British regulars and Hessians, and Clinton, on his return from an unsuccessful attack on Charleston, making an aggregate force of about 30,000 men.

The Provincial Congress of New York adjourned to White Plains, where it convened on the 9th of July, and ratified the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress, made July 4, 1776.

On the 22d of August, a British force landed on Long Island, and on the 27th a battle was fought, resulting in the defeat of the Americans, who, on the night of the 29th, favored by a thick fog, retreated to New York. We have not space to tell the horrible story of the New York prisons and prison-ships, nor of the barbarian execution of Nathan Hale. The plan had been formed to capture New York, ascend the Hudson, effect a junction with a force from Canada under Gen. Carleton, and thus cut off communication between the patriots of New England and those of the middle and southern colonies; but the precautions of Washington and the failure of Carleton frustrated the plan.

On the 15th of September, Gen. Howe took possession of New York, and the Americans retreated to Harlem Heights. Gen. Howe sought to gain their rear, but Washington's movements frustrated his designs. On the 28th of October, was fought the battle of White Plains. Fort Washington and Fort Lee were taken by the British in November.

Opposed to Gen. Carleton at the north was Gen. Gates, who abandoned Crown Point and concentrated his forces at Ticonderoga. A small squadron was formed and placed on Lake Champlain under command of Arnold in August. An action took place in October between this squadron and the fleet which Carleton had prepared at St. Johns, in which the Americans were defeated and fell back on Ticonderoga. Not deeming it prudent to attack them there, Gen. Carleton withdrew to Canada. The whole affair reflected credit on American skill and bravery in naval contest.

On the 21st of April, 1777, the first State Constitution was adopted at Kingston, and under it George Clinton was elected governor.

The principal object of the British in the campaign of 1777, was to carry out the cherished design of separating the eastern from the southern colonies by controlling the Hudson River and Lake Champlain. Gen. Burgoyne, who had superseded Gen. Carleton, was to force his way from Canada, and meet Sir Henry Clinton at Albany, while Col. St. Leger was to ascend the St. Lawrence, and, with a force of loyalists and Indians, sweep through the Mohawk valley from Oswego and Rome, and join them at the same city.

In June, Burgoyne moved on Ticonderoga, which Gen. St. Clair evacuated on July 5th. The American army retreated to Fort Edward. At Bennington, the Americans, under Gen. John Stark, achieved a splendid victory over a detachment of the enemy under Col. Baum, on the 17th of August.

Col. St. Leger invested Fort Schuyler, situated where now is the village of Rome. Gen. Gansvoort was in command of the fort, called later Fort Stanwix, to whose relief Gen. Herkimer was sent. Under him was fought, August 5th, the fierce battle of Oriskany against Tories and Indians from the forces of St. Leger. The bravery of Marinus Willett and Gen. Arnold saved the fort and led St. Leger to withdraw on the 22d of August.

Gen. Philip Schuyler, in command of the northern army, continued his retreat before Burgoyne, until he reached Van Schaick's Island, at the mouth of the Mohawk, where he threw up intrenchments and awaited the approach of the enemy. Here he was superseded by Gen. Gates, who advanced his forces to Bemis Heights, in Stillwater, where were fought the desperate and decisive battles of the 19th of September and 7th of October, and Burgoyne was forced to surrender, on the 17th of October, his whole army and military equipage.

While operations were in progress in the vicinity of Saratoga Sir Henry Clinton sought to make a diversion in favor of Burgoyne. He proceeded up the Hudson, captured Forts Montgomery and Clinton, devastated the settlements along the banks of the river, burnt Kingston, and, on learning of

the surrender of Burgoyne, returned to New York.

In the campaigns of 1778 and 1779, no very important operations were carried on in New York. The Indians of the Six Nations (except some of the Oneidas and a few others) were induced by the Tories to carry on against the Americans their savage and cruel warfare, and devastation, slaughter and massacres were the result. To arrest these depredations Gen. John Sullivan, in the summer of 1779, with an army of 3,000 men, ascended the Susquehanna to Tioga Point, where he was joined by Gen. James Clinton with a thousand men. With these forces they penetrated the country of the savages, destroyed their towns, and laid waste their cornfields and orchards, all through Western New York. Though not subdued by this punishment, they were so crippled that their inroads were less frequent and destructive.

During the years 1780 and 1781, the Mohawk valley was the scene of devastation by the savages of the Six Nations, particularly the Mohawks, under their celebrated chief Brant. The oft-told tales of massacre at Wyoming, Cherry Valley, Minnisink, Cobleskill, and other peaceful homes along the Susquehanna, Mohawk, Schoharie and Delaware valleys, require no repetition. Aside from these, New York was not the scene of important hostile operations. The year 1780 was made memorable by the treason of Arnold. This brave and daring officer had, for some irregularities in Philadelphia in 1778, been court-martialed and sentenced to be reprimanded by the commander-in-chief. He apparently acquiesced in the sentence, but his pride was deeply wounded, and he thirsted for revenge. He solicited and obtained command of West Point, and entered into negotiations with Sir Henry Clinton for the delivery of that fortress into the hands of the British. In the course of these negotiations Major John Andre, of the British army, met Gen. Arnold on the banks of the Hudson. In attempting to return he was captured, about thirty miles from New York, by three militiamen, named John Paulding, David Williams and Isaac Van Wart, who refused his offered bribes, and delivered him to their commander. He was tried, condemned, and executed as a spy, October 2, 1780.

The Revolutionary War virtually closed with the surrender of Cornwallis and his army at Yorktown on the 19th of October, 1781. A treaty of peace was entered into on the 3d of September, 1783, and on the 25th of November in the same year the British troops evacuated New York. Washington laid down his command in December.

After the United States had achieved their independence, it was early perceived that the confederation, which had been established for a particular purpose, lacked that cohesive force which was requisite for an effectual national government. Measures were accordingly instituted, first for a revision of the Articles of Confederation, but, finally, the formation of a national Constitution was determined on; and such Constitution was formed by the Convention in Philadelphia, in 1787. Hamilton, Yates and Lansing were the delegates from New York. After its adoption by the requisite number of States, it was ratified in Convention by the State of New York, on the 26th of July, 1788, by a vote of 30 to 27, and seven not voting.

The difficulties arising out of the conflicting claims of New York and New Hampshire to the territory now comprising Vermont, since 1763, which had been held in partial abeyance during the Revolutionary struggle, were finally settled by the admission of the disputed territory into the Union, in 1790, under the name of Vermont, as the fourteenth State.

By reason of indefiniteness and confusion in the original grants, Massachusetts made valid claim upon a portion of the territory of New York. This claim was settled by the cession to Massachusetts of all rights, except that of political sovereignty, over about one-fourth of the State. The largest tract of these lands, embracing what has been known as the Genessee country, was sold by Massachusetts for the sum of one million dollars.

CHAPTER V.

THE WAR OF 1812 BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN.

EARLY in the present century difficulties arose between this country and Great Britain concerning the rights of neutrals on the seas, and the alleged aggressions of the British became a subject of bitter animosity.

The English government claimed the right to search American vessels and impress into its service such of their crews as it chose to regard as British subjects. Claiming that the vindication of the national honor demanded it, war was declared by the United States on the 19th of June, 1812. To this measure there was a strong opposition, both in New England and New York. Party spirit ran very high. War crippled commerce and every industry, and cost money and men. To carry it on, an invasion of Canada was determined on,

and forces were collected in the vicinity of Plattsburg, on Lake Champlain, under Gen. Henry Dearborn, and at Lewiston, on the Niagara River, under Gen. Stephen Van Rensselaer. A naval force was fitted up on the lakes, and Commodore Chauncey was placed in command of it. Unsuccessful attempts were made by the British fleet on Sackett's Harbor and Ogdensburg. The British vessel *Caledonia* was captured at the foot of Lake Erie. An attack was made on the heights at Queenstown, on the Canadian side of the Niagara; and though at first the Americans were successful, they were finally compelled to retreat.

Early in the spring of 1813, a successful expedition to Canada was made from Ogdensburg. In retaliation, an attack was made on that place, some stores were taken, several vessels destroyed, and the property of citizens injured. In April, a successful expedition was sent by Gen. Dearborn against York, now Toronto. In May, the British were driven from Fort George, on the Niagara River, near Lake Ontario, and the enemy's post on that frontier was evacuated. Sackett's Harbor was attacked by the British, who were repulsed. An unsuccessful attack was also made by them on the village of Black Rock.

The brilliant victory of Commodore Oliver H. Perry, on Lake Erie, was achieved on the 10th of September, 1813. The operations on Lake Ontario were less decisive. Late in the autumn, an unsuccessful attempt was made to invade Canada under Gen. Wilkinson. The American generals Izard and Hampton were repulsed near the border of Franklin County. In December the British took Fort Niagara, and massacred a large part of the garrison, and even hospital patients. Lewiston was burned, and the villages of Youngstown, Manchester, Schlosser and the Indian village of Tuscarora were devastated by the enemy. The villages of Black Rock and Buffalo were also burned, and thus the desolation of the Niagara frontier was completed.

Early in 1814, an attempt was made by the British to capture some military stores at Oswego Falls, but without success. On the 3d of July, 1814, Fort Erie was taken by the Americans, and on the 25th a battle was fought at Lundy's Lane. In August, Fort Erie was besieged by the British, who were compelled to retire. Scott, Wool, Brown, Miller and other American commanders showed remarkable skill and bravery in these battles; but many noble lives were lost and little gained in compensation.

The plan of a dismemberment of the Union, by possessing Lake Champlain and the Hudson River and capturing New York, was again formed. It was hoped that discontent and opposition to the war in New England, and possibly in New York, might lead to the conclusion of a separate peace with these States. The people, however, were fully aroused, and the defenses of New York were strengthened and strongly garrisoned. An invasion was undertaken from Canada, and a descent was made upon Plattsburg by an army of 11,000 men under Sir George Prevost. A severe engagement, on the 11th of September compelled him to retire with great loss. The British fleet, under Commodore Downie, was on the same day captured on Lake Champlain by Commodore McDonough. No further invasion of the New York frontier took place. On the 24th of December, 1814, a treaty of peace was concluded at Ghent. The cruel war was ended, and the Union was made stronger. Daniel D. Tompkins was the great war governor, and was left almost single-handed to protect our northern frontier, New England, excepting Vermont, being filled with discontents. No State suffered more than New York, or gained more by the return of peace.

No other serious interruption of the peaceful relations between this country and England has occurred. Some infractions of the neutrality laws have been attempted on the Canadian frontier, the chief of which took place during the Canadian rebellion, commonly known as the "Patriot war," in 1837–38.

What were known as the "anti-rent disturbances," growing out of the manorial claims, commenced as early as 1839, and were not terminated till 1846. Laws were enacted to modify the process of collecting rents and to extend the time for "re-entry" on lands where rents were in arrears, and quiet was finally restored.

The annexation of Texas to the United States led to hostilities between Mexico and this nation, and on the 11th of May, 1846, Congress declared that, by the acts of the Mexicans, war existed between the two nations. The Americans were victorious in all important engagements with the Mexican army, and the part taken by the troops from the State of New York, under Generals Worth and Wool, was conspicuous and highly creditable to their valor.

From time to time, the Legislature enacted laws concerning slavery, down to the year 1819. A law passed in 1799 provided for the gradual extinction of slavery in the State. In 1817 a further act was passed decreeing that there should be no slav-

ery in the State after the 4th of July, 1827. Ten thousand slaves were set free by this act, and the dark stain was wiped out.

The recognition of slavery in the Territories of the United States was earnestly resisted during many years, and the controversy finally resulted in a gigantic civil war. On the election of Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency, in 1860, on the platform of avowed hostility to the extension of slavery, and the failure to effect a compromise by which the institution should be recognized or tolerated in any of the Territories, the Southern States determined to secede from the Union and establish a separate government. The attack by the Confederates, as these States styled themselves, on Fort Sumter, was the first overt act of the Rebellion, and its occurrence, in April, 1861, was the commencement of active hostilities. Before the close of that year the State of New York had placed in the field one hundred and fifteen regiments.

In July, 1863, during the execution of a draft ordered by Congress, an alarming riot occurred in the City of New York. The police were unable to check its progress, and during several days the city was convulsed with lawlessness, rapine and murder. The outbreak was finally quelled by military force, but not until a large amount of property had been destroyed and many lives sacrificed. The war was prolonged till April, 1865, when it terminated with the complete success of the Union arms and dispersion of the rebel army. This State had done its part in this great struggle.

CHAPTER VI.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS—CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS—SCHOOLS—STATISTICS.

IN 1791, the Legislature ordered an exploration and survey to ascertain the most eligible method of removing obstructions from the Mohawk and Hudson Rivers, with a view to improve their navigation by the construction of canals. In 1792, two companies were incorporated, styled the Northern and Western Inland Lock Navigation Companies, for the purpose of facilitating navigation by connecting Lake Ontario with the Mohawk and Lake Champlain with the Hudson by canals. Among the prime movers were Gen. Schuyler and Elkanah Watson.

In 1810, a provision was made by the Legislature "for exploring the route of an inland navigation from Hudson's River to Lake Ontario and Lake Erie." It was at first proposed to solicit aid from the general government to carry out this work; but in 1812, a commission reported to the Legislature that sound policy demanded that this should be done by the State. War with Great Britain interrupted the project.

On the termination of the war the project was revived; and notwithstanding the formidable character of the undertaking, and the difficulties in its way, through the untiring energy and perseverance of De Witt Clinton, an act prepared by him was passed in April, 1817, authorizing the construction of the work. This—the Erie Canal—was commenced on the 4th of July in that year, and on the 26th of October, 1825, the first flotilla of boats left Buffalo for New York. Its departure was communicated to New York in one hour and twenty minutes by the discharge of cannon stationed within hearing of each other. This was then regarded as a rapid transmission of intelligence.

The first railroad in the State, between Albany and Schenectady, was chartered in 1826, and completed in 1831. Other roads through the central portion of the State were soon constructed, and railroad connection between the great lakes and Hudson River established. In 1851, these different roads were consolidated into the present immense New York Central Railroad; and, subsequently, connection was made by the Hudson River Railroad, with the City of New York. In 1833, the New York and Erie Railway was commenced, and completed in 1852. The enlargement of the Erie Canal to its present capacity was commenced in 1835 and completed in 1862. These constitute the main avenues of travel and transportation through the State, between its eastern and western extremities. Connecting routes in every direction have come into existence, and the facilities for transportation and travel in this State are not excelled by those of any other. It is hardly necessary to call attention to the telegraph lines that ramify through all parts of the State.

It has already been stated that a State Constitution was adopted in 1777. Several amendments to this Constitution were adopted in the Convention of 1821, and the new Constitution was adopted in 1822, at a popular election held for that purpose, by a large majority in a vote of 116,919.

On the 1st of June, 1846, another constitutional convention met at Albany, which continued in session more than four months. The amendments adopted by that body were ratified by the people in the following November, by a majority of more than 20,000 votes.

In June, 1867, another constitutional convention assembled. The amended Constitution framed by this convention, submitted to the people in November, 1869, resulted in its rejection, except the article making changes in the judiciary, by a majority of more than 66,000. The judiciary article was accepted by a small majority.

In 1872, a commission of thirty-two persons was appointed to propose to the Legislature amendments to the Constitution. In 1873 several important amendments were recommended, and ratified at the election in 1874. It is a notable fact that, as changes have been made in the Constitution of the State, the elective franchise has been extended.

In 1784, a law was enacted incorporating the Regents of the University of New York. They were entrusted with the higher education of the State, as imparted or to be imparted in colleges and academies. The first academies incorporated by them were Erasmus Hall of Flatbush, and Clinton Hall of Easthampton, both on Long Island, and both incorporated November 20, 1787. In their report for 1793, they called attention to the importance of instituting a Common School System. At different times, from 1787 to 1795, Gov. Clinton called the attention of the Legislature to the same subject. In the latter year, an act was passed appropriating $50,000 annually, for five years, for the encouragement of schools. In 1805, after attention had repeatedly been called to the subject by the different governors, the Legislature passed an act laying the foundation of the present common school fund. In 1812, the common school system was adopted, comprising substantially the features of the system as it existed up to 1840. In 1854, a Department of Public Instruction was established, and Victor M. Rice made the first Superintendent. Under his administration of nine years, Normal Schools were established, County Supervision and Teachers' Institutes made more efficient, the odious rate bill was abolished, and other improvements inaugurated, which lay at the foundation of all that has since been done under our grand school system.

The State Agricultural Society, which has been productive of such great benefit, was organized at a convention in Albany in 1832. It was reorganized in 1841, and measures were adopted for raising funds and holding annual fairs.

In 1836, the Legislature ordered a scientific survey of the State for the purpose of developing a knowledge of its geology, mineralogy and natural history. The published reports of this survey are of very great value. To Prof. James Hall is chiefly due this great work.

The following list of the Governors, Lieutenant Governors and Presidents of the Council who have administered the Government of the Colony and of the State of New York from 1629 to the present time, will be found convenient for reference :

UNDER THE DUTCH.—*Directors General*—Adriaen Joris, 1623; Cornelis Jacobsen May, 1624; Willem Verhulst, 1625; Peter Minuit, 1626; The Council, 1632; Wouter Van Twiller, 1633; William Kieft, 1638; Peter Stuyvesant, 1647.

UNDER THE ENGLISH.—*Colonial Governors, etc.*, 1664–73—Richard Nicolls, 1664; Col. Francis Lovelace, 1667.

UNDER THE DUTCH AGAIN, 1673.—Cornelis Evertse, Jr., Jacob Benckes, and Council of War, August 19; Anthony Colve, September 19, 1673.

UNDER THE ENGLISH.—*Colonial Governors, etc* — Major Edmund Andros, 1674; Anthony Brockholles (Commander-in-Chief), 1677; Sir Edmund Andros, 1678; Anthony Brockholles, 1681; Col. Thomas Dongan, 1682; Sir Edmund Andros, August 11, 1685; Francis Nicholson (Lieutenant Governor), October 9, 1688; Jacob Leisler, 1689; Col. Henry Sloughter, March 19, 1691; Major Richard Ingoldsby, July 26, 1691; Col. Benj. Fletcher (Commander-in-Chief), 1692; Richard, Earl of Bellomont, 1688; John Nanfan (Lieutenant Governor), 1699; Earl of Bellomont, 1700; William Smith (eldest Councillor), 1701; John Nanfan (Lieutenant Governor), 1701; Lord Cornbury, 1702; John, Lord Lovelace, 1708; Peter Schuyler (President), May 6, Richard Ingoldsby (Lieutenant Governor), May 9, and Peter Schuyler, May 25, and Richard Ingoldsby (Lieutenant Governor), June 1, 1709; Gerardus Beeckman, April 10; Brigadier Robert Hunter, June 14, 1710; Peter Schuyler (President), 1719; William Burnet, 1720; John Montgomerie, 1728; Rip Van Dam (President), 1731; Col. Wm. Cosby, 1732; Geo. Clarke (President), 1736; Admiral Geo. Clinton, 1743; Sir Danvers Osborne, October 10, and James De Lancey (Lieutenant Governor), October 12, 1753; Sir Charles Hardy, 1755; James De Lancey (Lieutenant Governor), 1757; Cadwallader Colden (President), 1760; Major-General Robert Monckton, October 26, and Cadwallader Colden (Lieutenant Governor), November 18, 1761; Major General Robert Monckton, 1762; Cadwallader Colden, 1763; Sir Henry Moore, 1765; Cadwallader Colden, 1769; John, Earl of Dunmore, 1770; William Tryon, 1771; Cadwallader Colden (Lieutenant Governor), 1774;

William Tryon, 1775; James Robertson, 1780; Andrew Elliot (Lieutenant Governor), 1783.

Governors of the State: George Clinton, 1777; John Jay, 1795; George Clinton, 1801; Morgan Lewis, 1804; Daniel D. Tompkins, 1807; De Witt Clinton, 1817; Joseph C. Yates, 1822; De Witt Clinton, 1824; Martin Van Buren, 1828; Enos T. Throop, 1830; William L. Marcy, 1832; William H. Seward, 1838; William C. Bouck, 1842; Silas Wright, 1844; John Young, 1846; Hamilton Fish, 1848; Washington Hunt, 1850; Horatio Seymour, 1852; Myron H. Clark, 1854; John A. King, 1856; Edwin D. Morgan, 1858; Horatio Seymour, 1862; Reuben E. Fenton, 1864; John T. Hoffman, 1868; John A. Dix, 1872; Samuel J. Tilden, 1874; Lucius Robinson, 1876; Alonzo B. Cornell, 1880; Grover Cleveland, 1883; David B. Hill, 1885.

The population of the colony and State of New York was, in 1698, 18,067; 1703, 20,665; 1723, 40,564; 1731, 50,824; 1737, 60,437; 1746, 61,589; 1749, 73,348; 1756, 96,790; 1771, 163,337; 1790, 340,120; 1800, 586,756; 1810, 959,049; 1820, 1,372,812; 1830, 1,918,608; 1840, 2,428,921; 1850, 3,097,394; 1860, 3,880,735; 1870, 4,382,759; 1880, 5,084,173.

Of the total population there were in 1790, 21,324 slaves; in 1800, 33,343; 1810, 15,017; 1820, 10,088; 1830, 75; 1840, 4.

HISTORY

OF THE

COUNTY OF ALBANY.

WRITTEN AND EDITED BY

PROF. JONATHAN TENNEY, PH.D.

TOPOGRAPHY.

THE County of Albany, one of the original ten counties of the present State of New York, bears the name of the Scotch title of the Duke of York and Albany, afterwards King James II. of England. It was incorporated under Gov. Thomas Dongan, November 1, 1683, and confirmed October 1, 1691. It is situated on the west bank of the Hudson River, about 165 miles from its sources in the Adirondacks, and 168 miles from its mouth at the Atlantic Ocean, reckoning from the Mohawk. It lies at the head of tide water, and of sloop and steamboat navigation. Its latitude is between 42° 23′ and 42° 49′ N. Its longitude is between 2° 40′ and 3° 15′ E. from Washington, and 15′ and 20′ W. from New York City. Its extent, east and west, is about 25 miles; north and south, 22 miles. It has an area of about 544 square miles, or 348,160 acres. Its northern and southern boundaries are nearly parallel, and its western boundary, throughout its whole extent, is understood to run equidistant from the course of the Hudson River in all its windings.

LAND SURFACE.

The land surface of the county is strikingly diversified. Alluvial flats, varying from about a quarter of a mile to one mile in breadth, lie along the Hudson, from which hills arise, by slopes now gentle, now abrupt, to an elevation of from 100 to 200 feet. From these extend undulating plains, varied by fields of sand and clay, small marshes and ravines made by the waterways, until the foot of the Helderbergs is reached on the west, making a total rise of from 400 to 800 feet above the tides. Then come these Helderberg hills, rising from 300 to 1,000 feet higher, and often forming a precipitous wall of 100 feet or more. There are no isolated peaks to these hills. Beyond, sloping gradually toward the west and south, are irregular and rocky plateaus in the towns of Berne and Rensselaerville. Along the Mohawk the land is broken and rugged. Rocky ridges, deep gullies and hills and plains of clay and sand, are abundant throughout the county.

The highest elevation in the county is at the place called the "Helderberg Station" of the United States Coast Survey, a location which ought to have a more distinctive name. Its summit is 1,823 feet above sea level. It lies in the town of New Scotland. The Helderberg Hills are a leading feature of the county, whether we consider their prominence, their geological structure, or their relation to soil and climate. Their "romantic wooded rock scenery, dark caverns, sprayey waterfalls, varied landscape and accessible mountain grandeur render them of interest to the artist, author, student, poet, tourist and rusticator," says Colvin.

GEOGRAPHY.

HILLS.—The name Helderberg signifies Clear Mountain. Its hills and ranges connect with the Catskills, of which they are outlying spurs. They are a continuation of the Allegany Mountains, running northerly across our county, and a part of the great Appalachian system to which belong the Adirondacks, the Green Mountains and the White Hills. No description of these hills so graphic as that written by Verplanck Colvin, of Albany, and published in Harper's "Monthly Magazine," for October, 1869, has yet been seen or read. He tells you of their dark, gray cliffs, their fearful overhanging precipices, their rock-filled gorges, their gloomy recesses untrodden by man, their dripping rocks, their domes and dark intricate caverns, their waterfalls that drop into caves, and, after subterranean flow, appear again as tributaries to larger streams; of their sequestered dens, once the resort of savage beasts and more savage Indians and Tories; of the Indian trail and Indian ladder; of shell-covered cliffs and limestone rocks charged with fossils that tell us

that once they formed beds of the old ocean. Ascending the summits, he shows you the sutured plateaus and the splendid scene in the widespread panorama of field and forest and distant hills around you.

The learned Sir Charles Lyell, of England, visited this region and viewed its varied wonders with amazement, and spoke of them as a new world, forgotten by men of science, abounding in striking peculiarities worthy of close study. Dr. Markle remembers his remark that the "Helderbergs are a key to the geology of North America."

Recently they are much visited, and are becoming a favorite summer resort to the weary student and the tired and stifled denizens of the city, as well as to the appreciative lover of nature. Better facilities for access to them, and pleasant homes upon their slopes and summits, are now provided.

There are other hills in the county that "have a local habitation and a name," as Cedar Hill, in Bethlehem; Mossy and Gedney Hills, in Coeymans; Grippy and Irish Hills, in Berne; Sittles Hill, in Knox; Bennett's, Mount Pleasant and Copeland's Hills, in New Scotland—all spurs or elevations of the Helderbergs.

Islands.—In the acts establishing the river boundary of Albany County all islands in the Hudson that are nearest the western shore are included in our county of Albany. There are several of these, some of which are of considerable importance. Of these Van Rensselaer's or Westerlo Island is the largest, containing about 160 acres of fertile land, adapted to garden culture, producing fine crops in favorable seasons. The northern part is occupied by extensive iron works. Its lower grounds are subject to the heavy floods. In May, 1833, it was occupied by eleven farms, which were overflowed, causing a damage of $6,000 to the crops. It is recorded, in October, 1850, that it had been flooded eight times that year. Historically, this is our oldest island. To say nothing of the traditionary occupation by Spanish or French adventurers, at an earlier date, which, if true, is of little importance, as they left no name and no trace in our history, we are certain that Hendrick Corstiaensen, in 1614, with his companions, occupied the island, under the patronage of the United New Netherlands Company, for the purpose of trading in furs, and remained until the spring floods destroyed their works. Then they removed further down on elevated grounds, near the mouth of the Normanskill. It is said that they erected a stockade as a defense against the Indians, with whom they carried on a profitable trade. This fortification was about 50 feet square, surrounded by a moat 18 feet wide, defended by 11 stone guns and 2 cannon, and garrisoned by 12 men under Jacob Jacobsen Elkins, who succeeded Corstiaenssen. The name of Kasteel or Castle Island was taken. It is called by this name by many early writers, and in the later reports and papers of Gov. Stuyvesant. In 1639, it was visited by De Vries, who found it occupied by Brandt Pylen, or Peelan, under lease from the patroon and his co-partners, Godyn, Bloemart, and De Laet. It was well stocked and successfully farmed. Indians were fishing around its shores. The island has been spoken of at various times as Welysburg, Van Der Donk's, Martin Gerritsen's, Sweaton's and Boyd's Island, probably from its leading occupants. It belongs to the town of Bethlehem. On the Coast Survey maps it is written as Westerlo Island—a preferable name, as the name of Van Rensselaer was, long ago, given to the island opposite Albany and belonging to Rensselaer County, upon which are situated the Boston and Albany Railroad shops.

Near the junction of the Mohawk and Hudson are Haver Island, on which, as tradition tells us, was Moenemines Castle, once an important Mohawk village; Van Schaick's Island, on which Gen. Schuyler, in 1777, retreating from Burgoyne's advancing march, stationed his army behind intrenchments, hoping to stay the progress of the British army towards Albany at that point; and Whale Island, now covered with sand and water, and interesting only as the stranding place of that "monster of the deep," which wandered up the river in 1646, hoping, no doubt, to find a passage to Greenland this way, but instead meeting his death, losing his blubber, greasing the river, and creating a great stench for miles around, by his atmospheric cremation.

Green Island, directly opposite Troy, is a village, incorporated October 14, 1853, and May 12, 1869. It is the seat of extensive manufactures, producing railroad cars, stoves, sash and blinds, etc. It also has the repair shops of the Rens. and Sar. Railroad, foundry and machine shops, malleable iron works and many mechanic shops. It is connected with Troy by a bridge 1680 feet long, and by street cars with Cohoes, Troy, W. Troy and Albany. It has five or six churches, railroad stations of the New York Central and Rens. and Sar. Railroads, and village schools. It was once called Tibbett's Island.

Pleasure Island, a short distance above Albany, is a summer resort, having a race-ground and

other attractions for sporting men and pleasure-seekers.

Beeren Island (Beeren Eylandt), or Bear's Island, in the Hudson, about 11 miles below Albany, belongs to the town of Coeymans, and lies near the shore, a little southeast of the village. Its area is about two acres, its northern aspect being an abrupt rocky promontory, from which it gradually slopes to its southern terminus. Its soil was never adapted to agriculture; trees and a thin growth of grass cover it in patches; it has been a good place for fishing. Claimed by the patroon, it was chosen early as a fine place for fortifications to keep off intruders upon his lands, his timber, his trade and his home. Accordingly, in 1643, a fort, named Rensselaer Stein, was erected, defended by mounted cannon and a garrison, and placed in charge of Nicholas Coorn as wachtmeister. Each skipper, on passing the island, was to lower his flag in acknowledgment of the rights of the patroon and pay a tribute of five stivers. This caused bitter but bloodless contention for a time between the officers of the patroon and of the West India Company. This company denied the exclusive claim to the navigation of the river made by Van Rensselaer. The fort and the controversy ceased when the English came in possession in 1664. Dim history tells us of its occupancy, at one time, by a few Indian hunters; at another, by the Coeymans family as a defense against the Indians; at another, as a quarantine station for vessels coming up from New York City; at another, by hunters digging for the hidden treasure of Capt. Kidd. For a generation past it has been a favorite resort for Sabbath-school and other picnic excursions. For this purpose it is well adapted by location, neatness and fine accommodations.

Other islands in the Hudson, belonging to Albany County, that have a name, beginning southerly and coming up the river, are Shad and and Schermerhorn—the latter called sometimes Neifer—Wooden and Poplar, opposite Coeymans; Sill's or Van Woert, Bear, Beacon or Bisby, Cabbage or Jolly, Marsh and Bogart's, opposite Bethlehem; Lower Patroon, Patroon, Cuyler, Hillhouse or Glen, and Breaker, opposite Watervliet. On the Mohawk, above the Cohoes Falls, are Fonda and Cobble islands.

Ponds.—The ponds or lakes of the county are few and small. In Rensselaerville are two small ponds, dignified by the name of Big and Little Lake; Werner's Lake in Berne; Thompson's in Berne and Knox; Lawson's in New Scotland, and Coeymans. Tivoli Lake is one of the sources of the water supply of Albany, lying in what is now Watervliet, at the north of the city. Deer Pond also is in Watervliet.

The lakes Werner and Thompson, on the hills, are becoming places of delightful resort in summer, for which ample accommodations are made.

Rivers.—The notable rivers that water the county are the Hudson, the Mohawk, the Catskill, the Schoharie and the Normanskill. To these all other streams are tributary. Indeed, all the others and their supplies find their way to the Atlantic through the Hudson.

The streams in the county take the arbitrary designation of river, creek, kill or brook. The direct tributaries of the Hudson are Catskill, Coeymans, Haana-Krois, Vlamans, Normans, Beaver, Rutten, Foxen, Patroon, Ralger, Cemetery, Dry and Mohawk. Those of the Mohawk are the Schoharie, Lisha's, Town and Donkers. Of the Catskill, Eight-Mile, Ten-Mile, Scrub, Fox and Wilbur. Of the Schoharie, Beaver Dam, Foxen and Switz. Of Normanskill, Vly or Fly, Bozen or Boza, Honger, Wildhause and Krum. Other sub-tributaries are the Swart or Black, Oneskethau, Basic, Hockatock, Mill, Elder, Spruyts, Provost, Steinhook, Pitchtaway, Wolf, Fly, Bethlehem or Mud, and several smaller brooks. The Beaver or Buttermilk, Rutten and Foxen Kills, in Albany, are used now mostly for sewer drainage.

Most of the streams which run into the Hudson have worn deep gullies in the sand and clay. Some of these are a hundred feet in depth and extend nearly to the river flats. In the western part of the county the streams generally flow through narrow ravines bordered by steep banks. Most of the streams are very rapid and subject to extremes, rising rapidly during a powerful rain and as rapidly falling. The spring melting of the winter snows fills the channels; the summer drought reduces them to very low water. There are a few natural falls upon several of these kills or creeks, and facilities for increasing greatly their hydraulic power. Vly Kill has a remarkable cascade of 60 feet, and another of 40 feet is in the Oneskethau. But, except at the mouth of the Normanskill and at Cohoes, on the Mohawk, little is done with the water power, except the erection of a few grain and saw mills for local accommodation. With enterprise and money they might become agents in adding vastly to the productive industry of the county. As contributing to an abundant water supply for man and beast, irrigation to

the lands and diversity to our scenery, they cannot be too highly valued.

HUDSON RIVER.—In many respects the Hudson is one of the most important and interesting rivers in the world. It was first made known to the civilized world by Henry Hudson, in 1609, he having entered it and proceeded by ship and boat, probably nearly to the mouth of the Mohawk, and spent most of the month of September, in that year, upon its waters. From its sources in Essex and Hamilton counties, among our northern mountains, to its mouth at Sandy Hook, its length is about 325 miles. Its head branches are the small streams of Adirondack, Boreas, Indian, Schroon, and the larger Sacandaga. Its eastern tributaries, besides many smaller streams, are the Battenkill, Hoosac, Kinderhook, Claverack, Roeliff Jansen, Wappinger, Fishkill and Croton; its western, the Mohawk, Normanskill, Catskill, Esopus, Rondout and Murderer's, and numerous other little creeks and brooks. While these streams increase the volume of the majestic river, the alluvion which they carry down form obstructions to navigation in the shape of bars and flats of sand and deposits of mud, especially for some thirty miles below the sprouts of the Mohawk. The most remarkable of these are the Overslaugh and Winne's bar, in this county, opposite Bethlehem. Many devices, much labor, and heavy expense have been employed for their removal, with only temporary success. As long as water runs the difficulty will remain, although money and toil lessen it. The destruction of the northern forests, unless speedily arrested, must sensibly lessen the water supply of this noble stream, impairing its navigation and damaging every interest in every city and town upon its borders.

Among the names known to have been given this river are Cohatatea, by the Iroquois; Mahaganeghtuc and Shatemuc, by the Mohegans; Great River, by Hudson and his crew; River of the Mountain; North River, to distinguish it from the Delaware, called South River by the early Dutch; also, Mauritius or Maurice, in honor of Prince Maurice of Netherlands; Manhattes; and Hudson, given very appropriately by the early English, and readily adopted by all people.

Baker's and Glen's Falls, in the upper part, are the only rapids of note. The course of the stream is southerly, with only slight curves, and its surface is generally smooth. The elevation above the sea at Albany is only 17½ feet.* The tidal influence is noticed at Albany, although the tide proper can hardly be said to flow so far. The mean tide here is 2.46 above that at Governor's Island. The river, in fact, is an estuary or long arm of the sea, as far up as the Mohawk. The narrows at the Highlands, 53 miles from New York City, making a pass of about 16 miles, present scenery picturesque, grand and exciting. A steamboat ride the whole length of its navigable channel presents a continuous scene of surpassing beauty and sublimity. It is the classic river of our young country, consecrated by the fascinating pages of Irving, Paulding, Cooper, and Lossing, the fine touches of the Harts, Cole and other artists, and the verse of many a local poet. Its waters and its banks are associated with some of the most interesting events of our history, connected with our early discoveries and settlements, the arts of peace and the arts of war. Eminent scholars, writers, philanthropists and patriots have dwelt near its shores, now consecrated by their monuments and the memories of their deeds.

Chancellor Robert R. Livingston, in 1797, assisted by Nisbet, an Englishman, experimented in building a steamboat to navigate the Hudson. He was ridiculed as a visionary humbug when he applied, in 1798, for Legislative aid, but failed in his object when he could not navigate his boat of 30 tons, four miles per hour. It was upon the Hudson that Robert Fulton, encouraged by Livingston, though ridiculed by many, first placed his steamer, the *Clermont*. September 4, 1807, at 7 A. M., he left New York for Albany, which he reached the next day at about 11 P. M. This was the beginning of steamboat navigation on the Hudson.

On the banks of the Hudson dwelt Henry and Morse, inventors of the telegraph. Here is Newburgh, once the headquarters of Washington; and here West Point, pregnant with thrilling historic events, where repose the dust of Kosciusko, Winfield Scott, and many others of our nation's patriots. Here is the school-house of our army officers. At every step along its shores, the traveler—be he scholar, student of history, artist, poet, lover of his country, lover of arts, or lover of nature—finds something to instruct, delight and inspire.

Pleasant villages and flourishing cities charm the traveler sailing down the stream to New York, which owes much of its marvelous commercial prosperity to the river which, for many years, was almost its only channel for bringing into its marts the rich products of the North and the West through the Champlain and Erie Canals. And it may as truly be said of Albany and Troy, that they

*The fall of the river from Albany to New York is a little over three feet. G. R. H.

are the gift of the Hudson, as it was said by them of old, that Egypt was the gift of the Nile. Of the commercial and economical relations of Albany county to this river the reader will see in other parts of this history.

Maude, traveling here in 1800, writes: "The Hudson is one of the finest rivers in America, and superior to them all in romantic and sublime scenery."

Says Charles Mackay, in 1858: "I found abundant reason to agree with the most enthusiastic of Americans that no river in Europe, unless it be the Clyde, surpasses the Hudson in natural beauty, and that the Rhine itself, deprived of its ruined castles, could not stand a comparison with this splendid stream."

The opening and closing of the navigation of the Hudson River at Albany each year, so far as the dates can be found, is here tabulated from the best authorities.

	Closed.	*Opened.*
1645	Nov. 24	——
1786	——	Mar. 23.
1787	——	——
1788	——	——
1789	——	——
1790	Feb. 3, Dec. 8	Mar. 27.
1791	Dec. 8	Mar. 17.
1792	Dec. 12	Mar. 6.
1793	Dec. 26	Mar. 17.
1794	Jan. 12	——
1795	Jan. 22	——
1796	Nov. 28	——
1797	Nov. 26	——
1798	Nov. 23	——
1799	——	——
1800	Jan. 6	——
1801	Jan. 3	Feb. 28.
1802	Feb. 3, Dec. 16	——
1803	——	——
1804	Jan. 12, Dec. 13	Apr. 6.
1805	——	——
1806	Jan. 9	Feb. 20.
1807	Dec. 11	Apr. 8.
1808	Jan. 4	Mar. 10.
1809	Dec. 9	——
1810	Jan. 19, Dec. 14	——
1811	Dec. 20	——
1812	Dec. 21	——
1813	Dec. 22	Mar. 12.
1814	Dec. 10	——
1815	Dec. 2	——
1816	Dec. 16	——
1817	Dec. 7	Apr. 3.
1818	Dec 14	Mar. 25.
1819	Dec. 13	Apr. 3.
1820	Nov. 13	Mar. 25.
1821	Dec. 13	Mar. 15.
1822	Dec. 24	Mar. 15.
1823	Dec. 16	Mar. 24.
1824	Jan. 5	Mar. 3.
1825	Dec. 13	Mar. 6.
1826	Dec. 13	Feb. 25.
1827	Nov. 25	Mar. 20.
1828	Dec. 23	Feb. 8.
1829	Jan. 14	Apr. 1.
1830	Dec. 25	Mar. 15.
1831	Dec. 6	Mar. 15.
1832	Dec. 21	Mar. 25.
1833	Dec. 13	Mar. 21.
1834	Dec. 15	Feb. 25.
1835	Nov. 30	Mar. 25.
1836	Dec. 7	Apr. 4.
1837	Dec. 14	Mar. 27.
1838	Nov. 25	Mar. 19.
1839	Nov. 18	Mar. 25.
1840	Nov. 5	Feb. 25.
1841	Nov. 19	Mar. 24.
1842	Nov. 28	Feb. 4.
1843	Dec. 10	Apr. 13.
1844	Dec. 17	Mar. 18.
1845	Dec. 3	Feb. 24.
1846	Dec. 14	Mar. 18.
1847	Dec. 25	Apr. 7.
1848	Dec. 27	Mar. 22.
1849	Dec. 26	Mar. 19.
1850	Dec. 17	Mar. 10.
1851	Dec. 14	Feb. 25.
1852	Dec. 23	Mar. 28.
1853	Dec. 21	Mar. 23.
1854	Dec. 8	Mar. 17.
1855	Dec. 20	Mar. 27.
1856	Dec. 14	Apr. 11.
1857	Dec. 27	Feb. 27.
1858	Dec. 17	Mar. 20.
1859	Dec. 10	Mar. 13.
1860	Dec. 14	Mar. 6.
1861	Dec. 23	Mar. 5.
1862	Dec. 19	Apr. 4.
1863	Dec. 11	Apr. 3.
1864	Dec. 12	Mar. 11.
1865	Dec. 16	Mar. 22.
1866	Dec. 15	Mar. 20.
1867	Dec. 8	Mar. 26.
1868	Dec. 5	Mar. 24.
1869	Dec. 9	Apr. 5.
1870	Dec. 17	Mar. 31.
1871	Nov. 29	Mar. 12.
1872	Dec. 9	Apr. 7.
1873	Nov. 22	Apr. 16.
1874	Dec. 12	Mar. 19.
1875	Nov. 29	Apr. 13.
1876	Dec. 2	Apr. 1.
1877	Dec. 31	Mar. 30.
1878	Dec. 20	Mar. 14.
1879	Dec. 20	Apr. 4.
1880	Nov. 25	Mar. 5.
1881	Jan. 2	Mar. 21.
1882	Dec. 4	Mar. 8.
1883	Dec. 15	Mar. 29.
1884	——	Mar. 27.
1885	——	——

GEOLOGY.

The geology of the county is included in the "Helderberg Division," belonging to the upper Silurian system, and comprising nearly all the rocks of the "New York system," from the Utica slate to the corniferous limestone. It embraces rocks varied in mineralogical character, chemical composition, and abounding in fossil remains. It contains subordinate beds of clay and silicious grits. In consequence of these rocks being so well developed in the Helderberg hills, forming a natural group, the term of "Helderberg Division" is used to designate them.

The limestone in which the fossils occur is usually a gray, but in some places a reddish crystalline stone. The fossils are a crystalline carbonate of lime, and are so numerous that they attract the attention of the observer when traveling along the road.

The Delthyn's shaly limestone is one of the thickest and most extensive members of the Helderberg Division. This rock is well developed and is frequently quarried as a building stone. The stone fences and roadsides often exhibit the remains of ancient life. This is well exposed on the road from New Salem to Clarksville. The *middle subdivision* is a slaty limestone, and contains fossils of many varieties washed clean by the rains and ready for the collector. These again are numerous in the vicinity of Clarksville and near New Salem.

The *lower subdivision* is a mass of slaty-argillo-silicious limestone, and may be seen one mile north and northwest of Clarksville.

The Onondaga limestone and Schoharie grit are, also, found about Clarksville, and contain many fossils. The argillaceous and shaly rocks are numerous on the summits of hills.

The lowest rock is the Utica slate cropping out on the Hudson, Normans Kill and Mohawk. Above this are the graywackes and shales of the Hudson River group, which appear in the valleys of many streams, and apparently underlie a part of the county.

The rocks of the *Erie* division occupy in the aggregate a thickness of several hundred, probably two thousand feet. The division that is worked for economical purposes is a strata of flagging stone which is from seven hundred to one thousand feet above the Helderberg limestone series.

This stone is extensively quarried for flagging and building purposes in the southeast part of Berne and in Coeymans. The red rocks which form the base of the Helderbergs, probably belong to the Medina sandstone series, sometimes confounded with the red shales of the Onondaga salt group. Next in order above this, and forming the first terrace of the mountains, is the water line group, from 50 to 200 feet thick, and furnishing both water and quicklime. Next in order is the *pentamerus* limestone, 50 feet in thickness, of impure gray and black limestone, mixed with slate and shale, well developed in Berne and Bethlehem. Overlying this is the *Catskill limestone*, from 50 to 180 feet in thickness, consisting of thick compact masses of limestone, alternating with thin layers of shale. This, also, is used for building purposes and lime.

The *Oriskany sandstone* next appears in a stratum two feet thick, well exposed in Berne, Knox and Bethlehem, followed by the *cauda-galli* grit, from 50 to 60 feet thick. This last has a fine grit and resembles black or gray slates, but crumbles upon exposure to the air. The *Onondaga* and coniferous limestones next appear, the latter forming the summits of mountains. These rocks furnish excellent building material, and a superior quality of lime. Above the rocks, in the east part of the county, are deposits of drift, consisting of sand, gravel and clay. The high lands west of the City of Albany are covered to the depth of forty feet with sand, which rest upon a bed of clay estimated to be one hundred feet deep. These clay beds extend into several of the adjoining townships. In this drift are sometimes found beds of bog ore, chalybeate and sulphureted springs. In the limestone regions are caves, sink-holes and subterranean water-courses.

Clay forms the subsoil, or exists at a great depth below the gravel and sand beds which form the plains and elevations.

There are two kinds, the blue and the gray. They are almost uniform by association, the blue lying below the gray. These clays may be used to improve the soil, for the manufacture and glazing of stone ware, and for brick and tile, of which many millions are made at Albany.

The geological formations of Albany County are given by J. G. Gebhard as follows:

Hamilton, Marcellus, Corniferous, Onondaga, Schoharie grit, Cauda-galli grit, Oriskany sandstone, Upper Pentamerus, Delthyn's shale, Pentamerus Galeatus, Tentaculite, Water limestone, Coraline, Pyritous slate, Hudson River sandstone.

The following, abridged from the pen of Henry R. Schoolcraft, a native of this county, in regard to its geology, is worthy a place here.

The most prominent feature of the county is the

range of the Helderbergs, an offshoot of the Catskill Mountains. This highest range divides the county into twc general levels of unequal width, characterized as being *above* or *below* that elevation. The lower level is distinguished for its diluvial and drift deposits of arable layers, clays, sands, analogic pebbles and boulders. The rock strata, as generally denoted by geologists, and more particularly described by Prof. James Hall, are, beginning at the apex of the Helderberg, chertz limestone, neutral colored sandstones, fossiliferous limestone, graywacke, sedimentary, horizontal slate, or graywacke slate and argilite.

The City of Albany rests upon the edges and top of the terraceous blue clays, and their associated sand strata. This terraceous clay is covered with a mantle or plateau of diluvial sand, which extends northwestwardly from the Hudson to the Valley of the Mohawk.

This mantle of sand rests, throughout its entire extent, upon the terraceous blue capitoline clay. Rains and atmospheric moisture speedily sink through it, until arrested by its impervious aluminous basis, by which it finds an outlet on the surface of these clay beds into the nearest streams.

It is by the union of several of the outlets of these spring gorges of the pine plains, that the Honger Kill is formed. Small in its volume, it flows with sufficient force to sink its channel through the deep clay stratum, and enter its recipient, the Normans Kill, through the boulder and pebble drift. Feeble as the action of the stream is, it has been sufficient to reveal a formation of red sandstone, which, apparently, underlies the *under* Helderberg series of graywacke and slates, and the *upper* series of fossiliferous limestone, and its superimposed porous and marly horizontal new sandstones.

This disclosure was made in a depressed part of the Honger Kill Valley. The rock, in colors and grain, resembles the Piedmont or Haverstraw sandstones of the lower Hudson. The localities of these observations are at the now decayed manufacturing village of Hamilton, within about a mile from the entrance of the stream into the Normans Kill. The deepest cutting into the geological column of the county is made by this Tawasentha. This stream in its western fork, the Bozen Kill, originates on the Helderberg range. In passing through the series of newer sandstones, limestones and graywackes, it lays bare the succession of rocks, and hurries with a rapid channel to its junction with the Black Creek and the Tiergaca, or northeast branch. Reinforced by these tributaries, it sweeps its way through the alluvial coverings to the Hudson. In its progress it sinks its level quite through the graywackes and deeply into the Tawasentha slate. At the rapids, in passing through Guilderland, this rock stands in perpendicular facades, from 80 to nearly 120 feet high. The stream finally enters the Hudson, two miles south of the City of Albany, near the ancient Iroquois cemetery of Tawasentha.

The cuttings of the Normans Kill and the construction of railroads reveal the Hamilton group at these points.

Soil.—The soil of any territory in its primitive state, before the hand of cultivation has transformed it, is determined by its geology, vegetation, moisture and temperature.

The soil upon the intervals is a rich alluvial loam, used largely for garden purposes. In Watervliet, Albany, and the eastern parts of Guilderland and Bethlehem, it consists largely of sand, with strips of clay along the banks of the streams. This combination of soil is well adapted for the growth of some grains and grass. The belt of land lying between the sandy region and the foot of the Helderbergs is principally a clay and gravelly loam, receiving the drainage from the limestone hills, which renders the soil very productive. Upon the Helderbergs the soil is colder, consisting of alternate layers of clay, slate and gravel, with a subsoil of tenacious clay or hardpan. Some portions are stony, wet and cold. These are not very productive. Some of these lands are favorable for grazing.

On the Mohawk the land is uneven and naturally sterile. Most of the soil in the county is susceptible of culture, and has within its limits the material needed to make it productive. The facts relating to its husbandry and productions will appear under the head of Agriculture.

MINERALOGY.

Among the minerals of the county, as given by Mather and Beck, are bog iron ore in a few localities; snowy gypsum along the Helderbergs and in Coeymans; marl beds of some extent in Bethlehem and Coeymans; calcareous spar on the banks of the Normans Kill, in a cavern a few miles from Albany, also in the town of Knox and in the McCullough quarries of New Scotland. Epsom salts have been found in small quantities in the form of efflorescences in Coeymans, on the east face of the Helderberg, and in the townships of Bethlehem and Guilderland. Rock and quartz crystals are picked up in several localities. These minerals are of very little value;

but the county is rich in geological formations, as appears elsewhere.

The mineral springs of the county comprise the following: Acidulous, saline, chalybeate waters, near Boyd's brewery, Albany, were found in a slate strata after boring 300 feet below tide; another sulphurous spring was found by boring 100 feet; also a carbureted gas spring—both in the same vicinity. Sulphurous springs have been found at Wendell's Hollow, near the city; at Coeyman's Landing; near McKown's, in Guilderland; in Watervliet, near Van Rensselaer's, and in Rensselaerville. White sulphur springs exist in Berne, and on the farm of James Hendrick, in New Scotland. The mineral springs issue from the slate rocks of the Hudson group. The white sulphur springs especially are visited by invalids.

PALEONTOLOGY.

The Cohoes mastodon is the most remarkable of the ancient fossils in this county. The following notes in regard to it are taken from the "Notes and Observations" of Dr. James Hall, our citizen geologist, whose fame in the fields of science makes him a citizen of the world of scholars:

In the month of September, 1866, the workmen engaged in excavations for the foundations of a new mill to be erected by the "Harmony Mills Company of Cohoes, N. Y.," discovered the lower jaw of a mastodon, with a single foot bone, resting upon a projection of rocks between two depressions or concave walls of small pot-holes, in the margin of what afterwards proved to be a large pot-hole.

At this time the excavation had been carried on to the depth of about twenty-five feet from the original surface.

The discovery of a jaw with a single bone in such a position naturally led to the inference that the other parts of the skeleton would be found at the bottom of the pot-hole, could it ever be reached, and the progress of the excavation was watched with great interest. In the bottom of this cavity, lying upon a bed of clay, broken slate, gravel and water-worn pebbles, and covered with river ooze and vegetable soil, lay the principal parts of the mastodon skeleton. The first parts uncovered were the bones of the hind legs, with a portion of the pelvis. The head, with tusks unbroken and undisturbed, was directed to the eastward and partially inclined against the sloping walls. The vertebræ, with exceptions, the ribs in part, one fore limb and scapula followed, the posterior parts lying more to the westward and southwestward, but all in juxtaposition. The absence of the lower and some of the larger limb bones was obvious, and but for these we might have supposed that the entire skeleton had been drifted into this pot-hole and covered with river ooze and peaty soil. On further examination other bones were discovered thirty or forty feet distant, and at a somewhat lower level than the main part of the skeleton, but still above the gravel. Expecting to find some, at least, of the remaining bones, efforts were made to remove all the peaty earth and loose materials, but this was not fully accomplished.

At a later date, some time in February, 1867, during excavations upon another part of the ground outside of the mill, a small pot-hole was opened in which were found bones of the right fore leg and foot. This point is more than sixty feet to the southwest of the place where the principal bones of the skeleton were found, and at least twenty feet higher.

All the parts of the skeleton found at the different points designated were presented to the State Cabinet of Natural History by Alfred Wild, Esq., President of the Harmony Mills Company, and have been mounted in their proper position. The missing bones were modeled from opposite corresponding parts or from adjacent ones, and afterwards cast in plaster-of-Paris. In some instances recourse was had to the Warren mastodon skeleton, of which careful examinations and comparisons were made.

In the following spring and summer a careful survey of the Cohoes Falls and the surrounding country was made, mainly with a view of determining the relations of the pot-holes, in which the mastodon remains were found, to those of the river bed and adjacent valley. From this survey it was clearly ascertained that the large and deep pot-holes were entirely outside the present river channel; that all the pot-holes existing within limits overflowed by the present Mohawk River are shallow basins. We therefore began to distinguish them as *ancient* and *modern*, and, with few exceptions, above the falls all those of the river bed seem to be of modern origin.

We have, by these observations, determined that the water of the present river, neither above, below nor at the falls, produces pot-holes of the character of those in which the mastodon bones were found.

In the bottom of all the ancient pot-holes there is a considerable space occupied by gravel and pebbles, which are chiefly or almost wholly of hard quartzite, a partially metamorphic condition of the

Potsdam sandstone. Turning to the northward, we find large exposures of the sandstone or quartzite, from which these pebbles might have been derived, had there been the means of transporting them.

The breaking down of these rocks, and the transport is usually attributed to the action of ice, and the rounding of these into pebbles is due to the action of water. The agency which transported the quartz pebbles of the Mohawk valley was doubtless the same as that which transported the remains of the mastodon found in the pot-holes at Cohoes. I do not believe that any of the mastodon remains which we find are of animals that wandered into swamps or sought their food in such localities, and thus became mired.

Returning to the consideration of the geographical and geological surroundings of the Cohoes mastodon, we find the following conditions: The Mohawk River, having an easterly direction, makes a bend toward the northward after leaving Schenectady; at Crescent it turns abruptly to the southeast, uniting with the Hudson River below Waterford, and at a point ten miles above Albany. The Cohoes Falls is on the Mohawk, about one mile above its junction with the Hudson River. The area to the southward is covered by drift and estuary deposits in the order of boulder-clay and gravel below, above which is an evenly stratified clay, graduating into a loam, and finally to a fine yellow sand, which covers much of the area between Albany and Schenectady.

The relation of the clay and gravel are often seen in excavations; they are often found resting upon a boulder-clay, or a mixture of clay and gravel, the whole covering an extremely uneven surface of slate rock, as is often seen along the Hudson and at a few points along the Normans Kill.

Throughout all parts of the river bed and channel we search in vain for evidence of pot-holes of the character of those described as containing pebbles of quartzite, and in which the remains of the mastodon were found. These ancient pot-holes are of all dimensions, from one foot to fifty feet in depth and diameter.

The pot-holes of the river bed exhibit all stages of formation and obliteration. The shales of the Hudson River Group present everywhere a surface quite rough in detail, though even and regular in its general features. An insensible gradation may be seen above the crest of the fall, from irregular hollows, bounded by sharp fractures of slate, to deep, rounded, smoothed pot-holes. Upon the plateau below the fall the few remaining pot-holes are filled nearly to the brim by gravel and mud. The typical form of these pot-holes is a cylinder, with rounded bottom and rounded brim. The type is modified by the enlargement of the mouth, by expansions and constrictions in the shaft, and other irregularities. The interior surfaces are rounded, smoothed and even polished, especially at the bottom. In my examination I saw nothing to controvert the theory that they were formed by the grinding action of stones moved by water.

The rock over which the Mohawk flows, from the Cohoes Company's dam to the Hudson, is of very uniform character.

Excavation has revealed in Cohoes and vicinity a number of pot-holes found anterior to the present gorge of the Mohawk. The great difference between the pot-holes of the shore and of the river bed appears to be that of size. Half of those discovered on the eastern shore outrank the largest of the modern. The mastodon pot-hole was probed to a depth greater than the river bed can show. The gravel from the ancient pot-holes is all well rounded, while the modern ones contain many boulders that are but partly so.

The water makes no clear leap in Cohoes Falls; for a distance of 400 feet the descent is 14 feet on a gradual plane, and from the crest to the base, on a curved slope, 57 feet. Above Cohoes town the bed rock of the west shore is, to a large extent, hidden by the hills of drift and a terrace of clay. On the east side, an area nearly a mile broad and two miles long shows the bed rock, covered by a thin clay soil derived from the decomposition of the rock itself. This area is elevated about 175 feet above the water of the Hudson. Its eastern boundary is a line of drift hills and terrace. The latter is of clay, covered by sand, and extends some distance up that river. The drift hills frequently rise above the level of the terrace.

The rock plateau below Cohoes Falls is the base line for sections near the falls; it is 61 feet above tidewater. The upper level of the Cohoes Company's race is 94 feet above plateau and 188 above tide; cliff near the falls, 115 feet above plateau, and 176 feet above tide; plateau west of Albany, 225 feet above tide; top of gravel hill near "Patroon's," about 225 feet above tide. Gravel banks: At the Patroon's a remarkable inclined bed of clay lies under and over gravel in the following order: Soil, slightly sorted gravel, red clay, blue clay, stratified, coarse and fine sand, with rarely lenticular beds of coarse gravel. These gravel banks extend nearly to Cohoes. The coarser materials of

the gravel hills near Albany are chiefly of the conglomerate of the Hudson River Group and conglomerates and jaspers of the Quebec Group. Massive quartz, white or yellow (Potsdam?), is commonly met with, and, in some hills near the Mohawk, seem even to predominate. They are the best worn of all the pebbles, but the boulders generally are not so well rounded as those turned by pot-holes.

The numerous fossil shells referred to under the head of "Geology," in connection with the rock formations, properly come under this head. They all have a specific name which we cannot repeat here. They may be often seen in the flagstones that cover our city sidewalks, and the rough stones in the roadside walls. They tell us of the inhabitants that dwelt, countless ages ago, in the now upheaved bed of the old ocean that once surged over the places where we dwell.

BOTANY.

The Flora of the county of Albany is rich in the number and variety of its plants, almost every natural order and genus common to the State being represented in this county. The hills and valleys, fields and forests, lakes, brooks and swamps, all contribute to adorn nature with a profusion of vegetable beauty, and invite the practical student to gather these treasures so liberally spread before him.

The amateur and student in Botany will find few localities in the State from which he can secure a greater variety of interesting plants than in Albany county. Nature has, indeed, been lavish in her gifts to our county, as seen all over its surface, made picturesque and charming by the grand Helderbergs, the noble Hudson, its crystal lakes, its rapid streams tumbling over cataracts, running through deep ravines, its caverns and rocky recesses and steep precipices, its forest trees and shrubs, its varied and beautiful flora, its fields of grass and grain, and its variety of sedges, mosses, rushes and ferns in the by-places.

We are indebted to Torrey's "State Botany," Wright & Hall's "Plants About Troy," Prof. C. H. Peck and Dr. J S. Markle for valuable aid in this chapter.

In the list of the trees, shrubs and plants found in the county, only such as are indigenous or naturalized are included. They are grouped under their natural orders, and the generic, specific and common names are given. Exotic and greenhouse plants will be omitted from our list. All descriptions, for want of space, are left out. The simple list will tell our wealth and make a useful guide to the student.

RANUNCULACÆ.

Order.	Common Name.
Clematis, Virginiana	Virgin's Bower.
C..... verticillaris	Whorl-leaved V. B.
Anemone, nemorosa	Wood Anemone.
A..... Pennsylvanica	——
A..... cylindrica	——
A..... Virginiana	Virginia Anemone.
Hepatica, triloba	Liverwort.
H..... acutiloba	——
Ranunculus, Flammula	Small Spearwort.
R..... recurvatus	Hooked Crowfoot.
R..... fascicularis	Early Crowfoot.
R..... abortivus	Round-leaved Crowfoot.
R..... sceleratus	Celery Crowfoot.
R..... acris	Butter-cups.
R..... bulbosus	Bulbous Crowfoot.
R.. ..... Pennsylvanicus	Bristly Crowfoot.
R..... multifidus	Yellow Water Crowfoot.
R..... repens	Creeping Crowfoot.
Caltha, palustris	Marsh Marigold.
Coptis, trifolia	Goldthread.
Aquilegia, Canadensis	Wild Columbine.
Actæa, spicata var	Red Baneberry.
A..... rubra	White Baneberry.
Thalictrum, dioicum	Early Meadow Rue.
T..... purpurascens	Purple Meadow Rue.
T..... Cornuti	Meadow Rue.
T..... anemoniöides	Rue Anemone.

MAGNOLIACEÆ.

Liriodendron, Tulipifera	White Wood. Tulip Tree.

MENISPERMACEÆ.

Menispermum, Canadense	Moon Seed.

BERBERIDACEÆ.

Podophyllum, peltatum	May Apple. Mandrake.
Caulophyllum, thalictroides	Blue Cohosh.

CABOMBACEÆ.

Brasenia, peltatum	Water Target.

NYMPHÆACEÆ.

Nymphœa, odorata	Water Lily.
Nuphar, advena	Yellow Pond Lily.
N. .... Kalmiana	Kalm's Pond Lily.

SARRACENIACEÆ.

Sarracenia, purpurea	Side-saddle Flower.

PAPAVERACEÆ.

Sanguinaria, Canadensis	Bloodroot.
Chelidonium, majus	Celandine.

FUMARIACEÆ.

Dicentra, cucullaria	Dutchman's Breeches.
D..... Canadensis	Squirrel Coon.
Adlumia, cirrhosa	Mountain Fringe.
Corydalis, glauca	Glaucous Corydalis.

CRUCIFEREÆ.

Capsella, Bursa-pastoris	Shepherd's Purse.
Lepidium, Virginicum	Wild Pepper-grass.
L..... campestre	Yellow Seed.

CRUCIFEREÆ.

Draba, verna.....Whilbow Grass.
Nasturtium, palustre .....Marsh Watercress.
Barbarea, vulgaris.....Winter Cress.
Arabis, Canadensis.....Sickle Pod.
A..... lyrata.....Wall Cress.
A..... lævigata.....Smooth Wall Cress.
A.. .. hirsuta.....Hairy Wall Cress.
Cardamine, hirsuta.....Small Bittter Cress.
C..... rhomboidea.....Spring Cress.
C..... Pratensis.....Field Cardamine.
Dentaria, diphylla.....Pepper Root.
D..... laciniata.....Tooth Wort.
Sisymbrium, officinale..... ...Hedge Mustard.
Erysimum, cheiranthöides.....Wormseed Mustard.
Sinapis, nigra.....Black Mustard.
S..... arvensis .....Field Mustard. Charlock.

CAPPARIDACEÆ.

Polanisia, graveolens..... ——

VIOLACEÆ.

Viola, cucullata.....Hood-leaved Violet.
V.... sagittaria.....Arrow-leaved Violet.
V.... Selkirkii.....Selkirk's Violet.
V.... palmata... .....Palmated Violet.
V.... pedata.....Pedate Violet.
V.... blanda.....Sweet-scented Violet.
V.... lanceolata.....Lance-leaved Violet.
V.... rotundifolia.....Round-leaved Violet.
V.... Canadensis.....Canadian Violet.
V.... pubescens.....Common Yellow Violet.
V.... Muhlenbergii.....Muhlenberg's Violet.
V.... rostrata.....Beaked Violet.

DROSERACEÆ.

Drosera, rotundifolia.....Round-leaved Sundew.
D..... longifolia.....Long-leaved Sundew.

PARNASSIACEÆ.

Parnassia, Caroliniana.....Grass of Parnassus.

CISTACEÆ.

Lechea, major.....Larger Pinweed.
L..... minor.....Smaller Pinweed.
Helianthemum, Canadense.....Rock Rose.
Hudsonia, Tomentosa.....Woolly Hudsonia.

ELATINACEÆ.

Elatine, Americana.....Mud Purslane.

HYPERICACEÆ.

Hypericum, pyramidatum.....Giant Hypericum.
H..... perforatum.....Common St. John's-wort.
H..... corymbosum.....Spotted St. John's-wort.
H..... mutilum .....Small St. John's-wort.
H..... Canadense.....Canadian St. John's-wort.
Elodes.... Virginica.....Marsh St. John's-wort.

ILLECEBRACEÆ.

Anychia, dichotoma.....Forked Chickweed.
Spergula, arvensis.....Corn Spurry.

CARYOPHYLLACEÆ.

Stellaria, media .....Chickweed.
S..... longifolia.....Long-leaved Stitch-wort.
Cerastium, vulgatum.....Mouse-ear Chickweed.
C..... viscosum.....Sticky Chickweed.
C..... arvense.....Field Chickweed.
C..... nutans.....Nodding Chickweed.
Arenaria, stricta.....Straight Sandwort.
A..... serpyllifolia.....Thyme-leaved Sandwort.
Sagina, procumbens.....Creeping Sandwort.
Mollugo, verticillata.....Carpet Weed.
Silene, antirrhina.....Snap-dragon Catch-fly.
Silene, noctiflora..... Night-flowering Catch-fly
Lychnis, Githago.....Corn Cockle.
Saponaia, officinalis.....Common Soapwort.
Scleranthus, annuus.....Knaivel.

PORTULACACEÆ.

Portulaca, oleracea .....Purslane.
Claytonia, Caroliniana.....Spring Beauty.
C..... Virginica.....Virginian Spring Beauty.

MALVACEÆ.

Malva, rotundifolia.....Low Mallow.
Abutilon, Avicennæ.....Velvet-leaf Mallow.

LINACEÆ.

Linum, Virginianum.....Virginian Flax.
L..... usitatissimum .....Common Flax.

GERANIACEÆ.

Geranium, maculatum.....Spotted Geranium.
G..... Robertianum .....Herb Robert.
G..... Carolinianum.....Carolina Crane's bill.

BALSAMINACEÆ.

Impatiens, pallida.....Touch-me-not.
I..... fulva.....Jewel Weed.

OXALIDACEÆ.

Oxalis, Acetosella.....Common Wood Sorrel.
O..... violacea.....Violet Wood Sorrel.
O..... stricta.....Yellow Wood Sorrel.

ZANTHOXYLACEÆ.

Zanthoxylum, Americanum .....Prickly Ash.

ANACARDIACEÆ.

Rhus, glabra.....Smooth Sumac.
R.... typhina.....Stag-horn Sumac.
R.... copallina.....Mountain Sumac.
R.... venenata. .....Poison Sumac.
R.... Toxicodendron.....Poison Ivy.
R.... aromatica .....Sweet Sumac.

TILIACEÆ.

Tilia, Americana .....Linden. Bass Wood.

VITACEÆ.

Vitis, Labrusca.....Large-Blue Grape.
V... cordifolia.....Frost Grape.
V... æstivalis .....Summer Grape.
Ampelopsis, quinquefolia....Woodbine. Virginian Creeper.

ACERACEÆ.

Acer, rubrum.....Swamp Maple.
A.... dasycarpum..... ...White Maple.
A.... saccharinum.....Sugar Maple.
A.. nigrum.....Black Maple.
A.... Pennsylanicum.....Striped Maple.

ACERACEÆ.

Acer, spicatum.....Mountain Maple.

CELASTRACEÆ.

Staphylea, trifolia.....Bladder Nut.
Celastrus, scandens.....Climbing Bitter Sweet.

RHAMNACEÆ.

Ceanothus, Americanus.....Jersey Tea.

POLYGALACEÆ.

Polygala, verticillata.....Whorl-leaved Polygala.
P..... Senega.....Seneca Snake-root.
P..... paucifolia.....Fringed Polygala.

LEGUMINOSÆ.

Ervum, hirsutum.....Hairy Vetch.
Apios, tuberosa.....Ground Nut.
Amphicarpæa, monoica.....Hog Nut.
Tephrosia, Virginiana.....Goat's Rue.
Trifolium, repens.....White Clover.
T..... ævense.....Haresfoot Trefoil.
T..... pratense.....Common Red Clover.
T..... agrarium.....Field or Hop Trefoil.
Melilotus, officinalis.....Yellow Melilot.
M..... alba.....White Melilot.
Medicago, lupulina.....Nonesuch.
Astragalus, Canadensis.....Canadian Vetch.
Desmodium, nudiflorum.....Naked-flowered Desmodium.
D..... acuminatum.....Pointed-leaved Desmodium.
D..... canescens.....Hoary Desmodium.
D..... Canadense.....Bush Trefoil.
D..... cuspidatum.....Cuspidate Desmodium.
D..... paniculatum.....Panicled Desmodium.
D..... rotundifolium.....Round-leaved Desmodium.
Lespedeza, capitata.....Bush Clover.
L..... hirta.....Hairy Lespedeza.
L..... procumbens.....Trailing Lespedeza.
L..... violacea.....Violet Lespedeza.
L..... sessiliflora.....Sessile-flowered Lespedeza.
Lupinus, perennis.....Common Lupine.
Baptisia, tinctoria.....Wild Indigo.
Cassia, marilandica.....American Senna.
C..... Chamæcrista.....Dwarf-Cassia.
C..... nictitans.....Wild Sensitive Plant.

ROSACEÆ.

Prunus, serotina.....Black or Wild Cherry.
P..... Virginiana.....Choke Cherry.
P..... Pennsylvanica.....Wild Red Cherry.
P..... pumila.....Sand Cherry.
P..... Americana.....Wild Plum.
Cratægus, coccinea.....White Thorn.
C..... Crus-galli.....Cockspur Thorn.
C..... punctata.....Thorn.
Pyrus, arbutifolia.....Choke-Berry.
P..... Americana.....Mountain Ash.
Amelanchier, Canadensis.....Shad-Berry, Bill-berry.
Rosa, Carolina.....Swamp Rose.
R..... lucida.....Shining or Wild Rose.
R..... blanda.....Bland Rose.
R..... rubiginosa.....Sweet Brier.
Rubus, villosus.....High Blackberry.
R..... hispidus.....Bristly Blackberry.
R..... Canadensis.....Low Blackberry.
Rubus, odoratus.....Rose-flowering Raspberry.
R..... strigosus.....Wild Red Raspberry.
R..... occidentalis.....Black Raspberry.
R..... triflorus.....Three-flowered Raspberry.
Potentilla, Norvegica.....Norwegian Potentilla.
P..... Canadensis.....Common Cinquefoil.
P..... argentea.....Silvery Cinquefoil.
P..... anserina.....Silver Weed.
P..... arguta.....White flowered Potentilla.
P..... palustris.....Marsh Cinquefoil.
Fragaria, Virginiana.....Wild Strawberry.
F. Vesca.....Alpine or Wood Strawberry.
Dalibarda, repens.....False Violet.
Waldsteinia, fragariöides.....Dry Strawberry.
Geum, rivale.....Purple Avens.
G..... strictum.....Yellow Avens.
G..... Virginianum.....White Avens.
Poterium, Canadense.....Burnet Saxifrage.
Agrimonia, Eupatoria.....Agrimony.
Spiræa, tomentosa.....Hardhack.
S..... salicifolia.....Queen of the Meadow.
S..... Opulifolia.....Nine-bark.

LYTHRACEÆ.

Decodon, Verticillatum.....——

ONAGRACEÆ.

Epilobium, angustifolium.....Willow Herb.
E..... Coloratum.....Colored Epilobium.
E..... hirsutum.....Hairy Epilobium.
Œnothera, biennis.....Common Evening Primrose.
Œ..... pumila.....Dwarf Evening Primrose.
Gaura, biennis.....Biennial Gaura.
Circæa, Lutetiana.....Enchanter's Nightshade.
C..... alpina.....Alpine Nightshade.

CUCURBITACEÆ.

Sicyos, angulatus.....Single-seeded Cucumber.
Echinocystis, lobata.....Wild Balsam-Apple.

GROSSULACEÆ.

Ribes, floridum.....Wild Black Currant.
R..... prostratum.....Fetid Currant.
R..... Cynosbati.....Prickly Gooseberry.
R..... rotundifolium.....Wild Gooseberry.

CRASSULACEÆ.

Sedum, Telephium.....Common Live-forever.
Penthorum, sedöides.....Virginia Stone-Crop.

SAXIFRAGACEÆ.

Saxifraga, Virginiensis.....Early Saxifrage.
S..... Pennsylvanica.....Tall Saxifrage.
Heuchera, Americana.....Alum Root.
Mitella, diphylla.....Bishop's Cap.
M..... nuda.....Leafless stemmed Bishop's Cap.
Tiarella, cordifolia.....Mitre Wort. Gem Fruit.
Chrysosplenium, Americanum.....Water Carpet.

HAMAMELACEÆ.

Hamamelis, Virginica.....Witch Hazel.

UMBELLIFERÆ.

Hydrocotyle, Americana.....Pennywort.
H..... umbellata.....Umbellate Pennywort.
Sanicula, Canadensis .....Canadian Sanicle.
S..... Marilandica.....Long-styled Sanicle.
Cicuta, maculata.....Water Hemlock.
C..... bulbifera..... .....Narrow-leaved Hemlock.
Sium, latifolium.....Water Parsnip.
S.... lineare.....Linear-leaved Water Parsnip.
Cryptotænia, Canadensis.....Hone-wort.
Zizia, Aurea.....Golden Alexander.
Z.... integerrima.....Entire leaved Golden Alexander.
Archangelica, atropurpurea.....Angelica.
A..... hirsuta.....Hairy Angelica.
Daucus, Carota..... .....Wild Carrot.
Pastinaca, sativa.....Common Wild Parsnip.
Heracleum, lanatum.... .....Cow Parsnip.
Osmorrhiza, longistylis.....Sweet Cicily.
O..... brevistylis..... .....Short-styled Cicily.
Conium, maculatum.....Poison Hemlock.

ARALIACEÆ.

Aralia, nudicaulis.....Wild Sarsaparilla.
A..... racemosa.....Spikenard.
A..... hispida.....Bristly Aralia. [Ginseng.
Panax, trifolium.....Ground Nut. Dwarf
P..... quinquefolium.....Ginseng.

CORNACEÆ.

Cornus, stolonifera.....White-berried Cornel.
C..... sericea.....Red Osier.
C ..... circinata.....Round-leaved Dogwood.
C..... alternifolia.....Alternate-leaved.
C..... paniculata.....Panicled Dogwood.
C..... florida..... .....Flowering Dogwood.
C..... Canadensis..... .....Low Cornel, or Dogwood.

CAPRIFOLIACÆ.

Lonicera, hirsuta.....Hairy Honeysuckle.
L..... parviflora.....Small-flowered "
L..... ciliata.....Fly Honeysuckle.
Diervilla, trifida.....Bush Honeysuckle.
Triosteum, perfoliatum.....Fever-wort.
Symphoricarpus, racemosus.....Snow-berry.
Linnæa, borealis.....Twin-flower.
Sambucus, Canadensis.....Common Elder.
S..... pubens.....Panicled Elder.
Viburnum, lantanöides.....Hobble-bush.
V..... opulus.....High Cranberry.
V..... acerifolium.....Dockmackie.
V..... Lentago.....Sweet Viburnum.
V..... nudum.....Swamp Viburnum.
V..... dentatum .....Arrow-head.
V..... pubescens ....Downy Viburnum.

RUBIACEÆ.

Galium, asprellum.....Rough Cleavers.
G..... trifidum. ..... Small Bedstraw.
G..... triflorum.....Sweet-scented Bedstraw.
G..... Aparine.....Common Cleavers.
G..... boreale.....Northern Galium.
G..... circæzans.....Circæa-like Galium.
Mitchella, repens.....Partridge Berry.
Hedyotis, cœrulea.....Dwarf Pink.
H..... longifolia.....Long-leaved Dwarf Pink.
Cephalanthus, occidentalis.....Button Bush.

COMPOSITÆ.

Eupatorium.....Trumpet-weed.
E... ..... purpureum... ..... ——
E..... sessilifolium.....Sessile-leaved Eupatorium
E..... perfoliatum.....Thoroughwort. Boneset.
E..... ageratöides.....Nettle-leaved Eupatorium
Tussilago, Farfara.....Colt's-foot.
Aster, corymbosus..... .....Corymbed Aster.
Aster, macrophyllus.....Large-leaved Aster.
Aster, cordifolius.....Heart-leaved Aster.
A.... undulatus.....Wave-leaved Aster.
A.... patens.....Spreading Aster.
A.... lævis.....Smooth Aster.
A.... puniceus.....Red-stalked Aster.
A.... Novæ Angliæ .....New England Aster.
A.... Tradescanti.....Tradescant's Aster.
A.... miser.....Starved Aster.
A.... simplex.....Willow-leaved Aster.
A.... tenuifolius..... .....Narrow-leaved Aster.
A.... dumosus..... .....Bushy Aster.
A.... ericöides.....Heath-like Aster.
A.... multiflorus.....Many-flowered Aster.
A.... acuminatus..... .....Acuminate Wood Aster.
Sericocarpus, conyzöides.....Broad-leaved Sericocarpus.
Erigeron, bellidifolium.....Robin's Plantain.
E..... Philadelphicum. .....Narrow-leaved Robin's Plantain.
E..... annuum.....Common Fleabane.
E..... strigosum.....Fleabane. White Weed
E..... Canadense .....Canadian Fleabane.
Solidago, lanceolata.....Grass-leaved Goldenrod.
S..... squarrosa.....Ragged Goldenrod.
S..... bicolor.....White Goldenrod.
S..... latifolia.....Broad-leaved Goldenrod.
S..... cæsia.....Blue-stemmed Goldenrod.
S..... nemoralis .....Gray Goldenrod.
S..... arguta.... .....Sharp-toothed Goldenrod
S..... Canadensis.....Canadian Goldenrod.
S..... seriotina.....Late Goldenrod.
S ..... altissima..... .....Tall Goldenrod.
Inula, helenium.....Elecampane.
Heliopsis, lævis.....Ox-eye.
Rudbeckia, lanciniata.....Smooth Rudbeckia.
R..... hirta.....Hairy Rudbeckia.
Helianthus, annuus.....Common Sunflower.
H..... decapetalus.....Ten-rayed Sunflower.
H.....·divaricatus..... Spreading Sunflower.
H..... strumosus.....Wild Sunflower.
Helenium, autumnale..... ...American Sneeze-wort.
Maruta, Cotula.....May-weed.
Achillea, Millefolium..... .....Millfoil. Yarrow.
Leucanthemum, vulgare .....Ox-eye Daisy.
Bidens, frondosa..... .....Leafy-bur Marigold.
B..... connata.....Trifid-bur Marigold.
B..... cernua.....Water-bur Marigold.
B..... chrysanthemöides.. .....Radiate-bur Marigold.
Senecio, aureus.....Golden Senecio.
Artemisia, vulgaris..... .. ..Mugwort.
Gnaphalium, polycephalum .....Fragrant Life-everlasting.
G..... decurrens.....Decurrent Life everlasting.
G..... uliginosum.....Mud Life-everlasting.

COMPOSITÆ.

Antennaria, margaritacea.....Pearly Life-everlasting.
A..... plantaginifolia.....Plantain-leaved Life-everlasting.
Erechthites, hieracifolia.....Fir-weed.
Xanthium, strumarium.....Clot-weed.
Ambrosia, trifida.....Tall Ambrosia.
A..... artemisiæfolia.....Hog-weed.
Lappa, major.....Burdock.
Cirsium, arvense.....Canada Thistle.
C..... lanceolatum.....Common Thistle.
C..... muticum.....Swamp Thistle.
Onopordon, acanthium.....Scotch Thistle.
Krigia, Virginica.....Dwarf Dandelion.
Cichorium, Intybusth.....Succory. Chiccory.
Lactuca, elongata.....Wild Lettuce.
Hieracium, venosum.....Veiny-leaved Hawkweed.
H..... paniculatum.....Panicled Hawkweed.
H..... scabrum.....Rough Hawkweed. [tuce.
Nabalus, albus.....Lion's-foot. White Let-
N..... altissimus.....Tall Nabalus.
N..... Fraseri.....Gall of the Earth.
Taraxacum, Dens-leonis.....Dandelion.
Sonchus, oleraceus.....Common Sow Thistle.
S..... asper.....Rough Sow Thistle.

LOBELIACEÆ.

Lobelia, cardinalis.....Cardinal Flower.
Lobelia, inflata.....Indian Tobacco.
L..... syphiltica.....Blue Cardinal Flower.
L..... spicata.....Clayton's Lobelia.
L..... Dortmanna.....Water Lobelia.

CAMPANULACEÆ.

Campanula, rotundifolia.....Hare Bell.
C..... Americana.....American Bell-flower.

ERICACEÆ.

Gaylussacia, resinosa.....Black Whortleberry.
Vaccinium, corymbosum.....High Whortleberry.
V..... vacillans.....Low Blueberry.
V..... Pennsylvanicum.....Dwarf Blueberry.
V..... stamineum.....Dewberry.
Oxycoccus, vulgaris.....Small Cranberry.
O..... macrocarpus.....Large Cranberry.
Arctostaphylos, Uva-ursi.....Bearberry.
Andromeda, polifolia.....Marsh Andromeda.
A..... ligustrina.....Panicled Lyonia.
Cassandra, calyculata.....Leather-leaf. [berry.
Gaultheria, procumbens.....Wintergreen. Checker-
Epigæa, repens.....Trailing Arbutus. May-flower.
Kalmia, latifolia.....Mountain Laurel.
K..... angustifolia.....Sheep Poison.
K..... glauca.....Swamp Laurel.
Rhododendron, nudiflorum.....Swamp Pink.
R..... viscosum.....Clammy Swamp Pink.
Ledum, latifolium.....Labrador Tea.
Pyrola, rotundifolia.....Round-leaved Pyrola.
P..... chlorantha.....Green-flowered Pyrola.
P..... elliptica.....Shin-leaf.
P..... secunda.....One-sided Pyrola.
Chimaphila, umbellata.....Prince's Pine. Pipsissewa.
C..... maculata.....Spotted Wintergreen.

Monotropa, uniflora.....Indian Pipe.
M..... hypopitys.....Pine Sap.
Pterospora, andromedea.....Giant Bird's Nest.

AQUIFOLIACEÆ.

Prinos, verticillatus.....Black Alder. Winter-berry.

PRIMULACEÆ.

Trientalis, Americana.....Chickweed Wintergreen.
Lysimachia, stricta.....Loosestrife.
L..... ciliata.....Ciliate-leaved Loosestrife.
L..... quadrifolia.....Four-leaved Loosestrife.
L..... thyrsiflora.....Tufted Loosestrife.
Anagallis, arvensis.....Poor-man's Weather Glass.

PLANTAGINACEÆ.

Plantago, major.....Common Plantain. Ribwort.
P..... lanceolata.....Lance-leaved Plantain.
P..... Rugelii.....Rugel's Plantain.

LENTIBULACEÆ.

Utricularia, vulgaris.....Common Bladderwort.
U..... minor.....Smaller Bladderwort.
U..... cornuta.....Horned Bladderwort.

OROBANCHACEÆ.

Aphyllon, uniflorum.....One-flowered Broomrape.
Conopholis, Americana.....American Broomrape.
Epiphegus, Virginiana.....Beech-drops.

SCROPHULARIACEÆ.

Verbascum, Thapsus.....Common Mullein.
V..... Blattaria.....Moth Mullein.
Linaria, vulgaris.....Toad Flax. Snap-dragon.
L..... Canadensis.....Canadian Snap-dragon.
Scrophularia, nodosa.....Figwort.
Chelone, glabra.....Snake-head.
Pentstemon, pubescens.....Beard-tongue.
Mimulus, ringens.....Monkey Flower.
Gratiola, aurea.....Golden Hedge Hyssop.
G..... Virginiana.....Virginian Hedge Hyssop.
Veronica, Americana.....Brooklime.
V..... Virginica.....Culver's Physic.
V..... scutellata.....Marsh Speedwell.
V..... officinalis.....Officinal Speedwell.
V..... peregrina.....Purslane Speedwell.
V..... agrestis.....Field Speedwell.
V..... serpyllifolia.....Thyme-leaved Speedwell.
Gerardia, purpurea.....Purple Gerardia.
G..... tenuifolia.....Small Purple Gerardia.
Dasystoma, quercifolia.....Oak-leaved Dasystoma.
D..... flava.....Downy Dasystoma.
D..... pedicularia.....Lousewort Dasystoma.
Pedicularis, Canadensis.....Lousewort.
Melampyrum, pratense.....Cow Wheat.

VERBENACEÆ.

Verbena, hastata.....Vervain, Simpler's Joy.
V..... urticifolia.....Nettle-leaved Vervain.
Phryma, leptostachya.....Phryma or Lopseed.

LABIATÆ.

Mentha, Canadensis.....Horsemint.
M..... viridis.....Spearmint.
M..... piperita.....Peppermint.

LABIATÆ.

Isanthus, cæruleus.....Blue Gentian.
Lycopus, sinuatus.....Water Hoarhound.
L..... Virginicus.....Bugle Weed.
Monarda, didyma.....Mountain Mint.
M..... fistulosa.....Horsemint, Wild Bergamot.
Origanum, vulgare.....Wild Marjoram.
Hedeoma, pulegiöides.....Pennyroyal.
Melissa, officinalis.....Balm.
Collinsonia, Canadensis.....Stone-root.
Scutellaria, galericulata.....Common Scull-cap.
S..... lateriflora.....Mad-dog Scull-cap.
Brunella, vulgaris.....Self-heal. Blue-curls.
Nepeta, cataria.....Catnip, Catmint.
N..... Glechoma.....Gill-over-the-ground.
Physostegia, Virginiana.....Lion's Heart.
Lamium, amplexicaule.....Henbit.
Leonurus, Cardiaca.....Motherwort.
Galeopsis, Tetrahit.....Hemp Nettle.
Stachys, aspera.....Hedge Nettle.
Marrubium, vulgare.....Hoarhound.
Trichostema, dichotomum.....Blue-curls.
Teucrium, Canadense.....Wild Germander.

BORRAGINACEÆ.

Echium, vulgare.....Viper's Bugloss.
Symphytum, officinale.....Comfrey.
Lycopsis, arvensis.....Wild Bugloss.
Onosmodium, Virginianum.....False Gromwell.
Lithospermum, arvense.....Corn Gromwell.
L. (Batschia), canescens.....Puccoon.
Mertensia, Virginica.....Virginian Lungwort.
Cynoglossum, officinale.....Hound's Tongue.
C..... Morisoni.....Beggar's Lice.
Echinospermum Lappula.....Burr-seed.

HYDROPHYLLACEÆ.

Hydrophyllum, Virginicum.....Virginian Water-leaf.

CONVOLVULACEÆ.

Convolvulus, arvense.....Small Bindweed.
C..... purpureus.....Common Morning Glory.
Calystegia, spithamæa.....Sweet Bindweed.
C..... sepium.....Hedge Bindweed.
Cuscuta, Gronovii.....Dodder.

SOLANACEÆ.

Datura, Stramonium.....Thorn Apple.
Hyoscyamus, niger.....Common Henbane.
Physalis, viscosa.....Ground Cherry.
Solanum, Dulcamara.....Woody Nightshade.
S..... nigrum.....Common Nightshade.

GENTIANACEÆ.

Gentiana, saponaria.....Soapwort Gentian.
G..... quinqueflora.....Five-flowered Gentian.
G..... crinita.....Blue-fringed Gentian.

APOCYNACEÆ.

Apocynum, adrosaemifolium.....Dogbane.
A..... cannabinum.....Indian Hemp.

ASCLEPIADACEÆ.

Asclepias, Cornuti.....Common Silkweed.
Asclepias, phytolaccöides.....Poke-leaved Silkweed.
A..... incarnata.....Rose-colored Silkweed.
A..... quadrifolia.....Four-leaved Silkweed.
A..... tuberosa.....Butterfly Weed.
A..... verticillata.....Whorl-leaved Silkweed.
A..... obtusifolia.....Obtuse-leaved Silkweed.

OLEACEÆ.

Fraxinus, Americana.....White Ash.
F..... sambucifolia.....Black Ash.
F..... pubescens.....Red Ash.

ARISTOLOCHIACEÆ (Apetalæ).

Asarum, Canadense.....Wild Ginger.

CHENOPODIACEÆ.

Atriplex, Hortensis.....Garden Orache.
A..... patula.....Spreading Atriplex.
A..... rosea.....Rose Atriplex.
Blitum, capitatum.....Strawberry Blite.
Chenopodium, album.....Pig Weed.
C..... hybridum.....Tall Goosefoot.
C..... anthelminticum.....Worm Seed.
C..... Botrys.....Jerusalem Oak.

AMARANTHACEÆ.

Amarantus, albus.....White Amaranth.
A..... blitoides.....Low Amaranth.
A..... retroflexus.....Pigweed.
A..... viridis.....Green Amaranth.

POLYGONACEÆ.

Polygonum, aviculare.....Knot-grass.
P..... erectum.....Knot-grass.
P..... Hydropiperöides.....Water Pepper.
P..... Persicaria.....Lady's Thumb.
P..... Pennsylvanicum.....Pennsylvanian Knot-grass
P..... Virginianum.....Virginian Knot-grass.
P..... articulatum.....Jointed Polygonum.
P..... sagittatum.....Scratchgrass.
P..... arifolium.....Hastate Knot-grass.
P..... Convolvulus.....Knot Bindweed.
P..... cilinode.....Hairy node Polygonum.
P..... dumetorum.....False Buckwheat.
Rumex, crispus.....Yellow Dock.
R..... verticillatus.....Swamp Dock.
R..... Britannica.....British Water Dock.
R..... obtusifolius.....Bitter Dock.
R..... Acetosella.....Field Sorrel, Horse Sorrel.

PHYTOLACCACEÆ.

Phytolacca,.decandra.....Poke, Garget Weed.

LAURACEÆ.

Benzoin, Lindera.....Fever Bush, Spice Wood.
Sassafras, officinale.....Sassafras.

SANTALACEÆ.

Comandra, umbellata.....Bastard Toadflax.
Nyssa, multiflora.....Pepperidge.

THYMELACÆ.

Dirca, palustris.....Leather-wood.

ULMACEÆ.

Ulmus, Americana.....American Elm, White Elm.
U..... fulva.....Slippery or Red Elm.

EUPHORBIACEÆ.

Euphorbia, Corollata.....Flowering Spurge.
E..... Cyparissias.....Cypress Spurge.
E..... Lathyrus.....Caper Spurge.
E..... hypericifolia.....Eye-bright.
E..... maculata.....Spotted Spurge.
Acalypha, Virginica.....Three-seeded Mercury.

PLATANACEÆ.

Platanus, occidentalis.....Button Wood, Sycamore.

URTICACEÆ.

Morus, rubra.....Red Mulberry.
Laportea, Canadensis.....Wood Nettle.
Pilea, pumila.....Richweed, Stingless Nettle.
Urtica, dioica.....Stinging Nettle.
U..... urens.....Burning or Dwarf Nettle.
Boehmeria, cylindrica.....False Nettle.
Humulus, Lupulus.....Common Hop.
Parietaria, Pennsylvanica.....Pellitory.

JUGLANDACEÆ.

Juglans, cinerea.....Butternut.
J..... nigra.....Black Walnut.
Carya, alba.....Shag-bark Hickory.
C..... tomentosa.....Mockernut Hickory.
C..... porcina.....Hog Walnut.
C..... amara.....Bitternut Hickory.

CUPULIFERÆ.

Quercus, alba.....White Oak.
Q..... macrocarpa.....Bur Oak.
Q..... Prinus.....Swamp Chestnut Oak.
Q..... bicolor.....Swamp White Oak.
Q..... montana.....Rock Oak.
Q..... rubra.....Red Oak.
Q..... coccinea.....Scarlet Oak.
Q..... tinctoria.....Black Oak.
Q..... ilicifolia.....Scrub Oak.
Q..... prinoides.....Chinquepin Oak.
Castanea, vesca.....Chestnut.
Fagus, ferruginea.....Beech.
Corylus, Americana.....Hazel.
C..... rostrata.....Beaked Hazel.
Ostrya, Virginica.....Iron Wood.
Carpinus, Americana.....Hornbeam. Water Beech.

BETULACEÆ.

Betula, lenta.....Black Birch.
B..... lutea.....Yellow Birch.
B..... populifolia.....White Birch.
B .... papyracea.....Canoe Birch.
Alnus, incana.....Common Alder.
A.... serrulata.....Smooth Alder.

MYRICACEÆ.

Comptonia, asplenifolia.....Sweet Fern.

SALICACEÆ.

Salix, discolor.....Bog Willow.
S.... petiolaris.....Petioled Willow.
S.... Sericea.....Silky Willow.
S.... viminalis.....Basket Osier.
S.... purpurea.....Purple Willow.
Salix, cordata.....Heart-leaved Willow.
S.... longifolia.....Long-leaved Willow.
S.... lucida.....Shining Willow.
S.... nigra.....Black Willow.
S.... alba.....White Willow.
S.... myrtilloides.....Myrtle Willow.
S.... humilis.....Low Willow.
S.... tristis.....Dwarf Gray Willow.
S.... livida.....Livid Willow.
Populus, tremulöides.....American Aspen, White Poplar.
P..... grandidentata.....Large-toothed Aspen.
P..... dilatata.....Lombardy Poplar.
P..... monilifera.....Necklace Poplar.
P..... Candicans.....Balm-of-Gilead.

CONIFERÆ.

Pinus, resinosa.....Norway or Red Pine.
P.... rigida.....Pitch Pine.
P.... Strobus.....White Pine.
Abies, Canadensis.....Hemlock.
Larix, Americana.....American Larch.
Thuja, occidentalis.....Arbor Vitæ.
Juniperus, communis.....Common Juniper.
J..... Virginiana.....Red Cedar.
Taxus, Canadensis.....Dwarf Yew.

ARACEÆ.

Arisæma, triphyllum.....Jack-in-the-Pulpit.
A..... dracontium.....Green Dragon.
Peltandra, Virginica.....Arrow Arum.
Calla, palustris.....Wild Calla.
Acorus, Calamus.....Sweet Flag.
Symplocarpus, fœtidus.....Skunk Cabbage.

TYPHACEÆ.

Typha, latifolia.....Cat-tail, Reed Mace.
Sparganium, eurycarpum.....Bur Reed.

NAIADACEÆ.

Zannichellia, palustris.....Horn Pondweed.
Potamogeton, Claytoni.....Clayton's Pondweed.
P..... hybridus.....Pondweed.
P..... lucens.....Shining Pondweed.
P..... amplifolius.....Large-leaved Pondweed.
P..... pusillus.....Small Pondweed.

ALISMACEÆ.

Alisma, Plantago.....Water Plantain.
Sagittaria, variabilis.....Arrowhead.
S..... pusilla.....Puny Arrowhead.
S..... heterophylla.....Various-leaved Arrowhead.

HYDROCHARIDACEÆ.

Anacharis, Canadensis.....Waterweed.
Vallisneria, spiralis.....Eel Grass.

ORCHIDACEÆ.

Microstylis, ophioglossöides.....Adder's Mouth.
Liparis, liliifolia.....Tway-blade.
Corallorhiza, odontorhiza.....Coral Root.
C..... multiflora.....Many-flowered Coral Root.
Orchis, spectabilis.....Showy Orchis.
O..... psycodes.....Purple Fringed Orchis.

ORCHIDACEÆ.

Platanthera, lacera.....Ragged Orchis.
P..... Hookeri.....Hooker's Orchis.
Arethusa, bulbosa.....Bulbous Arethusa.
Pogonia, ophioglossoides.....Pogonia.
Calopogon, pulchellus.....Grass Pink.
Spiranthes, gracilis.....Ladies' Tresses.
Goodyera, pubescens.....Rattlesnake Plantain.
G..... repens.....Small Rattlesnake Plantain.
Listera, cordata.....Tway-blade.
Cypripedium, acaule.....Purple Lady's Slipper.
C..... parviflorum.....Yellow Lady's Slipper.
C..... spectabile.....Showy Lady's Slipper.

COMMELYNACEÆ.

Tradescantia, Virginica.....Spider Wort.

XYRIDACEÆ.

Xyris, Caroliniana.....Yellow-eyed Grass.

AMARYLLIDACEÆ.

Hypoxys, erecta.....Star-grass.

IRIDACEÆ.

Iris, versicolor.....Blue Flag.
Sisyrinchium, anceps.....Blue-eyed grass.

SMILACEÆ.

Smilax, rotundifolia.....Greenbrier.
S..... herbacea.....Carrion Flower.

TRILLIACEÆ.

Trillium, cernuum.....Nodding-flowered Trillium.
T..... erythrocarpum.....Smiling Wake-robin.
T..... erectum.....Bath Flower Purple Trillium.
T..... grandiflorum.....Large White Trillium.
Medeola, virginica.....Cucumber Root.

LILIACEÆ.

Lilium, Canadense.....Yellow Lily.
L..... superbum.....Turk's Cap.
L..... Philadelphicum.....Field Lily.
Erythronium, Americanum.....Yellow Erythronium.
E..... albidum.....White Erythronium.
Allium, tricoccum.....Lance-leaved Garlic.
A..... Canadense.....Canadian Garlic.
A..... vineale.....Crow Garlic.
Smilacina, bifolia.....Two-leaved Solomon's Seal.
S..... trifolia.....Three-leaved Solomon's Seal.
S..... stellata.....Star Solomon's Seal.
S..... racemosa.....Clustered Solomon's Seal.
Clintonia, borealis.....Wild Lily of the Valley.
Polygonatum, biflorum.....Smaller Solomon's Seal.
P..... giganteum.....Giant Solomon's Seal.
Uvularia, sessilifolia.....Bellwort, Wild Oats.
U..... perfoliata.....Mealy Bellwort.
U..... grandiflora.....Large-flowered Bellwort.
Streptopus, roseus.....Rose Twist-foot.

PONTEDERIACEÆ.

Pontederia, cordata.....Pickerel Weed.

MELANTHACEÆ.

Melanthium, Virginicum.....Bunchflower.
Veratrum, viride.....White Hellebore.

The class of plants known as *Cyperaceæ*, or *Sedges*, are well represented in the county, but as they are in general little used for food or in the arts, no special notice or arrangement of the different species will be given. Their coarse herbage is often eaten by cattle, yet they are quite destitute of the sweet and nutritious properties of the grasses. Of so little value, apparently, their abundance seems to authorize the belief that they subserve some important purpose in the economy of nature. The sedges grow in almost all localities, but are more common in the meadows, marshes and swamps.

The *Gramineæ* or *Grasses*, are universally diffused, having no other limits than those that bound vegetation in general. But the species and their characteristics are widely different as affected by climate and cultivation. This family of plants contribute more to the sustenance of man and beast than all others combined. Their sweet and nutritious properties reside both in the farinaceous albumen of the seed and in the herbage. To this order belong the several kinds of grain and grass that are cultivated in the county. The stems of many grasses contain sugar in variable quantities.

The grains usually cultivated are Triticum sativum, *Winter wheat;* T. æstivum, *Spring wheat;* T. compositum, *Egyptian wheat;* Secale cereale, *Rye;* Hordeum vulgare, *Barley;* H. distichum, *Two-rowed barley;* Avena sativa, *Common oat;* with the varieties *Black* and *Horse-mane oats;* Zea Mays, *Maize* or *Indian corn;* Sorghum saccharatum, *Broom corn.*

The most important of the cultivated grasses are Phleum pratense, *Timothy;* several species of Poa, *Spear grass, Rough meadow grass, Blue grass, Meadow red-top,* Dactylis glomerata, *Orchard grass;* Agrostis, *Red-top, White-top, Bent-grass,* and some others. The genus Festuca gives *Slender fescue, Tall fescue, Meadow fescue,* and *Hard fescue grass.* Other common grasses are *Hair grass, Red* or *Blue-joint, Fox-tail, Finger grass, Wild timothy, Seneca* or *Sweet Vernal grass,* and *Chess* or *cheat.*

Filices or *Ferns* are a large and interesting order of flowerless plants—admired for their elegant, graceful and plume-like foliage and distinguished by their remarkable method of reproduction, the organs of which, examined with the aid of a good lens, cannot fail to interest the student. Their

locality is scarcely limited by geographical lines. The more common species grow upon hard mountain soil and in swamps or moist woods. Their economic uses are limited, so far as now known, to their medicinal properties. They are much sought and cultivated for ornament.

Polypodium vulgare, *Common polypod;* P. Phegopteris, *Triangular polypod,* Aspidium acrostichöides, *Christmas fern;* A. Thelypteris, *Marsh shield fern;* A. marginale, *Marginal shield fern;* A. dilatatum, *Broad shield fern;* Asplenium ebeneum, *Ebony spleenwort; A.* Trichomanes *Dwarf spleenwort* A. Angustifolium, *Narrow-leaved spleenwort;* A. Ruta-muraria, *Wall-rue spleenwort;* A. Filix-fœmina, *Lady fern;* Woodsia Ilvensis, *Rusty Woodsia,* Pteris aquilina, *Common brake;* P. atropurpurea, *Rock brake;* Adiantum pedatum, *Maidenhair;* Dicksonia pilosiuscula, *Fine-haired mountain fern;* Osmunda cinnamomea, *Cinnamon-colored fern;* O. regalis, *Royal-flowering fern;* Cystopteris bulbifera *Bulb-bearing Cystopteris;* C. fragilis, *Brittle fern;* Onoclea sensibilis, *Sensitive fern*—are among the ferns found in Albany County.

The *Equisetaceæ* or *Horsetails,* (Rushes), an order of vegetables growing in wet grounds, on river banks and borders of moist woods, are represented in the county by Equisetum hyemale, *Scouring rush,* E. arvense, *Field horsetail;* E. limosum, *Pipes* and E. sylvaticum, *Wood horsetail.*

Of the *Lycopodiaceæ* or *Club mosses,* we have Lycopodium clavatum, *Common club moss;* L. complanatum, *Ground pine,* L. Dendroideum, *Tree club moss;* Selaginella rupestris, *Rock club moss.*

NATURAL HISTORY.

Quadrupeds.—Two hundred and seventy-five years ago, in ascending the noble river that bears his name, Henry Hudson saw upon its banks a race of people clad in rude garments and armed with the ancient bow and arrows. They were natives of the forest; and, like the animals about them, wild, fierce and savage. The early immigrants to this country met the same wandering natives of the woods, and with them the wild beasts that roamed both hill and valley, a terror and dread by day and by night. Where are they now? The laws of civilization, the ax and the plow, have wonderfully interfered with their rights and destroyed their freedom of domain. No more is heard in our county of the savage war-whoop of the Indian, the ferocious bark of the wolf, the piercing cry of the wild cat, the growl of the bear, or the plaintive bleat of the deer. These animals, once common in the county and familiar to the early settlers, have disappeared. No longer does the beaver afford profit or amusement to the hunter. The otter, too, has gone, and with it the hedge-hog and the porcupine. Two years ago, near the farm of Hon. Erastus Corning, a porcupine was shot, which is preserved as a specimen in the Museum of Natural History, at Albany. The noble bison and elk, monarchs of the forest, if they once roamed our forests in freedom, as some believe, have sought more secure and favored retreats.

Among the primitive quadrupeds yet to be found in the county are the fox, raccoon, woodchuck, skunk, grey and white rabbit, muskrat, mink, weasel, grey and red squirrel, striped and flying squirrel, mole, mice of several kinds; all insignificant as compared with those proud occupants of our old forests.

Birds.—The birds form no small part of the natural history of the county. Many of them, with their joyous songs, are welcome harbingers of spring, assuring us that the icy fetters of winter are broken, that the mild rays of the vernal sun will soon warm the earth. The husbandman is made glad when he hears the first note of the bluebird, the rapturous music of the robin, or the mellow call of the whip-poor-will.

Among our rapacious birds are the great henhawk, goshawk, pigeon-hawk, shrike or butcher-bird, the grey, horned and barn owl, crow, great blue heron, small heron, bittern and kingfisher. But few game birds are found in the county, and these are protected by stringent laws. During the few months in which they can be *legally* killed, the huntsmen seem to have no thought for the future, but are so reckless that few remain for the next season's reproduction. Partridge, woodcock, snipe, plover and, rarely, a quail, with an occasional meadow lark, comprise the list.

Among the song birds are the robin, golden and orchard oriole, brown and wood thrush, cat-bird, bobolink, bluebird, grey and hedge sparrow, chirp and yellow bird, titmouse, red and black-winged phœbe, bluejay, kingbird, blackbird, barn, chimney and mason swallows, several kinds of woodpeckers, crested tit, house wren, cuckoo, dove, whip-poor-will, night-hawk and several varieties of the humming-birds, and the cedar or cherry bird. The habits of these birds are as various as the classes they represent. The greater number are migratory, arriving here during the spring months. The first to leave is the bobolink; others follow at irregular intervals. Almost the last to leave for a more genial clime is the

robin. The indiscriminate and wanton destruction of our harmless birds by the ruthless sportsmen is having a marked effect upon the increase of insects and worms, injurious to vegetation.

FISHES. — The creeks running through the county, as well as the Hudson, early abounded in fish. Pike and sturgeon were caught even in Fox Creek, now filled up or used as a covered sewer. A sturgeon was sold for a knife in that early day. Salmon has rarely been found in our river, the fish preferring clearer, rocky rivers, like the Connecticut and Kennebec. Herring once made Saratoga Lake their grand rendezvous, and were in plenty. The dams have turned them away. Shad and bass are not plentiful so far up stream as our county for lack of suitable accommodations; but they are abundant in the river, as are also the usual variety of small fish. Trout was once very abundant in the clear streams of the county.

The sharp-nosed sturgeon, caught in the Hudson, is from four to eight feet in length, and varies in weight from 100 to 450 pounds. A few years ago one was caught weighing 486 pounds. The annual catch commences in April and continues into the autumn. This fish is caught in most of the fishing places from New York bay to Troy, and is a great favorite in the river towns. It is sometimes called "Albany beef." Its oil is used for the same purpose as sperm oil, and in the treatment of cuts and bruises. A favorite place for spawning was once at the bottom of Cohoes Falls. Its roes or eggs furnish one of the most alluring bates to the angler, as bass and many other fish delight in them for food.

REPTILES.—Of snakes there are very few, and of the poisonous class none. The rattlesnake, once so common in the county, is no more to be dreaded.

The list comprises the black-snake and chaser, milk, water, garter and green snakes. Some lizards, newts and toads of several varieties are found.

ENTOMOLOGY.—Varied as are the subjects connected with the Natural History of Albany County, that of entomology is not the least. Many insects are known to be injurious to trees, shrubs and plants under cultivation; many are destructive to domestic fabrics, and in many ways are pests in the house, in the garden, and in the field and forest. A knowledge of their history, habits, character, propagation and natural enemies, with practical suggestions for their control, and the best means and remedies for their destruction, should be of much interest and value.

The Entomological History of New York State was under the supervision of Dr. Fitch for many years, who made very extensive collections in Albany and Washington counties. For ten years after Dr. Fitch's death no work was done by the State in that branch of natural history, and much valuable time was lost.

In 1870, the work was resumed by Dr. J. A. Lintner, who was appointed State Entomologist. For the last fifteen years, large and extensive collections have been made by him and his associates for the State collection, for private cabinets, and for distribution in various parts of the United States and in Europe.

Albany County has a favorite insect-collecting ground at the "Center," on the N. Y. Central R. R., a few miles North West from Albany. This also affords many plants for the botanist not obtained anywhere else. The *Scientific American* says, "The butterflies—*Lepidoptera*—collected in this place are more extensive than in any other locality." This is one of the localities in the State where the 17 year locusts, *Cicada-Septemdecim*, will appear in 1885.

Dr. Lintner has given special attention to the many injurious species, in order to counteract their ravages and confine their area of depredations by proper remedies, and to the best means for their eradication. The subject is one of great interest to the farmer and the cultivator of every species of plant-life. Flies, beetles, moths, worms, etc., are the bane of the progressive agriculturist, who is constantly subjected to the ravages of these pests. Our space allows only a brief notice of a few of the more injurious pests that are common in the county.

The wheat-midge, *Diplosis tritici*, was formerly very destructive, but of late years its effect upon the wheat crop has not been perceptible. The apple-tree borer, *Saperda candida*, and the peach-tree borer, *Ægeria exitiosa*, are so common to the orchardist that they need no special description. Unless they meet with constant warfare, the trees in time succumb to their work. In May and October every tree should be carefully examined, and if any *bark-dust* or *gnawings* are seen at the foot of the tree, use a sharp knife and destroy the grub; or, with a wire, follow the channel made, and put an end to further progress.

To prevent eggs being deposited, a shield of tin or tarred paper may encircle the tree for 18 inches in height.

The injuries of the currant worm, *Nematus ventricosus*, have been quite severe with the currant and gooseberry crop; but it has had a vigorous attack

made upon it by a minute parasite, which oviposits in its eggs and destroys them, and has thereby done very much towards arresting its ravages. Among the remedies most potent for the destruction of the currant worm is Persian insect powder, or *Pyrethrum*, and powdered Hellebore dusted upon the leaves when moist with dew or rain. The Hellebore may be used mixed with water, and sprinkled from a water-pot having a fine rose.

The Colorado potato-beetle, *Doryophora 10-lineata*, made its appearance in Albany County in 1874, since which time it has been a plague to the farmer. With perseverance and occasional application of Paris-green incorporated with ground plaster, or thoroughly mixed with water, the ravages of the grub can be controlled. It has many enemies; nearly 30 other insects prey upon it.

The carpet beetle, *Anthrenus scrophulariæ*, received its first scientific notice in this country by Dr. Lintner, of Albany, in the year 1876. From examples taken in Schenectady, its true character was first ascertained, and its habits and life-history established. It has been very abundant and destructive in Schenectady and Albany, in the latter city abounding in the early summer upon umbelliferous plants in Washington Park. Its distribution through the State and other States is rapidly extending. Every effort should be made to arrest its spread by the free use of benzine in its haunts.

The white-marked tussock moth, *Orgyia leucostigma*, has been a great pest in Albany and Schenectady for a number of years, having, at times, almost defoliated the elms and horse-chestnuts of our streets, and the plum-trees of our gardens. It is believed that the great increase of this pest in recent years is due to the introduction of the English sparrow, which makes war upon and drives away the few birds that feed upon the hairy caterpillars, of which the *Orgyia* is one.

Another pest that has been quite destructive of late years, is the rose-bug, or *Macrodactylus subspinosus*.

The cabbage worm—larva of a butterfly, order *Lepidoptera*—was first noticed in Albany County by Dr. Lintner, in July, 1870. It was introduced into this country about 1857. It came to Albany and vicinity in July 1870. This butterfly is the bane of every cabbage grower, and its larva is the dread of every cook. It is a voracious eater, and great numbers of worms are often found in a single head of cabbage. The natural enemy of the chrysalides is the larva of a minute parasitic fly, known as *Pteromalus puparum*. Another parasite of the cabbage worm is known as *Apanteles congregata*. Another parasite is the larva of a two-winged fly, belonging to the genus *Tachina*. This *Tachina* has been bred in considerable numbers by Dr. Lintner.

The following remedies for the cabbage worm are used: hot water, 130° Fahrenheit, the water to be boiling hot, when put in the watering-pot; Pyrethrum, or Persian insect-powder, half-ounce, with two gallons water, or half an ounce mixed with some dry substance, and sprinkled on the cabbage.

There are many hedges of spruce in Albany County, and the tree is extensively planted for shade and ornament; therefore, it may be well to notice an enemy, recently discovered, which has proved to be very destructive to the spruce and fir trees. It is called elsewhere the *Spruce-bud Tortrix Fumiferana*. Besides climatic causes, the spruce is likely to meet with the ravages of this new enemy; and if once introduced, our hedges will be at their mercy. It has appeared in the State already. The defoliation of spruce-trees is sufficient either to kill the trees outright, or so weaken them, that bark-boring beetles can complete the work of destruction. Trees attacked by these caterpillars look as if a light fire had passed through them. It feeds upon the leaves or needles of the terminal shoots, and while at its work scarcely alters the appearance of the tree, and its presence is known only when the worms are abundant enough to defoliate the trees.

The imported elm-leaf beetle, *Galerucella Xanthomelæna*.—The depredations of this pest have become widely extended throughout the North eastern States, preying upon the elms. The eggs are deposited in an upright position upon the under side of the leaves, generally in two, more or less irregular rows. The eggs are close together and firmly fastened to the leaf; they vary in number from four or five to twenty-five; in shape, oblong, oval, obtusely pointed at the tip, and of a straw-yellow color. The duration of the egg-state is about one week. The larvæ are destructive to the foliage from May to August, and have about two weeks of active life between the egg and pupa state. During this time they devour the leaves, which become skeletonized. The beetle assists the worms in its destructive work, but the worms do the most damage. In the month of September the beetles prepare for hibernation, seeking shelter in hollow trees, in the ground, under old leaves, and remain dormant until the following spring. The remedies recommended are many—such as tarring the trees, oil and tar gutters around the base of the tree, hot water and tobacco juice, arsenical preparations, Paris-green, London purple, in pro-

portion, one-half pound, flour three quarts, and water 40 gallons.

In the wide range of insect life few forms possess a greater vitality than is found among the bark-lice, and none are more readily transported upon plants from place to place, and from one country to another. Among the remedies the following is one which was proved in practice useful when a moderate quantity of emulsion is required :

Kerosene two gallons, common soap or whale-oil soap one-half pound, water one gallon. Heat the solution of soap and add it boiling hot to the kerosene. Churn the mixture thoroughly, which, when cool, forms a thick cream ; dilute, before using, one part of the mixture with nine parts of cold water. The above gives three gallons of emulsion, and makes, when diluted, 30 gallons of wash. The percentage of oil can be considerably increased, as can also the amount of soap, without danger to most trees or plants. Kerosene differs from most other remedial agents in being entirely harmless to tender young growths, blossom buds and young fruit, if properly diluted. It may therefore be applied to bearing trees at seasons when other insectcides would cause more or less loss of growth and of fruit. The most favorable season for applying kerosene washes is, undoubtedly, early spring, as soon or as all danger of frost is past.

The reports of Prof. Riley, of the Department of Agriculture, and of Prof. J. A. Lintner, State Entomologist, have been very helpful in the preparation of this section. Much more might be added, if our space would allow.

METEOROLOGY.

The principal timber or trees yet growing upon the hills and in the small patches of forest are pines, white, yellow and pitch ; oaks, several varieties ; maples, birch, beech, elm, hemlock, chestnut and hickory ; on the sandy regions, dwarf species of evergreen trees. Red cedar grows to a limited extent in several localities, particularly upon rocky wastes. The law of demand has asserted its prerogative in the general physical characteristics of the county, which is well illustrated by the rapid denudation and recent destruction of forests for the requirements of modern progress and internal improvements. While these add largely to the wealth of the country, agriculture is in a measure deprived of its greatest need, an abundant rainfall. The one thing essential to fertility is a constant supply of water, and this is supplied by condensation from the atmosphere, which appears in the form of snow or rain, depending upon the temperature and surrounding physical condition of the locality. When we estimate the number of acres of forest that are required for fuel and building material, and the almost unlimited demand made to supply the railroads, we can readily see how, in a few years, the whole character of the climate and productions of a region may be changed by the destruction of its forests. Trees, with forest vegetation, perform an important function in the great economy of nature. They furnish natural barriers against sudden floods; their roots permeate the soil, and thus prevent torrents from sweeping away the soil and conveying the accumulated *debris* in heaps upon the cultivated land. The foliage of the trees, which present such an immense surface, condenses the atmospheric moisture, which would otherwise be taken on the aerial currents and carried away. Physical geography demonstrates this fact, that the destruction of forest growth diminishes the amount of rainfall in that region. In accordance with natural laws, the fertility depends, in a great degree, upon this. Therefore, to destroy the forests is to diminish one of the great sources of productiveness of the soil. It is clear, therefore, that the destruction of the forests has a direct influence upon agriculture, by diminishing the quantity of rainfall, inducing drouth by uninterrupted rays of the sun, and by the wind currents which meet with no obstructions and cause less deposit of moisture.

Under this head other facts of interest will be given in the history of the City of Albany.

Table showing monthly rainfall and mean temperature, for each month of the year, from 1874 to 1884, inclusive, as obtained from the records of the "United States Signal Service," at Albany, kept by Major John O. Barnes.

RAINFALL.

	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
January	3.61	2.14	1.57	1.95	4.45	2.54	2.96	2.86	2.64	2.43	2.98
February	2.90	1.65	4.09	0.36	4.12	2.80	2.67	2.50	3.31	3.00	3.85
March	1.97	3.27	4.28	3.33	2.18	3.79	2.17	3.80	1.79	1.77	4.00
April	4.97	3.36	3.51	1.42	3.99	3.17	2.75	1.54	1.27	2.65	2.09
May	2.32	2.57	2.96	2.77	3.65	0.89	3.38	3.90	4.15	3.20	2.79
June	4.71	3.98	4.40	4.60	4.54	4.62	2.21	3.76	3.98	6.30	1.80
July	6.78	2.46	4.97	4.00	5.52	5.10	3.78	2.22	3.97	5.96	5.04
August	1.94	6.55	0.53	4.57	3.37	4.25	2.84	2.07	1.38	3.69	5.27
September	4.01	2.63	5.17	1.82	3.20	3.47	2.86	2.38	7.79	3.19	1.80
October	1.77	5.97	1.64	7.86	3.37	1.24	2.45	3.19	0.27	3.49	2.64
November	2.19	2.29	2.65	2.70	4.43	2.56	2.49	3.44	0.97	1.14	3.44
December	0.76	1.11	2.42	0.71	6.16	4.23	2.01	4.88	2.24	2.55	3.20
Total for year	37.93	38 25	38.19	36.09	49.37	38.56	32.54	36.32	33.76	39.37	38.90

The greatest rainfall for any year was in 1878. The least rainfall in 1880. The greatest rainfall for any month was October, 1877. The least for any one month was October, 1882. The total rainfall for the full ten years was 380.38 inches, and the average yearly rainfall for 10 years was 38.038 inches.

TABLE OF MEAN TEMPERATURE AS RECORDED AT ALBANY BY U. S. S. S.

	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.
	Degs.	Degs.	Degs.	Degs.	Degs.	Degs.	Degs.	Degs.	Degs.	Degs.	Degs.
January	28.2	14.5	29.2	17.1	23.1	17.9	30.8	19.8	27.4	23.3	23.6
February	22.2	15.3	24.8	28.8	24.3	19.3	28.3	27.2	32.6	28.7	33.0
March	32.2	26.4	29.9	30.4	38.4	30.5	32.7	38.8	38.8	30.1	35.8
April	36.6	39.1	42.9	46.3	51.5	42.0	49.7	47.0	47.0	47.3	47.8
May	56.5	57.3	57.1	57.5	56.5	60.8	66.4	65.3	55.9	59.1	59.1
June	66.9	66.9	71.5	68.2	65.0	66.0	71.8	65.1	69.0	72.0	72.5
July	69.9	69.8	73.7	71 8	73.6	71.1	74.9	73.9	73.8	72.8	70.7
August	66.8	70.7	72.7	71.8	70.2	67.9	70.9	73.5	73.0	69.9	72.6
September	63.1	58.5	59.1	63.8	63.7	59.6	64.9	71.7	65.1	61.2	67.5
October	48.8	46.4	46.0	49.5	52.4	58.9	51.4	55.1	56.4	50.9	51.3
November	36.4	31 8	39.5	40.4	37.8	37.3	37.8	43.5	41.4	44.0	38.4
December	28.0	26.8	17.2	31 3	27.7	28.6	25.2	38.7	31.2	31.0	27.8
Average for each year	46.3	43.6	46.9	48.1	48.7	46.7	50.4	51.4	51.0	49.2	50.3
Highest in the year	92	90	93	92	92	91	93	96	92	94	92.2
Lowest	16	18	8	7	18	8	10	10	14	8.5	15.9

Average temperature for ten years, 48.23 degrees. The highest temperature for any year was 1881, and the lowest, 1875. The coldest month was January, 1875. The coldest days were in 1875 and 1878. The hottest month was July, 1880. The hottest day was in 1881.

THE IROQUOIS INDIANS.

The early history of Albany County, like that of every section of our country, is more or less intimately connected with that of the aboriginal Indian. When the *Half-moon* first entered the "great river" which gives, "as long as water runs," immortality to the name of Hudson, it met hostility and murder from the savages that dwelt around its lower waters. Sailing up the river, a few days later, with the same ship and crew, it is recorded of the savages that "we found very loving people and very old men, where we were well used." These Indians belonged to two great families. The former were of the Algonquins or Adirondacks, of which the Manhattan and the Delaware tribes occupied the territory about New York City and the valley of the Delaware River. With these the early settlers upon Manhattan and Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley had much trouble, involving destruction of property and barbarian devastation and murder. The latter were called Iroquois by the French; Five, afterward Six Nations, by the English; and, by themselves, Aquanuschioni, signifying a united people, or Ongue-houwe, a superior people. These were divided into tribes, under the separate names of Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas, to which were added later the Tuscaroras.

At the time the early traders came up the Hudson, these tribes claimed most of the territory now constituting the State of New York and a portion of Pennsylvania, as their hunting grounds. Here they had their villages, and the lands they claimed as their own. No one could tell how they came here or when. They were distinguished above all other Indians of North America for intelligence, eloquence, endurance and cruelty. But they received the early Dutch traders in the most friendly manner, and for a great many years retained with them most peaceful relations in trade, even while carrying on war with others in a spirit of inplacable revenge, with all the varieties of torture and barbarity of which the race was capable.

A firm and lasting treaty of alliance and peace, it is said, was made between the great confederacy of the Five Nations and the Dutch, in 1618, as before suggested, on the hill Tawasagunshee, near the banks of the Tawalsontha Creek, now Norman's Kill, just south of Albany. There was no love between these contracting parties, any more than is usual between nations who make politic treaties of amity and commerce. It was a contract of selfishness and shrewdness. And as long as it was mutually advantageous it was unbroken.

Let us explain the circumstances. The Dutch came here for money-making. They saw a rich mine in the fur trade. The Indians knew the places of the beaver and the otter, and how to place their furs in the hands of these eager traders. They, in turn, desired the European trinkets, the white man's fire-water, and his fearfully destructive fire-arms. These mutual interests would best be secured by mutual peace and helpfulness.

These Five Nations—made Six Nations by the accession of the Tuscaroras in 1714—had formed a confederacy of tribes long before this date. The Mohawks were the most powerful; the Onondagas kept the great council fire ever burning, near where now is the City of Syracuse. They all had their villages and patches of ground, where dwelt their squaws, who cultivated corn, peas, beans, potatoes, melons, and cared for the infant papooses. They also had rude castles, made with palisades and brush work. The Mohawks, as told to us, had five castles in 1630, viz.: Moenemines Castle, situated on Haver Island, at the mouth of the Mohawk River; one at Schenectady; one at Fort Hunter, at the outlet of Schoharie Creek, called Ticonderoga; one in the present town of Mohawk, called Caughnawaga; one, the great castle, in the present town of Danube, called Canajoharie. At this time they numbered about 600 warriors. While their castles were on or near the Mohawk, their ownership in the soil extended, on the west side of the Hudson, as far south as the Catskills, north to the Canadas, and west including the present counties of Saratoga, Schenectady, Montgomery, Herkimer, Schoharie, Otsego, Greene and Albany. The Oneidas and Cayugas were understood to be the younger members of the confederacy. The Senecas dwelt farthest west, and were remarkable for their fierce and implacable nature. When first known to Europeans, they were unitedly engaged in war with nearly all the surrounding tribes.

These confederates did not unite in the interest of peace and progress, but for war and revenge. Of all employments, war was their delight. Nothing was sweeter to them than revenge. They were cunning and daring, alert and brave, unfeeling and cruel. With the war club, the tomahawk, the bow and the arrow, rude weapons of war, they had carried terror to the wilds of Canada; had gained victories on Lake Huron; had made tributary the Delawares and the Mohegans, and had, with unfeeling arrogance, brought into submission the weaker tribes in their reach, and, by reckless courage and formidable numbers, com-

manded the respect and awe of most of the powerful tribes from the Mississippi to the Atlantic. Such was the state of things when Samuel Champlain came up the beautiful lake that bears his name, only about two months before the Mohawks so lovingly welcomed Hudson. At this time the Iroquois were waging relentless war with the Hurons and Adirondacks. Entering into an alliance with these Canada tribes, Champlain furnished them with fire-arms and taught their use. The astonished Iroquois found themselves defeated in almost every encounter. They were humbled. Smarting under disgraceful defeat, they hailed the advent of the Dutch with delight, as a new people coming among them with the terrible enginery of powder and guns, as against the arrow and the tomahawk. They cultivated their friendship, and aided their enterprises with alacrity. Such were the circumstances that led to that treaty on the banks of the Norman's Kill, which, as tradition has it, was early made between the Dutch and the Iroquois. By this treaty, the Dutch secured for themselves the quiet possession of the coveted Indian trade, and the Six Nations obtained the means to assert that ascendancy which they long after maintained over neighboring tribes, inspiring terror, far and near, among the other savages of North America.

Delighted with their improved weapons of death, the Iroquois put them in immediate use. They had at least 3,000 warriors; they were free men and united; they were at home in their well-trodden warpaths, hunting grounds and wilderness fastnesses. Champlain was compelled to retreat from his invasions into the Mohawk territory. The Hurons were pursued without mercy, and entirely dispersed; the Eries were extirpated, leaving as their monument their name only upon the beautiful lake on the shores of which they dwelt; and the more formidable Andastes were blotted from existence. New France, with its allies, for many years suffered from their menaces, incursions and sanguinary conflicts. Even Quebec, its leading city, was threatened with devastation.

The policy followed by the early Dutch traders of Albany was well adapted to attach the Indians to them. It appealed to their self-interests. It aided them in their favorite pursuits of hunting and war. It gratified their love of trinkets and ornaments; it gave them strong water to drink, powder and guns, knives and hatchets. It restrained none of their vices or habits of cruelty when they did not interfere with the profits of trade. The English successors of the Dutch continued their policy. The unprovoked attack of Champlain upon the Iroquois in 1609 engendered intense hatred towards Canada and the whole French race and its allies for long years. No opportunity for revenge was neglected. In the contests for territory that followed, with slight interruptions, until the fall of Quebec in 1759, and the surrender of the North American possessions of the French to the English, the Six Nations were, with few exceptions, faithful friends to the English colonies, shielding them on many occasions from hostile attacks, and aiding them in the hour of battle.

Whatever, then, relates to their history is pertinent to the history of Albany County.

During all this period—extending over 150 years, until the Revolution—the Mohawks generally continued the friends of Albany, remembering the belt of peace, the token of eternal union, given and received on the banks of that romantic stream. As the oldest, bravest and most powerful of the confederate tribes, they shaped their general policy and conduct. Most warlike, rapacious, treacherous and cruel, they were, it must be seen, kept on terms of peace and friendship only from motives of fear, want, self-preservation and vanity.

They were a protection against the warlike tribes on the north, east and south, because all stood in fear of them. To them these tribes were in subjection; to them they paid tribute as a token of servitude.

It is well known that the Mohawks of Caughnawaga were seduced by the French about the year 1671, and removed to Canada. It was these Indians who visited Schenectady with the French, February 8, 1690, desolated the village in the night by fire, and murdered and carried captive its peaceful inhabitants. This event deeply stirred the people of Albany, and taught them more fully how little reliance they could place upon these savages, uncontrolled by self-interest, unrestrained by fear. Nothing but a belief that the city was well protected and prepared against them prevented these vandals from making a like attack upon Albany. Indeed, it is believed that the expedition was planned in Canada and undertaken against Albany. But the severe cold, deep snows, long march and hunger, led them to change their plan and fall upon the nearer and weaker town of Schenectady.

Except these few, then, who were led by the French Jesuits to remove to Canada and join the interests of the French, the Iroquois were true to the Dutch; and, after the government passed into

the hands of the English, they adhered to the "Corlear" or British interests against the "Yonondio" or French nation. They continued to do all in their power against the Canadian Indians and the Canadian towns until the fall of Quebec brought them in subjection to Great Britain. Thus they proved serviceable to the colonies up to the time of the American Revolution. During this dark and painful struggle with the Mother Country many of them, under the influence of Sir John Johnson, Guy Johnson, Joseph Brandt, the Butlers and other Tories, became a terror to their former friends, and carried fire, devastation and murder into many new settlements. The story of Cherry Valley and of the Valley of Wyoming records their savage cruelty; and many homes in the Valley of the Mohawk, of Schoharie, of the Delaware and the Minnisink witnessed their base treachery and pitiless murders. "The whole confederacy," says De Witt Clinton, "except a little more than half the Oneidas, took up arms against us. They hung like the scythe of death upon the rear of our settlements, and their deeds are inscribed with the scalping knife and the tomahawk, in characters of blood, on the fields of Wyoming and Cherry Valley, and on the banks of the Mohawk."

The Mohawks, once sustaining the most intimate relations with the Dutch and English colonial fur traders, were the most active and cruel enemies of the Americans in these bloody scenes. Thayendanega, known as Col. Joseph Brant, a Mohawk chief, educated by Sir William Johnson in the Lebanon school, under the wise and pious Wheelock, was their leader. They were obliged, at the close of the Revolution, to leave the State and take refuge in Canada. Most of the Oneidas were true to the Colonies through the influence of that wise and good man, Rev. Samuel Kirkland, who came among them from Connecticut as a missionary, in 1769. He was aided by the chief Shenandoa, who was greatly attached to him. Some of the Tuscaroras also took sides with the Colonies. The fragments of the great confederation that remain are entirely changed in character and habits. They have lost their ancient power and their prestige.

These New York Indians, who were led by Tory gifts, promises and lying statements, to take sides against the colonists in favor of the King of Great Britain, gained no advantage. They lost most of their best warriors and their lands, and have since been poor outcasts. This they saw at the close of the war, and expressed deep regrets at their folly. Brant died on the west shore of Lake Ontario in 1807, expressing regrets at many of his deeds of cruelty, and endeavoring to persuade the historian to remember that he was far better than his Tory and British associates. Shenandoa died in the Christian faith in 1816, at the age of 110, and was buried by the side of his beloved Kirkland, that he might "go up with him at the resurrection." Red Jacket, Corn Planter, Farmer's Brother, Half Town and Big Tree, after the Revolution, were true and faithful allies to the United States. Their conduct inspired respect, and brought much sympathy and favor towards their nation, the Senecas.

The aggregate number of the Iroquois confederacy at the time when the Hollanders first began trade on the Hudson is estimated at about 40,000. Of their descendants probably not more than 5,000 remain. A very small remnant, weak, dependent and peaceable, remain in this State. In the State Census of 1875, only one was found in Albany County, and none in Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Montgomery and Schoharie.

It is worthy of remark that the County of Albany was exempt from depredations by Tories and Indians during the entire War of the Revolution, while all around, in the old Tryon and Schoharie Counties, the settlers were kept in almost constant fear of sudden invasion and carnage. The only exception occurred in the present town of Berne, near Schoharie County, where the Dietz family of eight persons were murdered or taken captives by the Indians. This was done, it is presumed, by a misunderstanding, or from private revenge.

This deliverance is generally attributed to the fact that the county abounded in Tories, who had here their rendezvous in caves and out-of-the-way houses, and were in constant communication with the Tory leaders of these savage bandits. By the aid they rendered them, good will and personal safety were secured. Along and near the valleys of the Mohawk and Schoharie were twenty-four forts environing the county. These were only a partial defense. The City of Albany was well protected by forts and arms.

INDIAN LANDS.

As the only object of those who first came to this region, as is well known, was trade with the Indians, no land was called for except what was needed for trading posts. We have no mention of any purchases of territory here before the initiatory steps to the settlement of Rensselaerwyck were taken. Before this the natives attached no value to land, if so be that their own pursuits were not im-

peded. We take it that they were delighted to see the trader's cabin, his trading house and his rude fort, and never thought of invasion of their own rights so long as trade was free and profitable—so long as they could obtain clothing, rum, guns and trinkets in return for corn and beans, venison and beaver. The forts on Castle Island, on the Tasawantha and Fort Orange were, we think, erected without formal consent and held by peaceable possession. They were obtained by good will, good hopes and politic presents. The servants of the Netherland companies came on hire, not to stay—came only as agents of adventurers, and had no need to own land. They were temporary squatters. Their shelters were traders' tents and hunters' camps.

Thus it was, probably, until about 1630. When the charter of privileges and exemptions was made in 1629, for the encouragement of colonization in New Netherlands, by making conditional grants to patroons who would take certain lands and occupy them with settlers, Kilian Van Rensselaer purchased the titles of the Indians as his potent and wise policy dictated. The territory selected by him occupied twenty-four miles on each side of the Hudson River, and extended twenty-four miles up and down the river, including all of Albany County and most of Rensselaer and a part of Columbia County, as they now exist. This grant was understood by the patroon to include also Fort Orange and Beverwyck, and so it was subsequently decided by the English Crown. This claim was given up by the patroon before Albany was chartered as a city in 1686. All other land titles in this county, it is believed, are derived from the manorial rights thus purchased from the agents of Kilian Van Rensselaer. By the terms of this grant they extinguished all Indian claims.

THE INDIAN IN EDUCATION AND CHRISTIANITY.

As early as 1642, a French Jesuit visited the Mohawk settlements with the pious design of introducing the Christian religion, and the patriotic purpose of bringing over the Mohawks to the interests of the French. Several other of these persevering missionaries followed this pioneer during the succeeding 40 years, and labored with a fair measure of success, amid great hardships. As previously stated, in 1671 a large number left the Caughnawaga Castle and removed to Canada, where their descendants may be found to this day in an Indian village a little above Montreal. They still speak the Mohawk dialect, and have devotional books printed in that language.

French missionaries were found among all the Indian tribes at an early date after the discovery of Canada, many of them talented, learned, devoted and pious. They endured much from destitution, wearying toil and even suffered death, while endeavoring to convert these savages to the religion of Jesus. These were in a condition of heathenism, and capable of inflicting pitiless revenge and barbaric cruelty upon their prisoners. Many were reckoned as converted and received baptism. But few learned to forgive their enemies or to leave off, for a long time, the vices and habits of their usual lives of degradation and wickedness. Yet, it is believed that some did, indeed, receive the benignant influences of the lessons of the Saviour of Men into their hearts, and lived better lives.

The Dutch and English clergy, also, endeavored to teach Christianity to the Indians, but their success was no better than that of the Catholics, unless it was preceded by civilization, education and good examples. Unfortunately, but little was thought of making the Indian a better man by most of the mercantile men of colonial days. To make him serviceable in trade and in war seems to have been the leading policy of the European colonists of every nation and religion.

Says Peter Kalm, in 1749, speaking of Indian conferences at Albany: "Sometimes their deliberations turn upon their conversion to the Christian religion." Then he goes on to tell—as an indication of the Indian feeling at that time—that Gov. Hunter, on one of these occasions, after he had presented the Indians with many clothes and other gifts in the name of Queen Anne, told them that their good mother, the Queen, had not only generously provided them with clothes for their bodies, but likewise intended to adorn their souls by sending them good ministers to teach them the gospel. Upon this announcement one of the oldest sachems arose and replied that, in the name of all the Indians, he thanked their gracious mother, the Queen, for the fine clothes she had sent them, but as to the ministers, they had already had some of them, who, instead of preaching the holy gospel to them had taught them to get drunk, to cheat and to quarrel. He then entreated the Governor to take from them these preachers and some other Europeans who dwelt near them; for before they came among them the Indians had been honest, sober and innocent; but now most of them had become rogues. If he would do them any favor,

he would ask him to send two or three blacksmiths among them to teach them how to work iron.

As further illustrating the estimation which many of the leading Indians placed upon the kind of Christianity which was manifested in the conduct of the early settlers and teachers of this vicinity, we give the following as told by Dr. Benjamin Franklin. Canassatego was an Onondaga chief, living about 1740: "Conrad Weiser, our interpreter, had been naturalized among the Six Nations, and spoke well the Mohawk language. In going through the Indian country to carry a message from our Governor to the council at Onondaga, he called at the habitation of Canassatego, an old acquaintance, who embraced him, spread furs for him to sit on, placed before him some boiled beans and venison, and mixed some rum and water for his drink. When he was well refreshed and had lit his pipe, Canassatego began to converse with him; asked how he had fared the many years since they had seen each other; whence he then came, what occasioned the journey, &c. Conrad answered all his questions. The Indian, to continue, said: 'Conrad, you have lived long among the white people and know something of their customs. I have been sometimes at Albany, and have observed that once in seven days they shut up their shops and assemble in the great house. Tell me what that is for? What do they do there?' 'They meet there,' said Conrad, 'to hear and learn good things.' 'I do not doubt,' said the Indian, 'that they tell you so. They have told me the same; but I doubt the truth of what they say; and I will tell you my reasons. I went lately to Albany to sell my skins and buy blankets, knives, powder, rum, &c. You know I used generally to deal with Hans Hanson, but I was a little inclined this time to try some other merchants. However, I called first upon Hans, and asked him what he would give for beaver. He said he could not give more than four shillings a pound; "but," says he, "I cannot talk on business now. This is the day when we meet together to learn good things, and I am going to the meeting." So I thought to myself, since I cannot do any business to-day, I may as well go to the meeting too, and I went with him. There stood up a man in black, and began to talk to the people very angrily. I did not understand what he said, but, perceiving that he looked much at me and at Hanson, I imagined he was angry at seeing me there. So I went out, sat down near the house, struck fire and lit my pipe, waiting until the meeting should break up. I thought, too, that the man had mentioned something of beaver, and suspected it might be the subject of their meeting. So when they came out I accosted my merchant. "Well, Hans," says I, "I hope you have agreed to give more than four shillings a pound." "No," says he, "I cannot give so much. I cannot give more than three shillings and sixpence." I then spoke to several other dealers, but they all sung the same song—three and sixpence, three and sixpence. This made it clear to me that my suspicion was right, and whatever they pretended of meeting to learn good things, the purpose was to cheat Indians in the price of beaver. Consider a little, Conrad, and you must be of my opinion. If they met so often to learn good things, they certainly would have learned some before this time. But they are still ignorant. You know our practice. If a white man, in traveling through our country, enters one of our cabins, we all treat him as I do you. We dry him if he is wet, we warm him if he is cold, and give him meat and drink that we may allay his thirst and hunger, and we spread soft furs that he may rest and sleep on. We demand nothing in return. But if I go into a white man's house at Albany, and ask for victuals and drink, they say, "Get out, you Indian dog." You see they have not learned those little good things that we need no meetings to be instructed in, because our mothers taught them to us when we were children. And therefore it is impossible that their meetings should be, as they say, for any such purpose, or have any such effect. They are only to contrive the cheating of Indians in the price of beaver.'"

Megapolensis, the first Dutch minister in Albany, speaks of the Mohawks as "entire strangers to all religion." "When we pray," he writes, "they laugh at us. When we have a sermon, sometimes ten or twelve of them, more or less, will attend, each having a long tobacco pipe, made by himself, in his mouth, and will stand awhile and look, and afterwards ask me what I was doing and what I wanted, that I stood there and made so many words, while none of the rest might speak. I tell them that I admonish the Christians that they must not steal, nor commit lewdness, nor get drunk, nor commit murder, and that they, too, ought not to do these things, and that I intend, in process of time, to preach the same to them, and to come to them in their own country and castles when I am acquainted with their language. They say I do well to teach the Christians, but immediately add: '*Diatennon jawij Assyreoni hagiowisk?*'—*i. e.*, 'Why do so many Christians do these things?'" And then he adds:

"But though they are so cruel, and live without any punishments for evil-doers, yet there are not half so many villainies or murders committed amongst them as amongst Christians."

There was, at different times, much effort made to convert the Indians to Christianity by French, Dutch and English. It was done by Government approval, and with aid from corporate companies and Indian agents, as a matter of policy. Often the missionaries were men of talent, piety and wisdom, and quite as often they were wanting in these gifts. Sometimes they were unprincipled, dishonest and self-seeking. Sometimes the best efforts of the wise and good were hindered by the conduct of so-called Christian traders, Governors and military men. Wild war and greedy traffic are not means of grace. Schoolcraft well says: "The pernicious examples of the whites in the Indian trade, their injustice, treachery, licentiousness and greed created a deep disgust toward the European race in the minds of the Indians."

In and near Albany County, Reformed Dutch, Episcopalians, Presbyterians and Lutherans all did missionary work among the Six Nations during the colonial period. The Mohawks, being nearest the white settlements, received special attention. Denominational jealousies often appeared. There were few missionaries of so devoted and exalted character as was that of Samuel Kirkland. Hence few had such faithful disciples as Shenandoa. Few understood as did the New England John Eliot, the translator of the Indian Bible, and Eleazer Wheelock, the founder of the Indian Charity School of Dartmouth College, the power of early practical education and pure Christian example as foundations of a lasting Christian civilization. Hence there were few "praying Indians," and no Sampson Occum among the Six Nations who brought their trade to Albany and killed their enemies. While the Colonial Government spoke favorably of efforts to Christianize the Six Nations, they did nothing beyond paying a small stipend to the clergymen of Albany to attend to the wants of such as might come to them. Dominie Dellius baptized many, but his scandalous conduct in the matter of Indian lands showed how false he was to his own teachings. Dominies Lydius and Van Driessen tried to convert some. Rev. Messrs. Barclay, Freeman, Andrews and others labored amid great discouragements, testifying that the conduct of those who professed to have received Christianity was so evil that they could scarce be reputed Christians. Sir William Johnson was friendly to the missionaries as far as they contributed to his advantage; but his own shocking licentiousness was too well known to give him any influence in favor of temperance, purity, or any other form of practical godliness. The Society for Promoting the Gospel in Foreign Parts, managed by the Church of England, made attempts to convert the savages. But little real good was accomplished by the best of men, who understood but little of the language and character of the Indian, and considered too little the influence that their own habits and those of their "Christian" neighbors had upon them. For they counted all the whites as Christians, and judged of the Christian religion by their conduct.

The following anecdote from O'Callaghan well illustrates the usual results of missionary efforts in those days: "A clergyman had succeeded in teaching one young savage the prayers so that he could repeat the responses in the church, and also to read and write well. He was then furnished with a Bible and sent to evangelize the heathen. But he pawned the book for brandy, became a thorough beast, and did more harm than good."

Rev. Mr. Barclay, an Episcopal missionary, giving up his work in 1710, writes to the society in England that employed him: "I am afraid the missionaries that are coming over will find hard work of it, and if the commander of that fort (in Albany) be not a person of singular piety and virtue, all their endeavors will be ineffectual. These here that trade with them are loath that any religion get any footing among them. Besides, these savages are so given to drinking that nasty liquor, rum, that they are lost to all that is good."

But little was attempted by the early colonists of the Hudson and Mohawk toward educating the Indian children.

It is well known that Rev. Eleazer Wheelock, about the middle of the last century, had a school for the education of Indian youth in Lebanon, Conn. His benevolent design was to take the young Indian away from the surroundings of his tribe and interest him in learning and Christianity, and train him to become a teacher and preacher to his own people. Sir William Johnson, among other leading men, favored his plan and sent him pupils, among whom was the celebrated Joseph Brant. Of these pupils Dr. Wheelock writes in 1763: "Joseph and the rest of the boys from your quarter are well, and make good progress in learning. Joseph is, indeed, an excellent youth. He has endeared himself to me as well as to his master and to everybody else by his good behavior."

This school was removed to Hanover, N. H., in 1769, and made a part of the working plan of

Dartmouth College—"vox clamantis in deserto"—a leading idea of the good first President being to educate Indian boys there, and much of this work has been done in this institution.

In 1762, Sir William Johnson writes to Mr. Wheelock: "I agree with you in the opinion that the Indian children will not improve in their studies near so much from the method proposed of erecting schools in their nations as they would do according to your plan of education, whereby they are kept out of the way of and uninfluenced by bad example."

For some years, near the close of the French war in 1763, it was proposed to change the location of this school from Lebanon to some place nearer the Indian population, where there were more lands and less people. Several places in this State were considered. Among other locations the City of Albany was considered. A free correspondence was held with the Mayor from 1766 to 1768 in regard to the school. The corporation had offered to give £2,300 to Dr. Wheelock, on condition that he would remove his institution from Lebanon to Albany. Volkert P. Douw was Mayor and favored the movement.

Other attempts were made, by good men, to teach the Indians to read and write, and other lessons of science and civilization, at sundry times and in sundry places; but these attempts had little success, and were of brief duration. Nothing was done that accomplished results so good, so broad and so lasting as what was done by Eleazer Wheelock. We let him tell his own story: "Among those whom I have educated there have been near forty who were good readers and writers, and were instructed in the principles of the Christian religion as their age and time would admit, and were sufficient masters of English grammar, arithmetic, and a number considerably advanced in Greek and Latin, and one of them carried through college and was a good scholar, and others carried through a course of learning with not less expense for each of them than would have been necessary to have supported an English youth through a course of collegiate studies, and they have generally behaved well while they were with me, and left my school with fair and unblemished characters, and under the influence of every motive I could set before them to a good improvement of the distinguishing talents which God had committed to them, and many of them have gone immediately from my school with good and reputable business, and such business as they were equal to, and generally to serve as schoolmasters, but some as interpreters, &c., and nothing has prevented their being employed usefully and reputably in various capacities until this day but the want of fortitude to resist the power of those fashionable vices which were rampant among all their tribes. * * * Of all the number before mentioned I don't hear of more than half who have preserved their characters unstained, either by a course of intemperance or uncleanness, or both, and some who, on account of their parts and learning, bid the fairest for usefulness, are sunk down into as low, savage and brutish manner of living as they were in before any endeavors were used with them to raise them up; and there are some of whom I did and do still entertain hope that they were really the subjects of God's grace who have not wholly kept their garments unspotted amongst the pots. And six of these who did preserve a good character are now dead."—*Wheelock's Narrative*, 1771.

As a specimen of the language spoken by the Six Nations that once frequented Albany County, we give the Lord's Prayer, copied from "Smith's Hist. New York":

So-ung-wau-ne-ha cau-ro-unk-yau-ga, teh-see-ta-ro-au, Sauk.son-e-you-sta, esa, saw-an-e-you, o-ket-tauh-se-la, eh-ne-au-wong, na, cau-ronunk-yawga, naugh-wou-shauga, ne-at-te-weh-ne-sa-lau-ga, taug-wau-nau-to-ro-na-an-tough-sick, to-an-tang-we-lee-whe-you-staung, che-nee-yeut, cha-qua-ta-leh-whe-you-staun-ne, tough-sau, taugh-wam-sa-re-neh, ta-waut-ot-ten-au-gal-ough-toung-ga, nas-aw-ne, sa-che-au-tang-was co-an-teh-sal-oh-aun-za-ick-au, esa, saw-au-ne-you, esa, sash-autz-ta, esa, soung-wa-soung, chen-ne-auh-a-aug-wa, au-wen.

INDIAN TREATIES, TRADE AND OTHER AFFAIRS.

Indian affairs were from the very first, by common consent, managed by the citizens of Albany. They were nearly all Indian traders, and were in constant intercourse with them. The acquaintance thus formed, their business interests, and their frontier situation, fitted them for the duties involved.

There was only one beaver dam, so far as we have learned, in Albany County, and that in the town of Berne; at least there is no trace or record of any other. But beaver skins and other furs and peltry were brought from a widely extended territory—from the whole State of New York as occupied by the Iroquois, far away from the wilds of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and even from the Canadas, and from New England. The unscrupulous zeal

of the bosch-loopers or runners, knew no bounds. They invaded, when they could do so without too much risk, the territorial rights of the Frenchman and the New Englander, regardless of anything but gain. The Indians were met on their way to the city by these primitive drummers, and bargains were made in advance of the market. Albany claimed a monopoly in the fur trade as against other people or other localities. Their claim was confirmed by the Dongan Charter of 1686. But squatters all about, and especially the early settlers on the Mohawk flats, caused great trouble and grief to Albany traders.

Philip Pieterse Schuyler came from Amsterdam, Holland, and settled in Beverwyck as early as 1647. He was a trader far above the average in ability and character, and his dealings with the Indians were fair and honorable. They became much attached to him, and chiefs often visited him at his farm-house, four miles up the Hudson, and he had a house built especially for their entertainment near his residence in Albany. In 1665, he attended a council held with the Mohawks, as delegate from Albany, after which he had much to do with the frequent negotiations with the Five Nations. He assisted in inaugurating what became the settled policy of the province—to treat the Indians as friends and allies. His son Peter, who continued the same policy after his father's decease in 1683, acquired a great influence over these peculiar people.

Under the Dutch Government, the Director-General and Council of New Netherland managed the Indian affairs. As the relations with the tribes became more complicated and varied after the English conquest in 1664, it became necessary that some persons residing at Albany should be appointed to receive communications in regard to them, and to treat with them in emergencies. The Governor's residence at New York was inconveniently distant. Hence, the origin of the Indian Department, in 1684. The magistrates of the City of Albany were first appointed. In 1690, a distinct Board was constituted, acting under the Governor in all matters of this department, without salary. As most of its members were traders, and had the handling of moneys and other presents, the office of Indian Commissioner became one of great importance and profit. Their records are missing, and are said now to be in Canada. In 1755, the English Crown assumed control of Indian affairs, dividing the colonies into northern and southern departments, and appointing Sir William Johnson as northern Superintendent, who, at his death in 1774, was succeeded by his nephew, Col. Guy Johnson.

"The diplomacy, statesmanship, and good faith exhibited in the earliest management of Indian affairs reflect the highest credit on those charged therewith, and laid the territorial foundations of the Commonwealth on the secure basis of honorable treaties honorably kept. The inspiration and guidance in these relations came largely from the Schuylers, under whom Sir William Johnson was trained."

The adoption of the Federal Constitution superseded the State supervision, which now has to do only with certain lands and some other matters connected with the reservations in the State.

COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

These officers were once, perhaps, the most important in their functions, of any in Albany County and the territory extending a great distance around it. The men who held it were leading men of the time, and their names should here be recorded.

1684.
Mayor and Magistrates of Albany.

OCTOBER 19, 1690.

Joachim Staats, Peter Bogardus,
Johannis Wendell, Ryer Jacobz Schermerhorn,
Johannis Bleecker, Mayor of Albany.

1691.

Matthew Shanky, Peter Schuyler,
George Bradshaw, John Tuder,
Dirck Wessels.

AUGUST 10, 1696.

Peter Schuyler, Evert Bancker,
Godfrey Dellius, Dirck Wessels,
Mayor, or the Mayor for the time being.

JULY, 1698.
Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Commonalty.

Dirck Wessels, Hendrick House.

1706.

Peter Schuyler, Myndert Schuyler,
Capt. Weems, Johannis Cuyler,
The Mayor, Evert Bancker,
Johannis Abeel, Henry Holland,
Kiliaan Van Rensselaer, Peter Van Brugh,
Hendrick Van Rensselaer.

APRIL 25, 1710.

Kiliaan Van Rensselaer, Johannis Cuyler,
John Abeel, John Schuyler,
Evert Bancker, Myndert Schuyler,
Hendrick Hansen, Peter Van Brugh,
Johannis Roseboom.

1712.

Peter Schuyler, Johannis Schuyler,
Kiliaan Van Rensselaer, Hendrick Hansen,
Richard Ingoldsby, Myndert Schuyler,
Peter Van Brugh.

JULY 23, 1715.

Peter Schuyler,	John Schuyler,
Kiliaan Van Rensselaer,	Myndert Schuyler,
Peter Matthews,	Robert Livingston, Jr.,
Hendrick Hansen,	John Cuyler,

Peter Van Brugh.

NOVEMBER 12, 1720.

Peter Schuyler,	Henry Holland,
Hendrick Hansen,	Philip Livingston,
John Cuyler,	John Collins,
Peter Van Brugh,	John Wendell,
Evert Bancker,	John Bleecker.

1724.

Henry Holland,	Philip Livingston,
Peter Van Brugh,	Johannis Wendell,
John Collins,	Evert Wendell,
John Cuyler,	Hendrick Van Rensselaer,
Evert Bancker,	David Van Dyck.

1726.

Capt. Cornwell,	John Cuyler,
Capt. Norris,	Peter Van Brugh,
Philip Livingston,	Evert Bancker,
Henry Holland,	John Collins,

Henry Rensselaer.

SEPTEMBER 13, 1728.

Philip Livingston,	Hermanus Wendell,
Myndert Schuyler,	Johannis Roseboom,
Evert Bancker,	Jeremiah Van Rensselaer,
Rutger Bleecker,	Nicholas Bleecker,
Henry Holland,	Evert Wendell,
Stephanus Groesbeck,	Philip Schuyler,
Peter Van Brugh,	Ryer Gerritse,
Johannis Cuyler,	Barent Sanders,
Abraham Cuyler,	Johannis Lansing,

NOVEMBER 1, 1732.

The preceding with	Henry Van Rensselaer,
Johannis Schuyler,	Dirck Ten Broeck.

JULY 13, 1734.

Philip Livingston,	Nicholas Bleecker,
William Dick,	Ryer Gerritse,
Myndert Schuyler,	Dirck Ten Broeck,
John Schuyler,	Johannis Lansing, Jr.,
Hendrick Van Rensselaer,	John De Peyster,
Rutger Bleecker,	Jacob Glen,
Stephanus Groesbeck,	Cornelius Cuyler,
Philip Schuyler,	John Schuyler, Jr.,
Jeremiah Van Rensselaer,	Edward Collins,
Edward Holland,	Abraham Cuyler.

1738.

Philip Livingston,	Edward Clarke,

Commandant at Albany,
Members of Assembly for Albany, Rensselaerwyck and Schenectady,
Mayor, Recorder and Sheriff of Albany.

DECEMBER 5, 1739.

The Council,	Stephanus Groesbeck,
Commandant at Albany,	Rutger Bleecker,
Mayor and Recorder of Albany,	John De Peyster,
	John Schuyler, Jr.,
Jeremiah Van Rensselaer,	Jacob Glen,
Peter Winne,	Arent Bradt,
Edward Collins,	Cornelius Cuyler,
Myndert Schuyler,	Johannis Lansing, Jr.,
John Schuyler,	Hendrick Ten Eyck.

1742.

Philip Livingston,	Mayor Dirck Ten Broeck,
John Rutherford,	Recorder Hendrick Ten Eyck,
Myndert Schuyler,	Rutger Bleecker,
Abraham Cuyler,	John De Peyster,
Nicholas Bleecker,	Stephanus Groesbeck,
Johannis Lansing, Jr.,	Ryer Gerritse,
Cornelius Cuyler,	Edward Collins.

1745.

The preceding with Stephen Van Rensselaer,

1746.

Commissary for Indian Affairs, William Johnson.

NOVEMBER, 1752.

Commissioners, The Council, Commandant at Albany, Members of Assembly of Albany, Rensselaerwyck, Schenectady and Livingston Manor,

Mayor and Recorder of Albany,	Hendrick Bleecker,
	John Buchanan,
Myndert Schuyler,	Peter Groenendyck,
Cornelius Cuyler,	Johannis Lansing, Jr.,

Jacob C. Ten Eyck.

JUNE 15, 1754.

Mayor and Recorder of Albany,	Cornelius Cuyler,
	John Buchanan,
Commandant at Albany,	Jacob C. Ten Eyck,
Myndert Schuyler,	John Rensselaer,

Peter Winne, Sole Superintendent, April 15, 1755.

FEBRUARY, 1756.

William Johnson,	Sir Wm. Johnson, Bart.

JULY, 1774.

Guy Johnson,	Volkert P. Douw,
State Commissioners,	Timothy Edward,
Philip Schuyler,	Oliver Wolcutt,

James Duane.

It has not been our purpose to discuss the Indian speculatively in regard to his origin; nor in regard to his personal appearance, his dress, food and habits, his manner of life, or his views upon government and religion. We have confined ourselves to his relations to the early settlers of Albany County and vicinity, and their successors, and to the characteristics developed by the educational, moral and religious influences to which they were subjected here in the affairs of peace and war. We have the Indian of the Six Nations only before us as he was in our local history; as he mingled with our people as a fur-trader, in treaties of peace, in our county, in our wars, in our records of treachery and carnage.

More will be said of Indian treaties, trade and other local matters in the history of Albany City.

EARLY DISCOVERY—VERRAZANO.

There are geographers who believe that Giovanni da Verrazano, a Florentine navigator, commanding a French crew, sailing across the Atlantic, and,

cruising up the Eastern coast of what is now the United States, entered the Bay of New York in the spring of 1524. After a brief tarry, he made no farther sail up the great river, no farther examination of its beautiful shores, but went on his way. Coasting along New England, and returning to France, he made a report of his hurried and comparatively unimportant trip to Francis I., King of France, in July following. If this is true, the *Dauphin* was the first European vessel that touched the waters of our Hudson River. But the French monarch, so far as appears, took no notice of this discovery. Subsequent French navigators paid no regard to it. Cartier, in 1534, and others near his time, did not follow in his track, but went to the more chilly latitudes and more inhospitable shores of the St. Lawrence to found New France. Could they have been ignorant of the voyages of Verrazano? And Champlain sailed up the lake that bears his name almost to the upper waters of the Hudson in 1609, entirely ignorant of French claims, or oblivious of them if he even heard of them. This neglect of the alleged Verrazano report, in an age of discovery, and when the eyes of all Western Europe were turned toward these shores, and all its monarchs were eager to increase wealth and power by territorial extensions in America, is not easily explained. Hence, many regard the report as a historic fraud, and the whole matter as a fable. We give the facts, but express no opinion in this place. One thing is certain, that there is no credible evidence that any subsequent settlements or trade ever resulted from this alleged discovery of Verrazano; nor is "the city and county of Albany" indebted to it for its planting and growth. Nothing came of it; hence it probably has no place worthy of special discussion in this history.*

At the convention at Albany in the year 1754, held by the Indian Commissioners, as reported among the papers of Sir William Johnson, a speech was made by one of the Indians, in which he gives the following account of the first advent of the white race to the Hudson River. "Our fathers had a castle on this river. As one of them walked out he saw something on the river, but was at a loss to know what it was. He took it at first for a great fish. He ran into the castle and gave notice to the other Indians. Two of our forefathers went to see what it was, and found it a vessel with men in it. They immediately joined hands with the men in the vessel and became friends. The white people told them they should not come up the river any farther at that time; and said to them they would return from whence they came, and come again in a year's time. According to their promise they returned in a year's time, and came as far up the river as where the old fort stood. Our forefathers invited them ashore and said to them, we will give you a place to make you a town. It shall be from this place up to such a stream (meaning Patroon's Creek), and from the river back up to the hill."

In an able document sent by "The People of New Netherlands" to "The High and Mighty Lords States General of the United Netherlands," on the 28th July, 1649, occurs the following, the insertion of which seems pertinent here:

"In the year of Christ 1609 was the country, of which we now propose to speak, first found and discovered at the expense of the General East India Company—though directing their aim and design elsewhere—by the ship de *Halve Mane*, whereof Henry Hudson was master and factor. It was afterward named New-Netherland by our people, and that very justly, for it was first discovered and taken possession of by New Netherlanders and at their expense, so that even at the present day the natives of the country, who are so old as to remember the event, testify that, on seeing the Dutch ships on their first coming here, they knew not what to make of them, whether they came down from heaven or were devils. Some of them on its first approach, even imagined it to be a fish or

* See note, page 1. Furthermore, it is here proper to quote again from "Discoveries in America to 1525," by A. J. Weise, pp. 361, 362:

"The fact that the French had ascended the Grande River (Hudson River, to the height of its navigation, to trade with the Indians, long before Henry Hudson explored it, is corroborated by still stronger testimony than that already presented. One of the earliest maps representing the territory of Nieu Nederlandt (New Netherland), or that part of New France which the French had called La Terre d'Anormee Berge, is the Figurative Chart presented to their High Mightinesses, the Lords States General of the United Netherlands, on the 11th of October, 1614, by a number of Dutch merchants, praying for a special license to navigate and traffic within the limits of this part of North America. [Says John R. Brodhead, the historian: 'This map (made in 1614) is undoubtedly one of the most interesting memorials we have. It is about three feet long, and shows, very minutely, the course of the Hudson River from Manhattan to above Albany, as well as a portion of the sea-coast; and contains, likewise, curious notes and memoranda about the neighboring Indians. The work, perhaps, of one of the companions of Hudson himself, and made within five years of the discovery of our river, its fidelity of delineation is scarcely less remarkable than its high antiquity.'] One of these explanatory notes contains the undeniable testimony that the French were the discoverers of the Grande River, and that they had been trading with the Mohawks long before the *Half-Moon* sailed up the river. The plain language of the inscription makes all explanation of its meaning unnecessary: 'But as far as one can understand by what the Maquaas (Mohawks) say and show, the French come with sloops as high up as their country to trade with them.' A *fac simile* of this map is in the State Library, and the inscription above referred to is as follows: 'Ma so vele men heeft connen verstaen uyt i seggen ende beduyen van de Maquaas so comen de Francoysen met sloupen tot bovem aen haer land met haerluy handeln.'" G. R. H.

some sea-monster, so that a strange rumor concerning it flew through the whole country. We have heard the Indians also frequently say that they knew of no other world or people previous to the arrival of the Netherlanders here."

EARLY DISCOVERY—HENRY HUDSON AND HIS FOLLOWERS.

Henry Hudson first made known to the civilized world "the great river of the North," which we now call Hudson in honor of this bold discoverer. He was an English navigator, an intimate friend of the famous Captain John Smith, who had been employed by London merchants in the vain search for a passage to India by the Northern seas. The pursuit being abandoned by them, as is said, it was continued by the Dutch East India Company. On the 4th of April, 1609, he sailed from Amsterdam, with a crew of about 20 English and Dutch sailors, in the *Half-Moon*, a yacht of about 80 tons. Impassable ice turned his prow. Steering across the Atlantic, touching the shores of the Penobscot Bay and Cape Cod, he proceeded to the capes of the Chesapeake, which he reached early in August. Thence he sailed northerly along the coast, entering rivers' mouths, until he anchored in New York Bay early in September. On the 12th, he commenced sailing up the river, advancing as far as he found it safely navigable, probably to a point near the present site of Hudson City. Anchoring here on the 19th, he sent a boat with his mate and four men further up the river, which, no doubt, passed the site of Albany. He may have proceeded the whole length of the present county, as far as the sprouts of the Mohawk. On the 23d, convinced that this "River of the Mountains" furnished no shorter route to China and the Indies, he leisurely returned down the stream, sailing out to sea, and reaching England November 7th. He had many interviews with natives along the shores, generally of the most friendly character. They came to him in boats laden with fruit, meat, furs, and their own manufactures; they received trinkets in return with great delight. He found the inhabitants below the highlands more savage and faithless than those farther north. Delighted with the noble stream, its banks rich in autumnal foliage, fertile in fruits, splendid in varied scenery, and coursing through a region evidently abounding in large resources for adventure and wealth, his report to the Dutch Company was most favorable. It was not forgotten by them. The next year, another vessel was sent out by shrewd merchants of Amsterdam, which made a successful adventure in the fur trade along the Mauritius, as the Dutch first named the Hudson. Other vessels followed in 1611, 1612, 1613 and 1614, on voyages of discovery and trade. Captains John DeWitt, Hendrick Corstiaensen, Adrian Block, and Cornelius Jacobsen Mey were foremost in these enterprises. The coast, with contiguous islands, river mouths and bays, all along from Nahant to Delaware Bay, were visited by them. The Fresh or Connecticut, and other rivers were ascended so far as they could be navigated. Manhattan Island was made the chief depot of trade, and Corstiaensen was appointed agent for the Holland fur traffickers. In this same year, 1612, he began laying the foundations of the future commercial metropolis of this now great Republic in the construction of a small fort with a few rude buildings, on the southern extremity of the island.

NEW NETHERLANDS — THE ENGLISH CLAIM.

In 1614 the territory extending from Cape Cod to the Delaware River was called New Netherlands, and claimed as under the States General of Holland. Its limits were not well defined, but it was understood to include all the coasts and islands herein and adjacent, and the lands upon the Delaware, Hudson and Connecticut rivers, so far as the Dutch needed them for settlements and trade. But the claim was not admitted by England. The English Cabots had—as was then believed—been the first of Europeans to discover the coast of North America.

The whole territory in North America, lying between the 34th and 45th parallels of latitude, was claimed by England by right of prior discovery. The claim extended from the Atlantic to the Pacific. In 1606, on April 10th, two patents were granted by James I., King of Great Britain, dividing this territory into North Virginia and South Virginia—the former was given for the purpose of colonization to the Plymouth Company; the latter to the London Company. The settlement of Jamestown in 1607, and Plymouth, in 1620, resulted.

It was in 1613 that the English made their first demonstration against the Dutch possessions. Governor Samuel Argal, of Virginia, on his return from a hostile expedition against the French settlements in Acadia, "found at Manhattan Isle four houses built and a pretended Dutch governor," says Captain Smith. Says Chalmers, there was only "a trading house" there. Be this as it may, Argal visited the Governor and demanded possession, alleging that Hudson, an English subject, could not alienate from the English Crown what was

properly a part of Virginia. Incapable of resistance, Corstiaensen, then in command, peaceably submitted himself and his colony to the King of England. It is well known that New England never had any respect for the Dutch claim. The Holland companies kept possession for fifty years longer, and laid their foundations, some of which still remain in the New York of to-day. From the western part of Long Island, and up the Hudson to the Mohawk, including Albany and adjacent settlements, it remained New Netherlands, with little disturbance from the English, until 1664, when might decided the question of right.

THE UNITED NEW NETHERLANDS CO.

The importance of establishing a trading post near the head of the navigable waters of the Mauritius early attracted the attention of Hendrick Corstiaensen and other enterprising Hollanders. A general charter of concessions to discoverers of new countries was passed by the Holland Government, at Hague, March 27, 1614. A special charter was granted by the States General, under date of Oct. 11, 1614, to a company of Amsterdam merchants and others of the United New Netherlands Co., giving them the monopoly, until January 1, 1618, of all travel and trade in the New Netherlands, during which time they were authorized to make four voyages.

In 1614, with a few trappers and traders, Corstiaensen sailed up the river, and erected a fort and a store house, upon what was then named Kasteeul, or Castle Island, just below the site of the later Fort Orange, and carried on a brisk trade in furs and peltry with the Indians. The fort was called Nassau. The island, now called Van Rensselaer, is situated in the town of Bethlehem. Corstiaensen was murdered shortly after by a malicious Indian in his employ, and Jacob Jacobsen Elkins, his lieutenant, succeeded him as agent for the company. Nothing was done for the settlement or development of the lands.

The spring floods so disturbed the works on the island that Elkins removed them, some time after, to the mouth of the Tawasentha, now Norman's Kill, where there is said to have once been a Mohawk castle and burial place. Here, tradition has it, as stated elsewhere, was concluded, about this time, the first formal treaty of friendship and alliance with the Indians.

Their charter expiring January 1, 1618, this company unsuccessfully petitioned for its renewal. Either the returns made to the Holland capitalists had been unsatisfactory, or a more powerful influence was at work towards getting up another company to occupy their hunting grounds.

During the more than five years of interval between 1618 and 1623, tradition has it that Elkins and some of his traders still remained and carried on, with the aid of the Holland ships, a lucrative trade, there being none to dispute. It is thought that some of these adventurers remained and joined themselves with those who came under the new company in 1623. During these five years there might have been free trade. But those who had been longest on the ground had, of course, the advantage. Elkins evidently was not pleased with his treatment by the States and the West India Company, as appears further on by his return, in 1633, with an English ship.

THE DUTCH WEST INDIA CO.

June 3, 1621, the congress or government of Holland, called the "States General," incorporated the Dutch West India Co., investing it with almost regal powers for carrying on trade and planting settlements from Cape Horn to Newfoundland, for a period of 24 years. Its jurisdiction over the Province of New Netherlands, the special object of its enterprise, was exclusive. It was authorized to appoint governors with the approval of the "States," to colonize territory, erect forts and administer justice. Its executive management was given to a Board of nineteen Directors, one to be appointed by the "States," the remaining eighteen by the company, to be distributed through five separate chambers, in five different cities of Holland. The Province of New Netherlands was assigned to the Amsterdam Chamber. The company was not fully organized until the spring of 1623, when it vigorously entered upon extensive operations. At this time the English ambassador at The Hague, formally protested against these encroachments of the Dutch fur traders; but no armed force was moved to prevent carrying out their plans.

In April, 1623, a vessel under command of Cornelisen Jacobsen Mey, as Director, came over from Holland with thirty families, chiefly Walloons, or French Protestants, and landed at New Amsterdam. Of these, it is said, that eight families came up the Hudson as far as the present site of Albany, where they built Fort Orange, about two miles above Fort Nassau—the location being near the present steamboat square.

Maurice, of Nassau, Prince of Orange, who, at the age of 18, had succeeded his murdered father in the government of the Low Countries, was the Washington of his country. By his wisdom,

bravery and industry he strengthened and confirmed the new republic of Netherlands, and ranked among the first generals and statesmen of his age. He was much beloved and esteemed by his countrymen. In his honor they named the river Mauritius, and the forts Nassau and Orange. Another Fort Nassau was built near this time on the Delaware River.

The Walloons were French Protestants who resided on the borders between Belgium and France, and were distinguished for industry and valor. From this race descended many families in this State. The first white child born in New Netherlands was Sarah Rapelje, daughter of one of the Walloon settlers, whose birth occurred June 7, 1625, and whose descendants are still to be found on Long Island and vicinity.

Catelyn Trico, born in Paris, France, is claimed to have been the first white woman in Albany. This claim is based on her own testimony, made in 1688, when she was 83 years old, which makes her born in 1605, and coming to Albany in 1623, when she was 18 years old. She testifies that she came to this country in the first ship, called the *Unity*, commanded by Adrien Jorise, that came from Holland to New Netherlands for the West India Company. She tells us that two families and six men were sent to Hartford, Connecticut; two families and eight men to Delaware River; eight men were left at Manhattan, and the rest went as far up as Albany, which they called Fort Orange. She says that those who came to Albany and made a small fort were eighteen families; that they made themselves some huts of bark. Adrien Jorise remained all winter and sent his son home with the ship. She represents the Indians as very peaceable, and carrying on a very active trade in beaver and peltry. After three years she left Albany and went to New York, and afterward to Wallabout. She states that the other women on board, four in number, were married and went to the Delaware River. Considering her age and the interval of time, her statement, while it may be correct in the main, is to be taken with some allowance. It is remarkable that only one woman came up to Fort Orange at that time and remained as the first and only female here for three years. The number of "eighteen families" differs from all other statements in our knowledge.

The Commissaries at Fort Orange or Beverwyck, now Albany, were Vice-Directors of the West India Company. They were commanders, also, of the fort. We find the names of the following:

Daniel Krieckkebeeck, Peter Barentsen, Bastian Jansen Krol, Jorissen Houten, Hannan Mynderts Van der Bogaert, Carl Van Brugge, Jan Labadie, John Dyckman, John De Decker, John La Montagne.

The Dutch Directors-General, otherwise called Commanders and Governors, under the West India Company and the States General of Holland, from 1623 to 1674, were as follows:

DUTCH GOVERNORS.

Adrien Jorise.....1623
Cornelius Jacobsen Mey.....1624
William Verhulst.....1625
Peter Minuit.....May 4, 1626
Wouter Van Twiller.....April, 1633
William Kieft.....March 28, 1638
Peter Stuyvesant, May 11, 1647, to September 8, 1664, when the city was surrendered to the English.
Anthony Colve, September 19, 1673, when the city was retaken by the Dutch, to November 10, 1674, when, by treaty, it was again given over to the English.

These officers had their seat at the Manhattans or New Amsterdam, now New York, which was recognized as the capital of New Netherlands, and the centre not only of civil power, but of trade. All emigrants from Europe landed here, and all who returned took ship here. Here were collected all furs, peltries, grain, &c., and from this port transhipment was made to Holland; and all goods intended for the use of the colonists, or for trade among them or the Indians were here received, duly entered, and from thence sent forth to their destination.

The first two Governors were skippers of vessels that took over some of the first immigrants under the West India Company, and had something to do with locating Fort Orange, in the year 1623, or as some of the early documents say, in 1624. The former date is supported by the best authorities. Of Verhults we find nothing.

Minuit, the first fully empowered Director-General, purchased of the Indians the Island of Manhattan, in 1626, for a sum equal to about $24. He was a deacon in the Church of Wesel, whence he came, and, so far as we learn, was a peace-loving man and a just public officer. His correspondence with Governor William Bradford, of Plymouth, was dignified, courteous and honorable. It related to territorial jurisdiction. About 1627, Bradford, hearing that the Dutch were encroaching by sending ships to Narragansett Bay to trade, sent Mr. Edward Winslow to remonstrate. Soon after, Minuit sent a very friendly letter to Governor Bradford, congratulating Plymouth Colony upon its prosperity, and proposing trade and friendly relations in the future.

To this the Governor of Plymouth replied in most friendly terms, alluding to the hospitality which the Pilgrims had received in Holland a few years previous, and assuring the Governor of New Netherlands that they and their children after them would never forget the same. At the same time he assured Governor Minuit that he must respect the rightful claims of the Pilgrims of Plymouth, and not allow his skiffs to come to Narragansett for beavers. He also complained that the Dutch were selling muskets, powder and shot to the Indians. Other courtesies of the most pleasing character were kept up during the time of Minuit, in which each manfully asserted what he regarded as right, while there arose no unfriendly words. Minuit erected Fort Amsterdam near the site of the present Battery, and directed all his energies to founding a State similar to that in Fatherland. By his conciliating disposition, he kept on pleasant terms with the Indians. After his recall, he went to Sweden, and afterward appeared as the leader of 50 Swedish immigrants who, in April, 1638, landed on the site of New Castle and founded New Sweden, which was broken up by the rapacious Stuyvesant in 1655, and subjected to the West India Company.

Van Twiller married into the Van Rensselaer family, and came to New Netherlands in consequence, as the patroon's agent in selecting and locating lands. He afterward was one of the executors of the estate of Kiliaan Van Rensselaer, and, with John Van Weely, a guardian of his son Johannis, during his minority. As Governor he was faithful to the West India Company, but noted for his want of good judgment and executive abilities. His dealings with the English, who took up claims upon the Connecticut River in 1640, were characterized by ridiculous bluster and ignoble failure to carry out his threats. He was equally unsuccessful in his attempt upon the fort at Beeren Island. He was greedy of gain and successful in his greed; great in paper protests, timid in action. He lived peaceably with the Indians, and had little trouble with his subordinates.

It was in 1633, during the time of Van Twiller, that the first English ship, the *William*, sailed up the Hudson River. It was commanded by Elkins, who had spent some years in trading with the Indians in this vicinity under the United New Netherlands Company. In spite of the refusal of the Dutch Governor at New Amsterdam to give him a license, he, asserting the English claim to the territory, defiantly proceeded to a place about a mile below Fort Orange, where he landed, pitched his tent, and, for a few weeks, pursued a lucrative trade in furs. The traders at Fort Orange protested, and soon after, with the aid of ships and crews sent up from Fort Amsterdam, compelled the bluff captain to strike his tent, re-ship his goods and take his furs down the river. His ship was convoyed to sea, and he, utterly discomfited, returned to London.

Kieft was avaricious, rash and unscrupulous. He kept himself and his colony in constant excitement and trouble. He quarreled with his under officers; he was vindictive toward those who differed from him in matters of public policy; he was oppressive and arbitrary among the people. With the English in Connecticut, the Swedes on the Delaware, the Indian tribes on every side, and the colonists at his own door, he was in continual strife. By his own abandoned folly he aroused the Indians in the vicinity of New Amsterdam, who had been friendly under his predecessors, to deeds of fiery hatred and savage vengeance. His thirst for blood seemed to equal that of the savages, and he expressed himself determined upon a war of extermination of the natives. Neither life nor property was safe. War raged for years. Fields were devastated; homes desolated; and the blood of the innocent citizen and the ferocious savage flowed freely on every side. The very existence of the colonies in and near Manhattan was menaced. Help finally came from New England under Capt. Underhill, for Kieft had no leader. The war ceased. Kieft, recalled for his offences, gathered his treasures and took ship for Europe. He was never heard of more. His vessel was wrecked on the coast of Wales, and the bad man was engulfed in the angry waves with all his ill-gotten treasure.

The Indian wars had lasted about five of the eight years' reign of this infamous wretch, during which he had, like an arrant coward as he was, stayed in his fort and exulted in the ruin around him and his own personal safety. At the beginning of these wars the population of New Netherlands was about 3,000; at its close, less than 1,000. New Amsterdam contained only about 100 people when peace came, August 31, 1645. His unlamented end was regarded as an act of retributive divine justice.

We find no evidenee in the record of these times that the savage wars of the lower Hudson seriously disturbed the dwellers about Fort Orange. No doubt they had accessions from those who fled from the cruel carnage. No doubt they had fears of similar outbreaks, which, probably, were hindered by their pleasant relations in trade to the

powerful Mohawks, who were a wall, for many years, to this weak frontier people.

Much may be seen of the character of Stuyvesant under our Rensselaerwyck heading. He was a brave man—decided in his convictions, persistent in carrying them into action. He aimed to be true to his trust. He restored peace, and dealt prudently with his Indian neighbors. When these savage tribes broke out in their savagery he was equal to the emergency. They found him not wanting in courage and energy, nor in prompt justice. There were then no settlements from Fort Amsterdam to the Catskills, except at Esopus, now Kingston. The restless and blood-thirsty Indians about here were effectually reduced and put in subjection under his management in 1663. He was a man of military experience; honest, but imperious; a believer in prerogatives; arbitrary in action. He was strangely inclined to arresting and shutting up in prison those who opposed his views, and to confiscating their estates as if guilty of treason against the government. He quarreled with his Vice-Director and other officers; he, as will appear farther on, was in a continual contention with the officers of the patroon at Beaverwyck. He was feared, but not beloved. He did not make friends with the Yankees, the Swedes, or the Dutch. The States General disapproved his course, and the West India Company, which appointed him and long sustained him, doubted the wisdom of many of his transactions.

FIRST SETTLEMENT.

The first settlement of Albany County has been written down under the date of 1609, when Hudson's boat, probably, passed the site of our city; in 1610, when certain Holland skippers were prospecting along our shores; in 1614, when Captain Corstiaensen and his hunters and trappers planted themselves, for trade in furs, on Kasteel Island; in 1621, when the Dutch West India Company was first established; and in 1623, when, according to the best evidence we now have, this same company actually landed a few Hollanders upon the territory now called Albany, to engage, as their factors and servants, in the collection and transmission of furs and peltries. None of these events can be reckoned as dating the first settlement of our county.

Probably not a drop of the blood of any of those early adventurers courses in the veins of any white citizen of this State or nation. Few, if any, had families. Some died here and turned to dust; others returned to their native land when their service was over. They did not come to stay. None came as colonists, occupying land and cultivating it. Fish, deer, wild fowl and other game abounded. Native fruits were plenty. Possibly, a few vegetables, and some corn and other grain, were raised in patches near the fort. Some food was brought over in ships. For a few trinkets the rest was purchased from the Indian squaws, who cultivated them. They were no more "first settlers," than were the first adventurers that went out from our States to the mines of California, 40 years ago, the first settlers of that great State and its San Francisco, now the gem of the Pacific.

"It never began to be settled until every one had liberty to trade with the Indians, inasmuch as up to this time no one calculated to remain there longer than the expiration of his bounden time, and therefore did not apply themselves to agriculture." Thus says a Dutch writer of that day. The "Free Trade Liberty" began about 1640.

These fictions of history are not the solid facts for us to build upon. Those "first families" did not give us our "blue blood." They who did this came later. Our real history began later. Indeed, it is, at the best, a vain boast for any individual or people to boast of a misty antiquity or of blood that has flowed down from moneyed and titled sires of the old times. To deserve well of our children's children, to earn and transmit a heritage of noble aims and noble deeds, is a far better ambition. It is told in old Grecian history of an idiot, who was boasting of his noble sires, when a bystander pertinently silenced him by asking, "What are you doing to honor the memory of your sires?"

The States General of Holland saw how little progress was making in colonizing the New Netherlands; what an unstable and unreliable people went out and came back; how poor in kind and few in number was the population.

The first reference to population which we find is made in October, 1628, in a work published in Amsterdam, which says, "There are no families at Fort Orange * * * they keep five or six and twenty persons, traders, there."

In October, 1626, the Ship *Arms of Amsterdam* reached Amsterdam from New Netherlands. Its cargo shows the variety and amount of its transported products at that time, which consisted of 7,246 beaver, 853½ otter, 81 mink, 36 wild cat and 34 rat skins; also, "samples of summer grain, such as wheat, rye, barley, oats, buckwheat, canary seed, beans and flax."

The Assembly of XIX. reports to the States General, in 1629: "All who are inclined to do any sort of work here procure enough to eat

without any trouble, and are, therefore, unwilling to go far from home on an uncertainty." This from Holland, and is written to explain the difficulty of sending out persons suitable, from the country, for colonizing New Netherlands. It is added, "The people conveyed by us thither, have therefore found but scanty means of livelihood up to the present time, and have not been any profit, but a drawback, to this (West India) company. The trade carried on there in peltries is right advantageous; but one year with another, we can, at most, bring home only fifty thousand ($20,000) guilders."

A new scheme was planned and adopted, singular, indeed, in its provisions; unlike anything before attempted in the New World. It was approved and carried out by men of wealth and sagacity, and of experience in trade and government. Its prime object was to increase money and power. It included the colonization of farmers and artisans —providing a new home and better prospects for the boors of the Belgic race, and a field for the ambitious and enterprising, who had no room at home. It was partially successful. It brought over all classes. But not a few industrious, high-minded, discreet families came to stay. They laid foundations broad and deep. We are to-day enjoying the benefits of their wisdom and energy. In the men who came here from Holland during the middle years of the 17th century, were exhibited elements of character which have been found in many of their descendants; men of exalted patriotism, inflexible integrity and cultivated intelligence, who have helped to upbuild, preserve and adorn our Republic. We say this with a full knowledge of the faults of the manorial system, of the men who lorded it, and of the men who have suffered from it, or contended against it.

RENSSELAERWYCK AND BEVERWYCK.

The history of Rensselaerwyck, in all its relations, is so largely the history of this County and of the State even, that we give it much space, but no more than its importance demands. With it begins the real settlement of the city and county of Albany, in 1630, when a company of real settlers came over with a purpose, under the patronage of Kilian Van Rensselaer, the first patroon.

We have followed Dr. O'Callaghan in the record of what follows during the exciting struggle for wealth and power between the agents of the patroon and of the West India Company, in the 27 years from Kieft, in 1637, until 1664, when that arrogant tyrant, Peter Stuyvesant, reluctantly yielded to the English power and ceased to war upon the patroons. The people were weary of him, and the patroon was glad to have no more of the West India Company.

In 1629, a charter of privileges and exemptions was passed for the encouragement of patroons to settle colonies. In the following year, several wealthy and influential Directors of the Dutch West India Company hastened to avail themselves of its advantages. Bastiaen Jansen Krol, Commissary, and Dirck Cornelissen Duyster, Under Commissary, at Fort Orange, having learned that a tract of land called Sannahagog, lying on the west side of the North River, extending from Beeren Island, by the Indians called Passapenock, up to the Smackx Island, and in breadth two days' journey, was for sale, purchased the same from the native proprietors, for Kilian Van Rensselaer, a pearl merchant in Amsterdam and one of the Directors of the West India Company. Three months afterward Gillis Hoosett purchased, in the presence of Jansen Myndertsen, Wolfert Gerritsen and Jan Tyssen, trumpeter, for the same gentleman, the lands lying south and north of Fort Orange, and extending to within a short distance of Moenimines Castle, then situated on what is now called Haver Island, at the mouth of the Mohawk, and from one of the chiefs, his grounds, called Semesseeck, stretching on the east side of the river from opposite Castle Island to a point facing Fort Orange, and thence from Poetanock, the Mill Creek, north to Negagons. These conveyances were subsequently ratified by the respective parties, in the presence of the Director-General and Council of New Netherland, who signed an instrument to that effect, "sealed with the seal of New Netherland in red wax," on the same day that the charter of 1629 was proclaimed at Fort Amsterdam. Nearly seven years afterward—namely, on the 13th April, 1637—all the intervening district, called Papsickenekaas, or Papsekanca, as the name is now pronounced, lying also on the east side of the river, and extending from opposite Castle Island south to the point opposite Smackx Island, and including the adjacent islands and all the lands back into the interior, belonging to the Indian owners, was purchased "for certain quantities of duffels, axes, knives and wampum," also for Mr. Van Rensselaer, who thus became proprietor of a tract of country twenty-four miles long and forty-eight miles broad, containing, as is estimated, over seven hundred thousand acres of land, which now compose the counties of Albany, Rensselaer, and part of the county of Columbia.

On the 1st of October, 1630, a copartnership was entered into between Kilian Van Rensselaer, Samuel Godyn, Johannis de Laet and Samuel Bloemaert, with whom were associated Adam Bissels and Toussaint Moussart, who, by the terms of the contract, were constituted co-directors of Rensselaerwyck. The common stock of this association was divided into five shares, of which Van Rensselaer held two; De Laet, one; Godyn, one; and Bloemaert and his associates, one. The management of the affairs of the "colonie" was committed to a board consisting of four persons or votes, of which Van Rensselaer represented or held two; Bloemaert, or Bissels, one; and De Laet, or Moussart, one. Van Rensselaer was, however, not to have any rank or authority in the "colonie" superior to his associates, except the title of Patroon, which, with all its feudal honors, was vested in him alone, the partners binding themselves to do fealty and homage for the fief on his demise, in the name and on the behalf of his son and heirs.

Preparations were also made to expedite farmers and cattle to Rensselaerwyck; and everywhere, at home and abroad, things wore the aspect of prosperity.

The condition of the Dutch settlements on the North River, at this time, is thus alluded to by a contemporary English writer: "This which they have settled in New England, upon Hudson's River, with no extraordinary charge or multitude of people, is knowne to subsist in a comfortable manner, and to promise fairlie both to the State and undertakers. The cause is evident. The men whom they carrie, though they be not many, are well chosen and known to be useful and serviceable, and they second them with seasonable and fit supplies, cherishing them as carefully as their owne families, and employ them in profitable labors, that are known to be of speciall use to their comfortable subsisting." So said *The Planters' Plea*, London, 1630.

The inhabitants of Rensselaerwyck in 1640, who numbered at the time as many traders as individuals, noting the avidity with which the Mohawks sought after fire-arms, willingly paying the English twenty beavers for a musket, and from ten to twelve guilders for a pound of gunpowder, were desirous to share so profitable a trade. They commenced, accordingly, to furnish fire-arms to these Indians. The profits which accrued became soon known, and traders from Holland introduced large quantities of guns and other munitions of war into the interior.

The Mohawks, thus provided with arms for four hundred warriors, swept the country from Canada to the sea-coast levying tribute on the surrounding terror-stricken tribes.

The Patroon's Charter of 1629 having provided that every "colonie" should contain, within four years after its establishment, at least fifty persons over fifteen years of age, one-fourth of whom should be located within the first year, the parties interested in the settlement of Rensselaerwyck lost no time in complying with these conditions. Early in the spring of the following year, 1630, a number of colonists, with their families, provided with farming implements, stock and all other necessaries, sailed from the Texel, in the company's ship, the *Endracht*, Capt. Jan Brouwer, commander, and arrived in safety at the Manhattans, after a passage of sixty-four days. In a short time afterward they landed at Fort Orange, in the vicinity of which they were furnished with comfortable farm-houses and other dwellings at the expense of the patroon and his associates. Other settlers followed, with additional stock, each succeeding season, and thus were laid the foundations of those wealthy and prosperous settlements which we now behold in and around the present City of Albany.

Invested, as well by the Roman law as by the Charter, with the chief command and lower jurisdiction, the patroon became empowered to administer civil and criminal justice, in person or by deputy, within his "colonie;" to appoint local officers and magistrates; to erect courts and to take cognizance of all crimes committed within his limits; to keep a gallows, if such were required, for the execution of malefactors, subject, however, to the restriction that if such gallows happened, by any accident, to fall, pending an execution, a new one could not be erected, unless for the purpose of hanging another criminal. The right to inflict punishments of minor severity was necessarily included in that which authorized capital convictions. Accordingly, we find various instances, throughout the record of the local court, of persons who had, by breaking the law, rendered themselves dangerous to society, or obnoxious to the authorities, having been banished from the "colonie," or condemned to corporal chastisement, fine, or imprisonment, according to the grade of their offences.

In civil cases all disputes between man and man, whether relating to contracts, titles, possessions, or boundaries; injuries to property, person, or character; claims for rents and all other demands between the patroon and his tenants, were also

investigated and decided by these courts; from the judgment of which, in matters affecting life and limb, and in suits where the sum in litigation exceeded twenty dollars, appeals lay to the Director-General and Council at Fort Amsterdam. But the sagacious local authorities, it must be added, were so jealous of this privilege that they required the colonists, on settling within their jurisdiction, to promise not to appeal from any sentence of the local tribunal.

The laws in force here were, as in other sections of New Netherland, the Civil Code, the enactments of the States General, the ordinances of the West India Company, and of the Director-General and Council when properly published within the "colonie," and such rules and regulations as the patroon and his co-directors, or the local authorities, might establish and enact.

The government was vested in a General Court, which exercised executive, legislative, or municipal and judicial functions, and which was composed of two Commissaries and two Councilors, who answered to modern justices of the peace.

Adjoined to this court were a Colonial Secretary, a Sheriff or *Schout-fiscaal*, and a Court Messenger or Constable. Each of these received a small compensation, either in the shape of a fixed salary or fees; the Commissaries and Magistrates, fifty, one hundred, or two hundred guilders, annually, according to their standing; the Secretary, one hundred guilders, and the Court Messenger, one hundred and fifty, with the addition of trifling fees for the transcript and service of papers. The magistrates of the "colonie" held office for a year, the court appointing their successors from among the other settlers, or continuing those already in office, at the expiration of their term of service, as it deemed proper.

The most important functionary attached to this government was the Schout-fiscaal, who, in discharge of his public functions, was bound by instructions received from the patroon and co-directors. No man in the "colonie" was to be subject to loss of life or property unless by the sentence of a court composed of five persons, and all who were under accusation were entitled to a speedy and impartial trial. The public prosecutor was particularly enjoined not to receive presents or bribes, nor to be interested in trade or commerce, either directly or indirectly; and, in order that he might be attentive to the performance of his duties, and thoroughly independent, he was secured a fixed salary, a free house, and all fines amounting to ten guilders ($4.00), or under; besides the third part of all forfeitures and amends over that sum were his perquisites.

Jacob Albertsen Planck was the first sheriff of Rensselaerwyck. Arendt Van Curler, who originally came out as Assistant Commissary, was appointed, soon after his arrival, Commissary-General, or Superintendent of the "colonie," and acted as Colonial Secretary until 1642, when he was succeeded by Anthony de Hooges. Brant Peelen, Gerrit de Rens, Cornelis Teunissen van Broeckelen, Pieter Cornelissen van Munickendam, and Dirck Jansen were, if not the first, at least among the earliest magistrates of the settlement.

The population of the "colonie" consisted at this remote period of three classes: Freemen, who emigrated from Holland at their own expense; farmers and farm-servants, who were sent out by the patroon, who judiciously applied his large resources in promoting the early settlement of the country, and in assisting the struggling industry of his people. To accomplish this laudable object, a number of farms were set off, on both sides of the river and the adjoining islands, on which he caused dwelling-houses, barns and stables to be erected. These farms were suitably stocked with cows, horses or oxen, and occasionally sheep, and furnished with plows, wagons and other necessary agricultural implements, all which preliminary expenses were defrayed by the proprietor, so that the farmer entered on the property unembarrassed by the want of capital. Some of those farms were then valued, and an annual rent was fixed, equivalent, in some sort, to the interest of the capital expended on their improvement, and payable semi-annually in grain, beavers and wampum. Other farms were let out for one-half or for the one-third of their produce. The patroon was entitled, at the same time, to half the increase from the stock; he reserved to himself one-tenth of the produce of each farm, and, in various instances, stipulated for a yearly acknowledgment of a few pounds of butter. The tenant was privileged, however, to compound by the payment of a fixed annual sum for the tenths of the farm, or for his halves or thirds. He was bound, at the same time, to keep the fences, buildings or farming implements in repair, and to deliver them up in the same good order in which he had received them, subject, in all cases, to ordinary wear and tear. But the patroon bore all risks of destruction of the buildings, cattle, and other property, which might accrue from war or misunderstandings with the Indians. Wild or unimproved land was usually leased for a term of ten years free of rent, or for tenths, subject, however,

to be improved by the lessee, all improvements falling to the patroon on the expiration of the lease.

In addition to the facilities above enumerated, each of the settlers, on leaving Holland, was generally furnished with clothing and a small sum in cash, the latter to be repaid on some future occasion in produce or wampum with an advance on the principal of fifty per cent. This, however disproportionate it may now seem, cannot be considered unreasonable or extravagant when it is understood that the difference at the time between colonial and Holland currency was nearly forty per cent., while between the latter and wampum, it was vastly larger. The patroon was bound, at the same time, to supply his colonists with a sufficient number of laborers to assist them in the work of their farms. As compensation for his trouble in engaging these, and for his advances in conveying them to America, he was entitled to the sum of sixteen guilders, or six dollars, per annum for each laborer, over and above the yearly wages which the farmer was to allow such servants, and which ranged from forty to one hundred and fifty guilders and board.

This sum provided these servants with necessary clothing, and, in the course of time, placed at their disposal the means to enter on a farm on their own account. It is to be remarked, however, that the first patroon seriously complained that his settlers not only threw altogether on him the payment of these wages, but took large quantities of goods from his store, for which they made no returns whatever, though they were bound to settle at the end of each year, and to hand in an account of the produce of the farm, distinguishing the patroon's tenths, halves or thirds, the amount paid for wages and their own expenses, so as to allow him to ascertain what his own profits and losses were at the close of each year.

In return for his outlay and trouble, the Civil Code, which, it must be always borne in mind, was the fundamental law of this "colonie," vested in the patroon several privileges common to the feudal system. At the close of the harvest, the farmer was bound to hand in a return of the amount of grain which he had for sale, after deducting what was due to the landlord by the lease, and offer to him or his commissary the pre-emption of such produce. In case he refused to buy it, then the farmer was at liberty to sell the same elsewhere. The like rule obtained in regard to cattle. When these were to be sold, the first offer was also to be made to the patroon, in order, we presume, that he should have an opportunity of retaining the stock within the "colonie." Every settler was, likewise, obligated to grind his corn at the patroon's mill, and the latter was equally obligated to erect and keep such mill in repair at his own expense, for the accommodation of his colonists. No person could hunt or fish within the limits of the "colonie," without license from the patroon, who, on the exchange, sale and purchase of real estate within his jurisdiction, was entitled to the first offer of such property; or, if he declined to assume it, to a certain portion of the purchase money, except such mutation occurred in the natural line of descent. Finally, it was his right, as "lord of the manor," to succeed to the estate and property of all persons who might die intestate within his "colonie."

Under the fostering care of its first patroon, and the prudent management of its local magistracy, the "colonie of Rensselaerwyck" progressively, though slowly, advanced. Portions of its inhabitants occasionally returned to "Fatherland" to spread the tidings of their prosperity, and to invite their friends and relatives to join them in their new houses, which, from the abundance and cheapness of provisions, deserved truly to be called "a land flowing with milk and honey." A hamlet gradually arose. On account, it is said, of the crescent form of the bank of the river at this point, this hamlet was first called the Fuyck, or Beversfuyck, and afterwards Beverwyck, by which name the present City of Albany was legally known until 1664, though it was familiarly called the Fuyck by the Dutch for many years after the entire country had passed into the hands of other masters.

Mr. Van Rensselaer, some allege, visited the "colonie" in person in 1637. This, however, is not certain.

Adrian Van der Donck, "a free citizen of Breda," and a graduate of the University of Leyden, was selected as the successor of Sheriff Planck. He entered on the performance of his duties as Schout-fiscaal of Rensselaerwyck in the course of a month or two after his appointment.

One of the principal aims of the first founders of Rensselaerwyck seems to have been to secure for themselves the valuable trade in furs, the chief mart for which centered at the point where they made their purchase and commenced their settlement. To engross this the more effectively, all foreign and unlicensed traders were rigidly excluded from the colony. The patroon and his partners were the only privileged importers of European merchandise, the West India Company having, in consequence of the Indian War about Fort Amsterdam and other causes, ceased to keep Fort Orange supplied with foreign goods. All

settlers were bound under oath not to purchase any peltries from the Indians, on pain of forfeiting their goods and wages, unless duly licensed to carry on such trade; for such a privilege was exclusively vested in the patroon. The majority of the settlers subsequently obtained such permission, received goods on credit from the patroon's store, and "every farmer," as De Vries observes, "became a trader." They were, however, obliged to bring in all the furs which they purchased to the patroon's magazine, to be sent over to Holland to him, he retaining as his share half the profits. This condition was afterward modified so far as to allow him to retain only the sixth beaver and one guilder recognition, or duty, on each of the remaining five-sixths. Competition raised the price of peltries nearly one hundred per cent. Prior to 1642 the price of a merchantable beaver, which averaged about an ell square, was six hands, or fathoms, of wampum. In the course of that year the article commanded from seven to seven and a half; but when the traders found that the agents of the patroon, as well as the officers at Fort Orange, did not refuse paying that price, they immediately offered nine, and in the following year advanced the rate to ten fathoms of white wampum for each skin. A joint proclamation was hereupon issued by the authorities of Rensselaerwyck and those of the Fort, fixing the price of furs at nine fathoms of white, or four and a half of black wampum, and forbidding all persons whatsoever, whether servants of the company or residents in the colony, from going into the woods to trade in advance with the Indians, on pain of seizure of all their goods. Another proclamation was, also, issued, prohibiting all traders to come with their sloops within the limits of the colony, under the penalty of forfeiting the same. And on the following court day a third proclamation followed, for the better securing the monopoly of the import trade to the patroon, by which the inhabitants of the colony were absolutely forbidden purchasing any goods from the local traders.

At this time, between Sheriff Van der Donck and Van Curler and the other officers of the colony, considerable jealousy and ill-feeling existed. The representations of Van der Donck had, eventually, such an effect on the public mind that a conspiracy was formed against Commissary-General Curler among several of the colonists, who drew up a strong protest against that officer, which, in order that they might remain undiscovered, the ringleaders signed in the form of a "round robin," affixing to the paper their signatures in "a circle." This done, they next denounced Van Curler in the most vehement terms. Some proposed driving him from the colony as a rogue; others, more vindictive and turbulent, insisted on taking his life. These threats, fortunately for the character of the settlers, were not followed up by any overt act. Van der Donck professed, all the while, an honest desire to promote the wishes of the constituted authorities. But, when the time for testing his sincerity arrived, he was found wanting.

It became apparent from the ill feeling which existed between Sheriff Van der Donck and the other functionaries in the colony, which had already caused, in two instances, an exchange of blows, that the former could not comfortably prolong his stay in Rensselaerwyck, or hold his office very agreeably much longer. He determined to return to Holland in the course of the next year.

In September, 1643, there was conveyed to New Netherland by the patroon's ship, *The Arms of Rensselaerwyck*, an assorted invoice of merchandise, consisting of woolen, linen and cotton goods, ready-made clothing, silks, glass, crockery, leather, fruit, cheese, spices, brandy, gin, wines, cordials, tobacco, pipes, nets, looking-glasses, beads, axes, adzes, razors, knives, scissors, bells, nails, spoons, kettles, thimbles, pins, needles, threads, rings, shoes, stockings, gloves, combs, buttons, muskets, pistols, swords, shot, lead, canvas, pitch and tar, candles, stationery, and various other commodities, valued at twelve thousand eight hundred and seventy guilders, to be bartered with the Indians and other inhabitants of the country for tobacco, furs, and other produce. To insure entire success for this venture, the skipper, supercargo and pilot of the ship were allowed a direct pecuniary interest in the proceeds of the voyage.

The system of license introduced by the patroon, and the profits which resulted, had already incited a number of private individuals to embark in the fur trade. As a consequence, this staple was altogether taken out of the hands both of the patroon's and the company's servants, who could purchase scarcely a skin, while private traders exported thousands of peltries. A number of unlicensed traders now resorted to the colony, who drew the Indians away into "secret trading places," where, by means of higher prices, they obtained possession of the most valuable furs, "not caring whether or not the trade was so injured as to render the patroon unable to meet the expenses of his colonie." Having thus "debauched" the savages, these interlopers succeeded, by means of "wine and strong drink, which they sold at an usurious

rate," in perverting many of the colonists, from whom they got not only peltries, but even large quantities of grain, which the farmers disposed of without either respecting the patroon's pre-emption right, or paying the tenths, or accounting for the halves or thirds which they were bound by lease to pay.

To arrest these illicit proceedings, the patroon adopted two measures which would, he expected, put a stop to the injuries which his interests were sustaining from the competition that was then exhausting and impovishing his colony. One of these was the erection of a fortified post and trading-house on Beeren Island, the southern boundary of his estate, which, by commanding the channel of the river, would exclude all vessels, but his own and those of the West India Company, from the upper waters of the Hudson. The other was to send out a stock of goods sufficient to supply, through his establishments at Beverwyck and Beeren Island, the Mohawks and River Indians, and all the neighboring settlers, with whatsoever they might require in barter for their produce, whether furs or corn. It was with a view to carry out the latter part of this project that the ship *Arms of Rensselaerwyck* now sailed from Holland with the above mentioned valuable cargo.

She arrived at the Manhattans while the war with the Indians was at its height, and at the moment when Director Kieft was sorely distressed for clothing for the troops which he had enlisted. A requisition was immediately made on Pieter Wyncoop, the supercargo of the ship, for a supply of fifty pairs of shoes to be distributed among the soldiers, payment for which was offered "in silver, beavers, or wampum, at such price as the supercargo might demand." But Wyncoop, perceiving that he could sell these goods to more advantage to the inhabitants than to the Director, injudiciously refused to comply with this requisition. A forced levy was the result, and as many soldiers were equipped with shoes from the ship as "killed five hundred of the enemy." The evil consequence of Wyncoop's refusal did not stop here. The ship was immediately overhauled by authority of the Director and Council, and a considerable quantity of powder and a number of guns found on board, which were not enumerated in the manifest, and which Wyncoop was charged with intending to sell to the savages. These articles having been made contraband by law, and their introduction forbidden on pain of death, were, together with the ship, forthwith confiscated.

The vessel sailed soon after for Holland, whither Van Curler also proceeded to give an account of his stewardship.

In the meantime Nicolaus Coorn, "Wacht Meester" or commander, in the service of the patroon, had completed his fort on Beeren Island, on which he mounted a number of cannon, sufficient not only for its defence, but for the complete command of the river. A claim to "staple right" was then boldly set up—a toll of five guilders, or two dollars, imposed on every trading-craft passing up or down, which were also obliged to lower their colors in honor of Rensselaer Stein. And thus a sovereign jurisdiction was asserted over this navigable highway against all persons, save and except the servants of the West India Company.

It was the summer of 1644 that the yacht *Good Hope*, of which Govert Lookermans was master, sailed from Fort Orange for New Amsterdam. Passing Beeren Island, the craft was hailed, and peremptorily ordered "to lower his colors." On being asked for whom, the commander replied, "For the staple right of Rensselaerwyck." But the skipper refused, with an oath, to strike his flag "for any individual save the Prince of Orange and the lords, his masters." Whereupon Coorn fired several shots at the vessel, "one of which," says the record, "perforated our princely flag," about a foot above the head of the skipper, "who kept the colors constantly in his hand."

Such an outrage as this could not fail to create excitement in New Amsterdam, when the particulars became known. Coorn was summoned to appear immediately at Fort Amsterdam, to answer for his conduct. He pleaded the authority of his patroon. But this was considered no justification. He was condemned in damages, and forbidden to repeat the offence on pain of corporal punishment. He was further required to obtain Van Rensselaer's approval of the sentence, which should be executed on him without fail, if that approval were not forthcoming. This proceeding was followed, soon after, by a strong protest from Attorney-General Van der Huygens, against the establishment on Beeren Island, which was declared to be inconsistent with the privileges granted to patroons and lords of manors. No patroon, it was maintained, could extend his colony more than sixteen miles along the bank, or eight miles on both sides of the river, while Beeren Island was more than eight miles from the limit of the colonies. The bold attempt to construct a fort there, to command the river and to debar Fort Orange from free navigation would, it was added, be ruinous to the company. It was, therefore,

peremptorily ordered that no building whatsoever, much less a fortification, should be constructed beyond the limits of Rensselaerwyck.

But Nicolaus Coorn, Commander of Rensselaer-Stein, was not to be intimidated by the paper bullets of Director Kieft's Attorney-General. "As the Vice-Commander of the honorable Van Rensselaer," he replied, "I call on you, Cornelis Van der Huygens, Attorney-General of New Netherland, not to presume to oppose and frustrate my designs on Bear's Island, to defraud me in any manner, or to cause me any trouble, as it has been the will of their High Mightinesses, the States-General and the privileged West India Company, to invest my patroon and his heir with the right to extend and fortify his 'colonie,' and make it powerful in every respect. If you persist in so doing, I protest against the act of violence and assault committed by the honorable Lords-Majors, which I leave them to settle, while this undertaking has nothing else in view than to prevent the canker of free-traders entering his 'colonie.'"

In the spirit in which this protest was drafted were the feudal pretensions of the Lord of Rensselaerwyck asserted and maintained during the remainder of the patroon's life. The same policy was steadily continued by his executors for several years after his death, which event took place in Amsterdam, in the year 1646.

With the demise of the first patroon terminated also Van der Donck's connection with the "colonie." He was succeeded in his office of fiscaal by Nicolaus Coorn. He did not, however, quit Rensselaerwyck before experiencing a heavy loss in the destruction of his house on Castle Island, by fire, in consequence of which he and his wife temporarily removed to Van Curler's residence, the hospitalities of which were generously offered to him by its proprietor. Differences of opinion now arose between him and Van Curler, as to the party on whom the loss of the house should fall—one maintaining that the property was at the risk of the patroon, the other of the lessee. A quarrel ensued. Van der Donck gave Van Curler the lie, whereupon the latter ordered him out of his house. Van der Donck removed immediately to Fort Orange, where he remained until the opening of navigation, whence he proceeded to Manhattan.

Rensselaerwyck was the only "colonie" which remained uninjured by Kieft's Indian war. As a consequence, its population generally prospered, and sundry farms were taken up. Beverwyck continued, however, in swaddling-clothes; for the city which, in 1885, holds about 100,000 inhabitants, contained, in 1646, no more than ten houses. Several farmers had, at an early date, begun another settlement south of Beverwyck, to which they gave the name of Bethlehem. A few bouweries were also cultivated on the east side of the river, opposite Fort Orange, in what is now Greenwich. Katskill and its fertile bottoms had engaged, at an early date, the attention of the settlers at Rensselaerwyck, but the pretensions of opposite parties prevented any planting of consequence in that quarter; and Van Slyck, who had received a patent for lands there, had as yet made no commencement. The country between Rensselaerwyck and Manhattan, on both sides of the river, still remained a wilderness. It is true that the Hollanders had built a fort at Esopus, in the year 1614, contemporaneously with the erection of their post on Castle Island. This possibly might have been followed by the clearing of some small portions of land in that vicinity; but it is very doubtful whether any such settlements survived the destructive Indian war of 1644-5.

Such was the state of public affairs in Rensselaerwyck and vicinity when General Peter Stuyvesant assumed the government of New Netherland in 1647.

Johannes Van Rensselaer, heir to the patroonship of Rensselaerwyck, being a minor at his father's decease, the care of his interests devolved on his uncle, Johannes Van Wely, and Wouter Van Twiller, executors to the last will and testament of the first patroon, who immediately rendered fealty and homage for "the colonie" to their High Mightinesses, in the name and on the behalf of their ward.

The immediate management of this estate was entrusted to Brant Arent Van Slechtenhorst, of Nieukerke, in Guilderlandt, who was appointed Director of the Colony, President of the Court of Justice and Superintendent of all the bouweries, farms, mills and other property belonging to the patroon, at a salary of seven hundred and fifty florins ($300) per annum, to reckon from the date of his arrival out, together with a house, four milch cows, two horses, eight acres of tillage and eight acres of pasture land. He was specially charged to uphold, maintain and defend the freedoms and privileges with which the colony was invested; to promote the interests and advance the settlement of Beverwyck and its immediate neighborhood; and to acquire, by purchase, the lands around Katskill, for the greater security of the colony, inas-

much as the colonists, through a notion of acquiring property in that quarter, were forming companies or associations to remove thither and abandon Rensselaerwyck. He was further ordered to explore the country for minerals, and to report to his superiors in Holland whatever success might crown these labors. Thus commissioned and instructed, the newly-appointed Director sailed with his family and servants and arrived in the colony in the latter part of March. His son, Gerrit Van Slechtenhorst, was to act as Officier or Schout-fiscaal, at a salary of six hundred florins ; but he filled the office only two months, when it was merged in that of the Director.

From the moment that colonies began to be planted by patroons in New Netherlands the Directors of the Amsterdam Chamber became jealous of their existence and opposed to their continuance. They considered them injurious to the settlement of the country and the increase of its population. By the repurchase of Pavonia and Zwanendaal, in 1634, they took the earliest and easiest means to check the evil. In the prosecution of their policy, they endeavored to induce the patroon of Rensselaerwyck also to cede to them his rights, privileges and possessions; but, having failed in effecting this, they now changed front, and determined to circumscribe a jurisdiction and weaken a power which they could not buy off, and which they wished to destroy. Gen. Stuyvesant and Brant Van Slechtenhorst were the champions of these hostile interests and opposing views. The former claimed to be supreme ruler of the whole country, irrespective of the special rights and feudal privileges granted—as well by the Charter of 1629 as by the civil law—to the local authorities of independent fiefs. The latter, thoroughly conversant with the immunities claimed for manors and municipalities in continental Europe, recognized the exercise of no authority within his limits, save that of his patroon, or such as was approved and sanctioned by his legal representatives. Whatever orders or placards the Director-General of New Netherlands might issue were, he maintained, null and powerless, unless endorsed and countersigned by his commander and executed by the officers of his court. It was easy to foresee that pretensions so opposite could not fail to lead to collision ; and Slechtenhorst had not been much more than a month at his post when an explosion took place.

A copy of a proclamation ordering the first Wednesday in May, 1648, to be observed as a general fast, and the performance of public worship in the several churches of New Netherlands, was duly forwarded to Rensselaerwyck. It was received by the authorities of this place, not in that spirit of submissive obedience which the Director-General demanded for all his orders ; but as an invasion of the rights and authority of the Lord of the Manor, against which Van Slechtenhorst forthwith protested.

This proceeding did not comport with Stuyvesant's ideas, either of law or propriety. To correct the abuse, he resolved to visit the "colonie," where, accompanied by a military escort, he soon after landed, his arrival being most loyally greeted by salvos from the patroon's artillery. Summoning Van Slechtenhorst, he called in question his pretensions, and charged him with infringing the West India Company's sovereignty. But the sturdy commander retorted : "Your complaints are unjust ; I have more reason to complain on behalf of my patroon against you." The Director-General fulminated thereupon a lengthy protest, in which Van Slechtenhorst was accused with having conveyed lots and authorized the erection of buildings in the immediate vicinity of Fort Orange, in disregard not only of the sovereign authority, but in contempt of the Director-General's commission, thus infringing the privileges granted by their High Mightinesses and destroying the security of the fort. Such proceeding was totally repugnant to "military discipline and tactics." He therefore ordered, "in a friendly manner," a stop to be put to all building within range of cannon shot, unless specially ordered by the Lords Majors. He further commanded that no new ordinances affecting the sovereign authority, or relating to commerce or the public welfare, be issued without the previous consent of their High Mightinesses or their representative in New Netherland, and that no exclusive right to any branch of trade be rented, nor any grain, masts or other property belonging to the Company's servants be seized, unless the prosecutions on such suits were disposed of without delay. The practice of compelling the inhabitants of the colony to sign a pledge that, as defendants, they should not appeal to the Supreme Court of New Netherland from judgments rendered by the Court of Rensselaerwyck was pronounced "a crime," an infraction of the law of the land, and a subversion of the Charter. To prevent the recurrence of this illegal practice, an annual return to the Director and Council of all the affairs transacted in the colony and of the proceedings of the court was insisted on. And, as Van Slechtenhorst claimed, in direct contradiction to the charter and the Director-General's commission, to the vilification of the latter's office and in disrespect of the Lords

Majors, not to be responsible to the government at Fort Amsterdam, he was called on to produce his authority, either from the States-General or the Directors of the Chamber at Amsterdam, for such pretension. Failing in this, the Director-General protested against him for disobedience of orders.

Commander Slechtenhorst was, in the estimation of his opponents, "a person of stubborn and headstrong temper." He was, besides, fully confident that he had law and custom on his side; he was sure that he had the instructions of his superiors in his pocket, and was therefore determined not to abandon the rights of "his orphan patroon." He answered protest by protest. He charged, in his turn, the Director-General with having proclaimed a day of fasting and prayer in Rensselaerwyck, "contrary to ancient order and usage, as if he were the lord of the patroon's colonie."

He accused the company's servants at the fort, with having cut without permission the best timber and firewood in the patroon's forests, "as if these were their own;" and with having ranged through the whole colonie, along with people from Manhattans, "with savages by their side to serve as brokers," trading publicly with the aborigines, as if the place were their property; all this without license from the patroon or his authorized agents, and without paying either duties or recognitions. As for the order not to build within a prescribed distance of Fort Orange, it was an aggression which could not be justified. The patroon's trading house stood, "a few years ago," on the border of the moat which surrounded that fort. That soil, with all around, belongs still to the patroon; he was never disturbed in its possession until Director Stuyvesant sought now "by unbecoming means" to oust "his orphan heir," to deprive him of the benefit thereof, and to appropriate the soil to himself; threatening to destroy the patroon's buildings by cannon shot. Van Slechtenhorst is hereby prevented erecting "even a hog pen" on the patroon's own land; and Stuyvesant has become a judge in his own case. The assertion that the objectionable buildings endangered the security of the fort was a mere pretext. They were more than five hundred rods from the fort or trading-house; and it was added, eight houses already intervened between them and Fort Orange.

In keeping with that spirit here displayed did Van Slechtenhorst continue his improvements in Beverwyck. Another protest from the Director at Manhattan followed, warning the patroon's agent that force should be used if he did not desist. But this had the effect only of calling forth "a counter blast." No suit, he insisted, could be instituted, nor execution issued in another district, without previous consent of the Schout-fiscaal or Court of that jurisdiction on the pain of nonsuit and arbitrary correction, and therefore the present proceeding was informal. The pretensions now put forth were, moreover, at variance with those which had already been promulgated and in contradiction to practice even at New Amsterdam. The Director-General claimed, in July, that all the territory within range of cannon shot belonged to Fort Orange; now he reduces the circle to the range of a musket ball, within which he will not allow a house to be built, "notwithstanding he permits whole streets to be filled with houses in view of Fort Amsterdam."

This continued contumacy served but to irritate the New Amsterdam executive. The freshets of the past winter had nearly destroyed Fort Orange, and the West India Company's Commissary had received orders to surround that fort with a solid stone wall in lieu of the wooden fence by which it had hitherto been encompassed. But scarcely had a rod of the work been finished, when Van Slechtenhorst forbade Carl Van Brugge "in an imperious manner" to quarry stone within the colony, or to fell a tree either for the repair of the fortification or for firewood. The farmers and inhabitants were also ordered, contrary to the practice of former magistrates, to convey any such materials thither. The Company was thus deprived of articles necessary to build forts, or other edifices, and compelled either to beg them from their vassals, or, "what is worse," to purchase them at enormous prices. Whilst thus opposing repair of the public works, Van Slechtenhorst actively continued his own buildings "even within pistol shot of Fort Orange."

On receipt of this intelligence, General Stuyvesant resolved to maintain his authority by force. Six soldiers were dispatched to Van Brugge's assistance, with orders to demolish the offending house; to arrest Van Slechtenhorst "in the most civil manner possible," should he offer any opposition, and to detain him in custody until he delivered a copy of his commission and his instructions, and had declared that he had no other. He was finally summoned to appear at Fort Amsterdam to answer for his conduct. Orders were at the same time issued, prohibiting the importation of guns into the "colonie" without license from the Lords Majors. Such arms, when imported, were to be sold only to

the West India Company at a fixed price of two beavers each.

The excitement produced in the hitherto peaceful hamlet of Beverwyck on the appearance of this armed posse may be easily conceived. The oldest inhabitant had not seen a soldier nor heard the sound of a drum in that place until the Director-General's visit in the course of the last summer. And now, when another armed band arrived, with the hostile design of razing the houses of quiet and inoffensive settlers, they were sorely amazed and much alarmed.

Those whom the Director-General had dispatched to enforce his orders, were not, in truth, the best qualified for the performance of this delicate mission. They were very zealous "when the patroon's timber was to be cut, or his deer killed," and were not slow to exhibit their insolence by grossly insulting the commander "when walking the public street" in company with his deputy, Andries de Vos, cursing them and "abusing God's holy name," because "they had not bade them good evening."

This rude conduct, and the unconcealed avowal of their mission, aroused the indignation, not only of the settlers, but even of the Indians. These assembled in a tumultuous and angry manner, and demanded if "Wooden Leg," in whom they had confided as their protector, intended to tear down the houses which were to shelter them in stormy and wintry weather? When they learned that all the trouble was about a few rods of land, they told the commander to accompany them home, and they would give him plenty of land "in the Maquaas country;" so that "more kindness was evinced by the unbelieving savages than by our Christian neighbors, subjects of the same sovereign, bound by their oaths to protect us against insult and outrage."

The soldiery were disposed to celebrate whatever victory they obtained by firing a *feu-de-joie*. They accordingly discharged three or four volleys. This brought the Indians again together. Slechtenhorst succeeded, however, in soothing their irritation, and persuaded them to depart. They returned shortly in increased numbers, and inquired in angry terms, "If Wooden Leg's dogs were gone?" They were assured that all would yet be well; that they had been misinformed, that the houses should not be pulled down. A threatening storm was thus happily averted; for the Director-General's rash conduct had well-nigh produced bloodshed, "and the ruin, not only of the 'colonie,' but of the Manhattans and of the Christians within this land, who are all at the mercy of the savages"—especially had these been joined by some Christians, "as might have been the case."

Van Slechtenhorst's indignation at this encroachment on the patroon's privileges was not so easily removed. He gave vent to his feelings in a long and angry protest. The demand for a copy of his commission, and the summons to appear at Fort Amsterdam, he answered by calling for a copy in writing of the Director-General's claims and complaints. "The noble patroon had obtained his possessions and immunities, was invested by the States-General with high and low jurisdiction and the police of the most privileged manors; and were he, as his agent, now so base as to crouch before the present unwarrantable proceedings, and to produce his commission, before he had received orders to that effect from his lords and masters, not only would they be injured, but he be guilty of a violation of his oath and honor, a betrayal of his trust and a childish surrender of the rights of his patroon." He could not, therefore, obey such demands, the illegality of which was only rendered the more flagrant by the unusual and insolent manner in which they were made.

Such illegal conduct betrayed a deep contempt of the patroon and his court, as well as of the sovereign whom they represented. Those who have been guilty of similar violations of law in Fatherland "had often been apprehended, and condemned to bread and water for the space of five or six weeks; yea, were sometimes brought to the block," so jealous was every local jurisdiction of the least encroachment on its privileges.

As for preventing timber being cut within the colonies, "Is the patroon," he demanded, "not master on his own land? Is he not free to cut his timber as well as his corn? And can he not arrest these, when cut by others without his permission? It is notorious that all the present proceedings emanated from party spirit, had no foundation in reason, and were as justifiable as the complaint in Æsop's fable of Cousin Gysbert, who, whilst drinking on a hill from a waterfall, quarreled with a lamb, who stood below, for disturbing the water and making it muddy."

This protest produced a long replication from Director Stuyvesant and Council, whose power, it was maintained, "extended to the colony of Rensselaerwick, as well as to the other colonies." Stringent orders were issued to Van Brugge and Labadie to prosecute and complete the repairs of the fort; to procure, for that purpose, timber

anywhere within the limits of New Netherland; to quarry stones from the mountains, rocks and plains, and have them conveyed from any place, and in the most convenient manner, except from farms and plantations which are fenced and cultivated, or about being so." The jurisdiction of the company, and "the ancient and uninterrupted use of the gardens and fields near the fort," were to be rigidly maintained, and the destruction of the buildings within musket or cannon shot proceeded with forthwith.

The Schout-fiscaal of New Netherland averred that it was long since notorious that the Director and Council had been treated with disrespect by Van Slechtenhorst. Van Slechtenhorst was summoned to appear at Fort Amsterdam. He could have obeyed without inconvenience as "the river remained open, the winter pleasant, and several vessels sailed up and down during the whole month of November." Now, however, to remove all doubt, the citation was again renewed, and the commander was peremptorily ordered to appear at Fort Amsterdam on the 4th of April next ensuing, by the first sailing vessel, "when he will be informed of the complaint against him." The prospect from Fort Orange ought, in his opinion, to be unobstructed, at least within circle of cannon shot. There were plenty of vacant lots along the river, on which the inhabitants could construct their dwellings, yet they persist, "through pride," in building near the walls. But the truth was, it was neither through pride nor obstinacy that the colonists at this early day persisted in clinging to Fort Orange. This post supplied them in their feebleness with security against the Indians, and they were loath to forego its protection.

Removed from the contentions which were distracting the capital of New Netherland, Commander Van Slechtenhorst was actively extending the limits of Rensselaerwyck by the purchase of the Mohegan lands to the south of that "colonie." On the 4th of September, 1648, he had acquired for the patroon the tract called Paponicuck, in exchange for some thirty ells of duffels and a few handfuls of powder; and this spring purchased Katskill and Claverack. On the other side of the Atlantic, Wouter Van Twiller was boldly laying claim to the control and monopoly of the upper waters of the Hudson River in behalf of his ward, the orphan patroon, and publicly announcing his determination not to permit any merchant vessel to pass Beeren Island, or to trade in the vicinity of Rensselaerwyck. For he maintained that Fort Orange had been built on the patroon's territory, and that none—"not even the West India Company"—had a right to permit others to erect houses or to pursue any branch of business thereabout. Feudal law and feudal privileges thus brought along with them, into these parts, the old feudal quarrels of Europe for the free navigation of nature's highways to the ocean, and the question was, whether the North River should be open to all their High Mightinesses' subjects, or whether these should be debarred from its use by the garrison on Beeren Island, now named "in such a lofty way, 'The place by right of arms.'"

The absurdity of the claim to the soil on which Fort Orange stood was clearly established by the fact that the fort was built and garrisoned by the West India Company full 15 years before the existence of Rensselaerwyck; that up to the year 1644 the West India Company had the exclusive enjoyment of the fur trade, which the company intended to reclaim "whenever it shall be able to provide its magazines with a sufficient store of goods." In view, therefore, of all these circumstances, and in order to correct a state of things of which the merchants generally complained, the Directors determined to use their sovereign rights—to the confusion of Van Twiller, "that ungrateful individual, who had sucked his wealth from the breasts of the company which he now abuses." They accordingly dispatched orders to remove all obstructions to the free navigation of the North River and commercial intercourse with Fort Orange. If Van Twiller should again plant guns near that river, they were to be seized; and if any person dared to exact tolls, or salt duty on any rivers, islands or harbors within the company's limits, to the injury of the inhabitants or traders generally, such were to be prevented by all means possible—even by force if necessary—as it was the firm determination of the Directors never to part with these pre-eminences or jurisdictions to any colonists whatsoever.

Previous to this date Van Slechtenhorst had granted several leases for land in Katskill. But the Directors refused to admit the patroon's pretensions to that section of country, as it had already been granted to another. In conformity with his instructions, Stuyvesant now protested against those leases, and announced his resolution to oppose these encroachments. The authorities of Rensselaerwyck were consequently much embarrassed, and therefore remonstrated that they had only obeyed the orders of their superiors in Holland. They therefore requested the Director-General to defer further proceedings in the matter

until they should communicate with their superiors, and promised, in the meanwhile, neither to send nor allow to be sent any settlers or cattle to the land in dispute. Thus was impeded the early settlement.

In 1651, the call for a subsidy from Rensselaerwyck brought on another collision between the authorities of that colony and the New Amsterdam Provincial Government. The latter had already peremptorily demanded the excise on wines and strong liquors consumed in the patroon's district, which was refused. It was considered an invasion of the freedoms, and in direct opposition to the custom, of Fatherland. The patroon had defrayed, from his own resources, the salaries of the minister and other public servants, as well as the general expenses attendant on the settlement of the country. These had amounted, on the 30th of June, 1650, to the sum of twenty-five thousand seven hundred and seventy-three guilders, or more than ten thousand dollars, no part of which had been paid either by the company or the Co-directors of the colony. It would be, therefore, submitting to a wrong to consent to the demand now put forth. As it was a matter, however, that concerned the common interests of the country and the privileges of the colony, Commander Van Slechtenhorst was commissioned to proceed to New Amsterdam to remonstrate with the Director and Council against it.

He arrived at the Manhattans towards the close of the month of April, and took the earliest opportunity to represent how contrary to reason, law and usage were the proposed exactions. But Stuyvesant was inexorable, and Slechtenhorst on his side was equally unyielding, "for it was a matter of great importance, which may cause not only tumult, but bloodshed in the country." The parties separated; but Slechtenhorst had not yet finished his dinner, when a messenger summoned him before the Director-General and Council. Immediately on his appearance the authorities proceeded to pronounce sentence against him, animadverting in strong terms on his conduct, especially in reference to the settlement of Katskill. Slechtenhorst, no ways daunted, demanded if a man could be condemned unheard? The only answer he received was an order for his arrest. He was detained four months at the Manhattans, notwithstanding he repeatedly protested against his detention, and the authorities of Rensselaerwyck made several applications for his release. Finally, seeing no prospect of obtaining permission to depart, he embarked in a sloop, and returned to Fort Orange, having given a guaranty to the skipper to see him harmless, should he be prosecuted for having received him on board. It was well for the skipper that he had taken this precaution, for, on his return to the Manhattans, his vessel was arrested, and he was fined two hundred and fifty guilders and costs. Van Slechtenhorst estimated his expenses in consequence of these proceedings at about four hundred dollars.

Three years had now elapsed since Director Stuyvesant set up a claim for a separate jurisdiction for Fort Orange, distinct and independent from that of Rensselaerwyck. Yet the question remained still unsettled. Lines were not drawn in those days with as much precision as in our times. The Indians measured by the day's journey, Stuyvesant by the cannon-ball. The jurisdiction of the fort, as claimed by him, extended over a circumference within the range of gunshot, which he estimated at six hundred paces of five feet to a pace, a distance subsequently estimated at one hundred and fifty rods. As the hamlet of Beverwyck, now becoming every day more populous and valuable, would, by this operation, be severed from the colony, and as the West India Company could not fail, in consequence, to secure the greater part of the fur trade, to the serious injury of the patroon, considerable opposition was manifested against Stuyvesant's pretension. The authorities of Rensselaerwyck maintained that the fort stood on the patroon's soil; that the whole territory, from Beeren Island to the Cohoes, was his, and that consequently the fort could have no jurisdiction beyond its walls. As for trading in furs, or cutting timber, it was, they insisted, a flagrant spoliation of the patroon's property.

Jean Baptiste Van Rensselaer, the first of that family who visited this country, was elected one of its magistrates, whilst this controversy was at its height. Shortly afterwards, an order was issued that all the freemen and inhabitants should take the oath of allegiance to the patroon and his representatives.

These conflicting pretensions were necessarily productive of a bad state of feeling between the opposing parties. On New Year's night, some soldiers, armed with matchlocks, sallied from the fort and fired a number of shots at the patroon's house. Several pieces of ignited wadding settled on the roof, which was of reed, and had caused the destruction of the building, had not the inmates been on the alert. On the following day, the soldiers assaulted the younger Slechtenhorst in the street, "and not only beat him black and blue, but dragged him through the mud and mire in the

presence of Johannes Dyckman, the company's Commissary, who cried out all the time, 'Let him have it now, and the devil take him!'" Philip Pietersen Schuyler, who had married a daughter of Van Slechtenhorst, endeavored to save his brother-in-law. Dyckman, hereupon, drew his sword, and threatened to run Schuyler through if he interfered. The soldiers struck others of the commander's children, and threatened to shoot them, but were prevented. The friends of the family were justly incensed at this outrage, and menaced revenge. This coming to Dyckman's ears, he, it is represented, ordered the guns of the fort to be loaded with grape, with the intention of blowing down the patroon's house.

Things were in this unpleasant state, when Stuyvesant sent up some placards relating to the limits of Fort Orange, which he ordered to have published in the colony. Dyckman, accompanied by six followers and three soldiers, "armed with carbines and pistols," proceeded to the house where the magistrates were in session, and demanded of Slechtenhorst to make a minute of what he was about to require. As it was contrary to law for any man to enter another's jurisdiction with an armed posse, without the previous consent of the local authorities, Dyckman's conduct was looked upon as an additional insult, against which Slechtenhorst protested, ordering the Commissary at the same time to quit the room. Dyckman retired; but, "as force hath more to say here than justice," he returned with increased numbers, and demanded that the placards should be published throughout the colony by the sound of the bell. "It shall not be done so long as we have a drop of blood in our veins," replied the Court, "nor until we receive orders from their High Mightinesses and our honored masters." But Dyckman, nevertheless, persisted, and ordered the porter to ring the bell. This was opposed also. Dyckman now proceeded to the fort, ordered the bell there to be rung three times; then returned to the patroon's court-house, ascended the front stoop, or steps, with his armed followers, whilst the wondering burghers stood around, and directed his deputy to make proclamation of the placards. The latter was about to obey, when Van Slechtenhorst, rushing forward, tore the placards from his hands, "so that the seals fell on the ground." Another long protest followed from the authorities of the colony, whilst young Van Rensselaer facetiously said to the crowd, "Go home, good friends; 'tis only the wind of a cannon ball fired six hundred paces off!'

On receiving the report of these occurrences, Director-General Stuyvesant immediately dispatched another placard to Dyckman, again declaring the jurisdiction of Fort Orange to extend within a circumference of six hundred paces of said fort, "and, in order that no man shall plead ignorance, we further charge our Commissary, after publication hereof, to erect on the aforesaid limits, north, south and west of the aforesaid fortress, a post, marked with the Company's mark, and to affix, on a board nailed thereto, a copy hereof." Within these bounds no house was, for the future, to be built, except by consent of the Director and Council, or those authorized to act for them. This violent and illegal act, violating at once the rights of property and of the Charter of 1629, severed, now and ever after, the town of Beverwyck from Van Rensselaer's colony. It was not, however, quietly submitted to by the authorities of the latter, for they immediately ordered their constable to remove the posts forthwith, "protesting before Almighty God and the States-General against all open force and violence, and insisting on reparation for all losses and damages which might accrue or be caused thereby."

On the same day the Court drew up a long remonstrance "against the unbecoming pretensions and attacks of the Director and Council of New Netherland," in which they denied that the latter had any authority over the colony; they had never sworn allegiance to the Company, much less to Monsieur Stuyvesant, and owned no masters but the States-General and their own immediate superiors, whose lands have been erected into a perpetual fief, with high, middle and low jurisdiction; and he who would now destroy this must be more powerful than the Company, "yea, than their High Mightinesses."

This paper was declared by the Director and Council "a libellous calumny." Secretary de Hooges was called on to furnish the names of the magistrates who had voted in favor of it, and threatened, in case of disobedience, to prosecute him for contumacy.

In the meanwhile the question of jurisdiction presented itself in a new shape to agitate and disturb still further this infant hamlet. A negress belonging to Sander Leendertsen Glen, charged with theft, caused several "decent persons" to be prosecuted as receivers of stolen goods. She was ordered to be arrested for defamation, and Dyckman proceeded to take up the wench. Her master refused to surrender her that evening. Dyckman, offended at this, told the burgher that he had power

to send him and all his family to jail; to pull his house down about his ears, and trample it underneath his feet, "as it was erected on the company's soil." "I have nothing to do with you," replied Glen; "I cannot serve a new master until I am discharged from the one I live under." The Commissary threatened him with Stuyvesant, but the other thought he should fare as well at the Director-General's hands as he. This retort overthrew Dyckman's temper. He drew his rapier and threatened to run his adversary through. But Glen was not afraid. He seized a stick to repel his assailant, who then retired. Next morning he was summoned to the fort and placed under arrest. Rumors now became rife that Stuyvesant was about to visit the place, and the Commissary went so far as to give out that a new gallows was building for Slechtenhorst and his son, and for young Van Rensselaer, who were put down as the fomentors of this rebellion.

The Director was at this time occupied in ridding himself of all that remained of his opponents at New Amsterdam. The only one undisposed of was Attorney-General Van Dyck, and his hour had not arrived.

From the moment that he had been commissioned he was treated by Stuyvesant with marked contumely, and excluded from the Council for over two years after his arrival in the colony. In the exercise of his office he was most commonly employed as a scrivener, to copy legal papers, the drafts of which the Director-General usually prepared; at other times he was "charged to look after the pigs and keep them out of the fort—a duty which a negro could very well perform." When Van Dyck happened to object, the Director "got as angry as if he would swallow him up;" or, if he presumed to disobey, "put him in confinement, or bastinadoed him with his rattan." A series of ill-usage such as this naturally drove the Fiscaal into the ranks of the opposition.

But in the spring of this year a silly lampoon against the Director-General made its appearance, and Van Dyck was put down as its author. The Council was convoked to consider this mighty affair of State, and a resolution followed dismissing the Schout-fiscaal from office, "on account of the multitude of his misdemeanors and connivances." This resolution purported to be "by and with the advice of the Nine men;" but these repudiated the assertion, and declared "that they never had any knowledge of the Commonalty as having complained of Van Dyck; that they never had agreed to the resolution ordering his dismissal; that Stuyvesant had passed it on his own authority, and that the Secretary had falsely appended to it their names."

To fill this vacancy, Cornelius Van Tienhoven, the putative author of the above intrigue, received the appointment of Attorney-General; Carl Van Brugge, "an Englishman," succeeded him as Provincial Secretary, and Adrian Van Tienhoven became Receiver-General in place of his brother.

"Were an honorable person appointed in my stead," says Van Dyck, commenting on these proceedings, "the false accusations against me, which have been so long resolved upon and written, might have some semblance of truth; but the person whom the Director-General hath, on his own mere motion, made Fiscaal, is his perjured Secretary, who returned here contrary to their High Mightinesses' prohibition; a public, notorious, and convicted whoremonger and oath-breaker; a reproach to this country, and the main scourge of both Christians and heathens, with whose sensualities the Director himself has been always acquainted." "The fault of drunkenness could easily be noticed in me, but not in Van Tienhoven, who has frequently come out of the tavern so full that he could go no further, and was forced to lie down in the gutter."

Having thus disposed of Van Dyck, Stuyvesant turned his attention to Van Slechtenhorst, and to conclude all difficulties with him, repaired to Fort Orange and called on the authorities of Rensselaerwyck to state where their bounds commenced. It was indifferent to him from what point, north or south, they should start. The exemptions allowed them four miles on one, or two miles on both banks of the river, and he was prepared to concede to that extent; but he warned them, if they should refuse this "reasonable offer," he would proceed *ex-parte*. They replied that they had no instruction to act in the premises, and requested delay, until they advised with the interested parties in Holland. The delay was granted; but the question of supremacy over Beverwyck was not so easily settled.

Sergeant Litschoe presented himself, with a party of soldiers, before the patroon's house, and, having stationed his followers at the door, ordered Van Slechtenhorst to strike the patroon's flag. The latter peremptorily refused to obey, whereupon "fourteen soldiers armed with loaded muskets, entered the enclosure, and, after firing a volley, hauled down the lord's colors."

Stuyvesant followed up this act by issuing a proclamation erecting in Fort Orange a Court of Jus-

tice for the Village of Beverwyck and its dependencies, apart from and independent of that of Rensselaerwyck. This placard having been affixed to the court-house of the colony, was torn down by Van Slechtenhorst, who, in return, posted a proclamation vindicating the patroon's rights, and denouncing the pretensions of those who infringed them. This was removed by those of the fort.

From the date of Gen. Stuyvesant's proclamation above mentioned reckons the establishment of a legal tribunal in Beverwyck, and consequently in the present City of Albany. This was April 10, 1652. It was an exercise of the prerogative which followed naturally the high-handed proclamation of the 5th of March preceding.

Van Slechtenhorst's reign was now evidently drawing to a close. For four years he had manfully defended the rights of his "orphan patroon," and unflinchingly contended against the invasions of superior force. But what, in those days, could avail in New Netherland the opposition of one man against the attacks of the Executive? Nine armed soldiers burst into his house and, without exhibiting any authority for the act, dragged him a prisoner, "against all his protests," to Fort Orange, "where neither his children, his master nor his friends were allowed to speak to him," whilst "his furs, his clothes and his meat were left hanging to the door-posts," and his house and papers were abandoned to the mercy of his enemies. He was next conveyed on board a sloop lying in the river, and removed in charge of a guard to New Amsterdam, "to be tormented, in his sickness and old age, with unheard-of and insufferable prosecutions by those serving a Christian government, professing the same religion, and living under the same authority."

Jan Baptist Van Rensselaer succeeded Van Slechtenhorst as Director, and Gerrit Swart was appointed Sheriff, or Schout-fiscaal, of Rensselaerwyck in his place.

Information was received by the patroon and co-directors of Rensselaerwyck of the high-handed measures which Stuyvesant had exercised in the early part of this year in regard to their colony. They thereupon sent in to the Amsterdam Chamber a remonstrance, complaining, 1st, that the Director-General had dared to intrude in their colony, and had commanded the patroon's flag to be hauled down; 2d, that he had caused timber to be cut on the complainants' lands without either their knowledge or their permission; 3d, that he had claimed for the West India Company the right of jurisdiction and property over all the land within a circumference of one hundred and fifty rods of Fort Orange, where he had erected a court of justice, notwithstanding the soil had been purchased from the right owners by the patroon, with the jurisdictions thereunto belonging, whereby the colonists were reduced to a state of dependency, absolved from their oaths, "transformed from freemen to vassals, and incited to disregard their former solemn compacts and their lord and master;" 4th, he had, moreover, discharged Sheriff Swart from his oath of office, and obliged him to swear allegiance to the company; 5th, demanded copies of all the rolls, protocols, judgments, resolutions and papers relative to the colony and its affairs; 6th, ordered his Commissary to force Van Slechtenhorst's house, and to toll the bell at the publication of his illegal placards; 7th, arrested by force and arms the Director of the Colony, had him conveyed to the Manhattans, where he illegally detained him in custody; 8th, taxed the colony to swell the company's revenues, licensed those who quit the patroon's service to sell articles of contraband to the savages, and, in addition to the exaction of the tithes, had raised a tax by farming out the excise on wines and beers—"thus, in every respect and everywhere using violence and infringing rights, jurisdictions and pre-eminences, apparently determined to take our goods and blood, contrary to all laws, human and divine; declaring, over and above all this, that he is continued in his administration solely in the hope and consideration that before his departure he should ruin this colony." The patroon and co-directors solemnly avowed their intention "to employ all lawful remedies to preserve and maintain their rights and privileges, and to protect their colonists against such lawless aggressions," and insisted that the West India Company should forthwith order their Director to abandon these attempts, repeal his placards, and compensate for the injuries which he had inflicted. But if the Directors were of opinion that they had any just cause of complaint, they were then called on to appear in any court of justice to make good their pretensions before our common judges. Failing to answer categorically the above accusations within four-and-twenty hours, the interested parties threatened to "complain where they expect they shall be heard."

The Directors answered, in vague terms, that they were unwilling to commit an infraction on any person's privileges, But this not being deemed satisfactory, the patroon and his friends addressed a memorial to their High Mightinesses, the States-

General, of whom they demanded justice and redress. This paper was immediately sent to the Department of Amsterdam, which, after considerable delay, returned a reply to some of the charges brought against their agent in New Netherland. They denied all knowledge of the patroon's flag having been hauled down, of his colonists having been released from their oaths, of any of his lots having been taken away, and of the establishment of a Court of Justice in Fort Orange. The timber was removed from a place so limited as to injure no one, and all complaints against the extension of the jurisdiction of Fort Orange were without foundation. That jurisdiction was determined "before the colony of Rensselaerwyck was granted." "The limits of the colony were, therefore, fixed above and below the fort, under whose walls the petitioners were afterwards permitted to shelter themselves from the savages, but from this concession no right or title can be imagined or acquired." Gerrit Swart was not discharged from his oath to the patroon. He was only obliged to take a second one to the company, remaining subject to both masters. The demand of the rolls and papers belonging to the colony, as well as the levying tithes and excise therein, was authorized by the charter. As Van Slechtenhorst would not "toll the bell," on the publication of the placards, it was unavoidably necessary that it should be executed by others; and his arrest was imperatively demanded in order "to curb the insufferable insolence, effrontery and abuse of power," of which he was guilty. The authorizing the sale of arms and ammunition to the savages was acknowledged. "It was deemed prudent that it should be now and then permitted."

Having thus disposed, in one way or another, and as best they could, of the charges which were brought against them, the Directors now assumed the offensive, and presented against the patroon and co-directors of Rensselaerwyck a number of counter-charges, in justification of the measures which they had adopted, or as an offset to those accusations made against themselves.

They had, it was averred, exceeded their lawful limits, and were now called on to record their boundary lines in the land-office of the Company, otherwise the latter would have the survey made by its own orders. They had attempted, against all law, to extend their lines along the North River, to monopolize the trade, to the ruin of private persons. They refused to permit any vessel to pass by a certain house, called Rensselaers-Stein, and claimed, without any foundation, the privilege of staple right. They exacted seven per cent. duty on each beaver and five per cent. on other goods, enforcing these pretensions with cannon shot, which they discharged into yachts that refused to come-to. They have endeavored, "by perverse machinations," to possess themselves of Fort Orange, and when frustrated herein, they undertook to lease lots in its vicinity and erect buildings thereupon. "They had dared to grant commissions to individuals to sail to the coast of Florida," and forbade colonists to move within the company's limits, on pain of corporal punishment, confiscation of property and banishment; to cut or cart wood for the inhabitants of Fort Orange; to pay to the latter what they owed them; or to appeal from any judgments over fifty guilders, as they were privileged to do. They declined to furnish any extracts of their proceedings or judgments; to make returns to writs of appeal; to publish placards, or permit such publication by others, but tear them by force from the hands of court messengers, and destroy their seals; and if any writ be served by the company's officers, they incite the parties summoned not to appear. Over and above all this, the oath which the colonists are compelled to take is "seditious and mutinous;" for no notice is taken therein, either of their High Mightinesses or of the company. No report has been made of the state of the colony, as should have been annually done, nor have the instructions issued for the administration of the colony been ever communicated, as the charter required. "From all which flow, as a natural consequence, an insolent and overbearing demeanor, on the part of their commanders, to their inhabitants; insufferable protests, injuries, menaces, disputes and provocations against the company's ministers; and, lastly, a general disobedience of all the company's commands and ordinances, to such a degree that they would not permit the Director and Council to proclaim even a day of prayer in the colony in the same manner as in all other parts of New Netherland."

The limits between Fort Orange and the colony were, in 1654, still undetermined. Some confusion as to jurisdiction necessarily ensued, to remove which Director-General Stuyvesant called again on the patroon's agents to fix on their point of departure, as he was willing to allow them, agreeably to the charter, four miles on one side or two on each bank of the river, "without the limits of Fort Orange." The magistrates of the colony being unprovided with instructions from their superiors, requested delay; and Stuyvesant seized an opportunity which offered, shortly after, to enlarge his

jurisdiction. The Court of Rensselaerwyck was about to farm the excise, and demanded how far they could collect this impost. The answer was an order to the Court of Fort Orange to collect the duties on all wines, beers and spirituous liquors sold by retail "within a circuit of one thousand rods of the fort." The colony was hereby deprived of a very important source of revenue, and fresh fuel was heaped on the old fires of litigation and trouble. As if the elements of strife were not sufficiently numerous, a claim for tenths was also put in. Counter-orders were given by the patroon's officers to their vintners to refuse the payment of the excise, on the ground that the general government defrayed none of the local charges; and, as for the tenths, "neither the inhabitants of the colony nor those of Beverwyck could be induced, either by monitions or persuasions, to pay them."

Commissary Dyckman, whose violent demeanor might, long ere this, have justified doubts of the soundness of his mind, became now so unquestionably insane that the magistrates were forced to represent his condition to the Supreme Council, which, thereupon, appointed Johannes de Decker Vice-Director, "to preside in Fort Orange and Village of Beverwyck, in the Court of Justice of the commissaries aforesaid, to administer all the affairs of police and justice, as circumstances may require, in conformity with the instructions given by the Director-General and Council, and to promote these for the best service of the country and the prosperity of the inhabitants."

The difficulties about the excise in the colony remaining still unsettled, orders were sent up by the Director and Council to arrest and convey the contumacious tapsters to New Amsterdam. De Decker, accordingly, invited one of them to his house, where, on his arrival, he made him prisoner. The sloop in which he was to be conveyed down the river not being ready to sail until the next day, De Decker, for greater security, lodged his prisoner, through the night, in the same bed with himself. Through the connivance of the soldiers on guard, the tapster contrived to escape from the fort on the morrow, and repaired forthwith to the patroon's house. Hither De Decker followed, and ordered him to return to the fort; but he refused. The other tapsters now made common cause with the fugitive, and, arming themselves, remained together to protect each other from the emissaries of the law. The Vice-Director, esteeming it an absurdity to suffer an asylum for fugitives from justice to exist in the very center of his jurisdiction, was preparing to execute his orders by force, when John B. Van Rensselaer pledged himself to repair to the Manhattans and arrange the matter with the supreme authorities. To avoid bloodshed, De Decker acquiesced in this proposal; but another order arrived a few days afterwards, directing him to send down the tavern-keepers forthwith.

In obedience to these instructions, he proceeded with an armed posse to the houses of the parties, where he again met Van Rensselaer and "his associates." He summoned them, in the name of the Director and Council, to surrender and accompany him to the fort; whereupon they each answered, "There sits the lord; he will answer for me." Van Rensselaer acquiesced herein, and again bound himself to produce the tapsters when required. De Decker, finding it useless to continue the discussion, protested, and Mr. Van Rensselaer proceeded to New Amsterdam. Here, on his arrival, he presented a strong remonstrance against the course which the Government was pursuing. Their exactions, he insisted, were contrary to the Charter. Instead of the Directors having any claim on the patroon, the contrary was the fact.

The West India Company had guaranteed to defend the colonists against all violence, yet the latter had thrice come forward, at great expense, to assist Fort Orange—first, during the war with the French savages; secondly, in the trouble with the English; and, lately, during the unhappy misunderstanding with the Indians around the Manhattans. Whenever there was any prospect of trouble, they were the first to appease the savages by presents. The losses which the latter inflicted on the colony, by the killing of cows, horses and other cattle, amounted annually to several thousand guilders. In addition, the patroons and Co-directors maintained, at their own expense, all the ministers and officers of the colony. In the face of these facts, it was manifestly unjust to seize now on the excise, and to insist on the payment also of the tenths. However, to prevent all further disturbance, he was willing to permit the payment of the former under protest, if the Director and Council pledged themselves to refund the money, should a final decision be given against them by impartial judges, either here or in Holland.

This remonstrance was at once pronounced "frivolous" by the Director-General and Council, whose "high office and quality permit them not to stoop so low as to enter the lists with their subjects

and vassals, much less to answer their frivolous and unfounded protests with a pusillanimous diffidence." Their duty was rather "to correct such absurd assertions, and to punish the offenders." Wherefore, as a public example, the protestor was fined twenty guilders.

Having thus, as they considered, vindicated their dignity, Van Rensselaer was informed that his colonists were bound equally with other settlers in the Province to contribute to the public burdens, not only by the very nature of civilized government, but by the Charter of 1629; and this they ought to do, without suspecting any infraction on their privileges or jurisdiction. The excise due from this colony, which amounted, by estimate, to fifteen hundred guilders, must, therefore, be paid, together with all damages which may have accrued by the delay. The tavern-keepers must, moreover, submit to the gauging of their stock as often as the same may be required; and as John Baptiste Van Rensselaer was himself the original cause that the excise is resisted, he was called on to give a bond of three thousand guilders for the personal appearance of the "contumacious tavern-keepers;" otherwise, he was to remain at the Manhattans under civil arrest.

The Director and Council, also, insisted that the colony was obliged to pay the tithes. If Mr. Van Rensselaer would agree with some of his colonists on a round sum, in lieu of these, it would be accepted until instructions should be received from Holland; if the Directors or arbitrators should decide afterwards that the colony was not subject to tenths, the amount paid should be reimbursed. The assertions that the colonists assisted the Company in its difficulties "were made, but not proved." It is true they promised to assist in putting Fort Orange in a state of repair at the time of the troubles with the English; but it was not less true that, after having given three or four days' labor, "they left us to shift for ourselves." The Director and Council were entirely ignorant of being under any obligations to them "during the late troubles."

This rejoinder was followed by a proclamation, ordering all the towns and colonies in the province not to remove their crops before they settled with the company's commissaries for the tenths. A copy of this placard was sent for publication to the authorities of Rensselaerwyck, but they refused to publish it.

It was during this misunderstanding that the "contumacious tapsters," having been guaranteed by the Director and Court of the colony against damage, arrived at the Manhattans to answer for their conduct. The plea of residence in the colony and of acting according to superior orders, availed them nothing. One was fined two hundred pounds, failing payment of which he was to be banished; the other was mulcted in eight hundred guilders. The patroon subsequently made good both these fines. The difficulties about the tenths were not settled until July, 1658, when the colony compounded for them by the yearly payment of three hundred schepels of wheat. * * *

Jeremias Van Rensselaer succeeded his brother Jan Baptist as Director of the colony in 1658, and administered its affairs for sixteen years with great prudence and discretion. He was much respected by the French, and exercised an influence over the Indians surpassed only by that of Van Curler.

On the change of government and the breaking out of the war, considerable difficulty was experienced in obtaining a patent for the Manor from the Duke of York. To obviate this, some persons of influence advised him to take out one in his own name, he being qualified as a British subject to hold real estate. To his great honor it is recorded, that he rejected the offer, for he was only co-heir and could not thus defraud his brothers and sisters. He was a man of great industry, and communicated to Holland an account of various occurrences in this country under the name of the "New Netherland Mercury." His correspondence, from 1637 to his death, still in good preservation, affords a valuable and interesting commentary on private and public affairs, and contains a relation of facts and incidents which otherwise would be irreparably lost. He died on the 12th October, 1684, and was followed to the grave by a large concourse of mourners.

The Rev. Isaac Jogues, a French Jesuit, taken captive by the Mohawks, and suffering every torture, finally made his escape to Fort Orange and visited New Amsterdam. This was in 1642–43. He was kindly treated in both places. Falling into the hands of the Mohawks a second time, he was treacherously and barbarously murdered in October, 1646, in the fortieth year of his age. He speaks, in nearly these words, of Fort Orange and Rensselaerwyck: "There are two things in this settlement * * * ; 1st, a wretched little fort, called Fort Orange, built of stakes, with four or five pieces of cannon of Breteuil and as many swivels. This has been reserved, and is maintained by the West India Company. This fort was formerly on an island in the river; it is now on the mainland towards the Iroquois, a little

above the said island; 2d, a colony sent here from Rensselaer, who is the patroon. This colony is composed of about 100 persons, who reside in some twenty or thirty houses built along the river, as each one found it most convenient. In the principal house resides the patroon's agent. The minister has his apart, in which service is performed. There is also a kind of bailiff who administers justice. All their houses are merely of boards and thatched. As yet there is no mason work, except the chimneys. The forests furnishing many large pines, they make boards by means of their mills, which they have for the purpose. They found some pieces of ground all ready, which the savages had already prepared, and in which they sow wheat and oats for their beer and horses, of which they have a great stock. There is little land fit for tillage, being crowded by hills, which are a bad soil. This obliges them to be separated one from the other, and they occupy already two or three leagues of territory. Trade is free to all. This gives the Indians all things cheap, each of the Hollanders outbidding, and being satisfied, provided he can gain some little profit."

Most who came over in the early years of New Netherlands came because they were not wanted at home. They belonged to the over-plus class who have no steady employment, no fixed homes, no friends, no character. They shipped as servants, as farmers and planters. But of these last there were, as to-day, various grades. So was it with the numbers who came as hunters, trappers and traders. Fishermen and sailors and soldiers were represented. Also some mechanics; as we find men registered as tailors, shoemakers, bakers, coopers, carpenters, masons, painters, wheelwrights and rope-makers. But few were master mechanics among these first settlers of Rensselaerwyck. The maltster and brewer are specially noted. The clerk at Fort Orange is named, and so is a surgeon, Staes, by name, in 1642, and a Consoler of the Sick, who is said to have served as a teacher of boys when he had nothing else to do. The girls in that day were not often taught "book learning." The schoolmaster is referred to a few times in that elder day; but he had only a name to live. Trading in furs paid better than teaching. The clergyman will be spoken of further on. As nearly as we can make out, the first was sent over by the patroon, and had but little encouragement among a people who had no religion, and cared for neither grace nor learning. We do not include the leaders and public officers in these statements. Some of them were men of marked ability. Among the later comers we find women, wives, maidens, nurses and servants mentioned.

The early immigrants to New Netherlands are generally spoken of as Hollanders, or Dutch. Undoubtedly this is true of the majority. But not a small proportion are known to have been Walloons, or French Protestants of like faith with the Huguenots. Few came after the English conquest. But among those who came over in ships before that time as traders, farmers, trappers and servants, we find Swedes, Danes, Norwegians, Swiss, Portuguese, Scotch, and men from Friesland, Hamburgh and Bremen; from Picardy, Calais and Paris; from Utrecht and Normandy, and a few other places. None are named from England. They went to Virginia or New England. The Catholic French went to Canada and Arcadia; the Spaniards to South America and Mexico.

STUYVESANT AND THE ENGLISH CONQUEST.

The stormy administration of Peter Stuyvesant had come to its end. The imperious and arrogant autocrat was humiliated. One man had come with a power which his threats could not alarm; who could not be arrested and imprisoned at his bidding.

In the learning of his day, Stuyvesant was superior to the other Directors-General of the West India Company. He was far above Van Twiller and Kieft in character. We believe he was honest, clean, and even religious. His self-reliant energy of character made him a man of extraordinary administrative ability. But his impetuous self-will made his conduct sometimes reckless, and seemingly unscrupulous.

He had much to do, as he must have seen, to organize a government made up of such ill-assorted materials as New Netherlands. Here were congregated men of all nations, with no other purpose but gain—gain regulated as little as possible by law. He had succeeded the stupid and avaricious Van Twiller and the cowardly and wicked Kieft, both despised by all that had to do with them. He had much to mend.

He derived all his authority from "the Company," which was subordinate, in some respects, to the "States General." He was determined to advance the interests of his employers. His under officers he literally kept under himself—not often asking or regarding their opinions. He treated them as servants; he did not make them friends.

The people were so far removed from him in every point that could ever awaken sympathy and confidence, that he treated them only as cattle. It is true he thought they needed schoolmasters and religious teachers; but he did little to bring them under their influence. He had no respect for the laboring classes, except that they serve and obey. This they could do in silence, while they feared and hated the oppressor.

Then came in another element, the English—English from England or New England; all the same. He had learned something of their character, and would like them as subjects. He admired their intelligence and energy. He needed it. But he feared their indomitable push and inflexible love of freedom. But they came, encouraged by him, and soon occupied lands upon Long Island, and any place of profit or power which they could find open in New Amsterdam. When "Peter the Headstrong" opened his gates to these people, he received into his fort the Wooden Horse.

When Stuyvesant came into power, in 1647, the whole population of New Netherlands amounted to about one thousand souls, a falling off, since 1643, of 2,000 under Kieft's foolish reign, while the New England colonies had increased in about the same number of years, to nearly 60,000. And these "Yankees" were free-born Englishmen who had their free churches, and their free schools, and attended them; who cherished their homes and tilled their lands; who made their own laws and chose their own men to execute them. While they loved their own homes, they were always seeking to make them better; when they sought new places, it was to make them better than the old. They took with them their principles and their institutions, and did the best they could with them, with no unnecessary delay, no timid lack of self assertion.

Coming to Manhattan, few at a time, yet rapidly increasing compared with the Hollanders, using the present, and waiting for the future, they solved the problem of English sovereignty in 1664, and of free government about one hundred years later.

While Stuyvesant was successfully reducing the savage Indians near Manhattan and at Esopus, and removing the inoffensive Swedes on the Delaware; while he was vainly endeavoring to subject Connecticut, and violently resisting the claims of the patroon of Rensselaerwyck, and quarreling with his own officers at New Amsterdam, he was losing what he ought to have seen he would lose, the affection and respect of all classes. All men of his character are blind. His house was a house divided against itself. The struggle for popular rights was deeper and stronger than he knew. It was pent up much in men's minds. It slept as sleeps the mighty earthquake. It kept up a constant muttering like distant thunder.

The election of eighteen "respectable persons," from whom the Governor selected a Privy Council of "Nine men," was a gain for the people, even if they had power to give advice only when it was asked. The establishment of a republic in England, as brief and faulty as it was, after the beheading of Charles I, in 1649, produced a profound sensation all over the then civilized world. It was felt in New Netherlands because it was felt in Holland and in New England. Tyranny quaked; freedom gained.

When the people openly discussed the wickedness of Kieft, Stuyvesant became alarmed that they had come to this, that the acts of Governors could be criticized. When the "Nine men" severely censured Gov. Stuyvesant himself for his trading in firearms, and other articles, "both lawful and contraband," and even sent to the Fatherland a remonstrance against the habit of arresting, of confiscating, and covetous speculations in trade and manufactures, he became still more alarmed. The "States" rebuked him for his course. "The Company" sustained him. Thus the conflict went on. We need not further detail matters that did not immediately affect Beverwyck and Rensselaerwyck. These details belong to general history. We here only indicate the causes at work to bring an end to the government of Stuyvesant and the Province of New Netherland at the same time.

In another place we have spoken of the English claim. England had never yielded this claim. It had only awaited its opportunity. The English Revolution of 1649 was ended, and harmony was re-established in the person of Charles II. The good-natured King had kindly given to his brother James all the territory that had been occupied and governed under the name of New Netherlands. This was done on the 12th of March, 1664, thus expelling Holland from the New World. The time had come to take possession.

The province had fully 10,000 inhabitants; and New Amsterdam had grown up to a population of 1,500. There was general satisfaction among the people, with their lands and their trade. But they did not like the government. They were ready for a change, hoping for something better.

The Duke of York placed Col. Richard Nicolls in command of the expedition to "reduce the Dutch to subjection," and establish his claim.

On the 31st of July, 1664, Gov. Stuyvesant had gone up to Fort Orange for rest and business, not

dreaming of the approach of an English squadron. Soon he was recalled by a messenger. He returned August 25th, to find business suspended and general alarm in New Amsterdam. There were four English frigates in the bay, near Sandy Hook ; and a few days later three more were seen in Nyack Bay. The excited chief magistrate sent for help to Fort Orange ; but it was too late.

Beverwyck and Rensselaerwyck could send no help. The defenses of New Amsterdam were not equal to a siege. Its crumbling fort was built only as a protection against the hatchets, arrows and musket balls of the savages; the enclosure was unprotected by ditch or palisade ; there were not 500 pounds of powder ; not a well of water in the fort, and provisions were low. The small garrison was composed of the off-scourings of Europe, worthless, dissolute men, ready to fight for pay under any banner.

Worse than all, the Governor had not the support of his Council or of the citizens. The peremptory summons, made August 30th, to surrender, was, after a brief delay, in useless remonstrance with Commander Nicolls, reluctantly heeded without bloodshed. On the 8th of September, Stuyvesant signed the articles of surrender, and the English took formal possession in the name of James, Duke of York and Albany. New Amsterdam was named New York, and Fort Amsterdam was named Fort James.

Fort Orange next received attention. The attempt of Johannes de Decker, who hurriedly took a trip up the Hudson to persuade the garrison of Fort Orange and the people of its vicinity to resist any demand for surrender which the English might make, was fruitless.

On Wednesday, September 10th, Nicolls sent Sir George Cartwright, with a small company of soldiers, to Fort Orange with the following orders :

"To the present Deputy Governor or the magistrates and inhabitants of Ffort Aurania:

"These are to will and require you and every of you to bee ayding and assisting Col. George Cartwright in the prosecution of his Majesty's interest against all such of what nation so-ever as shall oppose the peaceable surrender and quiet possession of the ffort Aurania, and to obey him, the said George Cartwright, according to such instructions as I have given him in case of the Mohawks or other Indians shall attempt anything against the lives, goods or chattels of those who are now under the protection and obedience of his Majesty of Great Brittaine ; wherefore you nor any of you are to fayle as you will answer the contrary at your utmost perills.

"Given under my hand and seal att Ffort James in New Yorke on Manhattans Island, this 10th day of September, 1664.

R. Nicolls."

When the paper of Col. Nicolls was presented to the Vice-Director, John de La Montague, on the 24th of September, he quietly surrendered Fort Orange to Col. Cartwright. The names of Beverwyck Village and Fort Orange were, at once, changed to Albany. Fort Albany was manned by English soldiers, and Capt. John Manning was put in command. Dirck Van Schelluyne, who had held the office in Beverwyck, was made Clerk of the Court of Albany, which had been established by Stuyvesant. Jeremias Van Rensselaer took the oath of allegiance to King Charles II. of England and the Proprietor James.

Thus we have brought down the Civil history of New Netherlands, so far as connected with that of Albany County, to the English Conquest of 1664. With all his great faults, there is much to admire in the character of Peter Stuyvesant. He did his best, under most trying circumstances, to serve faithfully his government. He was true to the last. After he found everything against him, he settled down, a peaceful citizen, and lived a secluded life, on his own "Bowerie," in the City of New York, and there died in 1672. His remains were entombed at his Chapel in the Bowery, where is now St. Mark's Church.

His country vindicated his conduct. But whatever good, in the Providence of God, may have grown out of them in the history of our Nation, there is but one voice among the careful students of history, in reviewing the transactions of the English government at this time, and that is one of the severest condemnation.

ORGANIZATION AND DIVISION OF THE COUNTY.

On the 17th of October, 1683, the first "General Assembly" of the "Colony of New York," chosen by "the planters or inhabitants of every part of the government, met at Fort James, in the City of New York, with "free liberty to consult and debate among themselves all matters as shall be apprehended proper to be established for laws for the good government of the said Colony of New York and its dependencyes."

The warrants calling this assembly were issued by Lt. Gov. Thomas Dongan and council, on the 13th of September preceding. The Duke of York

and Albany had given his unwilling consent in obedience to the clamors of the people, the wise counsel of William Penn, and his own self interest. Coming to the throne of England as James II, in 1685, he withdrew his consent and dissolved the assembly the year after.

But the people had, after years of struggle, met in lawful assembly and put on record, in fitting words, the "Charter of Liberties and Privileges," such as they would have, and passed other laws. They had placed New York by the side of Virginia and Massachusetts in the claim for heaven-born rights.

Among other similar warrants, it was "ordered that the Sheriff of Albany and Rancelaers Colony cause the freeholders to meet and choose two persons to be their representatives in the General Assembly, to be holden at the City of New York, Octobr ye 17th, 1683.'

It would be interesting to know when, where, and how these "office holders voted at this, their first general election in this county; but history is silent on this point, nor can the names of the "two representatives" be found. The journals of this assembly are lost. Richard Pretty, who served the warrant, an Englishman, was the Sheriff from Oct. 1680 to March 1691. He died in 1695.

Among the Acts passed, was one "To divide this province and dependencyes into shires and countyes,"—"for the better governing and setling the courts in the same." It was also enacted, "that there shall be yearly and every year, an High Sherriffe constituted and commissionated for each county, and that each Sherriffe may have his under Sherriffe Deputy or Deputyes.' All laws had the concurrence of the Governor and Council, who were in session at the same time.

This Act, dated Nov. 1, 1683, divided the province into twelve counties, viz: New York, West Chester, Ulster, Albany, Dutchess, Orange, Richmond, Kings, Queens, Suffolk, Dukes, and Cornwall, the two latter taking their territory in Massachusetts and Maine." "The County of Albany to containe the Towns of Albany, the Collony Renslaerwyck, Schonecteda, and all the villages, neighborhoods, and Christian Plantaçons on the east side of Hudson River from Roelof Jansen's Creeke, and on the west side from Sawyer's Creeke to the Sarraghtoga."

It will be seen that the names of these counties are English. Subsequent divisions gave names very largely in honor of our own patriots and statesmen, while a few preserve the memory of our native Indian tribes. The Scotch title of King James II. gave name to Albany County.

At a session of the Council, held at Fort William Henry, in New York City, Oct. 1, 1691, another "Bill for dividing this province and dependancyes into shires and countyes" was enacted, chiefly confirmatory of the above. In describing the County of Albany, there was the omission of "the Town of Albany;" a substitution of "Mannor of Ranslaerswyck," for the "Collony of Renslaerwyck," and "to the uttermost end of Sarraghtoga," instead of "to the Sarraghtoga."

At a session of the Council, held at Fort George, in New York City, May 27, 1717, the county was further enlarged by "An Act for annexing that part of the Mannor of Livingston which now lyes in Dutchess County, unto the County of Albany.'

The Counties of Dukes, consisting of Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, Elisabeth Island and No Man's Land, now in Massachusetts, and Cornwall, consisting of Pemaquid and adjacent lands and islands, now in Maine, which were included in the patent to the Duke of York, were set off on the reorganization of the colonial government about 1691, soon after the abdication of King James II, and the succession of William and Mary to the English throne.

From this time until 1770, the colonial government continued with these ten original counties, and with but slight territorial changes. They were not surveyed, and their boundaries were loosely defined. That of Albany, especially, was vastly larger than those early Governors and Legislators knew, embracing the whole territory lying north of Ulster and west of the Hudson River, and taking in nearly the whole State, even to Canada and the Lakes; and north of Dutchess, on the east side of the Hudson, including the whole of what is now the State of Vermont. Indeed, the State of Vermont and the fifty counties of the State of New York, erected since this date, were all formed from the original territorial limits of the Albany County of 1683 and 1691, except Putnam, Sullivan, Rockland, and part of Green and Delaware.

The ten thus formed directly from Albany Co., are chronologically as follows, viz:

1. Gloucester, March 16, 1770, including what is now Orange, Washington, Caledonia, Orleans, and Essex, Vermont.

2. Tryon, March 12, 1772, changed to Montgomery, April 2, 1784, from which and the wilderness then known only as Indian land, the counties west of Green, Schoharie, Schenectady, Saratoga, and the Adirondacks, have since been formed.

3. Charlotte, March 12, 1772, changed to Washington, April 2, 1784, from whose territory have since been erected Warren, Clinton, St. Lawrence, Essex, and Franklin.

4. Cumberland, April 4, 1786, covering the present Counties of Bennington, Windsor, Windham, Rutland, Addison, and Chittenden, Vermont.

5. Columbia, April 4, 1786.

6. Rensselaer, Feb. 7, 1791.

7. Saratoga, Feb. 7, 1791.

8. Schoharie, April 6, 1795.

9. Greene, March 25, 1800.

10. Schenectady, March 7, 1809.

What a mother of counties is old Albany!

The boundaries of the county are defined by sundry statutes, and at different periods, in connection with the formation of other counties from its territory. This is done in Chap. 63, Laws of 1788, passed March 7, when it included what are now Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady and a part of Washington, Schoharie, and Greene Counties; in Chap. 4, Laws of 1791, passed Feb. 7, when Rensselaer and Saratoga, and a part of Washington Counties, were set off. In this Act, Rensselaer County, on Hudson River, is described as "on the east side of a line drawn through the middle of the main stream of Hudson's River, with such variations as to include the islands lying nearest the east bank thereof," being adjacent to Albany County on the west of such line. And the County of Saratoga, so far as it is adjacent to Albany County on the Mohawk River, is defined as bounded, "southerly by the middle of the most northerly branch of the Mohawk River and the middle of the said river." "And the bounds of the several towns in the said respective counties, adjacent to and limited by the Hudson's River and Mohawk River, are hereby extended to and limited by the bounds of the said respective counties herein described."

Chap. 163, Laws of 1801, passed April 7th, names the towns of Schenectady, Princetown and Duanesburgh, now in Schenectady County, and Berne, Bethlehem, Coeymans, Rensselaersville and Watervliet, describing their limits, as belonging to Albany County, besides the City of Albany.

Chap. 65, Laws of 1809, passed March 7th, sets off Schenectady County with minutely described bounds, and declares "that the remainder of the County of Albany shall be called and known by the name of County of Albany."

This was three-quarters of a century ago, and old Albany has given birth to no more children. Schenectady is its youngest. Physically it has retained its outward features, all the same, for 75 years. But time and toil have wrought changes in her internal constitution. The potent voice of the law has always been directing changes. But she is still "at home," and ever ready to welcome her numerous sisters, children, and grandchildren, as they come up to visit her, at their annual convocations.

As the county now exists, its form and boundaries may be thus described: It is bounded on the north by the counties of Saratoga and Schenectady; on the west by the County of Schoharie; on the south by the County of Greene, and on the east by the County of Rensselaer. The Hudson River boundary, dividing Albany and Rensselaer counties, is described by "a line drawn through the middle of the main stream" of said river, "with such variations as to include the islands lying nearest to the west banks thereof within the limits of Albany County. The boundary between Albany and Saratoga counties is made by a line beginning at a point in the middle of the main stream of Hudson River in the westerly boundary of Rensselaer County, opposite to the middle of the most northerly branch of the Mohawk River, and running thence through the middle of said northerly branch and of the said Mohawk River westerly, to a point in said river where it is nearest the north line of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, at Niskayuna." Its northern and southern boundaries are supposed to be parallel; as are, also, its eastern and western, each following the variations of the current of the Hudson. Its general form is rhomboidal. That so old a county has never had a complete and accurate survey is a matter of surprise and regret, which will remain, probably, until the present State survey is accomplished.

When this county was created in 1683, it had no towns with corporate limits. Albany received a charter from Gov. Dongan, dated July 22, 1686, declaring "that the said City of Albany, and the compass, precincts and limits thereof, and the jurisdiction of the same, shall from henceforth extend and reach itself, and shall and may be able to reach forth and extend itself, as well in length and in breadth, as in circuit, on the east by Hudson's River, so far as low water mark; to the south, by a line to be drawn from the southernmost end of the pasture at the north end of the said island, called Martin Gerritsen's island, running back into the woods sixteen English miles due northwest to a certain kill or creek, called the Sandhill; on the north, to a line to be drawn from the post that was set by Gov. Stuyvesant, near Hudson's River, running likewise northwest sixteen English miles; and

on the west, by a straight line to be drawn from the points of the said south and north lines."

In 1687, Gov. Dongan, in his report to the English Board of Trade, says: "The town of Albany lyes within the Ranslaers' Colony; and, to say the truth, the Ranslaers had the right to it, for it was they settled the place, and upon a petition of one of them to our present King, about Albany, the petitioner was referred to his Majesty's council at law, who, upon a perusal of the Ranslaers' papers, made their return that it was their opinion that it did belong to them. * * * The town itself is upon a barren sandy spot of land, and the inhabitants live wholly upon trade with the Indians. I got the Ranslaers to release their pretence to the town and sixteen miles into the country for commons to the King, with liberty to cut firewood within the colony for one and twenty years. After I had obtained this release of the Ranslaers I passed the patent for Albany."

This "Ranslaers' Colony," otherwise the "Manor of Rensselaerwyck," was erected into a district, March 24, 1772, and subdivided soon after the war of the Revolution, March 5, 1779, into east and west districts. The west district included the whole of the territory now called Albany County, except the City of Albany as above described, and certain State lands, so called, located in the northeast part of the town of Watervliet. All the rights therein remaining to the Patroon, the late Hon. Stephen Van Rensselaer, of revered memory, upon his death, January 26, 1839, descended to his son Stephen, while those of the east district, formerly including most of Rensselaer and a part of Columbia counties, descended to his other son, William P.

It will thus be seen that the whole territory of this county was once included within the Colony of Rensselaerswyck, the history of which appears under its appropriate head.

With the exception of the City of Albany, the whole of the territory now called Albany County, and including most of that now constituting the town of Niskayuna, in Schenectady County, was incorporated March 7, 1788, into a town by the name of Watervliet. Niskayuna was set off March 7, 1809, making the county limits coincide with those of the west Manor of Rensselaer.

From this territory the following towns in Albany County have since been incorporated :

Names.	*Date.*	*From what other town.*
Rensselaerville	March 8, 1790	Watervliet.
Coeymans	March 18, 1791	"
Bethlehem	March 12, 1793	"
Berne	March 17, 1795	Rensselaerville.
Guilderland	Feb. 26, 1803	Watervliet.
Colonie	April 11, 1808	"
Westerlo	March 16, 1815	Coeymans & Rensselaerville
Knox	Feb. 28, 1822	Berne.
New Scotland	April 25, 1832	Bethlehem.
Cohoes	May 19, 1869	Watervliet.

The local history of these towns, as fully as space will allow, will be written by others. We give a summary of some facts of general interest.

It will be seen that no town organization existed in Albany County until after the Revolutionary war and the adoption of the Federal Constitution, when Watervliet, as above stated, was organized March 7, 1788. Before this, except what jurisdiction inhered in the Manor of Rensselaerwyck, all civil, judicial, and other matters of common interest, were managed at Albany, made a city more than 100 years prior to this date. The City of Albany was then, except in territory, *the County*—the center of business, of military and civil power, and of social interest.

OUTLINE SKETCHES OF THE TOWNS OF THE COUNTY.

BERN.—More recently and generally spelled Berne; named from Berne, Switzerland, the native place of Jacob Weidman, one of the first settlers. It was formed from Rensselaerville, March 17, 1795, and embraced what is now the town of Knox, which was taken off from the north part February 28, 1822. It is the middle of the three western towns of the county; about 20 miles from Albany; has an area of 38,782 acres, and is bounded north by Knox, east by New Scotland, south by Westerlo and Rensselaerville, and west by Schoharie County. The Helderbergs lie along its eastern border, the western slope of which gives a broken surface, varied by hills, ravines and plateaus. The soil is a loam formed of sand, gravel and clay; a fine calcareous, argillaceous loam abounds in the valleys; and marsh, bog, clay and marl patches are found. Brooks are numerous, most of them finding their way to Schoharie creek. The lofty ledges of the hills on the eastern border are interesting natural features. Thompson's Lake, on the Helderbergs, and White Sulphur Springs, in Berneville, are places of much resort.

Good flagging stone is quarried near Reidsville, and mineral springs and limestone caverns are found in the town.

The first settlers were mostly Germans who came and occupied manorial lands about 1750. A

number of Scotch settlers came about the time of the Revolutionary war.

During the anti-rent troubles, this town had more leased lands than any other in the county. The number has been rapidly decreasing by settlement of claims, much to the advancement of intelligence, independence and wealth. The anti-rent feeling arose to its highest pitch in this town, leading to deeds of violence and outrage.

There were many Tories in this territory during the Revolutionary war. Here, it is said, was a rendezvous for them, where plans were made, and from which went forth bands to co-operate with the Indians in their cruel barbarities against the patriot settlers. In 1777, out of a company of 85 militia raised here, 63 joined the British, and 22 were with the Americans against Burgoyne, at Saratoga. In 1779, Capt. Dietz and two boys, named John and Robert Brice, were taken captives from the western part of this town. Dietz died at Montreal, and the boys, after the war was over, were exchanged and returned home.

Berneville, once called Beaver Dam, was stockaded during the Revolutionary war.

The first church established was the Dutch Reformed, in 1763, which received, as its first pastor, Rev. Johannes Schuyler, in 1767. A parsonage farm, given by the Patroon, is situated about midway between Peoria and Berneville, and is held in common by societies in both villages. This is the oldest church in the county, outside of Albany.

Among the prominent natives of the town are Hon. Joseph P. Bradley, of the United States Supreme Court; the widely known Capt. A. H. Bogardus, Albert Gallup, County Treasurer, and others.

BETHLEHEM.—It is stated that several farmers who came at an early date to Beverwyck began another settlement, south of Fort Orange, to which they gave the name of Bethlehem, with reverent regard for the city of Palestine, where our Saviour was born.

It is believed that the first trading house in this county was erected in 1614, upon Castle Island, in the Hudson, by Dutch traders under the lead of Skipper Corstiaensen. This island, containing about 160 acres of land, is in this town, opposite that part of Albany which was set off from Bethlehem in 1870. It has been designated by various names, but is now called Van Rensselaer or Westerlo Island. In the original charter limits of the City of Albany in 1686, it is called Martin Gerritsen's island. The trading house was stockaded and garrisoned as a protection against predatory traders and hostile Indians, and named Fort Nassau. Two or three years later it was moved by Elkins to the elevation near the mouth of the Tawasentha, on account of the spring floods. Here it probably remained until the erection of Fort Orange, in Beverwyck, in 1623.

As a township, Bethlehem was erected from Watervliet, March 12, 1793, including what is now New Scotland, which was taken off April 25, 1832, and the southeast part of Albany, which was taken off April 6, 1870. It has an area of 31,549 acres, including Van Rensselaer and other islands in the Hudson, west of the middle of the stream. It is bounded, north by Albany, east by Hudson River, south by Coeymans, west by New Scotland.

Its surface consists chiefly of rolling upland, with high bluffs rising above the fertile alluvial flats on the Hudson. There are ridges of sand and rock near the center. The soil, under good tillage, produces a great variety of fruits, vegetables and other farm and garden products for the near Albany market.

A few small caves and sulphur springs are found.

The exact date when the early Dutch farmers began to occupy the river lands of this town cannot now be known; probably between 1630 and 1640. Albert Andriessen Bradt, de Norman, came over in 1630, and had a farm and mills on Norman's Kill, which was named for him. Adrien Van der Donk, Martin Gerritsen, and Cornelis Segers, early occupied Castle Island. Ryckert Rutgersen and Jan Ryersen were settlers about 1650. The territory now, or until recently, called Bethlehem, has been occupied by many distinguished persons. Philip S. Van Rensselaer, for more than twenty years subsequent to 1798 the Mayor of Albany, had his seat at Cherry Hill. He was succeeded by his son, Gen. Solomon Van Rensselaer, and by his son-in-law, Dr. Peter E. Elmendorf. Here was born Mrs. Catharine V. R. Bonney, author of "Historical Gleanings." Here lived John Whipple, a worthy citizen, who was shot by Strang in 1827. Near Mount Hope, which now is the Academy of the Sacred Heart, lived Jared L. Rathbone, Mayor, 1838–41, who purchased "Rensselaer's Mills," and named the hamlet Kenwood, after a beautiful spot in Scotland which he had visited. Ezra P. Prentice for many years made Mount Hope a magnificent residence. The "Whitehall House," built in part by Gen. Bradstreet, which is said to have been a secret resort for Tories during the Revolution, was subsequently the home of Judge Leonard Gansevoort. The mansion of the venerable Col. Francis Nichols was situated on Bethlehem flats, which has

long been considered as furnishing some of the finest sites in the vicinity of Albany for homes and cultivation. The greenhouses of Erastus Corning, just below Kenwood, are very rich in rare exotics, and his large farm in choice horses and stock. This farm of 560 acres, and the residences of Hon. Worthington Frothingham, Erastus D. Palmer, the sculptor, and Judge Elisha P. Hurlbut, lying near the river, are worthy of special mention. Many of the busy men of Albany are making their homes in this town. Among them are the artist, Asa W. Twitchell; the book-seller, Stephen R. Gray; Attorney Nathan P. Hinman, Sheriff Wm. H. Keeler, Surveyor Wm. H. Slingerland, and others.

It is claimed that an Indian castle and burial place occupied a spot near the mouth of the Tawasentha, a long time ago. Here Longfellow, in his Hiawatha, has the home of his Indian "Singer Nawadaha," who "sang the song of Hiawatha." On a hill near by this stream, as tradition has it, was held the first council of alliance and aid between the Indians and the Dutch, about two and three-quarter centuries ago.

"In the vale of Tawasentha,
In the green and silent valley,
By the pleasant water-courses,
Dwelt the Singer Nawadaha;
Round about the Indian village,
Spread the meadows and the cornfields,
And beyond them stood the forest,
Stood the groves of singing pine trees,
Green in summer, white in winter,
Ever sighing, ever singing.
And the pleasant water-courses:—
You could trace them through the valley
By the rushing in the spring-time,
By the alders in the summer,
By the white fog in the autumn,
By the black line in the winter;
And beside them dwelt the singer,
In the vale of Tawasentha,
In the green and silent valley,
There he sang of Hiawatha,
Sang the song of Hiawatha."

The first church in town was formed in early colonial times by the Reformed Dutch. The "Parsonage farm," a tract of 100 acres, was given to the society in 1794 by Gen. Stephen Van Rensselaer.

Hon. Benjamin Nott resided here; and his son, Hon. John C. Nott, Hon. John M. Bailey, Rev. William Bailey, Hon. Jurian Winne, were born in this town.

COEYMANS was named from Barent Pieterse Coeymans, an emigrant from Utrecht, in 1636, who, having previously been a miller on Patroon's Creek and Normanskill, under lease from the Patroon, purchased land from the Katskill Indians, covering this territory, in 1673, and secured a patent from Gov. Lovelace on the 7th April in that year. A conflict of title with Van Rensselaer resulted in the purchase of the Patroon's claims, paying a quit-rent of nine shillings annually, under date of October 22, 1706. August 6, 1714, he finally secured letters-patent from Queen Anne, confirming a perpetual title to him and his heirs. The patentee built the first mills at Coeyman's Falls, and settlements were made by the Dutch within the first years of the eighteenth century. Among the early settlers we find the names of Witbeck, Keefer, Traver, Verplank, Vanderveer, Ten Eyck, McCarley, Colvin and Shear.

The township was formed from Watervliet, March 18, 1791, including the eastern part of Westerlo, which was set off on the formation of that town, March 16, 1815. It has an area of 30,408 acres, including Beeren and other islands in the Hudson. It is the southeast town of the county, and is bounded, north by Bethlehem, west by Westerlo, south by Greene County, and east by the Hudson.

The surface rises from the river, with a bluff of from 200 to 400 feet, continuing, with broken ridges and hills, some 100 to 200 feet higher, to the Helderbergs. The soil is sandy in the eastern part, and gravelly in the western. Limestone and marl are abundant. Blue flagging stone has been quarried at Mossy Hill, and shipped since 1828. Magnesian springs and limestone caverns are found. The fossil remains of an animal like the elephant were found on the farm of Mr. Shear a few years since.

Hay is the leading farm product. There are many excellent farms in this town, especially upon the Haanakrois Creek, which have long been owned and cultivated by an industrious, frugal and intelligent class of citizens.

There has long been a landing at the mouth of Coeymans Creek, at the wharves of which is considerable trade carried on by the near farmers, manufacturers and merchants. John J. Colvin was for many years a successful shipper, now retired, and succeeded by Henry Slingerland. Ice-cutting is an important industry.

Rev. John Crawford, about 1789, organized the first Methodist class here, and a stone edifice for their worship was erected in 1793, said to have been the first Methodist church west of the Hudson. The celebrated Freeborn Garretson was presiding elder of an extensive district up and down the river. March 5, 1793, the Reformed Church, Rev. Jacob Sickles, pastor, was organized; in 1797 it built a large brick church.

The Coeymans Academy was established by Fletcher Blaisdell, Theophilus Civill and Peter

Seabridge, in 1858. The fine buildings for a new literary institution, recently erected by Anton Civil, of this town, are not yet opened. Sawmills were erected on the creek just north of Beeren Island as early as 1651.

The *Coeymans Gazette* was started in 1863, edited by Prof. Thomas McKee, who afterward took it to Greenbush and published it until his death as the *Rensselaer County Gazette.* The *Coeymans Herald* is published weekly by S. H. and E. J. Sherman.

For several years after the Revolution a few Oneida Indians called the Aquetucks resided in this town.

Among the prominent citizens of this town during the past century may be named John and James Colvin, John and David McCarty, Hugh Jolly, Archibald Stephens, Andrew and Anthony Ten Eyck, Abraham and Isaac Verplanck, Moses Stanton, Dr. Jesse Smith, Nathaniel Niles, John P. Beeckman, and many others. Hon. Andrew J. Colvin was born in Coeymans, April 30, 1808; was educated at Albany Academy under Dr. Beck; read law with Van Buren & Butler; began practice in Albany in 1830; has been Corporation Counsel, District Attorney and State Senator. He was in the Senate in 1861 when the Rebellion broke out, and has been spoken of as "the very first Democratic official who threw up a rocket in favor of equal constitutional freedom for all." He is now, at the age of seventy-seven, actively engaged in professional practice.

COHOES was formed from Watervliet and incorporated as a city, May 9, 1869. It previously, from April 12, 1855, had been an incorporated village of Watervliet. It has an area of 1,575 acres.

The history of this city is recent, and is, chiefly, a history of its manufactures. These are well written up by Rev. Wm. H. Johnson, and will appear in this work. The antiquities of this locality and its natural wonders are presented in an excellent manner, in connection with other points of interest relating to its growth and present condition, in "Masten's History of Cohoes," a volume reflecting great credit upon its painstaking author.

COLONIE, once an incorporated town and village, is entitled to a place in our history, although its existence as such was brief, and is now obsolete. Its name is still preserved in one of the streets of Albany.

The term "the Colonie" was undoubtedly applied originally to all the colonized territory of Rensselaerwyck. But it came to be limited, it appears, to that portion lying outside of the City of Albany, especially north of it, in which were situated the mansion of the Patroon, with his mills and offices, the residences of his officers, and the homes of his immediate farmers, gardeners and other dependents. We find it frequently used in the time of Stuyvesant and other Dutch governors. "The limits of *the Colonie* were fixed above and below the fort," say the Directors of the West India Company in 1652. "The limits between Fort Orange and the Colonie were, in 1654, still undetermined." Some confusion as to jurisdiction between Gov. Stuyvesant and the Patroon's agents necessarily followed. The Governor was willing to allow the Colonie four miles on one side or two on each bank of the river, without the limits of Fort Orange. The question as to jurisdiction remained unsettled until 1664, when England assumed jurisdiction over the whole Province of New York, no longer New Netherlands.

During the years that followed the English conquest, "the Colonie" continued as a local designation of the district lying without the city, and north of it. Its southern limits were defined by Quackenbush street, and Patroon street, now called Clinton avenue. It was outside the stockade, which latterly had its palisades a little north of Orange and Van Tromp streets. When Watervliet was formed, in 1788, coextensive with the western district of Rensselaerwyck, "the Colonie" was, of course, a part of its territory. The Hudson marked its eastern limits; but its western and northern were not defined. It was understood to include the "Upper Hollow" and the settlements and business places therein, the Mansion House and its office, and the lands near them. Kenwood was the "Lower Hollow."

It was set apart as a district, March 31, 1791, and again, by an additional act, March 30, 1801. April 9, 1804, it was incorporated as a village in the town of Watervliet, and organized as a separate town, April 11, 1808, as described by the Legislative act following:

"*Be it enacted, &c.*, That from and after the first day of April next all that part of the town of Watervliet, beginning at the west bank of Hudson's River and in the northeast corner of the bounds of the City of Albany, and extending northerly along the said river, about three-quarters of a mile, to what is called the Mill-creek: thence running westerly, one mile, up along the said creek: thence southerly with a line parallel to the said river, till it intersects the north bounds of the said city: thence easterly, along the said north bounds to the place

of beginning, shall be and is hereby erected into a separate town, by the name of the *Colonie.*"

It was divided, February 25, 1815, and its legal existence as a town terminated by giving its territory to Albany and Watervliet. The Albany portion was made the "Fifth Ward" for many years.

It was a small town, less in area than any other town in the State. Its population in 1810 was only 1,406, and in 1815, 1,657, having 245 houses and stores, and thirty slaves. The houses and stores were principally on one street, except near Albany.

In 1818 an effort was made to restore it to town privileges, but did not succeed.

In Colonie, in 1813, were "the Public Garden of Mr. Buckmaster," two breweries, a distillery, two large tanneries, a tallow chandlery, rope walks, a grain mill and several other manufactories, including a part of the "tobacco works" of Mr. James Caldwell, which were on Mill Creek, mostly on the north or Watervliet side. There was also "a Seceders' Church," whatever that might be, and "a large brick edifice filled with military stores belonging to the State of New York and the United States," called "The Arsenal," standing "on the east side of the principal street," "connected with which is a large yard."

Says Spafford in 1813, in his "Gazetteer of New York:" "The compact village of Colonie is continuous with Albany, of which it forms a large and populous suburb, though legally organized under a separate municipality." "That part necessarily belongs to Albany in a general view of its population, resources, wealth, trade and general character."

In Fry's Albany Directory for 1813, the first published in the city, we find no name of a citizen of Colonie except "Spafford, Horatio G., author of Geography and Gazetteer, Colonie, two doors south of Arsenal." Mr. Fry makes this explanation in his prefatory "Notice:" "Should this publication meet its hoped-for encouragement, in the sale of the books, the next may be accompanied with a list of inhabitants in the Colonie and a map of the city."

GUILDERLAND was named from Guilderlandt in the Netherlands. It was formed from Watervliet, February 26, 1803. The northwest portion of the city of Albany was annexed to this town, February 26, 1871. It is bounded, north by Schenectady County, east by Watervliet and Albany, south by Bethlehem and New Scotland, west by Knox, and has an area of 38,784 acres, the largest number of any town in the county. Its outline is very singular, suggesting a rhombus in general form, the apexes of the two acute angles of which are fifteen miles apart northwest and southeast.

The surface is quite varied, from the sandy ridges and the marshes of the eastern part of the town to the higher hills of the Helderbergs on the west. The soil is a barren sand in the northeast; but there are many fertile farms of sandy loam well improved by cultivation in other parts of the town, producing excellent grass, grain and fruits, which find a ready market in Albany.

The Indian Ladder Gap, supposed to mark an ancient Indian trail, is in this town, and remarkable for picturesque scenery.

Formerly the town was distinguished for certain manufactures. In 1792 glass works were commenced in this town, eight miles from Albany. Among the proprietors were Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, John Sanders, Abraham Ten Eyck, Elkanah Watson, Frederick A. De Zeng, K. K. Van Rensselaer, Douw Fonda, Walter Cochran, Thomas Mather and Samuel Mather.

In 1796 the ground was laid out in streets and house lots, and plans for a church and school house were made. The project of a manufacturing town, to be called Hamilton, in honor of Alexander Hamilton, was considered. The Legislature, as an encouragement, exempted the company and the workmen from taxation for five years. The corporation was called the Albany Glass Company. At the first, it was owned by McClallen, McGregor & Co., the Co. being James Caldwell and Christopher Batterman; and a loan was granted to the proprietors by the State to the amount of £3,000 for eight years—three years without interest and five years at five per cent. In 1795 Robert McGregor left the firm, and a new company, under the name of Thomas Mather & Co., was formed. At one period 500,000 feet of window glass was manufactured annually. The works were discontinued in 1815, as it is said, for want of a suitable supply of sand and fuel.

Abel French, of Albany, established a factory near the center of the town in 1800, and the place was named French's Mills. In 1795 clothing mills were erected here by Peter K. Broeck. In 1800 Knowersville had a cotton factory, and later a hat factory. The first tavern in town was kept here by Jacob Acker during the Revolution.

Whigs and Tories dwelt here in constant feud during the trying days of 1775–83. The feelings then engendered between discordant families long remained. The exultant Whigs, on getting news of the surrender of Burgoyne, it is said, illuminated

the surrounding country by burning a hollow chestnut tree filled with tar, standing upon a high hill.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized October 13, 1787, Heinrich Moeller, first pastor.

Among the natives of this town are Judges James A. McKown and Jacob H. Clute, Edward Robinson, Wm. Dey Ermand, John M. Batterman, Stephen R. Gray, Peter Walker, Hiram Griggs, Wm. D. Strevell, Dr. Thomas Helm, and many others well known in the county.

KNOX was named from John Knox, the eminent divine and bold reformer of Scotland. It was formed from Berne, February 28, 1822. It has the smallest area of any town in the county, containing 26,402 acres. It is situated in the northwest corner of the county, and is bounded, north by Schenectady County, east by Guilderland, south by Berne, and west by Schoharie County.

Its surface is an elevated plateau, inclining slightly toward the northwest from the Helderbergs, which lie on its eastern border. Small hills diversify the surface. The soil is generally of good quality, and arable, composed of a gravelly, calcareous loam mixed with clay, overtopping hardpan. Several small caves are found in this town.

It is a farming town, with a few grist, saw and woolen mills for local manufacture.

The first settlers were Dutch, who took leases from Van Rensselaer before the Revolution. After this war, from 1788 to 1790, several families from Connecticut came to settle. Among them were Samuel Abbott and Andrew Brown. Tories were there during the Revolution until the surrender of Burgoyne, when they went to a more congenial home in the Canadas. Capt. Jacob Van Aerden was the leading man among the Whigs of that day.

The first church is said to have been the Dutch Reformed.

There long existed a public library in this town. In 1824 it numbered about 400 volumes. It was modeled after the New England town libraries, and was helpful in forming the character of the people to habits of intellectual culture and good morals.

The anti-rent feeling in this town was general and intense. Most of the farmers held manorial leases, and resisted the collection of rents with inflexible determination. Collectors, sheriffs, and the *posse comitatus* were often unsuccessful. Resort was had more than once to the military, who, without bloodshed, caused arrests and trials in courts. Strifes of this sort began soon after the death of "the old Patroon," in 1839, who had been very indulgent to his tenants. It pervaded all the towns of the county, and all the people who occupied leased lands. It entered into local and State politics. No towns, perhaps, showed more active resistance than Berne and Knox. It lasted several years, and was terminated only by the decisions of the courts and the enforcement of law. Even as late as July, 1866, a detachment of 100 men under Capt. James McFarland, of the 10th regiment, went from Albany to Knox and secured the arrest of nine respectable citizens, who, no doubt, honestly felt that they were resisting unjust claims.

NEW SCOTLAND.—Among its early settlers are to be found these Scotch names: Reid, Wands, Watt, Swan, Kirkland, Patterson, Ramsay, McMullin, McCulloch, and others. Through the influence of these natives of Scotland, no doubt, came the name of the town. About 1758, Teunis Slingerland, a Hollander, purchased 9,874 acres of this territory from the Indians, located on the Oneskethau Flats, and erected the first mills. He is considered the first settler. The town was erected from Bethlehem, April 25, 1832; has an area of 34,324 acres, and is the central town of the county, and the youngest, if we do not reckon the city of Cohoes as a town. It is inclosed by other towns, as follows: Guilderland, north; Bethlehem, east; Coeymans and Westerlo, south; Westerlo, Berne, and Knox, west. Rensselaerville and Watervliet and the cities of Albany and Cohoes alone do not touch it.

The surface is elevated, consisting, in the eastern and central portion, of rolling lands varied by hills of moderate height. The Helderbergs border the western limits, their highest peak being situated at the Helderberg Station of the Coast Survey, 1,823 feet above the sea, and near the southwest corner of the town. Gravelly loam with clay intermixed makes a productive soil under proper culture.

The town has striking geological features which have attracted the interest of many geologists in the State; limestone caves, sink hills and subterranean streams, are among the natural curiosities. Sulphur springs are found, stones for flagging and building are quarried, and plaster is ground in this town. Mr. James Hendrick has a farm of 165 acres under the highest culture, on which are the "Font Grove Nurseries," and where are carefully cultivated outdoor and greenhouse plants; also flowers and fruits in the greatest variety. He has twelve large greenhouses. The farm and greenhouses will repay a special visit.

The inhabitants are chiefly descendants of the Dutch, the Walloons and the Scotch. Many are from New England.

Isaac Perry, an emigrant from France, was one of the earliest settlers. The hewn stone house, built by his son Nicholas before the Revolution, is still standing near Wolf Hill on the Helderbergs. George Reid and other Scotch immigrants came at an early day,

A Dutch Reformed Church was organized at Jerusalem about 1780. The house of worship was erected in 1790. Harmanus Van Huysen was the first pastor, who subsequently organized the church at New Salem and became its pastor. The New Scotland Presbyterian Church was organized about 1787, and had, as its first pastor, Rev. Benjamin Judd.

RENSSELAERVILLE was named in honor of Gen. Stephen Van Rensselaer, the "Old Patroon," and is the first town formed from old Watervliet. It was erected, March 8, 1790, and included Berne, taken off, March 17, 1795, and the westerly part of Westerlo, taken off March 16, 1815. It contains 37,354 acres; is in the southwesterly corner of the country, and is bounded, north by Berne, east by Westerlo, south by Green County and west by Schoharie County. The terminal *ville* is appropriate to the village, but inappropriate as a part of the name of the town.

The surface is mostly upland broken by spurs or ridges from the Catskill Mountains, with deep and narrow fertile valleys that are watered by the rapid streams that run on their way to the Hudson by way of Catskill Creek. The upland soil is a gravel loam lying upon hardpan. It is productive of excellent grass for dairy products, and of oats, buckwheat, rye and potatoes.

There is a fall of 100 feet on the Ten Mile Creek, and of 40 feet on Willow Brook.

The town once abounded in varied useful industries. Its rural villages were formerly well filled with skilled artisans, and its creeks supplied water power to numerous mills. It was a model of an intelligent and orderly town, 25 miles from the city. Its early settlers came mostly from New England soon after the Revolution. Among them were Apollos Moore, a soldier of the Revolution, and first Judge of the County; Major John Edward, a revolutionary officer; Samuel Jenkins, who built the first mill; Silas Sweet, Joseph Lincoln, the Hatch brothers, and Rev. Samuel Fuller, the first minister of the gospel, a graduate of Dartmouth, and many others, some of whom came later by way of Long Island and Dutchess and Ulster Counties. They were mostly young men of steady, industrious, frugal habits. Its timber has been used, and it has no near railroad.

The first church was the Presbyterian, of which Samuel Fuller was, for 16 years, the first pastor. It was organized in 1792. A Baptist Church was formed about the same time, with Timothy Green, pastor; a Friend's meeting, Reuben Palmer, preacher, was organized in 1795, and a little later, a Methodist Church. Rev. Samuel Fuller left the Presbyterian Church in 1810, and organized an Episcopal Church, of which he was for 31 years rector.

The town has been remarked for good roads and good district schools. Select schools were sustained when needed. In the Academy at Rensselaerville, Judge Bradley, now of the United States Supreme Court, received his early academic education. Among natives of the town who have attained to public distinction, we have found the names of the late Judges Rufus W. Peckham, Sr., and Malbone Watson, of the Supreme Court of this State; Judge Addison Niles, of the Supreme Court of California; and Judge Mortimer M. Jackson, of the Supreme Court of Wisconsin. Moses Patten, born in New Hampshire, was an early school teacher, and afterward a Surrogate of the County and a leading citizen. Valentine Treadwell was some years an Assemblyman and a prominent man. John Watson, a wealthy manufacturer of New York City, was born here, and so were Robert H. Moore and Edward P. Durant, of Albany. The town used to have much of the New England characteristics. It has made a good record. Among its sons is Charles M. Jenkins, son of Jonathan Jenkins, of Connecticut stock, who graduated at Union College, under Dr. Nott, in 1829, and at the old Litchfield Law School, and has been in the practice of law in this city for 50 years.

It is worthy of note that Samuel Boughton had 21 children born to him in this town. Daniel Shay, of the "Shay Rebellion" notoriety, resided here a few years about 1795 to 1800.

Two weekly newspapers have been published in this town, each having a brief existence—the *Rural Folio* and the *Rensselaerville Press.*

WATERVLIET, signifying *water flood,* and so called, probably, on account of its peninsular situation, partially surrounded by the Hudson and the Mohawk, was the first incorporated town in the county. It was formed March 7, 1788, and then included all of West Rensselaerwyck, and all of the present county, except the City of Albany, as

it was at the date of its charter in 1686. After parting with its territory to form the nine other towns of the county, it took back a part of Colonie in 1815, and gave up the same, with considerable more, to the City of Albany in 1870. In the same year Albany offered to give Watervliet its sparsely settled and sterile lands in the northwest part of the city, which, the town having declined to receive the gift, was the next year transferred to Guilderland. By the session laws of 1830 and 1833, a portion of its lands were conditionally ceded to the United States, "for the purpose of erecting and maintaining thereon arsenals, magazines, dockyards and other necessary buildings." Niskayuna, in Schenectady County, was formed in 1809, largely from Watervliet. Cohoes was incorporated as a city May 19, 1869.

The census of 1875 gives the town an area of 30,697 acres. Its boundaries are: north, by Schenectady County and Mohawk River; east, by Cohoes, the Mohawk and the Hudson Rivers, taking in the islands west of the middle of said rivers; south, by Albany; and west by Albany and Guilderland.

The surface of the town is considerably varied. Along the Hudson extend wide alluvial lands, rising above which are moderate hill slopes, furnishing fine suburban building sites, and a soil well adapted for gardens and small farms. Most of the surface is an upland of light sandy loam, 100 to 300 feet higher than the river, intersected by ravines formed by numerous small streams. With its river confines, its steam and horse railroads, and its canals, it has rare facilities for transportation and travel. To say nothing of its flourishing villages of Green Island and West Troy, its location near Albany, Troy, Cohoes and Schenectady gives extraordinary facilities for marketing its products and for trade. Milk, culinary vegetables and fruit find a ready market near home.

These inducements have led to the settlement and cultivation of a territory, most of which is not very fertile or attractive by nature.

The first settlers were, undoubtedly, Dutch farmers holding manorial leases. They were poor and their progress was slow.

The first organized Church was the Dutch Reformed at the Boght, a bow made by the junction of the Hudson and Mohawk. It was established by Rev. Eilardus Westerlo, of Albany, April 17, 1784.

The Shakers, a peculiar religious sect, came to Watervliet and established a community in 1776. They were under the leadership of "Mother Ann Lee," their founder, a native of Manchester, England. Here she died, September 8, 1784, at the age of 48 years, and here was buried. They now number about 300. They occupy 3,500 acres of well-improved land, watered by four ponds of about 10 acres each. Their dwellings and other buildings are neat and convenient; their farms are well stocked. As a people they are remarkable for habits of industry, frugality, order, neatness and integrity in their dealings. They eschew war and politics. Of course they are prosperous. They have their religious meeting house and their schools, and publish *The Shaker*, a monthly edited by G. A. Lomas.

Besides the towns before named, out of the territory of Watervliet have been formed six incorporated villages and one city since this century began, viz: Watervliet, March 30, 1801, changed to Colonie, April 9, 1804, now obsolete and annexed to the City of Albany; Gibbonsville, April 23, 1823, changed to West Troy, April 30, 1836; Cohoes, April 12, 1855, changed to City of Cohoes, May 19, 1869; Green Island, October 14, 1855, and May 12, 1869.

Loudonville, on the old Loudon road, three miles from Albany; Newtonville, named for John M. Newton, four miles from Albany; and Menands, two miles from Albany, are very pleasant hamlets in which many of the business men of Albany reside.

West Albany is situated two miles northwest from the city, about the center of the south line of Watervliet. It contains the extensive repair shops of the New York Central Railroad, and has, for many years, been widely known as one of the largest cattle markets in the United States. It is connected with the city by street cars, as well as by the Central Railroad.

The United States Arsenal, situated on 105 acres, lying on the Hudson, near West Troy village, belonging to the United States Government, was located in 1813. The building was commenced under Col. George Burnford in 1814.

The Albany Rural Cemetery, the St. Agnes Cemetery, the Anshe Emeth, lying contiguous to each other, unsurpassed in this country for natural and artistic fitness to their purpose, are situated in Watervliet, about two miles north from Albany.

The very conveniently located and well-appointed County Agricultural Fair Grounds are nearly two miles north of Albany. The State Fairs have been held here.

The New York Central and Rensselaer and Saratoga Railways, the Erie Canal, the Champlain

Canal and the Watervliet Horse Railway all traverse portions of this town. Few towns surpass this in traveling facilities.

The Schuyler Residence, at "the Flats," just south of the village of West Troy, near the banks of the river, is an interesting spot, associated as it is with the interesting scenes in the life of "Aunt Schuyler," Mrs. Grant's "American Lady." Dr. James Wade, Dr. E. M. Wade, Edward Wade, Esq., Gov. Leland Sanford, J. B. Jermain, Thomas Hillhouse, Isaac Lawson, Joseph M. Lawson, Geo. L. Stedman, John W. McNamara, Dr. Michael Freleigh, Weare C. Little, Charles Van Zandt, are among the well-known natives or long-time residents of this, our oldest town. Hon. Benj. F. Wade was once a teacher in this town, and Rev. William Arthur, father of Chester A. Arthur, taught a boarding school in one of its villages.

WESTERLO was named in honor of Rev. Eilardus Westerlo, a Dutch clergyman, who was pastor of the First Reformed Church in Albany from 1760 to 1790. It was formed from Coeymans and Rensselaerville, March 16, 1815; has an area of 35,976 acres; and is bounded, north by Berne and New Scotland, east by New Scotland and Coeymans, south by Greene County, and west by Rensselaerville.

Its surface is broken and hilly, inclining southerly for the most part. Its valleys are narrow ravines; its ridges are adapted to pasturage. Sand and gravel mixed with muck and clay, lying on hard-pan, form the arable soil. Stone used in field walls is plenty, and flagging stones are taken from several fine quarries. The highest elevation is about 800 feet above sea level.

The leading industry is agriculture, hay being the principal product for the market.

The manufactures are chiefly those demanded by a rural population. There is a cheese factory near Chesterville.

The settlement of the town began before the Revolution. Among the early settlers were Nicholas Stoddard, Rev. Reuben Stanton, Josiah Hinckley, Isaac Winston, Dr. Jonathan Prosser, James Arnold, William Read, Abram Becker, William Haverland, Jacob and Lodowick Haynes. Philip Myers, a native of Germany, came in 1763. Andrew Hannay came from Scotland later. In 1777, inspired by a spirit of patriotism, he raised a company of volunteers and came as far as Albany with them, to join Gen. Gates against Burgoyne, too late for service.

Yankees came into the settlement more freely after the Revolution. The people, as a whole, are remarkable for good habits rural tastes, and domestic virtues.

About 1800 the Baptist Church, at Chesterville, was formed, with Roswell Beckwith, first pastor. About the same time, the Dutch Reformed Church at Van Leuven's Corners was formed.

HISTORY OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

OF ALBANY COUNTY.

EARLY HISTORY.—The office of Supervisor is one of the most ancient town and county offices in this State. It was established, though with ill-defined powers, under what is known as the "Duke's laws," or Laws promulgated soon after the Duke of York acquired the title to the territory embraced in the province of New York—formerly New Netherlands—through the Charter of his royal brother, Charles II.

Under the Duke's Laws the province was methodically laid out into towns and counties, and provisions were made for a Supervisor in each town, whose duty it was to oversee the financial affairs of the towns and counties. Provisions were also made for an annual meeting of all the Supervisors in the county, constituting a Board of Supervisors, with powers to audit the accounts of the County Officers, etc.

At first, as we have seen, the office in this State was confined to the supervision of the finances of the town and county; but, as time went on, its powers and jurisdiction were enlarged, until it became essentially a legislative body—in a word, the legislature of the county, having the same relation to the county that the legislature has to the State, each town in the county occupying the position in regard to the Board of Supervisors that the counties do to the State Legislature.*

*Under the State Laws, a Supervisor is a public officer, charged with certain duties to his town, his county and to the public at large. He is a creature of the Statute Law, and has no powers or rights other than those which the Legislature has expressly conferred upon him, and those which are incident to and necessary for a proper exercise of such express powers and rights. His functions are three fold: First, as a town officer, and which are to be discharged by him either individually or in connection with other town officers; second, as a member of the Board of County Canvassers; third, as a County Officer, and which are to be discharged in connection with the other Supervisors of the county sitting as a board.

One of the remarkable features in its history is the manner in which its local legislative powers have increased. For many years the office was limited to the duties we have described.

On June 19, 1703, the Provincial Legislature or General Assembly passed an act, enlarging the powers and duties of Supervisors, which act was entitled "An Act for the better explaining and more effectually putting in execution the duties of Supervisors and other town officers."

The curious and somewhat significant language of the following preamble to this act exhibits the construction which those early legislatures gave the duties and powers of the office.

PREAMBLE. "Forasmuch as many disputes, cavils, controversies and mistakes have happened and been occasioned as well by the Generality of the Words in a Certain Act of General Assembly, entitled 'An act for defraying of the publick and necessary charge throughout this Province, and for maintaining the poor and preventing Vagabonds,' as many other Omissions and Defects Experience has found and observed in the same Act."

The act provides for the election, by the freehold inhabitants of each town in every county in the Province, of one Supervisor, a freeholder of the town, whose duty—to use the language of the act—

"It shall be to compute, ascertain, examine, oversee and allow the contingent, publick and necessary charge of each County; and also there shall be in each town, manor and precinct, by the freeholders thereof annually chosen, two Assessors and one Collector, which Supervisor, Assessors and Collector shall be annually chose in every town, on the first Tuesday in April.

"The Supervisors so chosen shall meet annually at the county town in each respective county, on the first Tuesday in October, and at such other times as they shall deem necessary to examine and compute all such publick necessary contingent charges as they shall find their respective counties properly chargeable with, and all such sum or sums of money as shall be brought and exhibited before them shall be imposed and laid on the same counties, as provided by the law of the Colony."

Provisions were made for the collection of the said moneys by taxation on the valuation of the real estate in each of the towns in the county, and hence the question of establishing the valuation of the lands in the respective towns early became one of paramount importance.

After the collection of the money, under the provision of the act, it was paid into the hands of the County Treasurer, to be disbursed by that officer very much in the manner in which the county funds are now disbursed by the County Treasurer.

This brings us to consider briefly the office of COUNTY TREASURER, whose duties are largely connected with the Board of Supervisors. This is another very ancient office in the State, one of the first established under the English Colonial laws; indeed, an office quite similar to that of County Treasurer which existed under the Dutch Colonial Government.

The duties of this officer under the act of 1703 differed but very little from those of County Treasurers at the present time. He exhibited to the Supervisors a yearly account of all moneys received and disbursed by him during the year, with a statement of the sources through which he received the money, and the account upon which he disbursed it. He was then, as now, liable to an action at the suit of the Supervisors for any default or miscarriage in the discharge of the duties of his office.

Any Supervisor, Assessor or Collector refusing to act respectively forfeited five pounds, to be recovered by any person delayed, wronged or injured by any such refusal to act.

It will be seen that Assessors and Town Collectors are officers of great antiquity, and the reader of Colonial and State history is surprised that so many of the present State, County and Town officers, with similar powers, existed during the English Colonial Government of the province, notwithstanding the sweeping innovations made by the State Constitution and State laws.

The act of 1703, concerning Supervisors, continued in existence with some slight changes until March 24, 1772, when it was amended, so far as the County of Albany was concerned, to authorize the annual election of Supervisors in that County to take place on the first Tuesday of May. This act also provided for the election in Albany County, at the same time, of TWO OVERSEERS OF THE POOR, *two Constables, two Fence Viewers* and *one Town Clerk.*

The duties of the office of Town Clerk were previously to this discharged by the Supervisor of the Town. None but freeholders could vote for these respective officers. After the adoption of the first State Constitution, the office of Supervisor, and the time of their election was changed by an action of the State legislature, passed March 7, 1788, which provided for the holding of town meetings in the various towns in the State for the choice of Town Officers.

The time for holding these meetings was on the first Tuesday in April of each and every year. At these meetings the following officers were elected in each town: A Supervisor, Town Clerk, one Assessor, Collector, Overseer of the Poor, Commissioners of Highways, Overseer of the Highway or Pathmaster, four Constables, Fence Viewers and Pound-master. By this act the Town of Albany was empowered to elect two Assessors instead of one, as in other counties.

Among the duties imposed by this act on the Board of Supervisors of the County of Albany, and many other counties in the State, but more largely exercised in Albany, was that of overseeing and executing the laws relative to the poor of the county and towns through the Overseers of the Poor elected in the various towns.

The office of Superintendents of the Poor was not then in existence, and never has existed in the County of Albany.

In our history of the Charities of the County and the Executors of the Poor Laws, it will be seen that the ancient office of Overseers of the Poor, with largely increased powers, still exists in the County of Albany. Their powers and duties will be more fully considered hereafter.

The manner in which the powers and duties of the Board of Supervisors have from time to time been enlarged and extended will be described under the head of "Statutory and Legal History of the Board."

There has been considerable litigation in the State concerning the powers and duties of the Supervisors. The case of Downing *vs.* Rugar, reported 21 Wen-

dell, 181, will be read with profit and interest. The office of Supervisor and the duties of Boards of Supervisors continued to be the subject of legislative enactment, varying the duties of the office in minor particulars, down to the adoption of the Revised Statutes by the State Legislature in 1830, by which their powers and duties were greatly enlarged and the Board rendered more emphatically a legislative body, with powers of local legislation, since greatly enlarged.

The powers and duties of Supervisors in regard to the poor and charitable institutions of the County of Albany differ in many respects from those of Supervisors in that regard in other counties of the State. This subject will be more fully considered in another part of this work, in the chapter on PUBLIC CHARITIES, in which the duties of Overseers of the Poor, the Superintendent and Overseers of the Almshouse, and other charitable institutions will be described.

From the foregoing it will easily be seen that the history of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Albany is of the greatest importance, from the fact that it embraces such a variety of historical matter.

STATUTORY AND LEGAL HISTORY OF THE BOARD.

EARLY LEGISLATIVE ACTS.

One of the earliest acts of the Legislature touching the Supervisors of Albany, was an

ACT OF 1792.—An act passed the 11th of April, 1792, made it the duty of one of the judges and one of the Supervisors of the Counties of Columbia, Rensselaer and Saratoga to meet once in every year with the Supervisors and one or more of the judges of the County of Albany for inspecting and examining the mortgages, minutes and accounts of the Loan Officers appointed in the County of Albany. This act was amended on February 25, 1799, rendering it lawful for Supervisors of the County of Albany, or a majority of them, together with one or more of the said judges of the said county, and such of the judges and Supervisors of the other counties as might appear, to perform the duties mentioned in the Act of April, 1792.

ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC LANDS OF COUNTY.—Doubts having arisen upon the operation of conveyances of land, made to the Supervisors of the counties in this State for the use of such counties for public buildings and other county purposes, an act was passed April 25, 1799, vesting in the Supervisors of the counties in this State respectively and their successors such estate in the lands aforesaid, for the purposes aforesaid, as every such conveyance shall import to grant and convey for the uses therein expressed.

This is a very important act, establishing the right of counties, through the respective Boards of Supervisors, to hold lands in fee for court-houses, jails, poor-houses and alms-houses, and other lands to be used for county purposes.

CHANGE OF TIME FOR HOLDING ELECTIONS.—Down to April, 1825, the annual meetings of the Board of Supervisors in the County of Albany were held in April. On April 29, 1825, an act was passed directing that the Supervisors of Albany and some other counties should hold their annual meetings on the Tuesday next after the annual election in each and every year, and at the places before provided for by law for the meeting of the Board of Canvassers for the votes at the annual election in the County of Albany and other counties.

A BOARD OF CANVASS.—It was also enacted that in the County of Albany and some other counties the Board of Canvassers, including the Clerk of said counties or their deputies, should, on the Tuesday next after the annual election, meet at the places where the said respective Boards of Supervisors were in session, and then and there proceed to canvass and certify the votes given at such election in manner provided by the tenth section of the act entitled "An act for regulating Elections," passed April, 1822. The act of April 19, 1825, was afterward substantially extended to all the counties in the State. As may be seen, it made the Board of Supervisors in the County of Albany, as well as in all other counties, except New York, a Board of Canvassers.

APPOINTING POWER.—By the act to which we have referred the Supervisors of Albany County had conferred upon them the power, with the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, of appointing Justices of the Peace, and Commissioners to take the acknowledgment of deeds in the county, and for that purpose they met on the Wednesday next after the annual election in each and every county, in each and every year, at their usual place of meeting.

SITES FOR COUNTY BUILDINGS.—By an Act passed April 16, 1830, the Supervisors of the City and County of Albany were authorized to raise, levy and collect, in four annual installments, on and from the taxable property in said city and county, in the same manner as other county charges are levied and collected, the sum of fifteen thousand dollars, for the purchase of a site and for the erection of a building in the City of Albany for city and county purposes, which sum, to be raised, levied and collected, was to be paid over to the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, to be applied for the purposes aforesaid.

UNISON OF AFFAIRS OF CITY AND COUNTY.—This act shows how closely the municipal affairs of the city and the affairs of the county were united—a unison that has continued, more or less, down to the present time.

By the said act the Supervisors of the City and County were required, in addition to the fifteen thousand dollars, to raise upon the taxable property of the City of Albany alone such sums of money, not exceeding the sum of $40,000, to be applied to the purchase of the site and the erection of a building for city and county purposes. This building was what was known as the *New City Hall.*

Abolishment of the distinction between Town and County Poor, in the City and County of Albany.—A

law abolishing the distinction between town and county poor in the City and County of Albany was passed March 17, 1832. This act made it lawful for the Board of Supervisors of the County of Albany, and the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, to enter into any contract or agreement between them to abolish all distinction between town and county poor in the said city and county, from and after the first day of May then next, and for appropriating the almshouse and farm belonging thereto, in the City of Albany, for the support of all poor in the city and county, transient and resident, and for the allowance of such sum, to be paid to the said city by the county for the use of the same, and for any additional building and appurtenances, as the said Supervisors and the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty may agree upon. The act further provided as follows :

"Every poor person entitled to support, in the City and County of Albany, shall from and after the 1st day of May, 1832, be supported and maintained by the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, at the expense of the county. All such poor persons shall be removed by the Overseers of the Poor of the several towns, and the Overseers of the Poor of the City of Albany, to the said Alms House, at the expense of the several towns and the city; and thereafter the necessary expenses of the removal of any poor person from any town in the county shall be paid on the certificate of the Keeper of the Alms House by the Chamberlain of the City of Albany."

Mayor of Albany to have Charge of Alms House.—It was also provided that the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany should have the charge and care of said Alms House and farm, and of all the said persons who might be removed there for support, and that they should appoint a superintendent and physician, and employ other persons necessary for the management and government of the same. All moneys which should be received by the Commissioners of Excise, and all moneys received by the Overseers of the Poor in their official capacity, were to be paid over to the Chamberlain of the City, for the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty, within thirty days after the receipt thereof.

Temporary Relief for the Poor.—The act provides that temporary relief might be granted to poor persons by the several Overseers of the Poor of the county, not exceeding the sum of ten dollars for any one person or family, without the assent of the Supervisor of the town where such relief is granted, or, if in the City of Albany, without the consent of the Board of Magistrates for the relief and support of the poor of the city. This written consent must accompany the order of the Justice granting such relief, and entitle the overseer to receive any sum paid in pursuance of such order, from the Chamberlain of the city.

City Chamberlain and Supervisors. — It was provided that at the next annual meeting of the Board of Supervisors, after the passage of the said act, and at each annual meeting thereafter, there shall be a general settlement between the Chamberlain of the City and the Board of Supervisors in regard to the disbursements of all moneys connected with the poor, and all other matters connected with the poor of the county.

It was provided that the act to which we have referred should continue in force for five years from the first day of May, 1832. Most of its provisions were retained by subsequent acts for many years, and some of them in a varied form down to the present time. It was one of the most important and practicable acts touching the maintenance of the poor in the county and city, and the management of the Almshouse ever enacted, and it is the first act which fully and equitably abolished the distinction of county and city poor.

Overseers of the Poor.—An act of April 15, 1837, rendered it unnecessary for the Overseers of the Poor to obtain an order from Justices to authorize temporary relief.

Salary of District Attorney.—By the act of February 21, 1840, the Supervisors were empowered to fix the salary of District Attorney. The act of May 14, 1840, fixed the time for the annual meeting of the Board of Supervisors for the first Monday of August of each year. The Board of Supervisors were to cause a corrected assessment roll of each town or ward in the city and county, or a fair copy thereof, to be delivered to the Collector of each town or ward on or before the 15th day of September of each year.

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND THE PENITENTIARY.

The first step taken toward the erection of the Penitentiary in the County of Albany was the act of April 13, 1844, entitled "An Act for the construction of a Penitentiary, and in relation to the relief of the Poor in the County of Albany." We shall refer more at length to this act in another part of this work, in our chapter on Penitentiaries and punitive establishments.

The act directs that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Albany shall cause to be erected, at such place within the limits of the county as shall be directed, a suitable building or buildings for a Penitentiary, for the safe keeping and employment of vagrants, disorderly persons and all prisoners (except in cases of conviction for felony), who shall be sentenced to confinement at hard labor, or to solitary imprisonment, by any Court held in the said county or in the City of Albany.

The act appointed Samuel Pruyn and Barent P. Staats, of the City of Albany, and Louis M. Dayton, of Rensselaerville, in said county, commissioners to select a proper location for the site of the said Penitentiary, with proper grounds to be attached thereto, within six months after the passage of the said law, and to report such location, with a detailed plan for the construction, management and discipline of the Penitentiary, and an estimate of the expenses of the said land for the site, and of the construction thereof, to the Board of Supervisors. Upon the receipt of the said report the Board of Supervisors, with the Mayor and Recorder of the city, associated with the said Board for that purpose, were directed to examine the same and determine thereupon ; and the said Supervisors, Mayor and Recorder were empowered to alter, modify, reduce or increase the site, plan or expense of construction of said Penitentiary, as specified in the plan of said commissioners, in any manner as to them shall seem fit or necessary. The commissioners, at the expiration of ninety days after the making and delivery of said report to the chairman or clerk of the Board, were to procure the lands necessary for the site of the said Penitentiary, and proceed to construct the same at such place and on such plan in all respects as the said Board of Supervisors, the Mayor and Recorder have approved and directed.

The act further empowered the Board of Supervisors to borrow money, on the expense of the county, necessary to

defray all the expenses of procuring the site and completing the erection of the said Penitentiary. The act further empowered the Board of Supervisors to rent of the Common Council of the City of Albany the Almshouse and farm in the said city, together with all the fixtures and appurtenances thereto (the property of the Common Council), upon such terms as could be agreed upon between the said Common Council and the said Board of Supervisors. It also empowered the said Board of Supervisors, and the Mayor and Recorder of the city, by their votes in joint meeting, to let or farm out the aforesaid Almshouse and farm (with all the fixtures and appurtenances thereto), with the inmates therein, for a term of years not exceeding five, and to appoint one or more persons to exercise a supervisory inspecting and directing power over the general treatment, fare and well-being of the paupers. The Supervisors, Mayor and Recorder were directed to make such rules and regulations in relation to temporary relief to the poor, by the Overseers of the Poor in the city, and in the several towns in the said county, as they shall deem expedient. They also regulate the salaries of the Overseers of the Poor, look to the payment of physicians, council fees relating to the poor—in cases relating to the poor accruing in the said city.

(The foregoing prescribes the duties assigned the Supervisors touching the erection of the Penitentiary. It is another important instance in which the interests of the city and county are intimately united. The directions as to the management, etc., of the Penitentiary will be considered elsewhere.)

This act of April 13, 1844, was amended by an act passed May 13, 1847. The Penitentiary had then been located and erected in the City of Albany, and had been the receptacle of prisoners for over one year and a half. The amendment to which we have alluded, therefore, referred to the convicts in the said Penitentiary, their government and management, etc.

ANOTHER ACT IN REGARD TO THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY.—The act of 1849 repealed the law directing the Board of Supervisors to fix the fees of District Attorneys. About that time, that office was a salaried office, the salary being fixed by the Board of Supervisors.

ALTERATION OF TOWN BOUNDARIES.—The duties of the Legislature in regard to the alteration of town boundaries and the erection of new towns had increased to such an enormous extent that the matter of vesting in the Board of Supervisors certain legislative powers began to be largely agitated in the State. This agitation culminated on April 3, 1849, in an act entitled

"An Act to vest in the Board of Supervisors certain legislative powers, and to prescribe their fees for certain services."

Section 1 of the act empowers the Board of Supervisors to alter the town boundaries upon the application to the Board of at least twelve freeholders of the town, and, with *Sec. 2*, prescribes the necessary steps to be taken in regard to the alteration of boundaries or the erection of new towns.

Sec. 3 authorizes them to name the new town, and under what circumstances the new name shall be given.

Sec. 4, with fourteen subdivisions thereto, authorizes the Supervisor to purchase lands on which to erect poor-houses; to purchase any real estate necessary for the erection of any court-house, jail, Clerk's or Surrogate's office, poorhouse, or any other county buildings, and to erect such buildings; to fix the site of any such building; to authorize the sale or leasing of any real estate belonging to the county; to remove or designate a new site for any county building when such a removal shall not exceed one mile; to raise money by tax for the erection of such buildings, not exceeding the sum of $5,000 in any one year; to borrow money for the use of such county, to be expended in the purchase of real estate or the erection of public buildings; to authorize any town in a county, by a vote of such town, to borrow any sum of money, not exceeding $4,000 in one year, to build or repair any roads or bridges in such town, and to prescribe the time for the payment of the same, which shall be within ten years, and for assessing the principle and interest thereof upon such town; to fix the time and place for holding their annual meeting; to extend and determine, by resolution at their annual meeting, the time when each collector in the county shall make return to the county treasurer; but such time shall in no case extend beyond the first day of March then next.

To make laws, and to provide for the enforcement of the same, for the destruction of wild beasts, thistles and other noxious weeds; to prevent the injury and destruction of sheep by dogs, and to levy and enforce the collection of any tax upon dogs, and to direct the application of such tax; to provide for the protection of all kinds of game; of shell and other fish within the waters of their respective counties.

This section repealed all laws of this State then existing in relation to preserving or destroying and taking wild beasts or birds, fish and shellfish, which repeal took place on the first day of January, 1850.

COUNTY OFFICERS TO REPORT CONCERNING SALARY.—An important feature of this act required any officer of Albany County and other counties, whose salary is to be paid by the county, to make a report under oath, to the Supervisor of the county, on any subject or matter whatever connected with the duties of their office; and to make such report whenever called upon by resolution of any such board. A neglect or refusal on the part of any such officer was made a misdemeanor. Provisions are made in the said act for loaning money from the Comptroller, by towns, on the execution by the Supervisor of such towns. The act established the following FEES FOR SUPERVISORS:

Each Supervisor shall receive, over and above the per diem compensation now allowed by law, eight cents per mile for all necessary travel in the discharge of his official duties, and three cents for each name (for making a copy of the assessment roll of his town, and making out the tax bill to be delivered to the collector) for the first hundred names, two cents per name for the second hundred names, and one cent per name for each name over two hundred. But no per diem allowance shall be made to any Supervisor while employed in making out such copy or tax.

SUPERVISOR A SALARIED OFFICER.—An important act touching the office of Supervisor in the County of Albany was passed, April 13, 1857; it made it a salaried office, and regulated the compensation of the clerk. We give the act entire:

Section 1. Every Supervisor elected for any town or Supervisor district in the County of Albany shall receive, as a compensation for his services and expenses as such Supervisor, a salary as such Supervisor of one hundred dollars per annum, besides the travel fees now allowed by law; and no such Supervisor shall be paid or shall receive any other or greater sum than as herein provided for any services or expenses as such Supervisor, or as an agent or committee of the Board of Supervisors of said county.

Sec. 2. It shall not be lawful for the Board of Supervisors of said county to pay for the services of any clerk or clerks of the said Board a greater amount in the aggregate than the sum of five hundred dollars in any one year.

Sec. 3. No member of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Albany shall vote for any extra allowance to any person who is paid by salary; nor shall the Treasurer of said county knowingly pay to any such person any extra allowance. Every offense against the provisions of this section shall be a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not less than the amount of such extra allowance, or by imprisonment in the county jail for a period not exceeding six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Sec. 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

By the act of April 15, 1859, the Supervisors of each ward of the City of Albany are directed to be elected at the Charter election held upon the second Tuesday of April of each year. The act repeals all other laws inconsistent therewith.

SALARY OF SUPERVISORS.—The Act of May 3, 1871, fixed the salary of the Supervisors of Albany County, in the following language :

Sec. 1. Every Supervisor hereafter to be elected for any town or ward in the County of Albany shall receive as a compensation for his service and expenses as such Supervisor a salary of three hundred and fifty dollars per annum, besides travel fees now allowed by law; and no such Supervisor shall be paid or shall receive any other or greater sum than is herein provided for any services or expenses as such Supervisor or as an agent or Committee of the Board of Supervisors of said County, except for copying assessment books, for which the Supervisor of the town of Watervliet shall receive not to exceed the sum of seventy-five dollars, and the Supervisors of the remaining towns and wards of the County not to exceed twenty-five dollars each.

Sec. 2. Every offense against the provisions of the above section shall be a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than fifty nor more than five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the County jail for a period not exceeding six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

AMENDMENT OF ABOVE ACT.—The Legislature passed an act June 7, 1875, amending section 1 of the act in relation to the salary of Supervisors of Albany County above described, so as to read as follows :

SUPERVISORS' COMPENSATION.

Every Supervisor hereafter to be elected for any town or ward in the County of Albany shall receive as a compensation for his services and expenses as such Supervisor a salary of three hundred and fifty dollars per annum, besides travel fees now allowed by law; and no Supervisor shall be paid or shall receive any other or greater sum than is herein provided for any services or expenses as such Supervisor, or as an agent or Committee of the Board of Supervisors of said County, except for copying and extending assessment books, for which the Supervisor of the town of Watervliet shall receive not to exceed the sum of seventy-five dollars, and the Supervisors of the remaining towns and the City of Cohoes not to exceed twenty-five dollars each. The work of copying and extending the assessment books of the several wards of the City of Albany shall be hereafter done by the assessors of the said City of Albany, who shall be paid for such work not to exceed in all the sum of twenty-five dollars for each ward in said city.

FURTHER POWERS OF LOCAL LEGISLATION.—We have already referred to the powers of local legislation of Boards of Supervisors, by an act of the Legislature, passed June 7, 1875. Further powers of local legislation and administration were conferred on the Boards of Supervisors in the several counties of this State, except in cities whose boundaries are the same as those of the county, to make and administer within their respective counties laws and regulations as follows:

To purchase, or otherwise acquire for the use of the county, real estate for sites for court houses, clerks' offices, and other buildings for county offices, and for jails and such other places of confinement as may be authorized or required by law; to borrow money on county bonds, or other county obligations, for a period not exceeding fifteen years, to be paid in annual installments, for the purposes specified in this subdivision; but in all cases where a supposed issue of county bonds shall, with the amount of bonds issued under any previous authority and still outstanding, exceed the sum of $1,000, no additional issue shall be authorized, except in the Counties of Albany, Erie and Kings, unless by the consent of a majority of all the electors voting on the question; to change the location of county buildings, and to sell or apply to other county uses the old sites and buildings in cases where the location may be changed, and to apply the proceeds toward the payment of obligations incurred for new sites and buildings, and subject to Section 15, Art. 6, of the constitution; to fix the salaries and per diem allowance of county officers, whose compensation may be a county charge and which shall not be changed during the term of such officers respectively, and to prescribe the mode of appointment and to fix the number, grades and pay of the deputies, clerks and subordinate employees in such offices; to authorize the location and construction of any bridge (except on the Hudson River below Waterford, and on the East River or over the waters forming the boundaries of the State) which shall be applied for in any of the towns jointly, or by any corporation in form pursuant to the general laws of the State, or by any corporation or individual for private purposes; and in case of a public bridge erected by a corporation, to establish the rates of toll collected for crossing such bridge. Where any bridge crosses any navigable stream or water, a suitable draw must be erected to prevent any impeding of the navigation in such stream or water, and in case of a private bridge the draw shall be kept open to permit all vessels to pass without loss of headway. Where any bridge shall be on any stream or water forming at the point of crossing the dividing line of counties, the action of the Board of Supervisors of each county shall be necessary to give the jurisdiction permitted by the act; to apportion the expenses of bridges over streams or other water forming boundary line of counties, and in all such counties shall each pay not less than one-sixth of the expenses of such bridge. If the bridge is of great benefit to the county, and the payment of two-thirds of the expenses by the towns liable would be unjust to the towns, the Supervisors shall determine the additional proportion, and what proportion of such expenses to be borne by the counties; to direct that the care of the bridges, the maintenance of which are a joint charge on the counties; to authorize the towns to borrow money for bridge purposes. The Supervisors have powers, under certain conditions, over plank, macadamized or turnpike roads, and over streets and avenues in territories adjoining a city; to lay out highways of a less width than is required by law, and of reducing highways now in existence; to cause surveys to be made, at the cost of the town, of any and all highways in such town, and to make a complete and systematic record thereof, and to cause records to be placed with the Town Clerk; to authorize the County Treasurer to extend the time for collection of State, county and town taxes in any town or ward, to a period not beyond the first day of April in any year, under certain conditions ; to impose taxes on dogs ; to direct the payment by Justices of the Peace of all fines and penalties imposed by and paid to such Justices; to enact laws for the preservation of game and fish; to direct the employment of offenders below the grade of felons; to establish the jail limits of the county jails for the purposes defined by statutes ; to call and hold special town-meetings ; to authorize any town, under certain conditions, to purchase a site for a town or village hall, and to purchase or erect buildings for such a hall, and to raise money for the care, preservation and improvement of such halls ; to authorize any incorporated village, under certain conditions, whose charter does not give sufficient power, to purchase apparatus for the extinguishing of fire, etc., etc.; to give the proper authorities general power over village or town cemetery lots ; to authorize any town which shall make application therefor, by the vote of an annual town meeting, to elect a receiver instead of a collector of taxes, whenever the aggregate of State, county and town taxes in such town shall exceed the sum of fifty thousand dollars ; to authorize the annual town meetings and all special town meetings in a town to be held by election districts; to designate, under conditions, the number of Assessors in each town, and to increase the compensation to an amount not exceeding three dollars per diem ; to authorize Trustees of Boards of Education, in any union free school district established according to law, to sell or exchange real estate; to determine after the 15th of November, 1875—except in the County of Kings—in what newspapers, not exceeding two, the election notice issued by the Secretary of State, and the official canvass, shall be published, and to fix the compensation for such publication; but in places where publication shall be ordered to be made in two newspapers, such papers shall be of opposite political character.

EXTENDING THE TERM OF SUPERVISORS.—The act of May 14, 1878, provides that the Supervisors of the several towns and wards in cities, in the Counties of Albany, Livingston, Rensselaer and Monroe, shall be elected and hold office for a term of two years; it is also provided that all acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act, so far as the same applies to the County of Albany, are repealed; and the said act took effect at the first election in 1879.

CLAIMS AGAINST THE COUNTY.—A very important act in relation to the powers and duties of the Board of Supervisors of Albany County was passed by the Legislature, May 14, 1881. This act was in reference to claims and demands against the County of Albany, making it necessary to have all such claims passed upon by the Board of Supervisors, and that all claims presented to the Board in the form of accounts must be itemized and verified, and after being presented to the Clerk of the Board they are to be printed under the direction of the said Clerk, at an expense not exceeding the ordinary price for such work, and distributed under his direction to each member of the Board within eight days after such accounts have been presented. No claim or demand against the county of the above character shall be in any manner acted upon by the Board (except to refer the same to an appropriate committee for examination and report) until three days after such account has been printed and distributed as required. It is a misdemeanor to neglect the directions aforesaid.

"The account," continues the act, "must state when and where the work was performed and material furnished, under what contract or under what authority it was performed and the materials furnished; and must state, with reasonable detail, the character and amount of the work done, and the materials furnished. It must contain the name of each person interested in the same, or who makes any claim to any share or portion of the sum to be paid."

VERIFICATION.—It must be verified by one, at least, of the parties in whose name the same is presented, and must be to the effect that the same is presented in the name or names of the real party or parties in interest, and that the contract was not made, or the work performed, or materials furnished, in the name of one person for the interest of another; and that no county officer, or member of any board or commission of the county or salaried employee thereof, is or has been, directly or indirectly, interested therein, either in the doing of the work or furnishing the material, or has been paid or promised anything for the letting of the contract; that the work, as charged, was actually done, and the material specified was actually furnished and used at the time and places mentioned, and are of the value charged, or at the prices specified in the contract; that no bill has been presented nor claim made therefor, for the payment of such work or materials, or for any part or item of such work or materials, except as therein stated; and if such bill has been theretofore presented, or such claim has been theretofore made for the whole, or any part thereof, it shall be stated to whom or what board, body or commission it was presented or made, the time or times thereof, and the action of such person, board, body or commission thereon, and when such action was taken.

In no county of the State is the law touching the presentation and payment of claims to the Board of Supervisors more strictly or more properly guarded than in Albany County.

BLANKS FOR VERIFICATION.—The Clerk of the Board prepares a printed blank form of verification, to be approved by the District Attorney, gratuitously to all persons demanding the same.

PROCEEDINGS TO BE PRINTED.—The proceedings of the Board of Supervisors must be printed and distributed under the direction of the clerk within the time mentioned for the printing and distribution of the aforesaid accounts.

PAYMENT OF TEN DOLLARS.—Upon payment of ten dollars to the County Treasurer of the county any tax-payer may have for one year a printed copy of the proceedings of the Board, and of the printed bills as they are from time to time distributed, and at the times above described for their delivery to the members of the Board, delivered to him at some place to be designated by him, and within one-quarter of a mile from the place where the Board holds its meetings.

PERSONS EXEMPTED.—None of the provisions of this act shall be held to effect the salaries of county officers, or the mode or manner in which payment is made, nor the wages of the laborers of the City of Albany. None of the provisions of this act shall apply to the employment of counsel to aid the District Attorney in any legal matters in which the county is interested when such employment is by authority of law.

EXTENDING POWERS OF LOCAL LEGISLATION.—The act of 1875, conferring on Boards of Supervisors further local powers of legislation and administration, and regulating the compensation of Supervisors, was amended by an act of the Legislature, passed April 10, 1882; but the Counties of Albany, New York, Rensselaer, Kings, Oneida and Erie were exempted from the amendments of that act.

SUPERVISORS AND DISTRICT ATTORNEYS.

The act of May 22, 1882, empowers the District Attorney of any county in which a capital case is to be tried, with the approval in writing of the County Judge of the county, which shall first be filed in the County Clerk's office, to employ counsel to assist him on such trials, at the cost and expense of the county, after being audited by the Board of Supervisors of the county in which the indictment on the case was found; and the amount shall be assessed, levied and collected by the Board of Supervisors of such county at its next annual assessment, levy and collection of county taxes after such services shall have been performed, and thereupon paid to the party entitled to the same.

COUNTY BUILDINGS.—Some of the provisions of the act of April 3, 1849, are modified by the act of May 28, 1884 (as well as some acts previous to this date), especially in that it requires

Detailed statements to be made and proposals for doing work and furnishing goods for any county buildings. It directs the form of the proposals, and that they shall be presented to the County Treasurer; defines the duties of the County Treasurer touching the same, and in case he shall refuse to order the materials to be furnished, or the work to be done, under any of the proposals, on the grounds that the work is unnecessary, or that its expense is not a county charge, or that he has reason to believe that any fraud is being practiced upon the county connected with it, he shall give the county officer or person making the requisition, and also to any tax-payer filing with him written objections to his granting an order for work or materials, written notice, of a time and place within ten days after receiving the requisition, when the matter will be brought to the attention of the County Judge. The act then defines the duties of the County Judge as to hearing the matter and things connected therewith and the time and place of hearing and

within what time his order or decision in the matter shall be made, and provides for an appeal to the General Term of the Supreme Court from his order or judgment.

It defines the duties of officers having charge of county buildings in the County of Albany, in regard to the work of superintending repairs or alterations to be made by them on such buildings. It renders it obligatory on him to superintend such work. It defines the duties of the treasurer of Albany County in regard to the payment of bills for such work; and if the treasurer refuses to pay any bill for furnishing material or doing such work, under the provisions of this act, the parties not paid may present their account to the Board of Supervisors of the County in the form and manner, and with the verifications required by the law we have already quoted, a verified claim thereof, attaching thereto a copy of the detailed statement made in respect thereto, etc., etc.

EXPENSE LIMITED BY ACT.—No expense exceeding two hundred dollars in amount shall be incurred during any one period of six months, from January first or July first, in any year, for any one alteration or repair, or for alterations or repairs of the same character to or in connection with any one building, or except for fuel, or any materials, or supplies of the same general character or class, to or in connection with the use of any one building, unless it shall have been previously authorized by a Board of Supervisors of the County of Albany.

The act makes strong regulations in regard to any stationery or printing of any kind, including blank forms used in the Surrogate's and District Attorney's offices.

It directs that the salaries of the Members of the Board of Supervisors of Albany County shall be paid, one-half thereof on December first in each year, and the other half at the time of final adjournment *sine die*, every fall session of said Board. It also directs that the provisions of the act shall not apply to the Penitentiary, Almshouse, the City Hall in the City of Albany, or to the care, repairs, alterations or management thereof.

We have now given the statutory and legal history of the Board of Supervisors of Albany County. In it will be found, substantially, all the important acts of the Legislature concerning the powers and duties of these Supervisors from the organization of the State Government down to the present time. It is interesting to observe how those powers and duties gradually extended and widened out from a mere Board of County and Town Audit into a legislative body which has taken from the State Legislature a very large part of its powers to enact local laws touching towns in the County. These powers having been conferred upon the Board of Supervisors from time to time.

Owing to the loss and partial destruction of many of the records containing the proceedings of the Board of Supervisors, we have found it very difficult and in some cases impossible, to prepare a connected history of its proceedings. We find but little history of the Supervisors, from the adoption of the first Constitution to 1818. We are only able to give a list of the Supervisors from that period to 1861. From that time we are enabled to give a condensed history of the proceedings of the Board down to and including 1884.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE SEVERAL BOARDS FROM THE YEAR 1818 TO 1860, INCLUSIVE.

1818.

City	First ward	George Shepard.
	Second ward	John Van Schaick.
	Third ward	Nicholas Bleecker.
	Fourth ward	
	Fifth ward	Isaac Fryer.
Towns	Berne	John Jost Dietz.
	Bethlehem	Moses De Long.
	Coeymans	Archibald Stevens.
	Guilderland	William McKown.
	Rensselaerville	Asa Colvard.
	Watervliet	John Schuyler, Jr.
	Westerlo	

John Schuyler, Jr., Moderator.

1819.

City	First ward	George Shepard.
	Second ward	John Van Schaick.
	Third ward	Nicholas Bleecker.
	Fourth ward	Peter Boyd.
	Fifth ward	Jno. N. Quackenbush.
Towns	Berne	Gideon Taber.
	Bethlehem	David Burhans.
	Coeymans	John N. Huyck.
	Guilderland	William McKown.
	Rensselaerville	Eli Hutchinson.
	Watervliet	John Schuyler, Jr.
	Westerlo	William Wheeler.

John Schuyler, Jr., Moderator.

1820.

City	First ward	James La Grange.
	Second ward	Isaac Hamilton.
	Third ward	Nicholas Bleecker.
	Fourth ward	Benjamin Knower.
	Fifth ward	Isaac I. Fryer.
Towns	Berne	Gideon Taber.
	Bethlehem	David Burhans.
	Coeymans	John N. Huyck.
	Guilderland	William McKown.
	Rensselaerville	Eli Hutchinson.
	Watervliet	John Schuyler, Jr.
	Westerlo	Sylvester Ford.

John Schuyler, Jr., Moderator.

1821.

City	First ward	Jesse Buel.
	Second ward	Isaac Hamilton.
	Third ward	Nicholas Bleecker.
	Fourth ward	Alexander Davidson.
	Fifth ward	Jno. N. Quackenbush.
Towns	Berne	Malachi Whipple.
	Bethlehem	Henry L. Mead.
	Coeymans	John N. Huyck,
	Guilderland	William McKown.
	Rensselaerville	Eli Hutchinson.
	Watervliet	John Schuyler, Jr.
	Westerlo	Moses Smith.

John Schuyler, Jr., Moderator.

1822.

City	First ward	John J. Ostrander.
	Second ward	Isaac Hamilton.
	Third ward	Nicholas Bleecker.
	Fourth ward	Alexander Davidson.
	Fifth ward	Jno. N. Quackenbush.
Towns	Berne	Jesse Wood.
	Bethlehem	William N. Sill.
	Coeymans	Israel Shear.
	Guilderland	William McKown.
	Knox	Malachi Whipple.
	Rensselaerville	Nathaniel Rider.
	Watervliet	John Schuyler, Jr.
	Westerlo	Thomas Smith.

John Schuyler, Jr., Moderator.

1823.

City	First ward	Isaac Denniston.
	Second ward	John F. Bacon.
	Third ward	Nicholas Bleecker.
	Fourth ward	William Mayell.
	Fifth ward	Jno. N. Quackenbush.
Towns	Berne	Jesse Wood.
	Bethlehem	William N. Sill.
	Coeymans	Israel Shear.

Towns ...	Guilderland	William McKown.
	Knox	Malachi Whipple.
	Rensselaerville	Nathaniel Rider.
	Watervliet	John Schuyler, Jr.
	Westerlo	D. J. D. Verplanck.

John Schuyler, Jr., Moderator.

1824.

City	First ward	James McKown.
	Second ward	Isaac Hamilton.
	Third ward	Teunis Van Vechten.
	Fourth ward	William Mayell.
	Fifth ward	Jno. N. Quackenbush.
Towns...	Berne	Stephen Willes.
	Bethlehem	William N. Sill.
	Coeymans	Israel Shear.
	Guilderland	William McKown.
	Knox	Malachi Whipple.
	Rensselaerville	Isaac Gardiner.
	Watervliet	Lucas G. Whitbeck.
	Westerlo	D. J. D. Verplanck.

Teunis Van Vechten, Moderator.

1825.

City	First ward	James McKown.
	Second ward	Isaac Hamilton.
	Third ward	Nicholas Bleecker.
	Fourth ward	Peter Bain.
	Fifth ward	Jno. N. Quackenbush.
Towns....	Berne	James D. Gardiner.
	Bethlehem	William N. Sill.
	Coeymans	Israel Shear.
	Guilderland	George Batterman.
	Knox	Erastus Williams.
	Rensselaerville	Joshua Gardiner.
	Watervliet	Lucas G. Whitbeck.
	Westerlo	Moses Smith.

John N. Quackenbush, Moderator.

1826.

City	First ward	James McKown.
	Second ward	Isaac Hamilton.
	Third ward	Nicholas Bleecker.
	Fourth ward	William Mayell.
	Fifth ward	Jno. N. Quackenbush.
Towns....	Berne	James D. Gardiner.
	Bethlehem	Matthew Bullock.
	Coeymans	Abraham Verplanck.
	Guilderland	George Batterman.
	Knox	Egbert Schoonmaker.
	Rensselaerville	Wheeler Watson.
	Watervliet	Lucas G. Whitbeck.
	Westerlo	Henry Peers.

James McKown, Moderator.

1827.

City	First ward	Barent P. Staats.
	Second ward	Isaac Hamilton.
	Third ward	Nicholas Bleecker.
	Fourth ward	William Mayell.
	Fifth ward	Jno. N. Quackenbush.
Towns....	Berne	Chester Willis.
	Bethlehem	Matthew Bullock.
	Coeymans	Abraham Verplanck.
	Guilderland	George Batterman.
	Knox	Egbert Schoonmaker.
	Rensselaerville	Wheeler Watson.
	Watervliet	Francis Lansing.
	Westerlo	Henry Peers.

John N. Quackenbush, Moderator.

1828.

City	First ward	Barent P. Staats.
	Second ward	William Seymour.
	Third ward	Nicholas Bleecker.
	Fourth ward	William Mayell.
	Fifth ward	Jno. N. Quackenbush.
Towns....	Berne	Henry H. Lawson.
	Bethlehem	Gerrit Hogan.
	Coeymans	Abraham Verplanck.
	Guilderland	George Batterman.
	Knox	Egbert Schoonmaker.
	Rensselaerville	Joseph Connor.
	Watervliet	Francis Lansing.
	Westerlo	Thomas Jenks.

John N. Quackenbush, Moderator.

1829.

City	First ward	Barent P. Staats.
	Second ward	William Seymour.
	Third ward	Nicholas Bleecker.
	Fourth ward	Joseph Alexander.
	Fifth ward	Jno. N. Quackenbush.
Towns....	Berne	Albert Gallup.
	Bethlehem	James Alexander.
	Coeymans	Andrew Whitbeck.
	Guilderland	George Batterman.
	Knox	Egbert Schoonmaker.
	Rensselaerville	Joseph Connor.
	Watervliet	Francis Lansing.
	Westerlo	Thomas Jenks.

John N. Quackenbush, Moderator.

1830.

City	First ward	Barent P. Staats.
	Second ward	Josiah Winants.
	Third ward	Nicholas Bleecker.
	Fourth ward	Stephen Fowler.
	Fifth ward	Jno. N. Quackenbush.
Towns	Berne	Henry H. Lawson.
	Bethlehem	James Alexander.
	Coeymans	Andrew Whitbeck.
	Guilderland	George Batterman.
	Knox	Egbert Schoonmaker.
	Rensselaerville	John Niles.
	Watervliet	Francis Lansing.
	Westerlo	Peter Onderdonk.

John N. Quackenbush, Chairman.

1831.

City	First ward	Barent P. Staats.
	Second ward	William Seymour.
	Third ward	Nicholas Bleecker.
	Fourth ward	Lemuel Steele.
	Fifth ward	Robert Shepard.
Towns	Berne	Malachi Whipple.
	Bethlehem	Leonard G. Ten Eyck.
	Coeymans	Andrew Whitbeck.
	Guilderland	Aaron Livingston.
	Knox	Egbert Schoonmaker.
	Rensselaerville	John Niles.
	Watervliet	Francis Lansing.
	Westerlo	Charles Hyndman.

Nicholas Bleecker, Chairman.

In this year Supervisor Staats made a motion that the Board should agree to a resolution, with a recital, which was read and unanimously agreed to, and is in the words following, to wit:

Whereas, James Van Ingen, the present Clerk of this Board, was appointed to that office on the 6th day of October, 1807, in the room of Jacob Bleecker, Jr., Esq., deceased, and has unanimously continued as Clerk ever since his appointment, and has uniformly given satisfaction to the several Boards of Supervisors whose Clerk he has been; therefore,

Resolved, That the said James Van Ingen be continued as Clerk to this Board for the current year.

1832.

City	First ward	Barent P. Staats.
	Second ward	John I. Burton.
	Third ward	Nicholas Bleecker.
	Fourth ward	Samuel S. Fowler.
	Fifth ward	Jno. N. Quackenbush.
Towns....	Berne	Malachi Whipple.
	Bethlehem	Leonard G. Ten Eyck.
	Coeymans	Henry Niles.

Towns....	Guilderland	Aaron Livingston.
	Knox	Frederick Bassler, Jr.
	Rensselaerville	Nathaniel Rider.
	Watervliet	Francis Lansing.
	Westerlo	Charles Hyndman.

John N. Quackenbush, Chairman.
Thomas W. Harmon, Clerk.

1833.

City	First ward	Barent P. Staats.
	Second ward	John I. Burton.
	Third ward	Egbert Egberts.
	Fourth ward	Samuel S. Fowler.
	Fifth ward	Jno.N. Quackenbush.
Towns	Berne	Daniel Simmons.
	Bethlehem	William N. Sill.
	Coeymans	Henry Niles.
	Guilderland	Chris. Batterman.
	Knox	Frederick Bassler, Jr.
	New Scotland	James Reid.
	Rensselaerville	Nathaniel Rider.
	Watervliet	John C. Schuyler.
	Westerlo	Anthony Miller.

John N. Quackenbush, Chairman.

1834.

City	First ward	Angus McDuffie.
	Second ward	Ichabod L. Judson.
	Third ward	Egbert Egberts.
	Fourth ward	Daniel Wilcox.
	Fifth ward	John Van Ness, Jr.
Towns	Berne	Lawrence Van Duzen.
	Bethlehem	Leonard G. Ten Eyck.
	Coeymans	Henry Niles.
	Guilderland	Chris. Batterman.
	Knox	Frederick Bassler.
	New Scotland	James Reid.
	Rensselaerville	Charles L. Mulford.
	Watervliet	John C. Schuyler.
	Westerlo	Anthony Miller.

Leonard G. Ten Eyck, Chairman.
Heman C. Whelpley, Clerk.

1835.

City	First ward	Stephen Paddock.
	Second ward	John I. Burton.
	Third ward	Egbert Egberts.
	Fourth ward	Samuel S. Fowler.
	Fifth ward	Robert Shepard.
Towns	Berne	James G. Gardner.
	Bethlehem	Daniel Springsteed.
	Coeymans	Cornelius Vanderzee.
	Guilderland	Chris. Batterman.
	Knox	Frederick Bassler.
	New Scotland	James Reid.
	Rensselaerville	Charles L. Mulford.
	Watervliet	John C. Schuyler.
	Westerlo	David Wooster.

Samuel S. Fowler, Chairman. Calvin Pepper, Clerk.

1836.

City	First ward	Stephen Paddock.
	Second ward	John I. Burton.
	Third ward	Egbert Egberts.
	Fourth ward	Peter P. Staats.
	Fifth ward	Jno. N. Quackenbush.
Towns...	Berne	Moses Patten.
	Bethlehem	James B. Wands.
	Coeymans	Cornelius Van Derzee.
	Guilderland	Chris. Batterman.
	Knox	Frederick Bassler.
	Rensselaerville	James Reid.
	Watervliet	John C. Schuyler.
	Westerlo	David Wooster.

John N. Quackenbush, Chairman.

1837.

City	First ward	Chris. W. Bender.
	Second ward	Hazael Kane.
	Third ward	Friend Humphrey.
	Fourth ward	Peter P. Staats.
	Fifth ward	Harman V. Hart.
Towns ..	Berne	Moses Patten.
	Bethlehem	James B. Wands.
	Coeymans	Cornelius Van Derzee.
	Guilderland	Chris. Batterman.
	Knox	Frederick Bassler.
	New Scotland	James Reid.
	Rensselaerville	Samuel Niles.
	Watervliet	John C. Schuyler.
	Westerlo	William Bentley.

Christopher Batterman, Chairman.
Calvin Pepper, Jr., Clerk.

1838.

City.....	First ward	Chris. W. Bender.
	Second ward	Hazael Kane.
	Third ward	Friend Humphrey.
	Fourth ward	Charles A. Keeler.
	Fifth ward	Giles Sandford.
Towns....	Berne	Moses Patten.
	Bethlehem	Joshua F. Babcock.
	Coeymans	Jonas Shear.
	Guilderland	Chris. Batterman.
	Knox	Egbert Schoonmaker.
	New Scotland	James Reid.
	Rensselaerville	Louis M. Dayton.
	Watervliet	Jeremiah Schuyler.
	Westerlo	William Bentley.

Christopher Batterman, Chairman.
Calvin Pepper, Jr., Clerk.

1839.

City.....	First ward	Chris. W. Bender.
	Second ward	William Newton.
	Third ward	George Dexter.
	Fourth ward	Henry Greene.
	Fifth ward	Giles Sandford.
Towns....	Berne	John Warner.
	Bethlehem	Joshua F. Babcock.
	Coeymans	Jonas Shear.
	Guilderland	Chris. Batterman.
	Knox	Egbert Schoonmaker.
	New Scotland	Aaron Van Schaick.
	Rensselaerville	Louis M. Dayton
	Watervliet	Gilbert I. Van Zandt.
	Westerlo	Zelum Hitchcock.

Christopher Batterman, Chairman.

1840.

City.....	First ward	Chris. W. Bender.
	Second ward	William Newton.
	Third ward	George Dexter.
	Fourth ward	Henry Greene.
	Fifth ward	Daniel D. Shaw.
Towns....	Berne	Jacob Settle.
	Bethlehem	Abner Udell.
	Coeymans	Jonas Shear.
	Guilderland	Henry Sloan.
	Knox	Potter Gage.
	New Scotland	Aaron Van Schaick.
	Rensselaerville	Joseph Connor.
	Watervliet	Gilbert I. Van Zandt.
	Westerlo	Zelum Hitchcock.

Christopher W. Bender, Chairman.
Calvin Pepper, Jr., Clerk.

1841.

City.....	First and Second wards	Andrew Moore.
	Third ward	Chris. W. Bender.
	Fourth ward	Horace Meech.
	Fifth ward	George Dexter.
	Sixth ward	Samuel Pruyn.
	Seventh ward	Daniel D. Shaw.
	Eighth ward	James A. Putnam.
	Ninth and Tenth wards	John D. Livingston.
Towns....	Berne	Jacob Settle.
	Bethlehem	Abner Udell.

Towns....	Coeymans	Garret Whitbeck.
	Guilderland	Henry Sloan.
	Knox	Potter Gage.
	New Scotland	William Murphy.
	Rensselaerville	Benjamin E. Mackey.
	Watervliet	Gilbert I. Van Zandt.
	Westerlo	Fred. H. Rosekrantz.

Christopher W. Bender, Chairman.
C. J. Cuyler, Clerk.

1842.

City.....	First and Second wards	Andrew Moore.
	Third ward	W. J. Fryer.
	Fourth ward	Horace Meech.
	Fifth ward	Elisha W. Skinner.
	Sixth ward	Samuel Pruyn.
	Seventh ward	Daniel D. Shaw.
	Eighth ward	W. B. Stanton.
	Ninth and Tenth wards	George Traver.
Towns....	Berne	Henry I. Devoe.
	Bethlehem	And. Vanderheyden.
	Coeymans	Garret Whitbeck.
	Guilderland	Peter Shaver.
	New Scotland	William Murphy.
	Knox	Alexander Crounse.
	Rensselaerville	Benjamin E. Mackey.
	Watervliet	Gilbert I. Van Zandt.
	Westerlo	Fred. H. Rosekrantz.

Gilbert I. Van Zandt, Chairman.
Jacob M. Shuttle, Clerk.

1843.

City.....	First and Second wards	John McEvoy.
	Third ward	Stephen Van Schaick.
	Fourth ward	Levi Chapman.
	Fifth ward	Elisha W. Skinner.
	Sixth ward	Samuel Pruyn.
	Seventh ward	David Martin.
	Eighth ward	Heman A. Fay.
	Ninth and Tenth wards	William H. Bender.
Towns....	Berne	Henry I. Devoe.
	Bethlehem	And. Vanderheyden.
	Coeymans	Garret Whitbeck.
	Guilderland	Peter Shaver.
	Knox	Alexander Crounse.
	New Scotland	William Murphy.
	Rensselaerville	James G. Clark.
	Watervliet	Gilbert I. Van Zandt.
	Westerlo	Abram Griffin.

Gilbert I. Van Zandt, Chairman.
Joseph P. Sigsbee, Clerk.

1844.

City.....	First ward	John McEvoy.
	Second ward	Peter P. Staats.
	Third ward	Charles A. De Forest.
	Fourth ward	Horace Meech.
	Fifth ward	William Thorburn.
	Sixth ward	Samuel Pruyn.
	Seventh ward	George W. Welch.
	Eighth ward	Heman A. Fay.
	Ninth ward	Bradford R. Wood.
	Tenth ward	Jesse Buel.
Towns....	Berne	Oscar Tyler.
	Bethlehem	And. Vanderheyden.
	Coeymans	John Mead.
	Guilderland	Peter Shaver.
	Knox	Charles Cheesbro.
	New Scotland	William Murphy.
	Rensselaerville	Shadrach I. Porter.
	Watervliet	Gilbert I. Van Zandt.
	Westerlo	Abraham Griffin.

Gilbert I. Van Zandt, Chairman.
Jacob P. Sigsbee, Clerk.

1845.

City.....	First ward	William Chambers.
	Second ward	Peter P. Staats.
	Third ward	John C. Ward.
	Fourth ward	Horace Meech.
	Fifth ward	William Thorburn.
	Sixth ward	Samuel Pruyn.
	Seventh ward	George W. Welch.
	Eighth ward	Heman A. Fay.
	Ninth ward	Ichabod L. Judson.
	Tenth ward	Jacob Henry.
Towns....	Berne	John Crosby.
	Bethlehem	Francis I. Shaver.
	Coeymans	John Mead.
	Guilderland	Peter Shaver.
	Knox	Charles Cheesbro.
	New Scotland	Coonrad Mathias.
	Rensselaerville	Valentine Treadwell.
	Watervliet	Thomas Hillhouse.
	Westerlo	Abram Vrooman.

Peter P. Staats, Chairman.
Hugh Scott, Clerk.

1846.

City.....	First ward	Bernard Lynch.
	Second ward	Andrew Moore.
	Third ward	Silvester F. Shepard.
	Fourth ward	Charles S. Olmstead.
	Fifth ward	Thomas McMullen.
	Sixth ward	Samuel Pruyn.
	Seventh ward	J. Van Valkenburgh.
	Eighth ward	William Jones.
	Ninth ward	Isaac N. Comstock.
	Tenth ward	William Beardsley.
Towns....	Berne	Samuel H. Davis.
	Bethlehem	John McHarg.
	Coeymans	Elwell Blodget.
	Guilderland	John Fuller.
	Knox	David Van Auken.
	New Scotland	Coonrad Mathias.
	Rensselaerville	Valentine Treadwell.
	Watervliet	Gilbert I. Van Zandt.
	Westerlo	Abraham Vrooman.

Gilbert I. Van Zandt, Chairman.
Peter Settle, Clerk.

1847.

City.....	First ward	Bernard Lynch.
	Second ward	Brown S. Spencer.
	Third ward	Sylvester S. Shepard.
	Fourth ward	Charles S. Olmstead.
	Fifth ward	Coonrad A. Ten Eyck.
	Sixth ward	Samuel Pruyn.
	Seventh ward	Parker Sargent.
	Eighth ward	Oliver Wallace.
	Ninth ward	Christopher Adams.
	Tenth ward	Adam Van Allen.
Towns....	Berne	Samuel H. Davis.
	Bethlehem	John McHarg.
	Coeymans	Elwell Blodget.
	Guilderland	John Fuller.
	Knox	David Van Auken.
	New Scotland	Robert Taylor.
	Rensselaerville	S. M. Hallenbeck.
	Watervliet	Archibald A. Dunlop.
	Westerlo	Avery Slade.

Charles S. Olmstead, Chairman.
Peter Settle, Clerk.

1848.

City.....	First ward	Richard Parr.
	Second ward	Matthew McMahon.
	Third ward	John Hurdis.
	Fourth ward	Franklin Townsend.
	Fifth ward	William White.
	Sixth ward	Samuel Pruyn.
	Seventh ward	George W. Welch.
	Eighth ward	Oliver Wallace.
	Ninth ward	James A. Tremere.
	Tenth ward	Adam Van Allen.
Towns....	Berne	John J. Bogardus.
	Bethlehem	Jeremiah Mead.
	Coeymans	John Van Derzee.

Towns....	Guilderland	Jacob J. Fryer.
	Knox	Perez Fink, Jr.
	New Scotland	Robert Taylor.
	Rensselaerville	Stephen Hallenbeck.
	Watervliet	Archibald A. Dunlop.
	Westerlo	Avery Slade.

Samuel Pruyn, Chairman.
James F. Whelpley, Clerk.

1849.

City.....	First ward	John McEvoy.
	Second ward	Matthew McMahon.
	Third ward	John Hurdis.
	Fourth ward	Franklin Townsend.
	Fifth ward	William White.
	Sixth ward	Samuel Pruyn.
	Seventh ward	Josiah Patterson.
	Eighth ward	James M. French.
	Ninth ward	Richard J. Grant.
	Tenth ward	Joshua G. Cortell.
Towns....	Berne	Daniel G. Fisher.
	Bethlehem	Jeremiah Mead.
	Coeymans	John Van Derzee.
	Guilderland	Jacob J. Fryer.
	Knox	Perez Frink.
	New Scotland	Robert Taylor.
	Rensselaerville	William Aley.
	Watervliet	Gilbert I. Van Zandt.
	Westerlo	Caleb Smith.

Samuel Pruyn, Chairman.
James M. Whelpley, Clerk.

1850.

City	First ward	James McCaffery.
	Second ward	Matthew McMahon.
	Third ward	Charles A. De Forest.
	Fourth ward	Charles S. Olmstead.
	Fifth ward	William White.
	Sixth ward	David Martin.
	Seventh ward	Charles H. Radcliff.
	Eighth ward	Samuel N. Payn.
	Ninth ward	William McBride.
	Tenth ward	Joshua G. Cortell.
Towns....	Berne	Henry A. Van Wie.
	Bethlehem	Jeremiah Mead.
	Coeymans	Nathaniel Niles.
	Guilderland	Elijah Spawn.
	Knox	Lyman Witters.
	New Scotland	John McEwen.
	Rensselaerville	William Aley.
	Watervliet	Gilbert I. Van Zandt.
	Westerlo	Caleb Smith.

Gilbert I. Van Zandt, Chairman.
Orville H. Chittenden, Clerk.

1851.

City	First ward	Philip Foy.
	Second ward	Matthew McMahon.
	Third ward	John A. Sickles.
	Fourth ward	Henry C. Southwick.
	Fifth ward	Michael Clark.
	Sixth ward	J. V.P. Quackenbush.
	Seventh ward	Charles Miller.
	Eighth ward	Oliver Wallace.
	Ninth ward	Isaac Vanderpoel.
	Tenth ward	Adam Van Allen.
Towns....	Berne	Henry A. Van Wie.
	Bethlehem	Elias Milbanks.
	Coeymans	Nathaniel Niles.
	Guilderland	Elijah Spawn.
	Knox	Lyman Witters.
	New Scotland	John McEwen.
	Rensselaerville	Daniel A. Mackey.
	Watervliet	Archibald A. Dunlop.
	Westerlo	Samuel F. Powell.

Matthew McMahon, Chairman.
Orville H. Chittenden, Clerk.

1852.

City	First ward	Philip Foy.
	Second ward	John Reynolds.
	Third ward	
	Fourth ward	William Boardman.
	Fifth ward	Michael Clark.
	Sixth ward	Stephen Lush.
	Seventh ward	Charles Miller.
	Eighth ward	Thomas Gillespie.
	Ninth ward	Ten Eyck La Moure.
	Tenth ward	Adam Van Allen.
Towns....	Berne	Jackson King.
	Bethlehem	Elias Milbanks.
	Coeymans	Willet Serls.
	Guilderland	Wendell Vine.
	Knox	Stephen Merselis, Jr.
	New Scotland	John Mathias.
	Rensselaerville	William Aley.
	Watervliet	James H. Brisbin.
	Westerlo	Samuel F. Powell.

James H. Brisbin, Chairman.
George Wolford, Clerk.

1853.

City	First ward	John Lawless.
	Second ward	John Stuart.
	Third ward	Alexander Davidson.
	Fourth ward	William Boardman.
	Fifth ward	Michael Clarke.
	Sixth ward	Stephen Lush.
	Seventh ward	Charles Miller.
	Eighth ward	Lawrence Dowd.
	Ninth ward	John Sager.
	Tenth ward	Andrew Fisher.
Towns....	Berne	Jackson King.
	Bethlehem	George F. Imbrie.
	Coeymans	Willet Serls.
	Guilderland	Wendell Vine.
	Knox	Stephen Merselis, Jr.
	New Scotland	John Mathias.
	Rensselaerville	Benjamin F. Sayre.
	Watervliet	John C. Schuyler.
	Westerlo	Samuel F. Powell.

Alexander Davidson, Chairman.
George Wolford, Clerk.

1854.

City	First ward	John Lawless.
	Second ward	James Taylor.
	Third ward	Geo. A. H. Englehart.
	Fourth ward	Abram Koonz.
	Fifth ward	Michael Clarke.
	Sixth ward	Stephen Lush.
	Seventh ward	John Benson.
	Eighth ward	William B. Scott.
	Ninth ward	William McBride, Jr.
	Tenth ward	Andrew Fisher.
Towns....	Berne	Silas Wright.
	Bethlehem	John Patterson.
	Coeymans	Garrit Whitbeck.
	Guilderland	George Y. Johnson.
	Knox	Henry Barckley.
	New Scotland	Wm. Van Allen.
	Rensselaerville	William Aley.
	Watervliet	Dillon Beebe.
	Westerlo	George H. Bentley.

Abram Koonz, Chairman.
George Wolford, Clerk.

1855.

City	First ward	James Lamb.
	Second ward	John M. Kimball.
	Third ward	William H. Rice.
	Fourth ward	Henry Rector.
	Fifth ward	John E. Gavitt.
	Sixth ward	James C. Crocker.
	Seventh ward	Thomas Earley.
	Eighth ward	James Jones.
	Ninth ward	Alonzo Bruce.
	Tenth ward	B. S. De Forest.
Towns....	Berne	Silas Wright.
	Bethlehem	Leonard G. Ten Eyck

Towns....	Coeymans	Gerrit Whitbeck.
	Guilderland	George Y. Johnson.
	Knox	Henry Barckley.
	New Scotland	P. V. W. Brooks.
	Rensselaerville	Norman A. Ford.
	Watervliet	Gilbert I. Van Zandt.
	Westerlo	George H. Bentley.

George Y. Johnson, Chairman.
George Wolford, Clerk.

1856.

City.....	First ward	James Lamb.
	Second ward	William J. Caldwell.
	Third ward	William H. Rice.
	Fourth ward	Abram Koonz.
	Fifth ward	Robert Raby.
	Sixth ward	David V. N. Radcliff.
	Seventh ward	Thomas Earley.
	Eighth ward	William Redden.
	Ninth ward	Philip Spencer.
	Tenth ward	Ezra A. Sutliff.
Towns....	Berne	Samuel H. Davis.
	Bethlehem	Leonard G. Ten Eyck.
	Coeymans	Gerrit Whitbeck.
	Guilderland	George Y. Johnson.
	Knox	John Keenholtz.
	New Scotland	Peter V. W. Brooks.
	Rensselaerville	Norman A. Ford.
	Watervliet	Gilbert I. Van Zandt.
	Westerlo	Abraham Griffin.

Abraham Koonz, Chairman.
William Aley, Clerk.

1857.

City.....	First ward	William Welch.
	Second ward	William J. Caldwell.
	Third ward	Thomas O. Wands.
	Fourth ward	Isaac Lederer.
	Fifth ward	Silas B. Hamilton.
	Sixth ward	D. V. N. Radcliff.
	Seventh ward	Thomas Earley.
	Eighth ward	Thomas Dolan.
	Ninth ward	James D. Wasson.
	Tenth ward	Charles L. Austin.
Towns....	Berne	Samuel H. Davis.
	Bethlehem	Leonard G. Ten Eyck.
	Coeymans	Gerrit Whitbeck.
	Guilderland	Henry Hilton.
	Knox	John Keenholtz.
	New Scotland	James Slingerland.
	Rensselaerville	Norman A. Ford.
	Watervliet	William J. Wheeler.
	Westerlo	Abram Griffin.

Charles L. Austin, Chairman.
William Aley, Clerk.

1858.

City.....	First ward	William Welch.
	Second ward	Charles E. White.
	Third ward	Thomas O. Wands.
	Fourth ward	Abram Koonz.
	Fifth ward	Silas B. Hamilton.
	Sixth ward	D. V. N. Radcliff.
	Seventh ward	Thomas Earley.
	Eighth ward	Philip McGuire.
	Ninth ward	John Lossing.
	Tenth ward	Joseph Fellows.
Towns....	Berne	Zebadiah A. Dyer.
	Bethlehem	Leonard G. Ten Eyck.
	Coeymans	John B. Shear.
	Guilderland	Henry Hilton.
	Knox	Samuel Gallup.
	New Scotland	James Slingerland.
	Rensselaerville	Andrew Felter.
	Watervliet	William G. Caw.
	Westerlo	Thomas Saxton.

Leonard G. Ten Eyck, Chairman.
Allen B. Durant, Clerk.

1859.

City.....	First ward	Jeremiah Kieley.
	Second ward	Charles W. Bentley.
	Third ward	Matthew W. Bender.
	Fourth ward	John McMickin.
	Fifth ward	John Van Gaasbeck.
	Sixth ward	D. V. N. Radcliff.
	Seventh ward	Thomas Earley.
	Eighth ward	Timothy Seymour.
	Ninth ward	William T. Wooley.
	Tenth ward	Thomas W. Griffin.
Towns....	Berne	Zebadiah A. Dyer.
	Bethlehem	John Wilkes.
	Coeymans	John B. Shear.
	Guilderland	Henry Hilton.
	Knox	Samuel Gallup.
	New Scotland	Samuel Rowe.
	Rensselaerville	Andrew Felter.
	Watervliet	William G. Caw.
	Westerlo	Thomas Saxton.

Henry Hilton, Chairman.
James A. Colvin, Clerk.

1860.

City.....	First ward	Daniel Sullivan.
	Second ward	Charles E. White.
	Third ward	Matthew W. Bender.
	Fourth ward	Francis N. Sill.
	Fifth ward	Isaac A. Chapman.
	Sixth ward	Wm. Frothingham.
	Seventh ward	Thomas Earley.
	Eighth ward	Stephen McKnight.
	Ninth ward	William McBride.
	Tenth ward	James Milwain.
Towns....	Berne	Henry I. Devoe.
	Bethlehem	John Wilkes.
	Coeymans	David A. Whitbeck.
	Guilderland	Leonard Wilkins.
	Knox	Samuel Warren.
	New Scotland	James Slingerland.
	Rensselaerville	James E. Mackey.
	Watervliet	William G. Caw.
	Westerlo	Abijah C. Disbrow.

Stephen McKnight, Chairman.
G. V. Shafer, Clerk.

HISTORY OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD FROM 1861 TO 1884.

No regular record of the proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of Albany County is now in existence, except that which begins with the year 1861. From that time down to the present writing the records of the Board are well preserved, from which we compile the remainder of our history of the Board.

Proceedings of the annual session of the Board, held pursuant to statute, at the City Hall, in the City of Albany, commencing on the 14th day of May, 1861.

The following were the members of the Board present :

Albany....	First ward	Patrick Whitty.
	Second ward	Matthew Kendrick.
	Third ward	James McIntyre.
	Fourth ward	John Kelso.
	Fifth ward	Abraham A. Wimple.
	Sixth ward	Thomas Earley.
	Seventh ward	Hugh Byrne.
	Eighth ward	George N. Geary.
	Tenth ward	James Milwain.
Towns....	Bethlehem	John Wilkes.
	Berne	Henry I. Devoe.
	Coeymans	David A. Whitbeck.
	Guilderland	Stephen B. Frederick.
	Knox	Samuel Warner.

Towns....New Scotland..... Henry Crounse.
Rensselaerville..... James E. Mackey.
Watervliet..... Garrit Van Olinda.
Westerlo..... Abijah C. Disbrow.
Abijah C. Disbrow, Chairman.
G. V. Thacher, Clerk.

Dr. Staatz Winne was duly elected County Physician for the ensuing year.

John Gannon was elected doorkeeper.

At the next meeting the Chairman announced the following standing committees :

Finance, and to Examine Treasurer's Accounts.—Messrs. Whitbeck, Earley and Milwain.

To Examine the Books, Mortgages and Minutes of the Loan Officers, and Commissioners of Loans.—Messrs. Devoe, Wemple and Kelso.

On all Accounts and Matters Relating to the Poor.—Messrs. Earley, Whitty and Wemple.

On all Accounts of Judges, Justices of the Peace, District Attorney, Coroner, and Criers of Courts.—Messrs. Wilkes, Devoe and Warner.

The annual statement of Thomas Kearney, the County Treasurer, shows the receipts into the Treasury for the year ending December, 1861, from all sources, to be $253,881.26; the disbursements to be deducted therefrom to be $253,-881.26; the balance-sheet of the Treasurer showed there was due the County, in his hands, $8,300.30.

The Committee on Equalization agreed upon the following valuation, per acre, in the several Towns :

Berne, $17.50; Bethlehem, $56.50, Coeymans, $35,50; Guilderland, $37.50; Knox, $17.50; New Scotland, $38.00; Rensselaerville, $18.50; Westerlo, $20.50; Watervliet, $60.00.

The percentage of taxation was as follows :

For the City, $1.61 per $100; Berne, $1.58 per $100; Bethlehem, 75 cents per $100; Coeymans, 84 cents per $100; Guilderland, $1.28 per $100; Knox, $1.13 per $100; New Scotland, 96 cents per $100; Rensselaerville, 90 cents per $100. Westerlo, 94 cents per $100; Watervliet, 94 cents per $100; Village of West Troy, 97½ cents per $100; Village of Cohoes, 95½ cents per $100.

The total amount to be raised by tax that year in the City of Albany was $391,533.30.

The towns most burdened for building and repairing roads and bridges that year were :

Berne, $100; Coeymans, $110; Bethlehem, $100; Guilderland, $120; Knox, $30; New Scotland, $100; Rensselaerville, $100; Westerlo, $90; separate road districts, Ninth and Tenth Wards, $250; total, $1,000.

A motion to enlarge the Penitentiary was lost by a vote of 7 to 11. A resolution was adopted declaring the Registry Law vexatious, exhaustingly expensive to taxpayers, and should be repealed.

PROCEEDINGS OF 1862.

The annual meeting of the Board of Supervisors began at the City Hall, in the City of Albany, May 13, 1862. The following members of the Board were present :

First Ward, Patrick Whitty; Second Ward, Richard H. Scott; Third Ward, James McIntyre; Fourth Ward, Francis N. Sill; Fifth Ward, John N. Parker; Sixth Ward, Daniel Shaw; Seventh Ward, Asa Fassett; Eighth Ward, Henry N. Wickes; Ninth Ward, Wm. McClusky; Tenth Ward, Benjamin F. Rice; Berne, David Conger; Bethlehem, Albertus W. Becker; Coeymans, Jonas Shear; Guilderland, Stephen V. Frederick; New Scotland, James Slingerland; Rensselaerville, George H. Laraway; Westerlo, Abijah C. Disbrow ; Watervliet, Garrit Van Olinda.

Abijah C. Disbrow was elected Chairman of the Board, George V. Thacher Clerk; Dr. John J. Meyers was elected County Physician, and Frederick M. Johnson doorkeeper.

The death of Samuel Pruyn, Esq., one of the Inspectors of the Penitentiary from its first organization, and for many years one of the Supervisors of the City and County of Albany, was announced.

The resolution was adopted directing the Treasurer to pay each member of the Board for the year 1860 the sum of ten dollars and traveling fees allowed by law for services rendered as canvassers of the special election for members of Assembly.

The *Atlas and Argus, Times and Courier, Morning Express* and *Evening Journal* were designated as the papers to publish the proceedings of the Board. Mr. D. A. Manning was designated as reporter for the *Atlas and Argus*, Mr. Edward Leslie for the *Times and Courier;* Mr. Coney of the *Watervliet Democrat* was also appointed a reporter.

A special meeting of the Board, called to devise measures to aid in the enrollment of a regiment in the 13th Senatorial District, convened at the City Hall on the 29th of July, 1862. Patriotic resolutions were passed to take measures to sustain the President in a call then recently made for 300,000 additional volunteers to supply the places of those who had fallen victims to the casualties of war, and to so increase the strength of our effective force as to crush the rebellion. A bounty of fifty dollars was established for each recruit enlisted in the Albany Co. regiment in addition to the bounties before offered by the general and state governments. The proceedings of this session were all directed to patriotic purposes.

The annual November session of the Board of Supervisors commenced on the 11th of November, 1862.

The apportionment of the city and county tax was reported at the following ratio of taxation :

City east of Partridge street, $1.80 per $100 ; city west of Partridge street to Allen, $1.45 per $100; city west of Allen, $1.39 per $100 ; Berne, $1.65 per $100 ; Bethlehem, 92c. per $100 ; Coeymans, 95c. per $100 ; Guilderland, $1.48 per $100 ; Knox, $1.44 per $100 ; New Scotland, $1.19 per $100 ; Rensselaerville, $1.16 per $100 ; Westerlo, $1.15 per $100 ; Watervliet, $1.06 per $100 ; West Troy, $1.07½ per $100 ; Green Island, $1.14 per $100; Cohoes, 1.06½ per $100.

The Chairman of the Finance Committee submitted an annual statement of moneys received and disbursed from Dec. 10, 1861, to Dec. 10, 1862.

The report showed a balance in favor of the county of $15,690.78, made up as follows :

Due redemption fund.....	$1,037 00
" court "	3,249 09
" military "	971 72
Total.....	$5,257 81
Balance applicable to county purposes.....	$10,432 97
Out of that balance there was paid at that time on account of election expenses since Dec. 10, 1862.....	1,579 25
Leaving.....	$8,853 72

The annual report of Thomas Kearney, County Treasurer, shows that there was paid into the county treasury during the year from all sources $368,638.49. There was disbursed the sum of

$368,638.49. The amount of bounties paid that year was $175,000.

There was a balance belonging to the county bounty fund of $18,400.

Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors at their May session, held at the City Hall, in the City of Albany, May 12, 1863. The following supervisors were present:

First Ward, Joseph Kresser; Second Ward, Philip O'Brien; Third Ward, Martin V. B. Winne; Fourth Ward, Abram Koonz; Fifth Ward, Barent P. Staats; Sixth Ward, David V. N. Radcliffe; Seventh Ward, Thomas Early; Eighth Ward, Timothy Seymour; Ninth Ward, Frederick Porth; Tenth Ward, Thomas O. Wands; Berne, William D. Strevell; Bethlehem, William Kimmey; Coeymans, Jonas Shear; Guilderland, Stephen V. Frederick; Knox, John Keenholts; New Scotland, John R. Taylor; Rensselaerville, George H. Laraway; Watervliet, Gerrit Van Olinda; Westerlo, Jared T. Reynolds.

George H. Laraway, Esq., appointed chairman; George V. Thacher, clerk; Dr. Winne was elected physician, and James Ogsbury, of Knox, was appointed doorkeeper.

Mr. Staats submitted a report showing that the expenses of the county and the Excise Commissioners, "for driving rum out of the city and county," was something over $16,000 for the preceding year.

The Board adjourned till the 10th of November, 1863.

Proceedings of the November session of the Board of Supervisors, held at the City Hall in Albany, commencing November 10, 1863.

On the opening of the session, November 11, the death of Frederick Porth, late Supervisor of the Ninth Ward, was announced, and resolutions expressive of the sorrow of the Board at his loss were unanimously passed.

The Treasurer reported the amount of fines received by the Justices of the Peace of the county to amount to the sum of $1,122.

Amount of moneys borrowed and received from all sources for the support of the war during the year was $205,098.13.

RE-INDEXING MORTGAGES.

A resolution had been adopted, that the County Clerk be authorized to re-index the mortgages of record in his office pursuant to a system of vowelization, and to transcribe and arrange the index of deeds upon the plan followed in directories and dictionaries. This work had been successfully prosecuted, according to the report submitted by the Clerk, in which it appeared that a great number of errors, and some very dangerous ones, had been discovered and rectified. That the contents of the old indexes—eight in number, and comprising the period from 1753 to 1863—thus sifted and verified, were contained in two books, arranged upon the new or vowelized system. That the work done down to that time had been upon the indices of grantors, including the period from 1656 to 1863. That the work already completed comprised 3,541 pages, or 106,320 names. That his account for indexing, as referred to in the above report, amounted to $10,623.

Mr. Staats presented a statement from the United States Collector, showing the number of liquor dealers in the city and county of Albany to be 1,013, as follows:

West Troy, 105; Watervliet, 45; Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Wards, 181; Fifth Ward, 41; Fourth Ward, 83; Third Ward, 92; First and Second Wards, 178; Tenth Ward, 53; Ninth Ward, 88; Knox, Guilderland and Berne, 22; Bethlehem and New Scotland, 45; Coeymans, Westerlo and Rensselaerville, 18; Cohoes, 62.

A report from the Excise Commissioners showed that out of a large number of prosecutions for infractions of the excise law only $450 had been collected; the cost of collection was double that.

The Committee of Equalization in the city and county fixed the valuation of the towns as follows:

Berne, $17.50 per acre; Bethlehem, $57.50 per acre; Coeymans, $35.50 per acre; Guilderland, $37.50 per acre; Knox, $17.50 per acre; New Scotland, $38 per acre; Rensselaerville, $18.50; Westerlo, $20.50; Watervliet, $60.

The annual statement of the County Treasurer shows that there was received in his office from all sources $419,460.18; the disbursements from the office, $419,460.18.

There was paid to the Sheriff this year for serving notices, etc., etc., $2,637.95; board of prisoners, $6,718; making in all a total of $9,355.95.

There was paid to reporters the sum of $499. The expense of City Government was $240,700; police force, $40,000.

Annual May Session of the Board of Supervisors held at City Hall, in Albany, May 10, 1864.

Supervisors present:

First Ward, Joseph Kresser; Second Ward, Philip O'Brien; Third Ward, James M. Carlin; Fourth Ward, Abram Koonz; Fifth Ward, Barent P. Staats; Sixth Ward, James H. Carroll; Seventh Ward, Thomas Early; Eighth Ward, Philip McGuire; Ninth Ward, Frank Marshall; Tenth Ward, Christopher W. Bender; Berne, David Conger; Bethlehem, William Kimmey; Coeymans, Peter Keefer; Guilderland, Stephen V. Frederick; Knox, Ira Van Auken; New Scotland, John R. Taylor; Rensselaerville, George H. Laraway; Watervliet, Gerrit Van Olinda; Westerlo, Jared I. Reynolds.

George H. Laraway, Chairman.
George V. Thacher, Clerk.
Dr. Barent P. Staats, County Physician.
James McAneeny, Doorkeeper.

A statement of the moneys borrowed by resolution of the Board, December 17, 1863, and disbursed to pay bounties from December 4, 1863, to July 18, 1864, inclusive, showed that $1,074,217.28 had been disbursed in that time. There was a balance on hand of $227,442.97; the interest due on bonds, September 1, 1864, amounted to $26,071.50.

OBJECTION TO THE DRAFT.

When this statement was given, Dr. Staats rose and said that the draft was not in accordance with our State Constitution; that that instrument was opposed to lotteries, and the draft was nothing more nor less than a lottery, only there were more prizes in a draft than in a lottery.

He "believed in making the rich man, whose property and interests were at stake, pay liberally

toward saving the country from a draft, by furnishing money to procure volunteers, and moved that the Board favor the paying of a bounty." His resolution was adopted. He then moved that a committee of six be appointed to draft resolutions and report a plan to fill the quotas under the President's last call for 500,000 men. This resolusion was also adopted, to the effect that it was desirable and expedient to fill the quota of Albany by volunteers, instead of by draft.

Active measures were taken to carry this resolution into effect.

LINCOLN'S PROCLAMATION.

Several special meetings were called to consider the President's proclamation, made July 18, 1864, calling for 500,000 volunteers for the military service. Without going into particulars, it is sufficient to say that the action of the Board of Supervisors in regard to that proclamation was prompt, patriotic and in every sense efficient, showing that the capital county of the State was foremost in coming to the rescue of our country.

The Board of Supervisors convened on the 15th of November, 1864, all the members of the board being present.

The City Budget, presented on the 21st of November, showed a gross amount of $370,000. Mr. Staats called attention to the fact "that many charges are made against the county for *post mortem* examinations, when there was never the slightest necessity for such examinations." He instanced "one case where a bill for $30 had been presented, and it was ascertained that the man died from having the bones of his head knocked in; when the physicians were asked why they made such examination, they replied, for their own information and nothing more, and now they present a bill for $30, and in this manner nearly one-half of coronors' bills are gotten up."

This year L. C. Tuttle and Hon. John C. Nott, now county judge, were school commissioners of the county.

The annual statement of Thomas Kearney shows that the receipts of the county treasurer during the year from all sources was $472,945.19; the disbursements amounted to $472,945.19. He also presented his annual statement of money received and disbursed on account of bounty fund from Dec. 4, 1863, to Dec. 10, 1864, which amounted to $1,914,642.62.

CONTEST OVER A LAWYER'S BILL.

Mr. J. R. Hilton, attorney for the Excise Commissioners, having obtained judgment to the amount of $6,472.76 against the county, on presenting his bill for the same the Supervisors refused to pay the judgment in full. A long controversy ensued in regard to the matter, Mr. Hilton refusing to accept any sum except the full amount of his claim. The matter was finally referred to the committee. A referee reported in favor of a sum due Mr. Hilton, including costs and interest, of $6,355.31.

Mr. Staats offered a resolution that the sum of $6,472.76 be allowed Mr. Hilton. This resolution was adopted.

The equalization of real estate in the city and county of Albany was fixed as follows:

Berne, per acre, $17.50; Bethlehem, per acre, $57.50; Coeymans, per acre, $35.50; Guilderland, per acre, $37.50; Knox, per acre, $18; New Scotland, per acre, $38; Rensselaerville, per acre, $18.50; Westerlo, per acre, $20; Watervliet, per acre, $60.

The meeting of this board continued by adjournments until March 6, 1865.

Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors at their annual session, May 9, 1865. Members present:

First Ward, Joseph Kresser; Second Ward, James Brice; Third Ward, Lee Chamberlain; Fourth Ward, Abram Koonz; Fifth Ward, Barent P. Staats; Sixth Ward, W. C. McHarg; Seventh Ward, David Prest; Eighth Ward, John McCall; Ninth Ward, Frank Marshall; Tenth Ward, Christopher W. Bender; Bethlehem, Wm. Kimmey; Berne, David S. Dyer; Coeymans, Peter Keefer; Guilderland, Steven V. Frederick; Knox, Ira Van Auken; New Scotland, Daniel Callahan: Rensselaerville, George H. Laraway; Watervliet, Gerrit Van Olinda; Westerlo, Jared T. Reynolds. George H. Laraway, Chairman; George V. Thacher, Clerk; Barent P. Staats, County Physician; Joseph W. Reynolds, Doorkeeper.

As soon as an organization was effected Mr. Brice, from the Second Ward, arose and in touching, eloquent language announced the death of President Lincoln. Having concluded his remarks, he presented an appropriate preamble and resolutions expressive of the feelings of the members of the Board in regard to the awful crime which resulted in the President's death, and of their veneration for him, and that they recognized in him "that able executive ability, tempered with that mild and genial feeling of mercy, which has engraven his name in the hearts of his countrymen, and left him a character on the scroll of fame which no time can erase."

The City Budget was presented November 22, 1865, and amounted in all to $446,703.05, of which $10,000 was the Sinking Fund account, $40,000 temporary outdoor relief of the poor, $42,979.44 for public schools, pursuant to chapter 516, laws of 1855; $80,123.61 of this was the proportionate part of the Police expenses apportioned to the City of Albany for the fiscal year ending October 1, 1866, and for deficiency to October 1, 1865, pursuant to section 46, chapter 554, laws of 1865.

At the meeting of the Board, November 28, 1865, an interesting statement showing the war expenses of the whole county during the war, which amounted in gross to $4,485,276.45. The statement also shows that the county paid bounties, according to different quotas, for the years 1862, 1863, 1864 and 1865, to 8,456 men. This, it will be seen, does not include 1861, nor the full number of men enlisted in Albany County during the war. A statement showing this will be found elsewhere in this work. In addition to the above amount, hand-money and other expenses were paid during the years 1863, '64 and '65, amounting to $93,403.72.

The following table shows the bonds issued in Albany County:

PRINCIPAL OF COUNTY BONDS, WHEN PAYABLE.

Amount.	Date of Bonds.	1864	1865	1866	1867	1868	1869	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	Rate of Interest.	Amount Rec'd in Premiums.	Discount.
$175,000	M'ch 1, '63	$30,000	$29,000	$29,000	$29,000	$29,000	$29,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6 per cent.	$3,923 13	.....
744,900	M'ch 1, '64	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	$123,000	$125,000	$124,000	$124,000	$124,000	$124,000	.....	7 per cent.	16,760 25	.....
1,258,750	Sept. 1, '64	.....	.....	652,100	143,850	175,000	287,800	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7 per cent.	.....	.....
76,000	Sept. 1, '64	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	$76,000	6 per cent.	.....	$5,776
285,550	Sept. 1, '64 and M'ch 1, '65	.....	.....	19,000	138,000	50,400	31,700	25,000	11,550	.....	.....	9,000	.....	.....	7 per cent.	.....	.....

On December 5, 1865, on motion of Mr. McHarg, the salary of the District Attorney from and after the first of January, 1866, was fixed at the sum of $3,500 per annum.

A voluminous document, containing the names of all persons licensed to sell liquor during the year down to December 5, was presented, from which we make the following recapitulation :

Albany.—First Ward, 122; Second Ward, 75; Third Ward, 96; Fourth Ward, 103; Fifth Ward, 47; Sixth and Eight Wards, 118; Seventh Ward, 90; Ninth Ward, 58; Tenth Ward, 97; total, 806.

Towns.—Watervliet, 59; Berne and Guilderland, 21; Bethlehem and New Scotland, 40; Coeymans and Westerlo, 15; West Troy, 112; Cohoes, 67; total, 314; city and towns, 1,120.

On December 6, 1865, the County Treasurer presented a COUNTY BUDGET amounting in all to $766,094.89.

On the 14th of December, Mr. Frederick, of the Finance Committee, offered the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That there be assessed upon the taxable property of the county $766,094.89, the same to be applied for the purpose mentioned in the County Budget as presented on the sixth of December; also the sum of $87,114.91, for Audited Accounts."

Which resolution was adopted. Mr. Frederick also reported the CITY BUDGET, as adopted by the Common Council and presented to the Board on the 22d of November, at $446,703.05, also the sum of $8,423.06 for Audited Accounts, and the same was adopted.

The equalization of Real Estate in the City and County of Albany was fixed at the rate per acre:

Berne, $17.50; Bethlehem, $57.57; Coeymans, $35.50; Guilderland, $37.50; Knox, $18; New Scotland, $38.50; Rensselaerville, $18.50; Westerlo, $19.50; Watervliet, $60.

The County Treasurer reports the *receipts* of money this year to the amount of $1,083,013.66, and the *disbursements* to the amount of $1,083,013.66.

The Argus and *The Express* were designated for the

COUNTY PAPERS FOR 1866,

and the *Albany County Democrat*, *Freie Blatter* and *Evening Post* were authorized to publish the County Audits.

The Board adjourned, *sine die*, December 14, 1865.

The proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of the county of Albany at the annual meeting held at the City Hall, in the city of Albany, May 8, 1866.

Members present :

First Ward, Robert J. McCormick ; Second Ward, James Brice ; Third Ward, John W. Harcourt ; Fourth Ward, Abraham Koonz ; Fifth Ward, Barent P. Staats ; Sixth Ward, David Rose ; Seventh Ward, David Prest ; Eighth Ward, John McElroy ; Ninth Ward, Mathias J. Severance ; Tenth Ward, Christopher W. Bender ; Berne, David Conger ; Bethlehem, William Kimmey ; Coeymans, John B. Shear ; Guilderland, Stephen V. Frederick ; Knox, Peter Schoonmaker ; New Scotland, Nicholas A. Delong ; Rensselaerville, George H. Laraway ; Watervliet, William J. Wheeler ; Westerlo, Charles Bently. Chairman, George H. Laraway ; Clerk, Owen McDermott ; County Physician, Dr. B. P. Staats ; Doorkeeper, Christian Hartline.

DEATH OF GERRIT VAN OLINDA.—The board being thus organized, Dr. Staats arose and announced the death of Mr. Gerrit Van Olinda, long a useful and honored member of the board from Watervliet.

After the transaction of some business the board adjourned to June 19, 1866.

Special Session.

On Tuesday, June 19, the board met pursuant to Chapter 607 of the laws of the State of New York for 1866.

JURORS' PAY.—Mr. Prest, from the finance committee, offered the following in regard to pay of grand and petit jurors :

"*Whereas*, The Legislature of the State of New York, on the 31st of March, 1866, passed an act which reads as follows: The several boards of supervisors in this State may, at their first or any subsequent meeting after the passage of this act, direct a sum not exceeding two dollars a day to be allowed to every grand and petit juror, for attending the courts of record held within their several counties; and they may also direct an allowance to be made to such jurors for traveling in coming and returning from such courts, not exceeding five cents a mile; therefore,

"*Resolved*, That the county treasurer be authorized and directed to pay to every grand and petit juror who shall have been regularly drawn from the box since June 1, 1866, provided by law for attending the courts of record held in and for the said County of Albany, the additional sum of fifty cents for each day's attendance, and also that each juror who shall have been so drawn as aforesaid shall be allowed five cents per mile for coming to and returning from the City Hall, the place of holding the several courts of record for this county."

At November session, Nov. 13, 1866, the board met pursuant to adjournment as a board of canvassers, the members all being present. Having completed the canvass the board adjourned until the 14th.

At this meeting the comptroller presented the following communication :

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE, Albany, Sept. 29, 1866.

CONTEST CONCERNING CLERK.—It will be seen that Owen McDermott was elected clerk of the board at the annual meeting. This was done against considerable opposition, which was not quieted by his election. The matter rested, however, until the special session of June 19, when Mr. Kimmey presented the following :

"*Whereas*, The appointment of the present clerk of this board was forced upon the board against the wishes of a large majority of its members; and

"*Whereas*, Said board are not satisfied, and do not consider said clerk competent to fully discharge the duties of his position; therefore

"*Resolved*, That George V. Thacher be, and he is hereby appointed clerk of said board for the ensuing year, in place of Owen McDermott, removed."

After considerable discussion the resolution was adopted by a vote of eleven ayes and seven noes.

The board voted Mr. McDermott the sum of $100 for his services.

The following communication from the Comptroller of the State was read by the Clerk :

To the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Albany :

SIR:—The Board of Equalization of Taxes, in pursuance of chapter 312 of the Laws of 1859, have fixed the aggregate valuation of property in your county at the sum of $42,403,645, upon which amount a State tax of $235,870.28 must be levied for the current year, being $5\frac{9}{10}$ mills on the dollar, for the following purposes, viz. .

For Schools, $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mill, per chapter 555, Laws of 1864.

For General Purposes, $1\frac{3}{4}$ mills, per chapter 677, Laws of 1866.

For Canals, $\frac{1}{8}$ of a mill, per chapter 271, Laws of 1859.

For Canals, $\frac{7}{16}$ of a mill, per chapter 219, Laws of 1866.

For Extension of Chenango Canal, $\frac{3}{16}$ of a mill, per chapter 649, Laws of 1866.

For Champlain Canal, $\frac{3}{16}$ of a mill, per chapter 156, Laws of 1866.

For Bounty Debt, $2\frac{1}{8}$ mills, per chapter 325, Laws of 1865.

Total, $5\frac{9}{10}$ mills.

Your obedient servant,
THOS. HILLHOUSE,
Comptroller.

P. S.—The non-resident taxes credited to your county for 1865 amount to $537.76.

Referred to Finance Committee.

A communication was received from Mr. McDermott, the removed Clerk of the Board, stating that by his removal he had sustained pecuniary loss, and he asked the Board for an appropriation to indemnify him in some degree for the injury sustained by such removal. This elicited a spirited debate. The friends of Mr. McDermott insisted that his removal was the result of personal and political hatred. The communication was referred to the Committee on Grievances.

Buildings for the Insane.

At a meeting of the Board, November 20, Mr. Staats offered the following :

Resolved, That a committee be appointed from this Board to confer with a committee of the Common Council of the City of Albany, for the purpose of erecting suitable accomodations for the insane of the county, and to apply for such Legislative aid as may be necessary to accomplish the above object.

Mr. Staats, in support of said resolution, said :

That "not only humanity, but the best interests of the county require that suitable buildings be erected for the insane; that our State institutions are entirely inadequate to contain half the applicants for admission, and that the price of admission was exorbitant. We are paying six thousand dollars a year to the Utica Asylum, besides having over one hundred in our Alms House, without the means of proper care and treatment. That a building properly constructed, and a law permitting the taking of boarders from other counties, would be a self-sustaining institution."

The resolution was adopted.

The *City Budget* was presented November 21, which amounted in all to $496,832.

Excise.—James A. McKown, in 1858, was appointed, upon the recommendation of a committee of the Board of Supervisors and his Honor the Mayor of the City of Albany, a Special Police Constable, for the purpose of reporting violations of the Excise law, and was also reappointed for the same duty in the years 1859, 1860, '61, '62, '63 and '64; and that from 1859 to 1864, inclusive, he received the following amount: $1,820.50. And he also received from the county for licenses granted, for the same time, the amount of $137,028.63.

At a meeting of the Board, November 28, the account of Henry Fitch, Sheriff, was presented, in which he claimed $17,131.72, which account was allowed at $15,131.72.

County Budget.—On December 7, 1866, the County Budget was presented, which amounted to $876,053.28.

Anti-Rent Difficulties.—During the year 1866, the anti-rent difficulties in the county had increased to such proportions that the Sheriff was obliged to call on the military to aid in serving and enforcing processes. This was attended with considerable expense to the county, and we give the following claims as an interesting item in the history of the anti-rent difficulties :

	Claimed.	Allowed.
Leonard & Bradt	$1,295 72	$1,268 59
Edward Scannell	1,053 00	576 00
Tenth Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y.	992 25	992 25
Company F, 25th Regiment " ..	762 24	762 24
Company C, " " " ..	626 40	626 40
Company G, " " " ..	256 92	256 92
Lord & Thornton	500 02	498 02
Albany & Susquehanna R. R. Co.	228 80	228 80
John Cutler	157 00	150 00
Augustus Brewster	122 00	80 00
Walter S. Church	115 00	Disallowed.

At a meeting of the Board of Supervisors, held December 14, 1866, the *Treasurer's Annual Statement of Receipts* of money for the year 1866 was presented, which amounted in all to $1,355,794.62. He disbursed the sum of $1,355,794.62. He also reported a balance on hand December 1, 1866, of $14,658.20.

Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of Albany at the annual meeting, held at the City Hall, in the City of Albany, May 14, 1867.

The following were the members present :

First Ward, Robert J. McCormick; Second Ward, Michael Delehanty; Third Ward, Jonathan R. Herrick; Fourth Ward, William Orr; Fifth Ward, Barent P. Staats; Sixth Ward, Alexander A. Edmeston; Seventh Ward, Michael Lyman; Eighth Ward, Michael D. McGue; Ninth Ward, M. Joseph Severance; Tenth Ward, Christopher W. Bender; Bethlehem, George C. Adams; Berne, Adams J. Warner; Coeymans, John B. Shear; Guilderland, Hiram Griggs; Knox, Peter Schoonmaker; New Scotland, Nicholas Delong; Rensselaerville, George H. Laraway; Westerlo, Charles Bentley; Watervliet, Wm. J. Wheeler.

Chairman, Wm. J. Wheeler.
Clerk, George V. Thacher.
County Physician, Dr. Barent P. Staats.
Doorkeeper, Edward Dooley.

On May 15 the Board met according to adjournment, and in the usual order of business the Chairman announced the standing committees for the ensuing year.

After some immaterial business, the Board adjourned.

At a meeting of the Board of Supervisors at the City Hall, in the City of Albany, pursuant to adjournment.

NOVEMBER 12, 1867, all the members being present. After discharging their duties as County Canvassers, the Board adjourned.

On November 19 the Board met according to adjournment, at which meeting the CITY BUDGET was presented, which amounted to $493,202.

GRAND JURORS.—The apportionment of Grand Jurors according to the census of 1860 was as follows :

First Ward, 24; Second Ward, 13; Third Ward, 15; Fourth Ward, 10; Fifth Ward, 6; Sixth Ward, 9; Seventh Ward, 17; Eighth Ward, 21; Ninth Ward, 22; Tenth Ward, 28; Bethlehem, 19; Berne, 8; Coeymans, 8; Cohoes, 23; Green Island, 4; Guilderland, 9; Knox, 5; New Scotland, 9; Rensselaerville, 9; Westerlo, 9; West Troy, 23; Watervliet, 16; total, 300.

REGISTRY LAW.

At a meeting of the Board of Supervisors held Dec. 5, 1867, Mr. Staats made an attack upon the registry law, asserting in an address on the subject that the law was very onerous and expensive, and did not answer any good or useful purpose.

On December 6 the County Budget was presented, amounting in all to $776,990.21, to which was added audited accounts of $1,334.15.

COUNTY TREASURER'S REPORT.

Stephen Frederick also submitted his annual statement of money received and disbursed from the first day of January, 1867, to Dec. 1, 1867, which showed that he had received from all sources $886,414.58 ; that he had paid out during that time the sum of $886,414.58.

The equalization of the value of real estate in the County of Albany was fixed by the committee of equalization as follows :

Berne, per acre, $17.50; Bethlehem, per acre, $57.50; Coeymans, per acre, $35.50; Guilderland, per acre, $37.50; Knox, per acre, $18; New Scotland, per acre, $38; Rensselaer, per acre, $18.50; Westerlo, per acre, $19.50; Watervliet, per acre, $60.

It was also adopted that in the city of Albany the assessed valuation be the equalized valuation.

After a spirited debate it was resolved that the County Treasurer be authorized to borrow $100,000 upon the credit of the county to pay bonds due March 1, 1868.

PERCENTAGE OF TAXATION.—The following was reported as the percentage of taxation in the city and several towns, which was agreed to :

City, 3.56; city west of Partridge street, 3.09; city west of Allen street, 3.00; Berne, 3.60; Bethlehem, 1.86; Coeymans, 1.84; Guilderland, 2.96; Knox, 3.08; New Scotland, 2.30; Rensselaerville, 2.18; Westerlo, 2.48; Watervliet, 1.72; West Troy, 2.04; Cohoes and Green Island, 2.04.

Adopted.

ANNUAL SESSION OF 1868—MAY 12, 1868.

Supervisors present :

First Ward, William J. Weaver; Second Ward, Lawrence Carey; Third Ward, John Kelly; Fourth Ward, John C. Feltman; Fifth Ward, Barent P. Staats; Sixth Ward, Alexander A. Edmeston; Seventh Ward, Bernard Kavanaugh; Eighth Ward, Henry T. O'Connor; Ninth Ward, Edward Whitty; Tenth Ward, Christopher Bender; Berne, James A. Reamer; Bethlehem, George C. Adams; Coeymans, John B. Shear; Guilderland, Hiram Griggs; Knox, Peter Schoonmaker; New Scotland, Samuel Patton; Rensselaerville, William Magivny; Watervliet, William J. Wheeler. William J. Wheeler was elected chairman; George V. Thacher, clerk; Dr. Barent P. Staats, county physician; William Doody, doorkeeper.

On Wednesday, May 13, the Chairman announced the standing committees.

BAD CONDITION OF THE COUNTY JAIL.

The Chairman presented a communication from Hon. Henry Smith, District Attorney, showing the lamentable condition of the County Jail. He says:

"In the main apartment you will find sixty male prisoners, including some children, confined in one common room, where those youthful in years, and those who have committed their first criminal error, perhaps those who are entirely innocent, are exposed to the influences, and often to the physical tortures, of the most depraved of men.

"In another room, of about fifteen by eighteen, you will find some twenty-two females of various ages, even to extreme old age; some reasonably tidy and others repulsively filthy; some apparently well and others suffering from loathsome diseases, crowded together in a space where there is scarcely room for all to lie down at once. In short, you will find a state of things that would shame a semi-civilized community, and would not be tolerated by the people of this county for one hour if they could for a moment look in upon the appalling horrors of that fearful den, kept under their authority, for the detention of persons accused of crime. This state of affirs," Mr. Smith continues, "is no fault of the Sheriff or Jailer, but results from want of suitable rooms."

Mr. Smith's report of the condition of the jail produced the most profound sensation throughout the city and county, resulting, as we shall see, in an entire change in the management of the jail. A special committee was appointed with power to expend at least $4,000.

The following was adopted:

Resolved, That the Superintendent of the Capital Police be and is hereby instructed to notify the several captains and sergeants of the Police of the Town of Watervliet to convey prisoners under sentence to the Penitentiary, in place of leaving them at the County Jail.

A SPECIAL MEETING was held June 16, 1868. The principal business under consideration was the improvement of the County Jail. The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Special Committee, to whom was referred the necessity of altering the County Jail, be authorized to receive proposals in accordance with the plans submitted to the Board, with the additional story with a wing on the east side, as presented by Mr. Edmeston, at an expense not exceeding $2,500.

NOVEMBER SESSION.

The Board convened as County Canvassers, November 10, 1868, all the Supervisors present. After concluding the canvass, the Board adjourned until Wednesday, November 11.

Mr. Edmeston offered the following:

Resolved, That the County Treasurer be and he is hereby authorized to pay to the contractors upon jail improvement the sum of $4,000, upon the said contractors presenting certificates, signed by the architect and Chairman of the Committee on Jail Improvement, stating that such sum is actually due them.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Reamer offered the following:

Whereas, The enlargement of the County Jail during the summer has been a source of great inconvenience to the Jailer, and attended with considerable extra expense, he having been obliged to send his family into the country for several months; therefore

Resolved, That the County Treasurer be authorized to pay Albert Gallup extra compensation as Jailer of the County of Albany.

Which was adopted.

GRAND JURORS.—On December 8 Mr. Shear presented the following apportionment of Grand Jurors in and for the County of Albany:

City—First Ward, 21; Second Ward, 11; Third Ward, 11; Fourth Ward, 10; Fifth Ward, 6; Sixth Ward, 9; Seventh Ward, 14; Eighth Ward, 21; Ninth Ward, 21; Tenth Ward, 30. *Towns*—Berne, 7; Bethlehem, 16; Coeymans, 10; Guilderland, 11; Knox, 6; New Scotland, 9; Rensselaerville, 9; Westerlo, 8; Cohoes, 15; Green Island, 5; West Troy, 24; Watervliet, 16.

CITY BUDGET.—Mr. Bender presented the City Budget. This amounted, in gross, to the sum of $616,611.37, of which the sum of $82,766.87 was the proportionate part of Police expenses apportioned to the City of Albany for the fiscal year ending October 1, 1869, pursuant to section 45, chapter 544, laws of 1865.

IMPROVEMENTS ON JAIL.—Mr. Edmeston, from the Special Committee on the improvements of the Jail, presented a report showing, among other things, that the total cost of the entire improvements on the Jail amounted to $8,142.18.

OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPERS.—The *Argus* and *Express* were, on ballot, designated as the official county papers.

COUNTY BUDGET.—On December 11 the County Budget was presented, which amounted to $585,168.29. On motion of Mr. Gregg it was

Resolved, That there be levied and assessed upon the taxable property of the County the sum of $660,000, being the amount mentioned in the County Budget presented this day to the Board, and including the audited accounts of this Board.

The resolution was adopted.

DEATH OF SUPERVISOR REAMER.—On the assembling of the Board in the afternoon of December 11, Supervisor Schoonmaker arose and, in touching language, announced the death of Supervisor Reamer, of Berne. The tribute he paid to his memory was as just as it was eloquent and impressive. He closed by saying:

"I feel a bereavement which will cast a deep gloom over all who are numbered as his acquaintances. A political antagonist and a neighbor, never has an event occurred to mar the harmony of our intercourse, and no man could have been taken from us whose loss all would more deeply deplore."

He then submitted an impressive preamble, followed by equally impressive resolutions, touching the exemplary life and useful career of the deceased Supervisor. Among the resolutions was one to the effect that the Chairman's and Clerk's desks and the vacant chair of the deceased be draped in mourning. It was also resolved that the Board attend the funeral in a body, and to adjourn until Tuesday next at 3:30 P. M.

Mr. Feltman, in seconding the resolutions, which were adopted, paid a well-deserved tribute to the memory of the deceased.

TREASURER'S ANNUAL STATEMENT.—On December 15, 1868, the Board met pursuant to adjourn-

ment, and Stephen V. Frederick presented his annual statement of moneys received and disbursed from the 1st day of December, 1867, to the 1st day of December, 1868, which amounted in all to $857,492.54; disbursements amounted to $857,-492.54. His report showed a balance in his hands of $1,537.70.

COUNTY BOUNTY FUND.—

Receipts:

Balance on hand	$3,313 00
Proceeds of sale of County Bonds	150,000 00
Premiums	3,618 76
Transferred from General Fund	213,000 00
	$370,031 76

Disbursements:

Cash paid bonds due March 1, 1868	$248,100 00
Cash paid bonds due March 1, 1867	2,200 00
Six per cent. interest on $29,000	870 00
Coupons due March 1, 1868	58,329 25
Coupons due September 1, 1868	53,744 00
Coupons due March 1, 1867	267 75
Coupons due September 1, 1867	1,603 00
Coupons due March 1, 1865	105 00
Coupons due September 1, 1865	299 25
Certificate of bond to Ira Heaphy	552 50
Certificate of bond to Nelson Van Patten to S. Tuttle	587 50
Interest on $30,000 to Loan Committee	2,100 00
Balance	1,273 26
	$370,031 76

EXCISE.—The whole number of licenses granted in the County for the year 1868 was 640.

The County was divided this year into three licensed districts, each placed in charge of one excise commissioner. Mr. S. F. Powell was one; Mr. E. Newcomb was the second; Mr. Gonsalus was the third

The whole number of licenses granted in Mr. Powell's district was 161, at $30 each, making $4,830.

The whole number issued in Mr. Newcomb's district was 159; 157 of which were at $30 each, one at $150, and one at $75.

The whole number in Mr. Gonsalus' district, was 140, as follows:

West Troy, 55; Cohoes, 33; Green Island 6; Watervliet, 16; Seventh Ward, 30; total, 140, at $30 each, amounting to		$4,200 00
Paid county treasurer		3,550 00
Balance on hand		$650 00
Sum total of Mr. Powell's district		$4,830 00
" " " " Newcomb's district		4,935 00
" " " " Gonsalus' district		4,200 00
Total		$13,965 00
Total amount paid to county treasurer by Mr. Powell	$3,500 00	
Total amount paid to county treasurer by Mr. Newcomb	4,105 00	
Total amount paid to county treasurer by Mr. Gonsalus	3,550 00	
		$11,155 00
Total		$2,810 00

The excise question this year, and for several years previous, was a matter of great embarrassment and expense to the county. A large number of suits for the violation of excise laws had been commenced. Numerous judgments had been obtained without any return to the county, and at a very heavy expense to the taxpayers. This subject occupied much of the time of this session. Finally on Jan. 6, 1869, on motion of Mr. Weaver, the Board resolved to settle all judgments now on file for violation of the then present excise law for the sum of twenty-five cents on the dollar upon all sums represented by such judgment and costs, provided the amount was paid to Geo. V. Thacher, the present Clerk of the Board, on or before the first day of April, 1869.

Mr. Staats introduced a resolution denouncing the excise law, and moved that the committee on application to the Legislature be requested to prepare a law which will invest the whole power of excise in the Police Commissioners so far as the police districts exist in this county, and that where they do not exist the supervisors of the several towns shall grant licenses for the sale of malt and alcoholic liquors. This resolution was adopted.

Mr. Weaver moved that the following be added to the resolution relative to judgments obtained by the Excise Commissioners:

Resolved, That if it be found that any of the parties against whom these judgments are held are in such circumstances that they are utterly unable to pay the same, that such non-payments be, upon the recommendation of the supervisor of the ward or town in which such parties reside, canceled for the sum of one dollar.

Adopted.

When it is known that each of the defendants in those judgments could, on executions issued upon them, have been arrested and imprisoned for non-payment, the lenity of the Board in regard to them will be fully appreciated. After some other business the board adjourned *sine die*.

Proceedings of the Annual Spring Session of the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of Albany, held in the City Hall, in the City of Albany, May 11, 1869.

Members present:

First Ward, Wm. J. Weaver; Second Ward, Lawrence Carey; Third Ward, Aaron B. Pratt; Fourth Ward, John C. Feltman; Fifth Ward, Wm. Haskell; Sixth Ward, Alexander A. Edmeston; Seventh Ward, John Fitzgerald; Eighth Ward, James D. Walsh; Ninth Ward, Christian Schurr; Tenth Ward, Dr. Gallez; Berne, Alfred Hungerford; Bethlehem, George C. Adams; Coeymans, John B. Shear; Guilderland, Hiram Griggs; Knox, Peter Schoonmaker; New Scotland, Nicholas B. Houck; Rensselaerville, William Magivny; Watervliet, Wm. J. Wheeler; Westerlo, Julius Thayer.

Chairman, Wm. J. Wheeler.
Clerk, Charles J. Pease.
County Physician, Milton M. Lamb.
Doorkeeper, Anthony Daug.

The Board met according to adjournment on May 13, 1869. The minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

The Chairman then announced the STANDING COMMITTEES for the ensuing year.

After conducting some business, the Board adjourned till the

NOVEMBER SESSION.

On November 9, 1869, the Board convened according to adjournment; all the Supervisors present. In the absence of Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Shear was chosen Chairman *pro tem.*

After discharging the duties of County Canvassers, the Board adjourned.

At the meeting held November 10, an interesting statement in regard to taxes in the County was presented.

Mr. Weaver presented this statement to the Board, in the following manner:

ALBANY CITY.

We here find that the assessed value of real and personal estate for the City of Albany has increased from 1860 to 1868 $1,118,426, being an increase of four and one-half per cent.; while the equalized value in the same period has increased $3,158,461, being an increase of thirteen and one-sixteenth per cent.

Now, while the assessed value of the City of Albany has increased four and one-quarter per cent., the assessed value of all the towns combined has increased eighteen and one-sixth per cent., and while the equalized value for the City of Albany has increased thirteen and one-sixteenth per cent., the increase in all the other towns combined is but nine and one-half per cent.

	Assessed Value.		Equalized Value.	
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
Berne	.....	$54.957	.....	$114,844
Bethlehem	$161,264	.....	$38,613	.....
Coeymans	.....	1,454	.....	89,368
Guilderland	.....	81	.....	91,948
Knox	.....	50,035	.....	46,724
New Scotland	1,915	.....	.....	86,337
Rensselaerville	.....	117,859	.....	118,267
Westerlo	.....	89,479	.....	113,623
Watervliet	2,563,427	.....	1,881,007	.....
Increase in towns	$2,726,606	$313,865	$1,919,620	$661,111
Decrease in towns	313,865	.....	661,111	.....
Total increase	$2,412,741	.....	$1,258,509	.....
Albany City	1,118,426	.....	3,158,461	.....
Total in County	$3,531,167	.....	$4,416,970	.....

In the above table nearly $1,000,000 of the increased assessed value in the town of Watervliet is credited to the year 1868.

CITY BUDGET—For the year 1869 amounted in all to $601,188.29.

The salary of the County Physician was fixed by resolution at the sum of $500 per annum.

COUNTY BUDGET.—The county budget for the year 1869 amounted in all to $583,517.98.

COUNTY TREASURER.—Mr. Theyer presented the bond of County Treasurer-elect Alexander Kennedy, Esq. It was signed by Jonathan R. Henrick, Jas. A. McDonald and Philip O'Brien. It was in the penalty of $100,000.

The supervisor of the town of Coeymans was authorized to borrow on the credit of the town the sum of $2,000 to pay damages and expenses in rebuilding and repairing bridges and roads damaged by a flood in the said town.

EXCISE.—The Commissioners of Excise, Messrs. E. Newcomb, J. Reynolds and G. W. Gonsalus, reported the following as the whole number of licenses and amounts of money received for the same for the year 1869:

Whole number granted at $30	419
" " " " 10	27
" " " " 75	1
" " " " 150	1
Total number in the county	448
As follows: 419 at $30	$12,570 00
27 " 10	270 00
1 " 75	75 00
1 " 150	150 00
Total receipts	$13,065 00
Paid county treasurer	11,163 00

COUNTY TREASURER'S STATEMENT.—The County Treasurer transmitted his annual statement of money received and disbursed from the first day of December, 1868, to the first day of December, 1869, showing a balance on hand:

Receipts from all sources		$818,158 54
DISBURSEMENTS.		
Resolution	$305 89	
Audit accounts	130,640 11	
Total with remainder of disbursements		$818,158 54

Stephen V. Frederick, County Treasurer, in account with County of Albany:

1868. Dr.	
Dec. 1, to balance on hand	$1,273 26
March 1, to net proceeds from sale of Albany County bonds	253,761 55
Transferred from general account	205,000 00
	$460,034 81
1869.	
December, to balance	$1,130 56
1869. Cr.	
Paid bonds due March, 1869	$348,000 00
" " " " 1868	700 00
" interest on $29,000 (6 per cent.)	870 00
" coupons of 1867, 1868, 1869	109,334 25
By balance	1,130 56
	$460,034 81

Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of Albany city and county at the annual meeting held

at the City Hall in the City of Albany, May 10, 1870.

The members present were :

First Ward, Wolfgang Meyer ; Second Ward, Frederick Schifferdecker ; Third Ward, Wm. J. Weaver ; Fourth Ward, George P. Lynd ; Fifth Ward, Thomas H. Craven ; Sixth Ward, John C. Feltman ; Seventh Ward, Abraham B. Garfield ; Eighth Ward, Henry R. Haskins; Ninth Ward, James Bartley ; Tenth Ward, Thomas Kanary; Eleventh Ward, John R. Stewart; Twelfth Ward, John McKenna; Thirteenth Ward, Philip Frederick; Fourteenth Ward, M. H. Kenneally; Fifteenth Ward, David W. Seeley; Sixteenth Ward, George B. Hoyt.

COHOES.

First Ward, Joseph Coleman ; Second Ward, W. Taylor Dodge; Third Ward, John Scully; Fourth Ward, Solomon Dotter.

TOWNS.

Berne, Alfred Hungerford ; Bethlehem, George C. Adams ; Coeymans, John B. Shear ; Guilderland, Hiram Griggs; Knox, Peter Schoonmaker ; New Scotland, Alonzo B. Voorhees; Rensselaerville, Wm. Magivny; Watervliet, Wm. J. Wheeler; Westerlo, Orson L. Hannay. Chairman, Wm. J. Weaver; Clerk, Charles J. Pease; County Physician, Milton M. Lamb; Doorkeeper, Daniel McClary.

After the transaction of some unimportant business the Board adjourned.

A special meeting of the Board took place in the Common Council Chamber, at which all the members were present. This meeting was called for the purpose of hearing a report from the special committee appointed to take charge of the alteration of the Supervisors' room. A somewhat heated discussion arose, after which the report was read, showing that the work had been let to Messrs. Norman and Treadwell, architects, of Albany, who made plans and specifications for the work which had been adopted.

They advertised in the county papers for proposals for the work as follows :

For carpenter work.
For carpenter and mason work.
For carpenter, mason work and painting.
For mason work.
For painting.

The committee had awarded the work as follows :

Carpenter work to George Martin, Troy, for....	$963 43
Mason work to Alex. Shanelley for.....	70 00
Painting to Wm. Griffin.....	184 00
Total.....	$1,217 42

The committee sold the old furniture and carpets at auction for $79, less $7.90 expenses.

FALL SESSION.—The Board convened November 5, 1870. A full Board present, except Supervisor–Fredericks.

AN INTERESTING QUESTION TOUCHING EXCISE.—at a previous meeting of the Board, a resolution was adopted denying the Commissioners of Excise the right to employ counsel to prosecute suits for them and conferring the right to employ counsel for them upon the Law Committee of the Supervisors. The Commissioners denied the right of the supervisors to interfere in the matter. Litigation ensued and the case finally terminated in the Court of Appeals, which court decided that the Commissioners of Excise had the power to employ counsel to prosecute such claims as they decided were proper to prosecute for any violation of the excise law. On Nov. 21, 1870, the report of the Committee on Equalization was presented. It is an interesting and instructive report, too long, however, to be inserted in this work; but the reader is referred to pages 37–38 of the journal of the Board of Supervisors for 1870 for the tabulated report, and to pages 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45 for the proceedings of the Supervisors, and the opinion of the Attorney General in relation to the said report.

On November 28, Joseph C. Y. Paige, City Chamberlain, made a report to the Supervisors of the county, pursuant to chapter 77, section 43, laws of 1870, that according to his estimate it would require for the expenses of the District Attorney's office for the ensuing year ending Oct. 31, 1871, the sum of $3,000 for the following purposes, viz.:

Salaries of two special officials at $1,200.....	$2,400 00
Traveling and other necessary expenses.....	600 00
Total.....	$3,000 00

GRAND JURORS.—On December 1, 1870, Mr. Adams, from the committee appointed to apportion the Grand Jurors for the County of Albany, reported as follows :

First Ward, 8; Second Ward, 8; Third Ward, 9; Fourth Ward, 13; Fifth Ward, 10; Sixth Ward, 14; Seventh Ward, 6; Eighth Ward, 10; Ninth Ward, 8; Tenth Ward, 6; Eleventh Ward, 13 ; Twelfth Ward, 9; Thirteenth Ward, 11; Fourteenth Ward, 9 ; Fifteenth Ward, 11 ; Sixteenth Ward, 11.

TOWNS.

Berne, 7 ; Bethlehem, 15 ; Coeymans, 10 ; Knox, 6 ; New Scotland, 9 ; Rensselaerville, 9 ; Guilderland, 11 ; Westerlo, 8 ; Cohoes, First Ward, 7 ; Cohoes, Second Ward, 5; Cohoes, Third Ward, 8; Cohoes, Fourth Ward, 5; Green Island, 5 ; West Troy, 24 ; Watervliet, 15.

CITY BUDGET.—On December 5 the City Budget was presented to the Board, which amounted in all to $675,573, $195,730 of which was for the support of Public Schools, pursuant to chapter 444, laws of 1866.

COUNTY TREASURER.—On December 7 Alexander Kennedy, County Treasurer, transmitted his annual statement of money received and disbursed from January 1, 1870, to December 1, 1870.

The receipts amounted to.....	$891,000 67
The disbursements were	891,000 67

EQUALIZATION OF ASSESSMENTS, COUNTY OF ALBANY, ANNUAL SESSION OF 1871.

The Board convened pursuant to statute, at the City Hall in the City of Albany, Tuesday, May 9, 1871. Supervisors present:

ALBANY.

First Ward, Peter Halpen ; Second Ward, Frederick Schifferdecker ; Third Ward, William J. Weaver ; Fourth Ward, Richard Bortle ; Fifth Ward, Thomas H. Craven ; Sixth Ward, John C. Feltman ; Seventh Ward, Ira Porter ; Eighth Ward, Henry R. Haskins ; Ninth Ward, Andrew

Kean; Tenth Ward, Andrew R. Hunter; Eleventh Ward, John McHaffie; Twelfth Ward, John McKenna; Thirteenth Ward, Edmund J. Lord; Fourteenth Ward, Michael H. Kenneally; Fifteenth Ward, Jacob H. Ten Eyck; Sixteenth Ward, Patrick H. Daly.

COHOES.

First Ward, Joseph Coleman; Second Ward, W. Taylor Dodge; Third Ward, John Scully; Fourth Ward, Solomon Dotter.

TOWNS.

Berne, William Zeh; Bethlehem, Albertus W. Becker; Coeymans, John B. Shear; Guilderland, Hiram Griggs; Knox, Peter Schoonmaker; New Scotland, Robert Taylor; Rensselaerville, Walter R. Tanner; Watervliet, Emmet Flagler; Westerlo, Warren Rosenkrans.

The following were the officers chosen for the year 1871:

President, William J. Wheeler; Clerk, Charles L. Pease; County Physician, Dr. Milton M. Lamb; Doorkeeper, Edward J. Flanegan.

STANDING COMMITTEES.—On May 10, 1871, the President announced the Standing Committees.

FALL SESSION.—The Board met according to adjournment, November 14, 1871, all members being present. After attending to the duties required of them as a Board of Canvassers, they adjourned.

COUNTY JUDGE'S SALARY.—On November 21, 1871, a communication was presented to the Board of Supervisors, signed by Hon. Hamilton Harris, Hon. Wm. L. Learned, Hon. Amasa J. Parker, Hon. Lyman Tremain, Hon. Samuel Hand, Warren S. Kelley, Esq., Simeon W. Rosendale, Esq., M. Frothingham, Esq., N. Swartz, Esq., and nearly every member of the profession in the city, setting forth that the duties of the County Judge would thereafter be very largely increased, in consequence of the enlarged jurisdiction given to the County Courts by the late amendments of the Constitution of the State, and that a salary of $5,000 per year would be no more than an adequate compensation for the performance of the duties of County Judge; and, therefore, as a matter of justice to the occupant of the office as for the dignity of the position, they respectfully ask the Board to fix the future salary of that office at a sum not less than $5,000. In accordance with this communication a resolution was adopted fixing the salary of County Judge on and after the 1st day of January then next at $5,000, in quarterly payments.

The County Treasurer transmitted his annual statement of moneys received and disbursed from the 1st of December, 1870, to the 1st of December, 1871, showing a balance on hand.

The whole amount of such receipts amounted to the sum of $1,164,420.11; the disbursements amounted that year to $1,164,420.11.

Equalized valuation of the City and County of Albany:

President Weaver, from the Committee on Equalization of Taxes, made the following report, which was adopted:

EQUALIZED VALUATION.

	Real.	Personal.	Total.
City of Albany	$25,771,837 00	$5,841,183 00	$31,613,020 00
Berne	674,780 94	14,864 37	689,645 31
Bethlehem	1,765,650 00	130,161 00	1,895,811 00
Coeymans	1,175,575 00	130,135 00	1,309,701 00
Guilderland	1,059,574 00	79,341 00	1,138,915 00
New Scotland	1,420,595 00	80,773 00	1,501,368 00
Knox	437,945 00	12,185 00	450,130 00
Rensselaerville	655,765 00	79,700 00	735,465 00
Westerlo	719,870 00	49,416 00	769,286 00
Watervliet	2,246,440 00	300,500 00	2,546,940 00
Green Island and W. T.	2,125,120 00	444,583 00	2,569,703 00
Cohoes	2,772,920 00	293,600 00	3,066,520 00
Total	$40,830,071 94	$7,456,441 37	$48,286,595 21

ANNUAL SPRING SESSION, 1872.

Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of Albany, held at the City Hall, in the City of Albany, May 14, 1872. Members present:

ALBANY.

First Ward, Charles A. Dennison; Second Ward, Peter Halpen; Third Ward, Moses White; Fourth Ward, Thomas H. Craven; Fifth Ward, Francis N. Sill; Sixth Ward, Horatio P. Prime; Seventh Ward, Marshall Tebbutt; Eighth Ward, John Daly; Ninth Ward, James McMurray; Tenth Ward, Leopold C. G. Kshinka; Eleventh Ward, John McHaffie; Twelfth Ward, William Hutchinson; Thirteenth Ward, Edmund J. Lord; Fourteenth Ward, Jacob H. Ten Eyck; Fifteenth Ward, George B. Hoyt; Sixteenth Ward, Robert S. Dumont.

COHOES.

First Ward, Michael Sherlock; Second Ward, W. Taylor Dodge; Third Ward, James McGuirk; Fourth Ward, William Nelligan.

TOWNS.

Berne, William Zeh; Bethlehem, Albertus W. Becker; Coeymans, Cornelius Van Derzee; Guilderland, Hiram Griggs; Knox, Peter Schoonmaker; New Scotland, Robert Taylor; Rensselaerville, William R. Tanner; Watervliet, Emmet Flagler; Westerlo, Orson L. Hannay.

Mr. Flagler offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the following-named persons be and are hereby appointed permanent officers of the Board of Supervisors of Albany County for the ensuing year:

President, Hiram Griggs; Clerk, William Anderson; County Physician, James F. McKown; Doorkeeper, Richard B. Hagadorn.

At a meeting of the Board May 15, 1872, the Chairman announced the standing committees.

At a meeting of the Board December 7, 1872, the Chairman from the Committee on Equalization reported as follows:

Cities and Towns.	Real.	Personal.	Total.
City of Albany	$27,771,839 00	$5,614,769 20	$33,386,608 20
Cohoes	2,795,805 00	290,100 00	3,085,905 00
Berne	656,217 00	19,671 00	675,888 00
Bethlehem	1,824,115 00	119,506 00	1,943,621 00
Coeymans	1,179,165 00	128,355 00	1,307,520 00
Guilderland	1,038,849 00	71,682 00	1,110,531 00
Knox	403,720 00	30,515 00	434,235 00
New Scotland	1,386,143 00	81,376 00	1,467,519 00
Rensselaerville	638,302 00	78,119 00	716,421 00
Westerlo	675,640 00	50,266 00	725,906 00
Watervliet	2,300,000 00	278,350 00	2,578,350 00
Green Island and West Troy	2,315,490 00	448,608 00	2,764,098 00
Grand Total	$42,985,285 00	$7,211,317 20	$50,196,602 20

H. Griggs, Geo. B. Hoyt, Jno. McHaffie, W. T. Dodge, H. A. Prince, A. W. Becker, O. L. Hannay, Wm. R. Tanner, L. C. G. Kshinka, Peter Halpin, *Committee.*

Report adopted.

THE CITY BUDGET was also presented at this meeting.

Mr. Schoonmaker, Chairman of the Finance Committee, moved that $200,000 of the war debt of the County be funded, which motion was adopted.

COUNTY BUDGET.—A motion was presented ordering that the sum of $771,626.31 be levied and assessed on the taxable property of the County of Albany, to be applied for various purposes, among which were the following:

State and school tax	$452,323 39
Support of Alms house	15,000 00
Support of Patients in State Lunatic Asylum	25,000 00
Supervisors and officers	13,000 00
Principal due on County bonds	174,000 00
Audited accounts	110,000 00
Contingents	15,000 00
Making with other items	$971,626 39

Less the sum of $200,000 ordered funded by the Board.

The ratio of taxation for State and County purposes was fixed by the Board at $1.54. The ratio of taxation in the City of Albany, City of Cohoes, and the several towns was fixed as follows:

City of Albany, $4.10; City of Cohoes, $1.72; Berne, $3.96; Bethlehem, $1.70; Coeymans, $1.80; Gilderland, $2.88; Knox, $2.00; New Scotland, $1.64; Rensselaerville, $3.00; Westerlo, $2.40; Watervliet, $2.24.

The great looseness in the form of accounts for legal services which had been presented to the Board, and also in the manner of their verification, led to the following by Mr. Kshinka:

Resolved, That no accounts for legal services rendered in any proceedings before any Justice of the Peace or Police Justice, shall be audited by the Board of Supervisors of Albany County, unless certified by the Justice before whom such proceedings shall be had that such services were actually necessary and rendered at his request, and all such accounts shall be accompanied by a statement showing the result of the proceedings in each case; which resolution was adopted.

The salary of the District Attorney was fixed and established at $4,500 per annum, commencing on the 1st of January, 1872.

Mr. Schoonmaker, from the Finance Committee, reported the following:

Resolved, That there be levied upon the taxable property of Albany the sum of $867,562.15 for the following purposes:

City Budget	$631,441 57
Police Department	116,500 00
Park Commissioners	61,864 56
City charges	11,794 29
Unpaid Taxes due the County	45,961 73
Total	$867,562 15

The Board adjourned December 19.

1873—ANNUAL SPRING SESSION.

The board met at their rooms in the City Hall, Tuesday, May 13, 1873.

Supervisors present:

ALBANY.

First Ward, Charles A. Dennison; Second Ward, John Lyons; Third Ward, Moses White; Fourth Ward, James Macfarlane; Fifth Ward, Alexander H. Wands; Sixth Ward, Horatio P. Prime; Seventh Ward, Marshall Tebbutt; Eighth Ward, John Daly; Ninth Ward, James Condon; Tenth Ward, Leopold C. G. Kshinka; Eleventh Ward, John McHaffie; Twelfth Ward, Wm. E. Murphy; Thirteenth Ward, Edmund J. Lord; Fourteenth Ward, Jacob H. Ten Eyck; Fifteenth Ward, Charles L. Pease; Sixteenth Ward, Warren S. Low.

COHOES.

First Ward, Silas Owen; Second Ward, George E. Simmons; Third Ward, James McGuirk; Fourth Ward, Cornelius Vandercook.

TOWNS.

Berne, William Zeh; Bethlehem, Albertus W. Becker; Coeymans, Cornelius Vanderzee; Guilderland, Hiram Griggs; Knox, Tunis Slingerland; New Scotland, Horace T. Devereux, Watervliet, Jesse C. Dayton; Westerlo, Orison L. Hannay. Chairman, Hiram Griggs; Clerk, Michael J. Powers; County Physician, Dr. J. F. McKown.

This session of the Board of Supervisors in its organization and appointments resembled the Assembly in many respects.

Among the matters of resemblance, two pages were on motion appointed, and their appointment was given to the Chairman, and seats were drawn. Spectators were impressed with the dignity, ability and courtesy which characterized the proceedings of the Board. It was indeed in all respects what the Legislature of the capital county of the State ought to be.

After the usual routine of business the Board adjourned.

Special Session.—August 20, 1873, the Board met in special session. On the 26th of August the Supervisors met the State Board of Assessors at Albany. This meeting was the only business transacted at this session, and that was of little importance.

Fall Session.—The Board met November 11, 1873; all the members present. After concluding their business as canvassers they adjourned till November 12, and proceeded with the regular order of business, presentation of petitions, of accounts, reports of standing committees and miscellaneous business.

A communication was read from N. K. Hopkins, Comptroller of the State, stating that the Board of Equalization of Taxes, in pursuance of chapter 312 of the laws of 1859, had fixed the aggregate valuation of property in Albany County at the sum of $49,631,006, upon which a State tax of $344,935.49 had to be levied for the then current fiscal year beginning October 1, 1873, being $6\frac{95}{100}$ mills on the dollar, for the following purposes:

	Mills.	Per chap.	Laws of
For schools	$1\frac{1}{4}$	756	1873
For general purposes	$1\frac{1}{2}$	765	1873
For bounty debt	2	765	1873
For new Capitol	$1\frac{1}{2}$	765	1873
For asylums and reformatories	$\frac{6}{16}$	765	1873
For canal floating debt under chap. 171, laws 1859	$\frac{1}{8}$	765	1873
For new work on canals and extra repairs	$\frac{1}{2}$	766	1873
For payment of awards by Canal Appraisers and Canal Commissioners, pay certificates of indebtedness and deficiency in sinking fund	$\frac{7}{10}$	708	1873
For academies and union schools	$\frac{1}{16}$	765	1873
Total	$6\frac{95}{100}$		

The following interesting report shows the amount which had been contributed from criminals by way of fines and penalties to the treasury of the County during the year 1873:

From Court of Oyer and Terminer and Court of County Sessions	$575 00
Amount due County Treasurer last report	55 00
By amount paid County Treasurer	$630 00

From Court Special Sessions	$1,514 28
Amount due City Chamberlain last report	182 00
	$1,696 28
By amount paid City Chamberlain	1,633 28
By amount due " "	$63 00

COUNTY TREASURER'S REPORT.

The County Treasurer's report from January 1 to November 29, 1873, inclusive, shows that the receipts to that time were $1,211,922.53; the disbursements were $1,211,922.53. The amount on hand as per report was $52,500.

Printing Accounts.—Among the accounts for printing was the *Times* printing account, which was allowed and audited at $1,648.25. The amount paid the *Argus* Company for printing was allowed at $3,868.04.

Henly & Co. were also allowed the sum of $1,690.36 for printing; the Albany *Knickerbocker*, $789.75; Albany *Evening Post*, $627.75; Albany *County Democrat*, $209.25; Albany Publishing Company, $861.75; William Bean, $320; making a sum total of $9,955.14.

War Loan Bonds.—As there was to fall due on the 1st of March, 1874, the sum of $183,000 of War Loan Bonds of the County, the payment of which would largely increase the rate of taxation, already excessively large, it was proposed that the Finance Committee borrow, on the credit of the County, that sum and issue County bonds therefor, with interest payable semi-annually, and the principal in three annual installments, payable March 1, 1881, 1882 and 1883. That such bonds be issued in the sums of $100, $500 and $1,000 each.

Coroners.—The amount of Coroners' and Physicians' fees for holding *post mortem* examinations from December 31, 1868, to December 31, 1873, inclusive, amounted to the sum of $13,742. As these bills were yearly in the increase, many of the members of the Board pronounced the charges exorbitant, and therefore proposed to make the office of the Coroner of Albany County a salaried office, giving the Board of Supervisors power to determine the amount.

The assessment roll of the city this year showed a total value of real estate to be $29,417.870; personal, $4,970,457.50; total, $34,388,327.50.

The assessment roll of the City of Cohoes for the year showed a total valuation of real estate to be $3,084,208; personal, $378,400; total, $3,462,608.

The assessment rolls of the towns in the County of Albany showed a total valuation of real estate to be $11,610,523; personal, $1,158,899.17; making a grand total of $12,769,422.17.

Grand totals of Albany, Cohoes, and the towns in the county, $50,610,357.67.

Homeopathic Hospital.—The sum of $1,000 was ordered to be paid by the County Treasurer toward the Homeopathic Hospital.

EQUALIZATION OF TAXES, ALBANY COUNTY, 1873.

	Acres.	Rate.	Real.	Personal.	Total.
City of Albany	.....	.....	$28,627,751 87	$4,970,457 50	$33,598,209 37
Berne	38,953	$17 00	662,201 00	18,520 21	680,721 21
Bethlehem	31,481	57 64	1,814,584 84	109,802 00	1,924,386 84
Coeymans	30,170	39 00	1,176,630 00	137,700 00	1,314,330 00
Guilderland	36,985	25 00	924,625 00	86,357 00	1,010,982 00
Knox	25,936	15 50	402,008 00	9,680 00	411,688 00
New Scotland	36,301	38 39	1,393,595 39	74,350 00	1,467,945 39
Rensselaerville	37,003	17 24	638,136 00	76,116 17	714,252 17
Westerlo	35,554½	19 00	675,535 50	37,516 00	713,051 50
Watervliet	33,340	70 91	2,364,139 40	270,050 00	2,634,189 40
Green Island and W. Troy	.....	.....	2,349,186 00	339,153 00	2,688,339 00
Cohoes	.....	.....	3,084,208 00	378,400 00	3,462,608 00
Totals	.....	.....	$44,112,601 00	$6,508,101 88	$50,620,702 88

CITY BUDGET.—The amount levied upon the taxable property of the City of Albany this year was $201,444.11; as follows:

Police Department	$116,500 00
Park Commissioners	35,431 00
City charges	15,013 00
Unpaid taxes due county	34,500 11
Total	$201,444 11

There was levied on the taxable property of the county this year the sum of $955,162.49, less $150,000, ordered funded by the Board, the same to be applied to the salaries of officers, etc. The largest item in the making of this account is the State and school tax, which amounted to $344,-935.49.

PUBLISHING THE AUDITS.—The *Sunday Press*, the *Cohoes News*, and *Times* and *Post*, were designated as papers to print the county audits.

NEW COUNTY BUILDINGS.—On December 10, 1873, Hon. Amasa J. Parker and Hon. Henry Smith addressed the Board concerning the erection of a new county building. Among other things, Judge Parker recommended that the lot fronting on Maiden lane, between the City Hall and jail, be obtained for the purpose of erecting thereon a suitable county building, so that prisoners could be conducted immediately from the jail to the court-room without danger of escape, and with no undue exposure. It would seem that the convenient causeway between the jail and the New City Hall was the result of Judge Parker's suggestion, referred to in his address.

The County Treasurer's report for the year 1873 shows that his receipts amounted to $1,211,922.53; the disbursements amounted to $1,211,922.53; the balance on hand was $52,500.

TOWN AUDITS.—The town audits for this year were as follows:

Berne	$3,618 87
Bethlehem	2,933 25
Coeymans	1,954 89
Guilderland	2,024 68
Knox	762 11
New Scotland	1,050 51
Rensselaerville	4,368 22
Westerlo	1,423 91
Watervliet	46,875 85

Election accounts and town elections:

Cohoes City, election accounts arising in the several wards at the general election of 1873	$688.89
Albany City	362,007.51

1874—SPRING SESSION.

The Annual Spring Session of the Board of Supervisors for this year commenced on Tuesday, May 12. Supervisors present:

First Ward, Augustus Whitman; Second Ward, Peter Lasch; Third Ward, John H. Finn; Fourth Ward, James Macfarlane; Fifth Ward, James Allanson; Sixth Ward, Horatio P. Prime; Seventh Ward, Worthington Foland; Eighth Ward, John Daly; Ninth Ward, John Kirkpatrick; Tenth Ward, George Messer; Eleventh Ward, Edward Kays; Twelfth Ward, John H. Grogan; Thirteenth Ward, Charles H. Smith; Fourteenth Ward, Jacob H. Ten Eyck; Fifteenth Ward, Charles L. Pease; Sixteenth Ward, Warren S. Low, Jr.

COHOES.

First Ward, Thomas O'Dea; Second Ward, George E. Simmons; Third Ward, James Quirk; Fourth Ward, Maurice Fitzgerald.

TOWNS.

Berne, George H. Reinhart; Bethlehem, Albertus W. Becker; Coeymans, Nelson Schermerhorn; Knox, Hiram Gage; Guilderland, Hiram Griggs; New Scotland, Henry H. Meed; Rensselaerville, Horace T. Devereux; Westerlo, Daniel M. Wooster; Watervliet, Jesse C. Dayton.

The following officers were elected:

President, Jesse C. Dayton; Clerk, Michael J. Powers; County Physician, Dr. D. V. O'Leary; Doorkeeper, James McCormick.

At a meeting held May 14 the President announced the Standing Committees.

The *Albany Argus* and *Express* were appointed to be the county papers for the ensuing year.

DRAWING OF JURORS.—It was

Resolved, That a wheel-box, similar to those usually used in drafts for military purposes, be procured, to be used by the County Clerk, Judge and Sheriff in the drawing of Grand and Petit Jurors; that these officers superintend such drawing; that any member of this Board may at any time visit said box and see that all the names are placed therein.

FALL SESSION.—The Board convened on November 10, 1874, all the members being present. After discharging their duties as County Canvassers the Board adjourned.

THE COUNTY BUILDINGS.—The committee to whom the subject of erecting County Buildings was

committed submitted a very able and elaborate report. They reported a building providing accommodation for all the County officers of the Tenth regiment, a County Court-room much larger than the present one, and a smaller Court-room which might be used when, as frequently occurs, several Courts are in session at the same time. If the building was entirely fireproof it would cost $164,000; if only basement and first floor fireproof, $124,000.

To this the cost of property to be purchased of private parties had to be added. The site was between the City Hall and the County Jail, running through from Pine street to Maiden lane, and was owned in part by the City of Albany, the County of Albany and private parties.

ASSESSED VALUE OF PROPERTY.—The assessed value of real estate in this county for the year 1869 was $35,345,497. The State Board of Equalization placed the equalized valuation at $40,000,000, being $4,654,503 above the assessed value.

The assessed value of real estate for the year 1873 was	$44,188,851
While the equalized was placed at	43,161,203
Being less than the assessed	$1,027,648
Thus it will be seen that in 1870 the county was equalized above assessed	$4,654,503
While in 1873 the equalized was less than	1,027,648
Making a sum of	$5,682,151

The Chairman presented a communication, showing the number of days which had been occupied by the different Courts in the city during the year :

Special Term, 16 days; General Term, 51; Circuit and Court of Oyer and Terminer, 102; County Court and Court of Sessions, 95; Special Session Supreme Court, 54—making in all 318 days.

CITY BUDGET—Amounted this year to the sum of $732,230.83.

The amount of uncollected personal tax was $18,717.14.

UNLICENSED PHYSICIANS.—The following was adopted :

Resolved, That hereafter this Board will not allow any physician's claim unless he be a member of a county medical society, or has received a license to practice his profession from some medical college or board of censors.

The annual account of N. D. Wendell, Treasurer of the County, shows receipts from all sources amounted this year to $1,250,840.19. Disbursements were $1,250,840.19. The balance on hand was $57,000.00.

ALBANY POLICE FORCE.—The sum of $114,000 was designated as the sum required to defray the expenses of the Police force of the City of Albany for the year ending November 30, 1875, pursuant to the provision of Sec. 37, Chap. 77 of the Laws of 1870.

The Special Committee appointed to make the apportionment of Grand Jurors for the different cities and towns reported as follows :

ALBANY CITY.

First Ward, 8; Second Ward, 10; Third Ward, 10; Fourth Ward, 14; Fifth Ward, 10; Sixth Ward, 11; Seventh Ward, 7; Eighth Ward, 13; Ninth Ward, 9; Tenth Ward, 11; Eleventh Ward, 13; Twelfth Ward, 10; Thirteenth Ward, 11; Fourteenth Ward, 11; Fifteenth Ward, 10; Sixteenth Ward, 11.

TOWNS.

Bethlehem, 11; New Scotland 8; Guilderland, 10; Coeymans, 9; Berne, 6; Rensselaer, 7; Westerlo, 6; Knox, 5.

COHOES CITY.

First Ward, 9; Second Ward, 8; Third Ward, 9; Fourth Ward, 5; Green Island, 5; West Troy, 21; Watervliet, 12.

ASSESSMENT ROLLS.

City of Albany, for 1875.

Value of real property	$30,386,889 00
" personal property	4,284,050 00
Total	$34,670,939 00

City of Cohoes.

Value of real property	$3,182,069 00
" personal property	425,909 00
Total	$3,607,968 00

Towns.

Value of real property	$11,734,174 60
" personal property	1,128,038 60
Total	$12,862,212 20
Grand total of real and personal property	$51,140,110 20

ALBANY COUNTY WAR LOAN BONDS.

A Tabular Statement of Principal and Interest coming due yearly from 1875 to 1886, inclusive. Principal payable March 1. Interest payable semi-annually on the first days of March and September.

1875.*		1876.	
Principal.	Interest.	Principal.	Interest.
$174,900 00	$71,600 00	$126,000 00	$70,000 00
71,600 00	.....	70,000 00	.....
$246,500 00	.....	$196,000 00	.....

1877.		1878.	
Principal.	Interest.	Principal.	Interest.
$150,000 00	$61,200 00	$250,000 00	$50,700 00
61,200 00	.....	50,700 00	.....
$211,200 00	.....	$300,700 00	.....

1879.		1880.	
Principal.	Interest.	Principal.	Interest.
$87,000 00	$33,000 00	$87,000 00	$27,000 00
33,000 00	.....	27,000 00	.....
$120,000 00	.....	$114,000 00	.....

* Leaving $1,000,000 outstanding after those due in 1875 are paid.

1881.		1882.	
Principal.	Interest.	Principal.	Interest.
$50,000 00	$21,000 00	$50,000 00	$17,500 00
21,000 00	.....	17,500 00	.....
$71,000 00	.....	$67,500 00	.....

1883.		1884.	
Principal.	Interest.	Principal.	Interest.
$50,000 00	$14,000 00	$50,000 00	$10,500 00
14,000 00	.....	10,500 00	.....
$64,000 00	.....	$60,500 00	.....

1885.		1886.	
Principal.	Interest.	Principal.	Interest.
$50,000 00	$7,000 00	$50,000 00	$3,500 00
7,000 00	.....	3,500 00	.....
$57,000 00	.....	$53,500 00	....

1875.—ANNUAL SPRING SESSION.

The Board met at their rooms in the City Hall, Tuesday, May 11, 1875. Supervisors present:

ALBANY.

First Ward, Charles Kirchner; Second Ward, Peter Lasch; Third Ward, Samuel J. Mee; Fourth Ward, James Macfarlane; Fifth Ward, Peter Kennear; Sixth Ward, E. C. Koonze; Seventh Ward, H. R. Haskins; Eighth Ward, William Dwyer; Ninth Ward, John Kirkpatrick; Tenth Ward, James Rooney; Eleventh Ward, Edward Kays; Twelfth Ward, William J. Carroll, Charles Gaus; Thirteenth Ward, Charles H. Gaus; Fourteenth Ward, William H. Haskell; Fifteenth Ward, Charles L. Pease; Sixteenth Ward, Warren S. Low, Jr.

COHOES.

First Ward, Thomas O'Dea; Second Ward, Frank Brown, Jr.; Third Ward, Thomas B. Golden; Fourth Ward, Solomon Dotter.

TOWNS.

Berne, George H. Reinhart; Bethlehem, John Wemple; Coeymans, Nelson Schemerhorn; Knox, James M. Chesebro; Guilderland, Hiram Griggs; New Scotland, Tunis Slingerland; Rensselaerville, Horace T. Devereux; Westerlo, Daniel M. Wooster; Watervliet, Jesse C. Dayton.

OFFICERS.

President, Henry R. Haskins; Clerk, M. J. Powers; County Physician, Dr. D. V. O'Leary; Doorkeeper, John McGrath, Jr.

After drawing seats and the appointment of pages the Board adjourned until the next day, when the President named the Standing Committees.

JAIL AT WEST TROY.—After the announcement of the Standing Committees Dr. Buffington was appointed Physician at West Troy.

The several justices of the peace of the county were on motion directed to forward to the Board, by the 15th of November, their next report of the names of all persons sentenced to confinement in the Albany jail since January 1, 1875.

EXTRA SESSION.—An extra session of the Board convened August 3, 1875, for the purpose of considering the census claims. All the members were present. After full consideration and settlement of this matter the Board adjourned until the fall session.

FALL SESSION.—This session convened Tuesday, November 9, 1875, all the members present except President Haskins, whereupon Hiram Griggs was elected president *pro tem.*

CITY BUDGET.—On November 30 the city budget was received from Martin Delehanty, Clerk of the Common Council, which amounted in gross to $599,050 46. Under a recent act the adoption of the report of the budgets required a vote of two-thirds of all the members. As two-thirds of the members present voted in favor of the budget, it was adopted.

COUNTY TREASURER'S REPORT.—On December 2 the County Treasurer submitted the annual report, showing that the money received by him during the year from all sources amounted to $1,146,128.92; disbursements, $1,146,128.92. This report was submitted to the Finance Committee.

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.—On a formal ballot J. D. Burger was elected sealer of weights and measures for the then ensuing year.

JUVENILE DELINQUENTS.—By the laws of 1874, page 570, section 29, boards of supervisors, as we have seen, in the several counties, are empowered to determine the compensation of officers conducting juvenile delinquents to the House of Refuge, and of lunatics to the Lunatic Asylum. A resolution was therefore presented to the Board fixing the compensation fees for such services as follows:

For conveying one prisoner.....$20 00
Two prisoners on one day..... ..... 35 00

COUNTY BUDGET.—On December 7, 1875, the county budget was presented and adopted, which amounted in gross to $739,667.40; this sum was less amount funded $100,000. The following was adopted:

Resolved, That there be levied upon the taxable property of the city of Albany the sum of $839,367.40, less one hundred thousand dollars ordered funded by the Board, and that the same be applied according to the amounts named in the said budget.

PHYSICIANS AND CORONERS AGAIN.—The difficulty and embarrassment connected with the fees of physicians and coroners continued, notwithstanding strenuous efforts to adjust the difficulties, until December 23, 1875, when the Board went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Haskell in the chair, on the following resolution:

Resolved, That all physicians of this county shall receive for their services, when attending *post mortem* examinations by order of a coroner, the following fees:

For viewing the body and external examinations, and a certificate given to show cause of death, three dollars.

For viewing a body as to external appearances, with description of bruises, cuts, etc., five dollars.

Post mortem examination of thoracic cavity and dissection of heart and lungs, seven dollars.

Post mortem examination of thoracic and abdominal cavities, with dissection of their respective organs, ten dollars.

Post mortem examination of thoracic and abdominal organs and dissection of brain, fifteen dollars.

Examination as to sanity, five dollars.

Examination microscopically of the muscular tissues, as in trichinosis, by order of the Board of Health, twenty-five dollars.

The title was fixed, "Regulating the fees of physicians of Albany County." This resolution was ordered to a third reading.

On January 6, 1876, the Board went into Committee of the Whole on the following:

Resolved, That no coroner of the county shall hereafter order a *post mortem* examination of any case unless there is a suspicion that death has been caused by foul play or other mysterious cause, nor until he shall have consulted with the District Attorney of the county or his deputy, and received the opinion of those officers as to the propriety of such examination.

No claim for *post mortem* examination shall be hereafter audited unless bearing the affidavit of the coroner that the services therein charged were in fact rendered, and the certificate of the County Physician and District Attorney or his deputy that such examination was, in their opinion, necessary. Hereafter the coroner shall be allowed no fee for mileage while attending an inquest within the limits of the city in which the coroner resides.

The title was fixed, "An act providing for the manner of holding *post mortem* examinations," and was ordered to a third reading.

The Annual Spring Session of the Board of Supervisors was held at the City Hall, in the City of Albany, May 9, 1876.

The following members present:

ALBANY CITY.

First Ward, Augustus Whitman; Second Ward, John Lyons; Third Ward, Robert J. McCormick; Fourth Ward, Edward A. Maher; Fifth Ward, Wm. J. Flynn; Sixth Ward, E. C. Koonz; Seventh Ward, James Young; Eighth Ward, Wm. Dwyer; Ninth Ward, John Kirkpatrick; Tenth Ward, Thomas Hyde; Eleventh Ward, Edward Keays; Twelfth Ward, William A. Carroll; Thirteenth Ward, Charles H. Gaus; Fourteenth Ward, Wm. H. Haskell; Fifteenth Ward, Patrick H. Daly; Sixteenth Ward, D. J. Norton.

COHOES.

First Ward, Thomas Murphy; Second Ward, Frank Brown, Jr.; Third Ward, Thomas B. Golden; Fourth Ward, Joseph Stewart; Fifth Ward, George E. Simmons.

TOWNS.

Berne, T. J. Wood; Bethlehem, John Wemple; Coeymans, James N. Powell; Guilderland, Hiram Griggs; Knox, James M. Cheseboro; New Scotland, D. J. Raynsford; Rensselaerville, Albert T. Moore; Westerlo, D. M. Wooster; Watervliet, J. C. Dayton.

The calling of the roll of members proceeded until Wm. Dwyer, of the Eighth Ward, was called, when Mr. Wm. Rahill presented a protest against calling the name of any person from the Eighth Ward, as Supervisor, except his own, and submitted a certificate of that office from the Common Council of the City, and also the certificate of the County Clerk that he had duly qualified as required by law.

The Board adjourned till afternoon, when a somewhat bitter contest ensued over the matter. A motion to adjourn was lost; but after more argument an adjournment until evening was agreed to.

At five o'clock, there being no quorum, the Board adjourned.

In formal session, November 20, 1876, the Board convened; the Board was present with the exception of Messrs. Brown and Moore.

The Board assembled to take action in regard to the death of *Michael J. Powers*, late Clerk of the Board.

Appropriate resolutions expressive of esteem were presented by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Wm. J. Flynn, which were adopted.

At a meeting held November 21, 1876, the Board proceeded to ballot for officers, which resulted as follows:

President, Wm. H. Haskell.
Clerk, Daniel Fitzpatrick.
Journal Clerk, John Marcellus.
Doorkeeper, George Carroll.
County Physician, John M. Bigelow.

The President announced as pages Charles Sands and John Arthur.

At the afternoon session the President announced the list of Standing Committees.

At a meeting of the Board December 4, 1876, THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNTY TREASURER, showing receipts and disbursements of the office for the year ending November 30, 1876:

Balance on hand at last report		$1,700 03
Total receipts		$1,081,008 16
DISBURSEMENTS:		
State general tax	$327,817 40	
Rejected taxes	784 33	
		$328,601 73
City of Albany.		
School fund	$45,864 00	
Alms house	20,000 00	
District Attorney's office	2,500 00	
Water rents, 1875	11,519 55	
		$79,383 55
City of Cohoes.		
School funds		$9,723 44
County Towns.		
School funds		$27,058 87
Audited accounts		140,807 65
Asylum accounts		51,627 99
Court expenses		41,969 92
Salary account		35,763 97
Balance		44,646 26
Other items not here included which make up a total		$1,081,008 16
Estimate of disbursements for December		50,000 00

The Chairman presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Board of Supervisors of the County be and are hereby requested to cause to be raised, assessed and collected by tax upon the taxable property in the City of Albany, in the manner provided by law, the following sum: $609,409.25.

Then follows a table setting forth the different uses for which the sum is to be expended.

The Mayor, Hon. A. Bleecker Banks, presented the following amendment, which was accepted:

I approve all the items in the foregoing, except the following, to which I object:

Homeopathic hospital	$2,000
Albany hospital and dispensary	3,000
St. Peter's hospital and dispensary	3,000
	$8,000

Leaving the sum to be raised by tax at $601,409.25.

The sum of $1,000 was apportioned to the Committee on Roads and Bridges for the different towns in the county.

At a meeting of the Board Friday, December 8, the Committee on Finance reported favorably on the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That the Finance Committee be and they are hereby authorized to borrow on the credit of the county the sum of $100,000, to pay a portion of the bonds maturing during the year 1877, and to issue therefor county bonds with interest at six per cent., payable semi-annually, and the principal payable March 1, 1889 and 1890, $50,000 each; and that each bond be signed by the Chairman of this Board and the County Treasurer; and that such bonds be issued in the sum of $1,000 each; and that the bonds be sold at public auction on the 15th of February, 1877, the sale to be advertised for two weeks in the official county papers; and that the Finance Committee receive proposals for engraving and printing such bonds, and let the same to the lowest responsible bidder; and that the Finance Committee pay to the County Treasurer the proceeds of the sale of said bonds.

The Finance Committee were also directed to apply to the next Legislature for a law authorizing this County to issue bonds to the amount of $100,000, to replace in part the amount coming due March 1, 1877.

The following is a STATEMENT of the REAL AND PERSONAL *property of Albany* COUNTY *as assessed* in 1876:

City of Albany.

Total real estate	$31,759,294 00
Total personal	3,857,850 00
Grand total	$35,617,144 00

City of Cohoes.

Total	$3,273,913 00
Total personal	420,200 00
Grand total	$3,694,113 00

Towns.

Total real estate	$12,006,691 00
Total personal	1,022,100 68
Grand total	13,028,791 68

The grand total of Albany, Cohoes and towns:

Real estate	$47,039,898 00
Personal	5,300,150 68
Grand total	$52,340,048 68

REPORT ON EQUALIZED VALUATION of real estate per acre in the towns of the County are as follows:

Berne, $17.45; Bethlehem, $65.20; Coeymans, $40; Guilderland, $28.35; Knox, $16; New Scotland, $39.50; Rensselaerville, $18.25; Westerlo, $19.77; Watervliet, $15.73½.

It was also adopted that the rates of taxation be fixed as follows:

City of Albany, for that portion added to the city in 1870, $2.18; portion west of Allen street, $2.38; remainder of the city, $3.38.

On each $100 of the assessed valuation for city and county purposes:

For the town of Berne, $2.74; for the town of Bethlehem, $1.53; for the town of Guilderland, $1.60; for the town of Knox, $1.66; for the town of Rensselaerville, $1.96; for the town of Westerlo, $2.04; for the town of Coeymans, $1 50; for the town of Cohoes, $1.36; for the town of Watervliet, $2.08; for the town of New Scotland, $1.36.

At a meeting of the Board, December 13, the balloting for papers to publish the audits at $60 per paper. The following were the papers designated: *Argus*, *Cohoes Daily News*, *Evening Journal*, *Rensselaerville Press*, *Cohoes Democrat*, *Evening Times*, *Morning Express* and *Albany Herald*.

The death of Warren S. Low, a former member of the Board of Supervisors, was announced by Mr. Norton, who offered a preamble and resolutions, which were copied and transmitted to the family of the deceased.

The proceedings of the annual spring session of the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of Albany, held May 8, 1877.

Members of new Board:

ALBANY CITY.

First Ward, Jacob Steigleman; Second Ward, Thomas Powers; Third Ward, Edward H. Long; Fourth Ward, Edward A. Maher; Fifth Ward, Wm. J. Flynn; Sixth Ward, James A. Shattuck; Seventh Ward, James Young; Eighth Ward, Michael J. McDonald; Ninth Ward, Mathew J. Tiernan; Tenth Ward, John Hedrick; Eleventh Ward, Isaac N. Lansing; Twelfth Ward, William H. McCall; Thirteenth Ward, Charles H. Smith; Fourteenth Ward, Charles R. Knowles; Fifteenth Ward, Patrick H. Daly; Sixteenth Ward, Wm. H. Murray.

COHOES.

First Ward, Thomas Murphy; Second Ward, Frank C. Reavy; Third Ward, Frank Tessier; Fourth Ward, John P. Weber; Fifth Ward, George E. Simmons.

TOWNS.

Berne, Frederick W. Conger; Bethlehem, W. C. Hotaling; Coeymans, J. H. Powell; Guilderland, J. C. Grant; Knox, J. M. Chesebro; New Scotland, D. V. S. Raynesford; Rensselaerville, Albert T. Moore; Watervliet, Jesse C. Dayton; Westerlo, D. M. Wooster. President, J. C. Dayton; Clerk, Thomas H. Craven; County Physician, William Geoghegan, Jr.; Journal Clerk, Wm. E. Murphy; Sealer of Weights and Measures, Philip Madden; Doorkeeper, James Nolan.

The Board adjourned till May 8.

The Supervisors convened at 2.50 o'clock on Wednesday, May 8; the minutes of the former meeting read and approved, after which the President made the announcement of standing committees for the ensuing year.

Mr. Daly offered the following, which was adopted:

Whereas, At a meeting of the Board of Supervisors held December 8, 1874, a resolution was adopted authorizing the governors of the Albany Hospital to execute a mortgage on the hospital lot and buildings in this city to the extent of $30,000;

Whereas, The said hospital is in an embarrassed condition, judgments are recorded against the hospital, and the property is advertised to be sold at sheriff's sale; therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of three members be appointed, together with the District Attorney, to look after the interest of the County.

Messrs. Flynn, Daly and Knowles were appointed such committee.

BALLOTING FOR THE ELECTION OF COUNTY PAPERS.

The *Argus* and *Times* were chosen as County papers.

Board adjourned.

FALL SESSION.—November 13, 1877, the Board convened. All members present. On motion of Mr. Maher the Board adjourned as a Board of Supervisors, and agreed to meet as a Board of Canvassers November 14.

TROUBLE WITH NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS.

By the provisions of chapter 215 of the laws of 1870, it was made the duty of each supervisor in the State, at the annual meeting of the boards, to appoint printers for publishing the laws of their respective counties. The act provides that the act shall be made as follows:

Each member of the Board shall designate by ballot one newspaper printed in the county to publish the laws, and the paper having the highest number of votes, and the paper having the next highest number of votes, shall be the papers designated for printing the laws; provided such papers be of the opposite politics and fairly represent the two political parties into which the people of the county are divided; and if said papers so balloted for and chosen are not of opposite politics, and do not fairly represent the two principal political parties into which the people of the county are divided, such balloting and such choice shall be of no effect, and the balloting shall continue until two papers, if there be such in the county, are chosen that meet the requirements above set forth.

It was claimed that the Board and each member thereof entirely neglected the said law and its instructions, whereupon a mandamus was served upon the Chairman of the Board to compel obedience to the said law in the case of The People *ex rel.* Jacob C. Culyer *vs.* The Board of Supervisors of Albany County, Peckham and Tremain, attorneys for relator.

After the reading of the mandamus Mr. Flynn said it was quite clear that the Board must proceed to a designation of papers, and he presumed the matter would be satisfactorily disposed of at their next meeting.

At a meeting of the Board, held November 20, on motion of Mr. Shattuck, the Board proceeded to ballot for county papers, which ballot resulted in the election of the *Argus* and *Express* as county papers for the ensuing year, thus ending all further difficulty in the matter.

At the meeting of the Board December 4, the Chairman presented the

TREASURER'S REPORT OF RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand at last report	$44,646 26
Total amount of receipts	$1,071,547 25
Disbursements	$1,071,547 25
Balance on hand	$78,796 49

December 6, 1877, the Chairman presented the following communication from the citizens of Albany:

To Hon. Jesse C. Dayton, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Albany County.

DEAR SIR: The undersigned citizens and taxpayers of the City of Albany have been pleased to see that your Board has disallowed the large claims presented by various newspaper proprietors for the unauthorized publication of laws, proceedings, etc. The allowance of such illegal charges has been a great grievance and is becoming absolutely intolerable. We trust that your Board will firmly adhere to its decision in spite of any clamor and denunciation in which the disappointed parties may indulge. We trust, too, that it will in a like manner discountenance and disallow all improper and illegal charges from whatever source they may come. By so doing, although you may incur the ill-will of baffled raiders on the county treasury, you will receive the support and praise of all good citizens.

Dated December 5, 1877.

This communication was signed by twenty-one of the first citizens of Albany, and was ordered filed.

Also the following communication from Mr. Nathan D. Wendell, County Treasurer:

The following is a statement of the balance due the county from the several cities and towns at this date, November 30, 1877:

City of Albany	$17,734 87
City of Cohoes	2,216 09
Town of Berne	2,566 77
Town of Bethlehem	1,058 57
Town of Coeymans	61 91
Town of Guilderland	213 92
Town of Knox	93 83
Town of New Scotland	31 93
Town of Rensselaerville	2,191 92
Town of Westerlo	489 33
Town of Watervliet	715 58
Total	$27,469 72

The report of the Committee on Assessment Rolls presented the following report:

The assessed value of the real and personal property in the county as assessed in 1877 is as follows:

Total assessed value of real and personal property:

City of Albany	$36,164,284 00
City of Cohoes	3,641,494 00
Towns	12,773,362 40
Grand total	$52,580,135 40

On the 7th of December Mr. Lansing offered the following, which was adopted:

Whereas, The term of office of Supervisors is fixed by law at one year; and

Whereas, The duties of said officers are onerous and of grave responsibility, and members of the Board are held to a strict accountability by their immediate constituency, and it is impossible for a Supervisor to learn the whole duties in one term; and

Whereas, The said Board of Supervisors should be a continuous body, and the members thereof should be elected for a term of three years, similar to the Senate of the United States, one-third expiring every year; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Committee on Application to the Legislature petition that body on behalf of this Board, at the next session, for an act making the election of Supervisors of this county for a term of three years, and one-third thereof expiring and electing yearly.

On December 8 the President from the Committee on Equalization presented the following statement:

The equalized valuation of real and personal property in the City of Albany amounts to	$34,357,310 90
City of Cohoes amounts to	4,041,494 00
Towns	14,181,330 50
Total	$52,580,135 40

On December 27 Mr. McDonald called up a resolution naming the following papers as papers designated to publish county audits : *Argus, Times, Freie Blatter, Albany County Democrat, Morning Express, Rensselaer Press, Coeymans Herald, Albany Evening Post, Albany Herald, Cohoes Daily News.*

Mr. Smith moved to amend by making the amount to be paid for the same $60 per paper.

Adopted.

Adjourned December 28, *sine die.*

ANNUAL SESSION, MAY 14, 1878.

Supervisors present.

ALBANY.

First Ward, Frederick U. Bresler; Second Ward, Thomas Powers; Third Ward, John Bowe; Fourth Ward, Timothy J. Sullivan; Sixth Ward, Ignatius Wiley; Seventh Ward, James Young; Eighth Ward, Michael J. McDonald; Ninth Ward, William Wright; Tenth Ward, Herbert R. Starkweather; Eleventh Ward, Isaac N. Lansing; Twelfth Ward, William H. McCall; Thirteenth Ward, Charles R. Smith; Fourteenth Ward, Charles K. Knowles; Fifteenth Ward, Patrick H. Daly; Sixteenth Ward, James Stackhouse.

COHOES CITY.

First Ward, William O'Brien; Second Ward, Truman W. Reynolds; Third Ward, Daniel Sullivan; Fourth Ward, Lucius Alexander ; Fifth Ward, George E. Simmons.

TOWNS.

Berne, Frederick W. Conger; Bethlehem, William Flagler; Coeymans, John A. Hunt; Guilderland, John C. Grant; Knox, William J. Haverley; New Scotland, D. V. S. Raynsford; Rensselaerville, Albert T. Moore; Watervliet, Jesse C. Dayton; Westerlo, Daniel W. Wooster.

Jesse C. Dayton was elected Chairman; Thomas C. Cravan was elected Clerk; Dr. J. R. Boulware was elected County Physician; Patrick H. McCaffery, Doorkeeper.

The following gentlemen were elected Coroner's Physicians, by ballot :

Dr. R. H. Starkweather, Dr. L. C. B. Graveline, Dr. J. W. Moore, Dr. Henry E. Mereness.

JOINT BOARD.

A joint meeting of the Supervisors of the County, together with the Mayor and Recorder of the City, was held at Supervisors' rooms May 15, pursuant to chapter 152, laws 1844.

Present, Hon. M. N. Nolan, Mayor; Hon. Wm. S. Paddock, Recorder,* and all the Supervisors of the County and City. The Mayor acted as President and the Recorder as Secretary.

The matter of the large number of industrious, worthy mechanics out of employment, caused by the general depression of business, owing, as was alleged, to the interference of prison labor with legitimate trades, was presented to the meeting by Mr. Daly, who offered a resolution that a committee be appointed to inquire into the manner in which contracts were made for labor, and the compensation received for the same by the Superintendents of the Penitentiary ; the quantity, quality and value of the manufactured articles, and the relative cost of the labor on such articles compared with the cost of labor of similar articles produced by our local manufacturers; the effect of prison labor as conducted in this institution on skilled labor in the County ; the effect on our local manufacturers engaged in the production of such articles as produced by the convicts in said Penitentiary ; and in what manner, if any, it affected the skilled labor employed by them ; also to investigate as to the general and financial management of the affairs of the institution, and that the said committee have power to send for persons and papers.

After an animated debate Mr. Daly's motion prevailed, and the Mayor appointed the following committee to act with the Mayor and Recorder, as provided in the preamble and resolution : Messrs. Daly, Maher, Rowe, Bresler and Young.

The meeting then adjourned.

On Thursday, May 16, 1878, the Chairman announced the Standing Committees, 6.

FALL SESSION, NOVEMBER 12, 1878.

All the Supervisors present.

The session continued on, with one or two brief adjournments, until January 10, 1879, when it adjourned *sine die.*

According to the annual report of N. D. Wendell, County Treasurer, the money received by him during the year from all sources amounted to $1,078,885.76. The amount disbursed by him was $1,078,885.76.

Estimated disbursements for December, 1878 :

Supervisors' salaries and accounts	$20,000
Salaries County Officers	5,000
Asylum Accounts	5,000
Court expenses	10,000
Audited and miscellaneous	10,000
	$50,000

REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY ASSESSED IN ALBANY COUNTY IN 1878.

City of Albany	$36,342,890 00
Cohoes	3,620,426 00
Towns	12,717,524 88½
Grand totals	$52,680,840 58½

Equalized valuation of real and personal property in 1878 was :

Albany City	$34,458,018
City of Cohoes	4,041,494
Towns	14,181,328
Grand totals	$52,680,840

RATE OF TAXATION.

Berne, $2.24; Bethlehem, $1.12 ; Coeymans, $1.14; Guilderland, $1.56 ; Knox, $1.36 ; New Scotland, $1.08 ; Rensselaerville, $1.62 ; Westerlo, $1.66; City of Cohoes, $1.10.

STATIONERY.—The stationery furnished the Circuit Courts, Special Term, and the County Courts, for three years ending December 31, 1878, was

*See Biography of Recorder Paddock, in another part of this work, under head of *Legal Biographies.*

as follows: 1876, $2,078.60; 1877, $2,135.41; 1878, $1,310.43.

1879.—The annual spring session of the Board of Supervisors met May 13, 1879; the following members present:

ALBANY CITY.

First Ward, Henry Hoffman; Second Ward, Thomas Powers; Third Ward, John Bowe; Fourth Ward, E. A. Maher; Fifth Ward, T. J. Sullivan; Sixth Ward, Ignatius Wiley; Seventh Ward, James Young; Eighth Ward, Richard Rhatigan; Ninth Ward, Stephen P. Eastman; Tenth Ward, H. R. Starkweather; Eleventh Ward, W. H. Gaylor; Twelfth Ward, W. H. McCall; Thirteenth Ward, John B. Slingerland; Fourteenth Ward, Wheeler B. Melins; Fifteenth Ward, Michael E. Higgins; Sixteenth Ward, Wm. H. Murray.

COHOES CITY.

First Ward, William O'Brien; Second Ward, John H. Pynes; Third Ward, Peter Grandjean; Fourth Ward, John Groves; Fifth Ward, George E. Simmons.

TOWNS.

Berne, Frederick W. Conger; Bethlehem, Wm. Flagler; Coeymans, John A. Hunt; Guilderland, John C. Grant; Knox, I. W. Chesebro; New Scotland, D. V. S. Raynsford; Rensselaerville, Albert T. Moore; Watervliet, John Reiley; Westerlo, A. C. Requa.

President, Edward A. Maher; Clerk, Thomas H. Craven; Journal Clerk, John C. Morgan; County Physician, Dr. James L. Babcock; Doorkeeper, Michael Hayden; Coroner's Physicians, Dr. H. R. Starkweather, Dr. Wm. H. Murray, Dr. P. J. Keegan, Dr. G. H. Billings.

The members proceeded to ballot for County papers. The *Argus* and *Evening Journal* were declared elected as such.

Mr. Sullivan offered a resolution appointing Joseph Levi as Sealer of Weights and Measures for Albany County, which was adopted.

The President announced the Standing Committees.

At a meeting of the Board held May 15, Mr. Higgins offered a resolution recommending five members of the Board to form a committee to inquire into the manner and mode of making contracts in the Albany County Penitentiary, and that they have power to send for persons and papers, and to employ counsel to ascertain what powers this Board has in that institution.

Report of ex-County Treasurer Wendell from date of his last report, November 30, 1878, to January 1, 1879:

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand November 30, 1878	$14,621 78
From collectors	3,771 00
City of Albany, tax 1877	37,775 94
City of Albany water rents of 1878	4,208 55
Redemption of land sold for taxes	7,912 85
Temporary loan	35,000 00
L. Hotaling, District Attorney, costs collected	203 71
Account back taxes for towns	41 95
	$103,535 78

DISBURSEMENTS.

Audited accounts	$17,440 82	
Miscellaneous	430 73	
		$17,871 55
Brought forward		$17,871 55
Salaries		4,980 75
Interest		3,208 33
Redemption of land sold for taxes		5,436 36
Publication of tax list		485 00
Marshall Infirmary		65 00
Jurors	$914 30	
Constables	2,619 50	
J. Fencham	276 00	
Stenographer	120 00	
Court Crier	252 00	
Justices	158 50	
Court orders	198 20	
		$4,618 50
Bonds paid		5,600 00
Coupons paid		203 00
Balance paid Henry Kelly, Treasurer-elect		61,067 29
		$103,535 78

REDISTRIBUTING THE COUNTY.—A special meeting held June 17, 1879, was held to re-apportion Assembly Districts, twenty-eight members being present.

The Board proceeded to redistribute the County according to law, and discharged their duty in a most satisfactory manner.

The proceedings were published at the time in the daily papers, and they may be found fully published in the proceedings of the Board of Supervisors for the year 1879, page 23.

TREASURER'S REPORT.—At a meeting of the Board December 2, the President presented detailed report, showing the receipts and disbursements of the office from January 1 to November 30, 1879, one month having been included in the report of Mr. Wendell, the late Treasurer:

Total receipts	$843,298 50
Total amount paid out	$844,286 30
Total amount disbursed	$744,286 30
Total amount received	843,298 50
Leaving treasury overdrawn	$987 80

The following balances are due the County at this date, viz.:

City of Albany	$28,901 14
City of Cohoes	4,002 07
Town of Berne	3,002 14
Bethlehem	678 98
Guilderland	593 06
Knox	371 83
New Scotland	119 14
Rensselaerville	2,732 58
Town of Westerlo	651 01
Westervliet	2,137 64
Total	$43,189 59

The Town of Coeymans has a credit balance of $113.74.

At the meeting of the Board held December 5, the report of the Committee on ASSESSMENT ROLLS was received, and the amount assessed on real and personal property in the

City of Albany for 1879 is	$37,647,975 00
City of Cohoes for 1879	3,591,098 00
Towns in 1879	12,192,128 21
Making a grand total of	$53,431,201 21

The Committee on Equalized Valuation presented the following report:

Equalized value of real and personal property in the

City of Albany for 1879	$33,746,992 40
City of Cohoes for 1879	5,341,100 00

TOWNS.

Berne	$699,074 30
Bethlehem	2,224,973 56
Coeymans	1,344,564 79
Guilderland	1,218,169 08
Knox	469,717 50
New Scotland	1,564,741 43
Rensselaerville	746,371 00
West Troy and Green Island	2,972,978 51
Watervliet	2,857,945 76
Westerlo	744,482 88
Grand total	$53,731,201 21

DESTRUCTION OF THE CITY HALL BY FIRE.—On the 10th day of February, 1880, the City Hall was destroyed by fire. *

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD.—On February 16, 1880, the Board convened a special session in the Justices' Court-rooms, City Buildings; the meeting convened in pursuance of a written call signed by all the members of the Board for the purpose of taking such steps as the Board might deem necessary in view of the destruction of the City Hall by fire. All the members of the Board were present.

The proceedings were very interesting. Many valuable communications from the most eminent citizens were read, among which were the proceedings of a meeting of the Albany Bar held at the Justices' Court-rooms, City Buildings, on the 11th day of February, 1880, at which the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the site of the City Hall, recently destroyed by fire, is the most appropriate and convenient for a building for the County Court and County officers, and the members of the Albany County Bar hereby unanimously urge the Board of Supervisors to take immediate steps toward the erection of said building or another upon the City Hall site for the use of the County Courts and officers.

HENRY SMITH, *Chairman.*

WM. P. RUDD, ALPHEUS T. BULKLEY, } *Secretaries.*

The Board had been strongly urged to purchase, or lease, the property in the City known as Martin Hall for the use of the County and City offices. The members of Albany Bar, deeming this building as entirely unfit for such purposes, by reason of its location and construction, united in a written protest against purchasing or leasing it, directed to the Board, urging upon the members not to consider further the proposition to do so.

An interesting letter from Hon. W. L. Learned to Edward A. Maher, Esq., Chairman of the Board, relative to the packages of half-burned and wet package of papers rescued from the City Hall while burning. Judge Learned recommended some immediate action to prevent them from being entirely ruined.

"If allowed to dry in their present condition," he said, "they will stick together and, perhaps, mildew so as to be utterly illegible. They should be taken to some safe and dry place, opened carefully, spread out separately to dry. As Clerk of the Court and as President of the Board you know the great value of these papers, and as such Chairman you can give some official direction to the necessary expense. I cannot think that there would be any hesitation in paying whatever this most important work may cost. I therefore beg leave to press on you, and through you the County Clerk, the necessity of immediate action."

The public spirit and forethought of Judge Learned in thus calling attention of the Board to the important matter contained in his letter was warmly commended by the public. As the Board acted upon his timely recommendation, papers and documents of immense value were saved to the County.

DESERVED RECOMMENDATION TO W. B. MELIUS.

E. A. MAHER, Esq.—Dear Sir: We think the Board of Supervisors should by resolution, or in some other expressive manner, while commending the firemen and others who so bravely worked to save the property of the city and county from the fire at the City Hall, not omit to speak specially of the great and extraordinary services of W. B. Melius, to whose exertions we are all indebted for the preservation of the most valuable records.

HAMILTON HARRIS,
R. W. PECKHAM,
T. J. VAN ALSTYNE,
L. HOTALING,
E. COUNTRYMAN.

This reference to the services of Mr. Melius by these distinguished citizens was eminently just, and shows how generously they appreciated his almost superhuman efforts. The members of the Board, acting under the recommendation of this letter, adopted a handsomely worded preamble and resolutions expressive of their high appreciation of the valuable services of Mr. Melius in thus saving the property of the city and county.

Mr. Melius has been connected with the County Clerk's office, officially, at least eighteen years, and in all, for twenty-five years. No man understands the records of the County as fully as he.

The fire in the City Hall broke out about one o'clock on the morning of the 10th of February. It was bitterly cold, and an icy wind was blowing. Mr. Melius was one of the first to reach the clerk's office, and began the work of rescuing the precious volumes containing the records of mortgages, deeds, judgments, decrees, etc.; notwithstanding the blinding and almost suffocating smoke that filled the room, he passed 700 volumes, weighing from 12 to 16 pounds each, through a narrow window in the searching room to a place of safety. A few moments after the last one was passed out the flames swept fiercely and destructively through the rooms. The loss of these records would be immense and irreparable to all owners of real estate situated in the County of Albany and to all persons interested in mortgages, decrees and judgments contained in these volumes.

Mr. Melius was quite overcome with his efforts and had to be assisted in reaching his home.

INTEREST OF THE COUNTY IN THE CITY HALL BUILDING.—Measures were taken at this meeting to

* For a more full description of City Hall, old and new, see chapter on Public Buildings.

ascertain what interest the County of Albany had in the City Hall building then lately destroyed by fire, and Hon. R. W. Peckham was employed to assist a committee appointed for the purpose of ascertaining the said interest of the County.

BOOKS OF RECORD OF THE COUNTY.—The County Clerk was by resolution authorized to make true and perfect copies of all the books of record of the County mutilated, damaged and defaced in the then recent burning of the City Hall, and that he be paid the ordinary legal rates by the County Treasurer, and he was further authorized to rearrange, sort and label all papers disarranged and confused by the same fire, and that he be reasonably compensated therefor. Mr. Melius was, on motion, authorized to assist the County Clerk in the foregoing designated work.

Other important business touching the matters growing out of the destruction of the City Hall was transacted; also at the adjourned meeting held March 1, 1880, other important measures were taken in regard to the same, which will be found in the MS. record of proceedings of the Board, from page 9 to 20, inclusive.

1880.—ANNUAL SPRING SESSION held at their rooms, No. 38 Beaver street, May 11, 1880.

The following members of the Board were present:

First Ward, Henry Hoffman; Second Ward, Thomas Powers; Third Ward, John Bowe; Fourth Ward, E. A. Maher; Fifth Ward, T. J Sullivan; Sixth Ward, Ignatius Wiley; Seventh Ward, James Young; Eighth Ward, Richard Rhatigan; Ninth Ward, Stephen P. Eastman; Tenth Ward, H. R. Starkweather; Eleventh Ward, W. H. Gaylor; Twelfth Ward, W. H. McCall; Thirteenth Ward, John B. Slingerland; Fourteenth Ward, Wheeler B. Melius; Fifteenth Ward, M. E. Higgins; Sixteenth Ward, W. H. Murray.

COHOES.

First Ward, Wm. O'Brien; Second Ward, John H. Pynes; Third Ward, Peter Grandjean; Fourth Ward, John Groves; Fifth Ward, George E. Simmons.

TOWNS.

Berne, Frederick W. Conger; Bethlehem, William Flagler; Coeymans, John A. Hunt; Guilderland, John C. Grant; Knox, J. W. Chesebro; New Scotland, D. V. S. Raynsford; Rensselaerville, Albert T. Moore; Watervliet, John Reiley; Westerlo, A. C. Requa.

At the election of a chairman of the Board for the ensuing year suggestions were made as to the legality of the election of the members of the Board for the term of two years, whereupon the following officers were elected for the ensuing year.

Edward A. Maher, President; John A. Mangan, Journal Clerk; Thomas H. Craven, Clerk; Dr. James L. Babcock, County Physician; Michael Hayden, Doorkeeper; Edgar Palmer, Sealer of Weights and Measures. The following gentlemen were elected coroners: Dr. W. H. Murray, Dr. A. R. Starkweather, Dr. P. J. Keegan, Dr. G. H. Billings.

NIGHT WATCHMAN FOR COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE.

At a meeting of the Board, May 12, the President presented a communication signed by a large number of the leading citizens of Albany requesting that the services of a night watchman at the County Clerk's office should be continued, and they further recommended that the night watchman be made a permanent employee.

On motion of Mr. Bowe it was resolved to authorize the County Clerk to continue the services of night watchman until otherwise directed by the Board, his salary not to exceed $75 per month.

The Board met according to adjournment on November 22, when Mr. Weaver presented the following report of the Committee on State Equalization:

Albany County assessed value of real estate for the year 1878	$47,702,870
Equalization in the year 1879 at	64,295,172
Equalization over assessed value	$16,592,302

The Board of Equalization of Taxes, in pursuance of chapter 312, laws of 1859, fixed the aggregate valuation of property in Albany County at the sum of $68,426,226, upon which a State tax of $239,491.80 must be levied for the current fiscal year commencing October 1, 1880, being three and one-half mills on the dollar:

	MILLS.	CHAP.	LAWS.
For schools	1 85/100	515	1880
For general purposes	1 75/100	515	1880
For new Capitol	6/100	515	1880
Canals	3 34/100	248	1880
Total	6½		

A report giving a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the County treasury was submitted on December 2, as follows:

Receipts and disbursements from December 1, 1879, to November 30, 1880:

RECEIPTS.

Total amount received	$996,299 99
Disbursements	996,299 99
Amount on hand	39,008 46

The amount of real and personal property assessed in Albany County in 1880:

City of Albany, real and personal	$37,085,425 00
" " Cohoes, " "	3,648,093 00
Towns, real and personal	12,330,250 26
Grand total	$53,063,768 26

On December 6 the President received the following statement from the County Treasurer, being the balance due the County at that date:

City of Albany	$42,193 55
" Cohoes	1,620 45
Town of Berne	3,039 50
" Bethlehem	12 30
" Coeymans	42 86
" Guilderland	458 01
" Knox	197 94
" New Scotland	121 94
" Rensselaerville	2,849 74
" Westerlo	581 22
" Watervliet	4,664 18
Total	$55,163 69

THE EQUALIZED VALUATION FOR 1880.

City of Albany, real and personal	$32,883,306 03
" Cohoes " "	5,394,927 56
Making a total	$53,063,768 26

On January 5, 1881, Mr. Murray, in a well-worded resolution, made a motion that a tax of $100.08, assessed on the premises No. 117 Beaver street, in this city, and used by Dr. John Swinburne as a Dispensary, be canceled, and the Board of Assessors were directed to omit said property from its lists of taxable property and assessment roll, so long as the property is retained for dispensary or hospital purposes.

This was unanimously adopted, inasmuch as Dr. Swinburne is known to devote largely of his own time and money to the charitable care of the sick poor of the city, and employing assistants, and keeping and sustaining a private dispensary wholly from and upon his own personal means, for the purpose of relieving the sick poor and unfortunate of the city.

Adjourned January 24, 1881.

Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors at the annual meeting held May 10, 1881, in Martin Hall. Members present:

First Ward, Augustus Whitman; Second Ward, John Ryan; Third Ward, William Casey; Fourth Ward, Edward A. Maher; Fifth Ward, George L. Thomas; Sixth Ward, John Parr; Seventh Ward, James Young; Eighth Ward, Michael J. Hayden; Ninth Ward, James A. Lynom; Tenth Ward, Mathew C. Clark; Eleventh Ward, William B. Scott; Twelfth Ward, William Guinan; Thirteenth Ward, Joseph C. Griffin; Fourteenth Ward, Robert Geer; Fifteenth Ward, Michael E. Higgins; Sixteenth Ward, Wm. H. Murray; Seventeenth Ward, Frank Brennan.

COHOES.

First Ward, John Clark; Second Ward, John H. Pynes; Third Ward, C. M. Nadeau; Fourth Ward, John Groves; Fifth Ward, Charles Knott.

TOWNS.

Berne, Frederick W. Conger; Bethlehem, W. C. Hotaling; Coeymans, Estes H. Strevell; Guilderland, Aaron Fuller; Knox, Izrahiah Chesebro; New Scotland, Henry H. Meed; Rensselaerville, Hercules Sayre; Watervliet, John Reilly; Westerlo, Anson C. Requa.

President—Edward A. Maher.
Clerk—Thomas H. Craven.
Journal Clerk—John. C. Mangan.
County Physician—Dr. U. B. La Moure.
Doorkeeper—James A. McCotter.
Coroners' Physicians—Doctors P. J. Keegan, H. R. Starkweather, R. D. Clark, G. H. Billings.
Sealer of Weights and Measures—Edgar Palmer.
Counsel for Overseer of Poor—Martin D. Conway.
Pages—John Ward, Joseph Foy.

COUNTY PAPERS.—*Argus* and *Express*.

COMMISSIONERS TO REPAIR OR REBUILD CITY HALL.

By the laws of 1880, Chapter 285, M. H. Nolan, Edward Maher, Barclay Jermain, Charles Van Bentheusan, Robt. C Pruyn, C. P. Easton, Erastus Corning and Leonard G. Hun were appointed Commissioners to repair or rebuild the City Hall in this city. The names of the gentlemen composing this Committee was the highest guarantee that the important duties committed to them would be performed with the utmost ability, exactness and dispatch.

At this meeting of the Board, in pursuance of Section 8 of the said act of 1880, this Committee presented a succinct and ably drawn petition to the Board, requesting that body to direct the issue of bonds of the County of Albany, to the amount of $145,000, to be negotiated by the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and the Treasurer of the county, at such times and in such amounts as may be required by the Commissioners; such bonds to be signed by the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and the Treasurer, to bear semi-annual interest at the rate of four per cent per annum, and payable, one-third thereof in twenty years, and one-third thereof in twenty-two years, from the date of their respective issues.

The Commissioners presented a resolution to the Board, in conformity with the said petition, which directed that the said sum of $145,000 be paid, as stated above, to wit: $50,000 in the year 1901, $50,000 in 1902, $45,000 in 1903.

COMMITTEE ON CORONERS AND PHYSICIANS.—This Committee is very important, and for a time was very onerous, requiring a clerk; but by the law touching the salaries of physicians appointed to make *post mortem* examinations, and by a law of the Board letting by contract the burial of paupers under said contract, the Committee were relieved from much of their labor, so it became unnecessary to keep a clerk, and a resolution was presented for the discharge of the clerk, but it was tabled; whereupon it was moved by Mr. Higgins that a clerk be elected, and John P. Masterson was elected clerk to the Committee. Adopted.

SPECIAL MEETING, August 12, 1881.—Called under a written request and signed by all the members of the Board, to enable the Finance Committee and County Treasurer to borrow money to meet deficiencies and transact such other business as might be necessary. The sum required was not to exceed $120,000, and was for the purpose of paying State tax, which was to fall due on the 1st of September then next. This amount was directed to be raised in conformity to the foregoing.

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.—At a meeting, November 15, an important communication was received from the State Board of Health in regard to the amendments of laws designed to secure the complete registration of births, marriages and deaths, and especially to give the greatest possible accuracy to the record of the causes of death and burial of the dead.

THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION OF TAXES fixed the aggregate valuation of property in Albany County at $67,372,736, upon which amount a State tax of $151,588.66 was to be levied for the current fiscal year commencing October 1, 1881, being $2\frac{1}{4}$ mills on the dollar, for the following purposes:

For Schools.....	$\frac{14}{100}$	mills,	per	Chap.	453,	Laws 1881.
" General purposes.	$\frac{1}{100}$	"	"	"	453,	" 1881.
" Canals.....	$\frac{8}{100}$	"	"	"	595,	" 1881.
Total.....	$2\frac{1}{4}$	mills.				

The non-resident taxes credited to the County for 1880 were $202.92.

At a meeting of the Board November 21, 1881, a communication was read in regard to the *State*

Board of Assessors and the State Board of Equalization.

The assessed valuation of real estate in Albany County in 1880.	$49,151,808
Personal estate	3,911,960
Total	$58.063,768

To the assessed valuation the State Board have added $14,308,968; this made the equalized valuation of real estate $63,460,776; to this add the personal, $3.911,960, which makes the sum $67,372,736, upon which we pay a State tax this year.

In the year 1881 there was added to our assessed valuation	$14,695,025
In the year 1880	14,308,968
An apparent reduction of	$386,057

The increase in the assessed valuation of the whole State for 1880 was $24,935,164, or .0107 per cent.

The increased assessed valuation of Albany County for 1880 was but $18,000, or .0004 per cent. It should have been quite as much as that of the State.

An article contained in the *Evening Journal*, signed "H.," containing alleged misstatements touching the acts of the Board relative to the printing of 250 copies of its rules, was made the subject of a question of privilege in order that the said statement should be promptly refuted. It was denounced and proven to have done injustice to the Board.

A communication was also received from Dr. John Swinburne asking to be relieved from taxes assessed on his private hospital, which was granted.

ARSENAL.—The estimates of the expense of fitting up for rooms in the arsenal for the benefit of the military of the city.

The contract was awarded by the proper Committee. so far as building lockers, etc., was concerned, at $2,439.

ELECTION NOTICE.—*The Argus* and *Morning Express* were designated as papers to publish election notices.

THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNT, for the year ending November, 1881, was presented December 2, 1881, showing the receipts of his office for that time to be	$1,032,444 88
Disbursements	$1,032,444 88

STATEMENT of real and personal property assessed in the County of Albany, 1881:

Real	$61,422,635
Personal	7,507,755
Total	$68,930,390

On December 8, on motion of Mr. Conger, a resolution was adopted authorizing the Finance Committee to borrow, on the credit of the County, the sum of $50,000 to pay bonds in like amount maturing March 1, 1882, and to issue therefor county bonds bearing interest, not to exceed 4 per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually, the principal payable March 1, 1904. The said bonds were to be registered or coupon, and they were to be sold at public auction on February 15, 1882, after being advertised two weeks.

EQUALIZED VALUATION of Albany Co., 1881:

ALBANY CITY.

Real estate	$48,886,198 00
Personal	7,507,755 00
Total	$56,393,953 00
Cohoes City real estate	$9,455,072 00
" " personal estate	336,644 00
Total	9,791,716 06
Albany City, Cohoes and towns, real estate	$81,453,069 25
" " personal	8,889,220 18
Grand totals	$90,342,289 43

STATE AND COUNTY TAX.—The rate of State and County tax was fixed by resolution at fifty-four cents on each $100 of the equalized valuation of this county.

SPECIAL MEETING.—Monday, December 12, 1881, a special meeting convened pursuant to a call previously made for the purpose of fixing the rate of the city of Cohoes, and of the town of Watervliet. The rate of taxation for the city of Cohoes for 1881 was fixed at $1.25 upon each $100. The rate for Watervliet for 1881 was fixed as follows:

On each $100 of the assessed valuation:	
Watervliet, First District	$75
West Troy and Green Island	68

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S REPORT.—D. Cady Herrick presented his report of the costs received by him, and also a statement of the fines imposed since January 1, 1881, which by recapitulation shows as follows:

Costs and judgments	$1,526 26
Fines in Oyer and Terminer	275 00
" " County Sessions	409 00
" " Special Sessions	954 00
	$3,155 26

COHOES JAIL.—By resolution the County Treasurer was authorized to pay the city of Cohoes $500 for rent of jail pursuant to Sec. 15, Chap. 60, Laws of 1881.

Previous to the adjournment of the Board, on December 20, 1881, Supervisor Geer, in a pleasing and finely worded speech, on behalf of the members of the Board, presented President Maher an elegant watchchain and charm. Mr. Maher received it with a very feeling and appropriate address. Supervisor Murray then arose, and, on behalf of the members of the Board, presented Mr. Thomas H. Craven, Clerk of the Board, with a valuable silver service.

In presenting it, Mr. Murray made some timely and exceedingly well received remarks touching the high esteem in which Mr. Craven was held by the Board. The latter thanked the Board in a very

happy manner. The whole proceeding gave great satisfaction to the Board and public.

The Board of Supervisors of the city and county met at their Annual Session at their rooms in Music Hall, May 9, 1882.

The following members were present:

CITY OF ALBANY.

First Ward, Agustus Whiteman; Second Ward, Thomas Powers; Third Ward, Wm. Casey; Fourth Ward, Edward A. Maher; Fifth Ward, John Cook; Sixth Ward, John D. Capron; Seventh Ward, Edward Roark; Eighth Ward, Michael J. Hayden; Ninth Ward, Daniel J. Murphy; Tenth Ward, Mathew C. Clark; Eleventh Ward, Alfred Booth; Twelfth Ward, William H. McCall; Thirteenth Ward, Joseph C. Griffin; Fourteenth Ward, Robert Geer; Fifteenth Ward, James Skillicorn; Sixteenth Ward, Alonzo B. Voorhees; Seventeenth Ward, Thomas J. Reilly.

COHOES.

First Ward, John Clark; Second Ward, Frank Rockwell; Third Ward, Charles M. Nadeau; Fourth Ward, John Groves: Fifth Ward, Neil Morris.

TOWNS.

Berne, Thomas J. Wood; Bethlehem, W. C. Hotaling; Coeymans, Estes H. Strevel; Guilderland, Aaron Fuller; Knox, Wm. J. Haverly; New Scotland, Hiram Becker; Rensselaerville, Hercules Sayre; Watervliet, Joseph Anderson; Westerlo, Anson C. Requa.

President, Edward A. Mayer.
Clerk, Thomas H. Craven.
Journal Clerk, John A. Lawless.
County Physician, Dr. R. D. Clark.
Doorkeeper, Bernard Ross.
Coroners' Physicians, Drs. H. R. Starkweather, P. H. Keegan, M. J. Lewi and G. H. Billings.
County Sealer of Weights and Measures, John Powers.
Counsel for Overseers of the Poor, Mr. D. Conway.
County Papers, *Daily Argus* and *Daily Express*.

After considerable business relative to penitentiary matters, of which we shall give an account in another place, the Board adjourned.

At a special meeting held May 24 the President announced the Standing Committees for the ensuing year.

At a meeting of the Board held July 27 it was resolved that the office of the Coroners of Albany County should be located in the rooms of the Supervisors, and that John P Masterson be and he was appointed a clerk to said Coroners, his duties to assist as clerk to each of said Coroners in their official duties, and to keep a record of and file each inquisition; also to act as Clerk to the Committee on Coroners and Physicians of the Board, the salary not to exceed $100 per month, the County Treasurer to pay the same.

At a meeting held November 14 the Clerk presented the following statement:

The Board of Equalization of Taxes have fixed the aggregate valuation of property in the County of Albany at the sum of $74,051,676, upon which amount a State tax of $181,426.61 must be levied for the current fiscal year beginning October 1, 1882, as provided in chapter 312, laws of 1859, and amendments thereto, by chap. 351, laws of 1814, being 2 $\frac{45}{100}$ mills on the dollar, for the following purposes:

For schools	1 $\frac{10}{100}$	mills, chap.	296, laws	1882
For general purposes	$\frac{93}{100}$	" "	296 "	1882
For canals	$\frac{42}{100}$	" "	208 "	1882
Total	2 $\frac{45}{100}$	mills.		

Non-resident taxes credited to Albany County for 1881 amounted to $19.74.

On November 21 Mr. Weaver, from the Committee on State Equalization, presented the following statement:

Equalized valuation of real estate of Albany County for the year 1881	$63,460,776
Amount the County should have increased to retain its relative proportion with other counties in the State	1,906,772
The amount it would then have been equalized on real estate for 1882	$65,367,548
The amount it is equalized for 1882	65,162,456
Amount of reduction	$205,092
Amount of Albany County's increase	$1,906,772
Amount added by State Board of Equalization	1,701,680
Difference in favor of Albany County	$205,092

The amount of State tax for this year is $29,837.94 greater than last year, and is accounted for as follows:

Increase of personal estate	$4,977,260
Increase of real estate	1,701,680
	$6,678,940
This amount, multiplied by last year's rate, 2¼ mills on the dollar, produces	$15,027.61
Total amount of equalized real and personal ($74,051,676) for 1882, multiplied by one-fifth of a mill, the increase over 1881	14,810.33
	$29,837.93

On November 28 the Clerk presented the Annual Report of the Coroners.

The report of Richard Scully shows that from October 16, 1881, to November 10, inclusive, there were 33 *post mortem* examinations with juries conducted before him. Peter Lasch reports 44 inquests held by him during the years of 1881-2 with jurors.

The first annual report of James McCann states that he held 30 inquests during the year 1882, from January 22 to November 24.

Richard Johnson reported 19 inquests held by him since November 24, 1881, to September 26, 1882.

On December 4 Mr. Sayre, from the Committee on Assessment Rolls, presented the following:

STATEMENT OF THE REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY in Albany County as assessed in 1882.

Total real in City of Albany	$61,117,810 00	
Total personal " "	6,432,332 00	
		$67,550,342 00
Real in City of Cohoes	$3,410,079 00	
Personal " "	361,500 00	
		3,771,579 00
Towns, real estate	$17,076,329 73	
" personal	1,053,334 93	
		18,129,664 66
Grand total		$89,451,585 66

It was also resolved to raise by tax on property in the City of Albany the sum of $720,789.37 for the several contingent expenses of the city for hospitals, nurseries and temporary out-door relief of the poor, and for rebuilding Beaver Creek arch, at Philip street.

On December 8 Mr. Requa, from the *Committee on Equalization*, presented the following report, which, on the next meeting, December 9, was adopted:

EQUALIZED VALUATION OF 1882.

City of Albany,	real	$48,977,620 00	
" "	personal	6,432,532 00	
			$55,410,152 00
City of Cohoes,	real	$9,472,697 00	
" "	personal	361,500 00	
			9,834,197 00
Towns,	real	$1,604,218 73	
"	personal	7,847,366 93	
Grand total, including towns			$89,451,585 66

On December 14 a special session of the Board met at two P. M., pursuant to a call of the President.

The object of this call was "for the purpose of taking suitable action regarding the death of the wife of Supervisor Geer, of the Fourteenth Ward."

A motion was made to appoint a committee of three to draft resolutions to be reported at evening session. Messrs. Voorhees, Capron and McCall were named by the President as such committee.

On motion the Board adjourned.

At the evening session Mr. Voorhees reported the following:

Resolved, That the members of this Board most sincerely sympathize with their associate, Robert Geer, in the irreparable loss he has sustained in the death of his wife, and extend to him the assurance of their heartfelt sorrow.

At the meeting of the Board, held December 22, that body tendered their most cordial thanks to their efficient President, Edward A. Maher, for the impartial manner in which he had presided over their deliberations; and they collectively and individually conveyed to him in the resolution the official and personal assurance of esteem and regard.

It was further resolved that the members of the Board "not only recognize but fully appreciate the invaluable services of the attentive, courteous and competent Clerk, Thomas H. Craven, and that we not only deem it a pleasure, but feel it to be a duty, to thus publicly and officially recognize our obligations to him for the faithful and conscientious performance of his important duties."

After a very pleasant but brief address from the President the Board adjourned *sine die*.

1883.—Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of Albany County at their annual meeting, May 8, 1883. Members present:

ALBANY CITY.

First Ward, George J. Goetz; Second Ward, Thomas Powers; Third Ward, Wm. Casey; Fourth Ward, Patrick Cuddy; Fifth Ward, Peter J McGowan; Sixth Ward, Andrew Vanderzee; Seventh Ward, Edward Roark; Eighth Ward, Michael J. Hayden; Ninth Ward, Daniel J. Murphy; Tenth Ward, Frederick Stackman; Eleventh Ward, Alfred Booth; Twelfth Ward, Wm. H. McCall; Thirteenth Ward, Joseph C. Griffin; Fourteenth Ward, Robert Geer; Fifteenth Ward, James Skillicorn; Sixteenth Ward, Edwin Ellis; Seventeenth Ward, Thomas Reilly.

CITY OF COHOES.

First Ward, Marcus Kennedy; Second Ward, Truman W. Reynolds; Third Ward, Charles M. Nadeau; Fourth Ward, Jared H. Blair; Fifth Ward, Neil Morris.

TOWNS.

Berne, Thomas J. Wood; Bethlehem, John L. Winne; Coeymans, Lansing Shear; Guilderland, Aaron Fuller; Knox, Charles G. Frink; New Scotland, Hiram Becker; Rensselaerville, Hercules Sayre; Watervliet, Nicholas Kane; Westerlo, Anson C. Requa.

President, Anson C. Requa; Clerk, Thomas H. Craven; Journal Clerk, John J. Dunphy; Doorkeeper, John J. McCaffrey; County Physician, U. B. La Moure; Counsel to Overseer of Poor, George Parr; County Sealer of Weights and Measures, Jacob S. Scrafford.

At a meeting of the Board, held May 24, the President announced the Standing Committees.

At the next meeting, November 14, the balloting for coroners' physicians resulted as follows:

Dr. J. H. Moore, Dr. F. L. Classen, Dr. D. P. Shevelin and Dr. G. H. Billings.

The *Argus* and *Journal* were declared as County papers.

Charles L. Pease was appointed Committee Clerk to this Board.

It was resolved that the regular sessions of the Board should be held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 8.15 P. M.

The Clerk presented the following statement:

The Board of Equalization of Taxes, in pursuance of chapter 312 of the laws of 1859, fixed the aggregate valuation of property in Albany County at the sum of $76,442,516, upon which amount a State tax of $248,438.18 must be levied for the current year, commencing October 1, 1883, as provided in said act and amendments thereto, by chapter 351, laws of 1874, being $3\frac{25}{100}$ mills on the dollar, for the following purposes:

Schools.....$1\frac{78}{1000}$ mills, per chapter 376, laws 1883.
General purposes..$1\frac{124}{1000}$ mills, per chapter 376, laws 1883.
For Canals.....$1\frac{47}{1000}$ mills, per chapters 373, 471, 495, laws 1883.
Total.....$3\frac{25}{100}$ mills.

The non-resident taxes credited to the County for 1882 amount to $273.50.

CORONERS' REPORTS.—The Second Annual report of James J. McCann gives the number of inquests held by him during the years 1882–3 to be 44. The Third Annual report of Richard Scully for the same years shows 16 cases.

Coroner Thomas Nolan reported 12 inquests held by him during the year 1883, from January 8 to October 30.

The Third Annual report of Coroner Peter Lasch shows that 40 inquests were held by him during the years 1882–3, from December 2, 1882, to November 16, 1883.

At the meeting of the Board held November 12 the President presented the

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATE EQUALIZATION.—There had been two tables presented by the State Assessors to the State Board of Equalization for adoption, but neither were accepted. On October 10 a table was presented which was further amended, and the Committee adopted; it was as follows:

Assessed valuation of real estate	$81,604,218
Deduction made from real estate	13,009,069
Equalized real estate	$68,595,149
Personal estate	7,847,367
Total equalized real and personal, as corrected	$76,442,516
Making a reduction, as between the tables of October 4 and 10, of	$912,879

The Clerk presented the following:

Bonds of the City of Albany to the amount of $100,000, bearing interest at the rate of seven per cent., were issued for the construction of the High School building, the principal of which is payable in ten annual installments of $10,000 each. There will be required for the said annual payment $10,000, and for interest on bonds $1,050, as follows: Six months' interest on $20,000, $700, and six months' interest on $10,000, $350.

THE COMMITTEE ON ASSESSMENT ROLLS presented the following report:

Statement of the Real and Personal Property of Albany County as Assessed in 1883.

City of Albany, real estate	$60,750,120 00
" " personal	6,480,735 00
Total	$67,230,855 00
City of Cohoes, real	$3,403,827 00
" " personal	399,990 00
Total	$3,803,817 00
Towns, real estate	$20,338,235 18
" personal	1,107,896 00
Total	$21,446,131 18
Grand total	$92,480,803 18

Mr. Fuller, from the Committee on Equalization of Taxes, presented the following report:

CORRECTED EQUALIZATION TABLE FOR THE YEAR 1883.

CITY OR TOWN.	Acres.	Real.	Personal.	Total.
City of Albany		$50,816,548 00	$6,480,735 00	$57,297,283 00
City of Cohoes		9,851,789 00	399,990 00	10,251,779 00
Town of Berne	38,942	1,161,634 00	28,305 00	1,189,939 00
Town of Bethlehem	31,583	3,745,428 00	58,116 00	3,803,544 00
Town of Coeymans	29,946	2,200,132 00	82,750 00	2,282,882 00
Town of Guilderland	36,829	1,995,763 00	64,100 00	2,059,863 00
Town of Knox	25,595	714,650 00	37,225 00	751,875 00
Town of New Scotland	35,679	2,534,636 00	101,300 00	2,635,936 00
Town of Rensselaerville	36,578	1,170,130 00	144,100 00	1,314,230 00
Town of Westerlo	35,568	1,210,024 00	63,200 00	1,273,224 00
Town of Watervliet, 1st district	33,560	4,560,133 97	386,000 00	4,946,133 97
Town of Watervliet, Green Island and West Troy		4,531,314 21	142,800 00	4,674,114 21
Total	304,190	$84,492,182 18	$8,988,621 00	$92,480,803 18

At a meeting of the Board December 7 the following was adopted:

Resolved, That the rate of taxation be fixed as follows for the following towns and the City of Cohoes for the year 1883 on each $100 of the assessed valuation:

Berne, $1.04; Bethlehem, $1.36; Coeymans, $1.42; Guilderland, $1.34; Knox, $1.44; New Scotland, 82 cents; Rensselaerville, 86 cents; Westerlo, 66 cents; Watervliet, 1st district, 86 cents; Watervliet, 2d district, West Troy and Green Island, 78 cents; City of Cohoes, $1.76.

COUNTY TREASURER'S REPORT.—Robert Gallup, County Treasurer for the County of Albany, states in his report that the amount on hand at last report was $1,050.53. This amount, together with all receipts of the office for the year ending November 30, 1883, amounts to $928,229.81. The disbursements for the same time amount to $928,229.81, including a balance on hand of $19,591.61.

The Board adjourned January 11, 1884, after tendering sincere and heartfelt thanks to President Anson C. Requa, and the Clerk, Thomas H. Craven, who replied in very eloquent addresses.

1884.—ANNUAL SPRING SESSION held at their rooms in the New City Hall, in the City of Albany, May 13, 1884. Members present:

ALBANY CITY.

First Ward, George J. Goetz; Second Ward, Michael J. Nolan; Third Ward, William Casey; Fourth Ward, Patrick Cuddy; Fifth Ward, Peter J. McGowan; Sixth Ward, Thomas C. Jeffers; Seventh Ward, Marshall Tebbutt; Eighth Ward, Michael J. Hayden; Ninth Ward, Wm. F. Reedy; Tenth Ward, Frederick Stackman; Eleventh Ward, Meredith Burke; Twelfth Ward, James J. Wise; Thirteenth Ward, Joseph C. Griffin; Fourteenth Ward, Robert Geer; Fifteenth Ward, John T. Brady; Sixteenth Ward, James Stackhouse; Seventeenth Ward, George Holler.

COHOES.

First Ward, Marcus Kennedy; Second Ward, Truman W. Reynolds; Third Ward, Charles M. Nadeau; Fourth Ward, John P. Weber; Fifth Ward, George W. Smith.

TOWNS.

Berne, Thomas J. Wood; Bethlehem, John L. Winne; Coyemans, Richard S. Blodgett; Guilderland, Aaron Fuller; Knox, Charles G. Frink; New Scotland, Charles Wood; Rensselaerville, Jacob B. Norwood; Watervliet, Nicholas T. Kane; Westerlo, Anson C. Requa.

Chairman, Anson C. Requa; Clerk, Thomas H. Craven; Journal Clerk, Elbert E. Richmond; Doorkeeper, Joseph Johnson; County Physician, Dr. U. B. La Moure; Counsel to Overseer of Poor, Thomas F. Connor; Sealer of Weights and Measures, Jacob S. Scrafford.

A recess was taken till the afternoon, when a joint meeting was called.

The committee appointed introduced Hon. A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor, and Anthony Gould, Recorder.

The Mayor acted as Chairman and the Recorder as Secretary of the meeting, and Mr. T. H. Craven Clerk.

Mr. Greer offered a resolution in which the Superintendent of the Penitentiary should be requested to furnish the Board with copies of all contracts made by him for the labor of prisoners; also for copies of contracts made with the United States and with counties in regard to the terms on which

their prisoners are maintained in that institution, etc.

It was also resolved that the Superintendents and Inspectors of the Penitentiary be and are prohibited from renewing existing contracts, or making any new ones, for the maintenance of prisoners of other counties or of the United States.

WORKING MEN'S ASSEMBLY.—This organization, one of the most important in the City of Albany, often memorialized the Board in regard to matters touching the interests of the laboring classes, always respectfully. They were always given a respectful hearing.

SPECIAL MEETING.—On August 18 the Board met to take action relative to the death of William Casey, Supervisor of the Third Ward, City of Albany. A committee of five, consisting of Messrs. Brady, Nolan, Goetz, Cuddy and Stackman, was appointed to draft suitable resolutions.

Mr. Brady addressed the Board in touching and appropriate language, and at the close of his address the Committee presented their resolutions, which were adopted. The address and resolutions are in every respect worthy the character of Mr. Casey, while they reflect great credit upon their authors and are embellishments to the records of the Board of Supervisors of the County.

The Board thereupon adjourned.

REGULAR SESSION of the Board of Supervisors met at the City Hall, November 12, 1884, for the fall session. All members present.

The election of Coroners' Physicians then took place. The following were elected:

Drs. S. C. Healey, Frederick L. Classen, J. H. Billings, Wm. Hagedorn.

COUNTY PAPERS.—The ballot for the County papers for the ensuing year resulted in the election of the *Argus* and *Express*.

On motion the salary of the Coroners' Physicians was fixed at $600 per annum, their term of office to begin November 20, 1884.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CORONERS.—The annual account of Michael H. Murray shows 29 inquests held by him during 1884; James C. McCann shows 28 inquests; Richard Scully, 17; Thomas Nolan, 9; Peter Lasch, 2; total, 85.

An Unconstitutional Law relative to Grand Jurors.—By chapter 532 of the laws of 1881, an important innovation was made relative to the selection of Grand Jurors in Albany and one or two other cities in the State. It provided:

That the duties assigned the Supervisor, Town Clerk or Assessors by the Revised Statutes in regard to Grand Jurors should be performed by the Recorder of the City of Albany. It provided that in Albany County Grand Jurors should, after the passage of that act, be drawn from the box containing the names of Petit Jurors selected for said County, in the same manner as Petit Jurors, and that thereafter no separate list of Grand Jurors should be prepared for said County. Under this law a Grand Jury was drawn which convened for the May Term of the Albany Oyer and Terminer for 1882, at which Term, and by said Grand Jury, one James Dempsey, and two others, were indicted for ——

On that trial they were convicted, and the verdict was appealed from to the General Term of the Supreme Court, where the conviction was affirmed. From the judgment of the Supreme Court an appeal was taken to the Court of Appeals, where the judgment of conviction was set aside on several points raised by the counsel for the prisoners, but chiefly on the ground that the Act of 1881, to which we referred, was unconstitutional, in that the bill resulting in the act was a private or local bill and against the provisions of Article 3, Sec. 18, of the Constitution as amended November 3, 1874, which provides that the Legislature shall not pass a private or local bill in any of the following cases:

* * * * * * * *

Selecting, Drawing, Summoning or Impaneling Grand or Petit Jurors.—As this provision is qualified by Section 25 of the same article, which provides:

"Sections 17 and 18 of this Article shall not apply to any bill or the amendments to any bill which shall be reported to the Legislature by Commissioners who have been appointed pursuant to law to revise the Statutes; that the Statutes show that there had been no such officers as 'Commissioners who had been appointed pursuant to law to revise the Statutes' subsequent to May 1, 1878, and, therefore, said chapter 532 could not have been reported as provided for in said section 25;"

The counsel for the defendants, Mr. E. J. Meegan, brought all the Acts of 1870, 1873, 1874, 1876 and 1877 in regard to the amendment of the Code and of the various constitutional amendments touching the Political Code, the Penal Code, the Code of Civil Procedure and the Civil Code into consideration against the constitutionality of the Act of 1881, to which we have alluded, and, as we have said, the Act in regard to the drawing of Grand Jurors in the County of Albany was declared unconstitutional. It therefore became the duty of the Supervisors of Albany County for 1884 to select Grand Jurors for the then ensuing year, under the general law, which requires that the Board shall prepare a list of 300 men between the ages of twenty-one and sixty, owners of real estate either in their own names or in that of their wives, or assessed on personal property for at least the sum of $250, and inhabitants of the town or ward in which they were selected.

The importance of the foregoing to this work, and to the general reader, will be appreciated. We have presented the subject at some length, because it is not only one of the most interesting but important matters found in the history of Supervisors of Albany County.

CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION OF ALBANY.—We have occasionally alluded to this highly important organization. It is proper to add that it has been engaged for some years, with the assistance of counsel, in the examination of County charges, and the legal grounds and authority for the same.

The citizens comprising this association have always been of the highest standing. A careful examination of their work in regard to bills, especially their work for 1884, convinces us, as it would all who examine it, of the great value and usefulness to the County of this association, and the conscientious manner in which they discharged their duty. The Executive Committee of it for 1884 were Marcus T. Hun, C. P. Williams and Mathew Hale.

INCREASED VALUATION OF REAL ESTATE.—The Committee appointed to appear before the State Board of Equalization in behalf of the interests of Albany County reported that the total increased assessed valuation of real estate of the State for the year 1883 was $111,954,771, of which Albany's portion would be $3,000,246. This, assuming the equalization of 1883 correct, would have made the equalization of 1884 as follows:

Equalization of real estate for 1883	$68,595,149
To which add above increase	3,000,246
	$71,595,395
Equalization made by State Board, 1884	71,273,649
Reduction on equalization for 1884	$321,749

Making the following statement of Albany County for the year 1884 :

Equalized valuation of real estate	$71,273,649
To which add personal property	7,558,621
	$78,832,270

While the foregoing statement is, to some extent, gratifying, yet it does not measure out to Albany County that degree of justice to which it is entitled.

ASSESSMENT OF PROPERTY, 1884.—At a meeting of the Board, December 2, Mr. Brady, Chairman of the Committee of Assessments, presented a statement of the real and personal property in the County of Albany, as assessed in 1884 :

City of Albany, real	$60,961,465 00
" " personal	6,339,417 00
Total	$67,300,882 00
City of Cohoes, real	$3,580,205 00
" " personal	394,120 00
Total	$3,974,325 00
Towns, real	$21,909,250 29
" personal	1,558,553 94
Total	$23,467,804 23
Grand total	$94,743,011 23

EQUALIZED VALUATION.—On December 4, Mr. Fuller, from the Committee on Equalization of Taxes, presented a statement exhibiting the equalized valuation of the County of Albany for the year 1884:

City of Albany, real estate	$51,993,990
" " personal	6,339,417
Total	$58,333,407
Cohoes, real estate	$10,080,177
" personal	394,120
Total	$10,474,297

This amount, with the real and personal property of the towns, which comprised the value of 301,328½ acres, amounted to:

Total real estate	$86,450,920 29
" personal	8,292,090 94
Grand total	$94,743,011 23

Albert Gallup, County Treasurer, presented the following communication to the President of the Board :

"The following balances are due the County of Albany, Dec. 4, 1884, as shown by the books in the Treasurer's office :"

City of Albany	$82,593 12
" Cohoes	5,102 65
Town of Berne	4,237 13
" Bethlehem	389 53
" Coeymans	1,055 04
" Guilderland	288 47
" Knox	35 90
" New Scotland	146 85
" Rensselaerville	3,536 76
" Westerlo	662 12
	$98,047 57
Town of Watervliet has a credit balance	260 14
Leaving amount due county	$97,778 43

RATE OF TAXATION OF CITY OF ALBANY.—The rate of taxation for the City of Albany was fixed as follows upon each $100 of the assessed valuation for City and County purposes:

City of Albany, for that portion added to the city in 1870, $1.03; portion west of Allen street, $1.04; remainder of city, $2.04; corporations which pay State tax to Comptroller, $1.78¼.

The rate of taxation fixed for the town of Watervliet for 1884 on each $100 of assessed valuation:

Watervliet, First District, 72c.; Watervliet, Second District, West Troy, Green Island, 75c.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer's report of the County for the year ending Nov. 29, 1884, shows the receipts in his office to have been	$903,149 38
Disbursements	903,149 38
Balance on hand	$18,597 86

BURIAL AND HEADSTONES FOR SOLDIERS.—On January 11, 1884, the Board adopted a resolution requiring the Clerk to keep an account of the amount paid for the burial and for headstones for deceased soldiers of the late war, under section 4, chapter 354, laws of 1884. In pursuance of said resolution and said law, the Treasurer presented a very interesting and extended report showing the number of soldiers who had died in the County of Albany during the year 1884, the name of each soldier, the company and regiment to which he belonged, his age, time and place of death, the amount of expenses paid for burial and to whom paid. The report shows the number of soldiers who died in the County during the year to be 46. The burial expenses of each soldier was $35. The total amount paid for these burials during the year was $1,600.

PRESERVATION OF PUBLIC RECORDS AND BOOKS.

On Dec. 17, 1884, Wm. D. Strevell, Clerk of the County, presented an interesting communication to the Board, stating that a quantity of valuable record books removed from the City Hall at the time of the fire were scattered over the floor in a confused condition in one of the rooms in the tower of the new City Hall, where they had been placed after its completion. The communication also showed that further neglect would be highly injurious to them; that Messrs. Wheeler B. Melius and Daniel Casey, long familiar with the records of the County Clerk's office, had offered to arrange the papers, records and books for the sum of $1,000;

and it was strongly recommended that the sum be appropriated for that purpose.

The Citizens' Association having examined the records referred to in the communication, Hon. J. Howard King, President of the Association, indorsed the said communication, whereupon it was adopted by the Board by a vote of 24 ayes to 1 no.

It is gratifying to state that at this writing, March 11, 1885, the work referred to in this communication, important and difficult as it was, has been completed in a most satisfactory manner, and the books, papers and records are easily accessible to all parties desiring to examine them.

The last proceedings of the Board which we have been able to obtain were under date of Dec. 18, 1884, which includes the above.

Thus we conclude our history of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Albany, embracing a period of over a century and a half. Notwithstanding the difficulties we have encountered in obtaining a regular line of records by lapse of time, and the destruction of some by fire, we feel it is not affectation to say that through the courteous aid of the custodian of papers and documents, and of the generosity of private citizens and former officials who have valuable documents, we have been able to present a history which must be of much value and interest to the people of the County.

THE BENCH AND BAR,

OR

LEGAL HISTORY OF ALBANY COUNTY.

By L. B. PROCTOR, Esq.

ALBANY has long been the seat of the law-making power of the State; here the great courts of dernier ressort have held their sittings since the adoption of the first constitution. Here, too, the Supreme Court of the State, presided over by the ablest jurists in the nation, has held its regular terms, from 1777 down to 1885. Here, also, for nearly two centuries, other important courts have pronounced the laws.

Among the judges and lawyers who have conducted these courts "there have been many diversities of talents and abilities. There have been those of the Bar who were listened to wholly for their intellectual qualities, for the wit or the wisdom, the learning or the philosophy, which characterized their efforts. There have been those whose main attraction was a curious felicity and facility of illustration and description, adorned by the richest gems which could be gathered by historical research or classic study. There have been those to whom the charms of manner, the graces of elocution and the melody of voice were the all-sufficient recommendation to applause. There have been those who owed their success more to opportunity and occasion, to some stirring theme or some exciting emergency, than to any peculiar attributes of their own. And we may say that there have been those who combined in a large degree all of these qualities."

In writing the history of the Bench and Bar of Albany County one feels as though he was writing the Bench and Bar of the State itself, such is the commanding influence they have had and still have in legal history. In entering on our duty we shall begin with the first organization of courts of justice in the county.

EARLY COURTS.

Courts of justice were organized in the colony of New York by the English, under the authority of the code known as the "Duke's Laws." The principal courts were, at first, the Court of Sessions and Town Courts, but very soon after authority was given for the organization of Courts of Oyer and Terminer. The Dutch Court of Burgomasters and Schepens was changed to Mayor's Court.

The above comprised what may be called the first judicial system, which existed from 1665 to 1683; we do not find the record of any Court of Oyer and Terminer, or of Court of Sessions, or of Town Courts, that were held in the County of Albany during this period.

The second judicial system existed from 1683 to 1691. The Town or Justices' Courts, Court of Sessions and of Oyer and Terminer were continued, and a Court of Chancery established.

The third judicial system was inaugurated in 1691, and continued during the colonial period.

It preserves the courts previously established, and added for the first time a COURT OF COMMON PLEAS and a SUPREME COURT.

The Court of Oyer and Terminer was made a criminal side of the Supreme Court, as it is now of the present Supreme or Circuit Court. We find no record of the proceedings of any of those courts of the County of Albany during this period of any importance, excepting the Court of Common Pleas, and some proceedings of a Court of Sessions that seems to have existed. There was, during this period, a Mayor's Court in the City of Albany having civil and criminal jurisdiction, composed of the Mayor and Aldermen.

In 1683 an act was passed "to settle courts of justice," which directed a Court of Oyer and Terminer to be held in the respective counties of the province, composed of one judge, assisted by four justices of the peace of each county.

In the City of New York and the City of Albany, the Mayor, Recorder and four Aldermen were associated with the judge. This court had jurisdiction over all capital criminal causes, trials at common law. It had appellate jurisdiction of five pounds or upward; the authority for holding the court was derived from the Provincial Governor; the court was abolished May 6, 1691. Though this court held its sittings regularly at Albany, no record of any importance can be found of them.

COURT OF SESSIONS.—In 1683 an act was passed directing that a Court of Sessions be held, by three justices of the peace, in each of the twelve counties of the province, as follows: In New York four times, in Albany three times, and in the remainder of the counties twice in each year. In the City of New York this court was held by the Mayor and four Aldermen. In the City of Albany it was held by the Mayor and the Justices of the Peace. It determined all causes, civil and criminal, by a jury; but actions exceeding five pounds could be removed, upon application, to the Court of Oyer and Terminer. Its officers were a marshal, a crier and a clerk.

We find a record of a Court of Sessions held at Albany in 1717, as follows:

> "At a Court of Sessions, held in the City Hall of Albany, this 4th day of January, 1717.
>
> "Present—ROBT. LIVINGSTON, Jr., Esq., *Mayor*."

Here follow the names of eight Justices of the Peace who were associated with the Mayor in holding the Court.

"The Court opened and the Grand Jury called, who were sworn."

There were fifteen Grand Jurors present, and Richard Kitchner was made foreman.

"The Grand Jury being sworn and charge given, the Court adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon.

"The Court opened according to adjournment. The Sheriff moves that Ruben Veghts, who was summoned for a Grand Juryman, may be amerced for not appearing, who is hereby amerced accordingly.

"The Court adjourned till to-morrow morning."

The record shows that the Court met according to adjournment the next morning.

"The Sheriff moves that Daniel Kitchner, who was a constable of Half Moon & Schatkook, may be amerced 13/18 for not appearing and attending this Court, which was granted accordingly."

The Court then adjourned *sine die*.

It appears that no business was transacted at this Court except opening it, calling, charging and swearing the Grand Jury, and amercing one juror and a constable for non-attendance.

The next Court was held on the first day of October, 1717, but no particular business was transacted except organizing the Grand Jury.

> "At a Court of Sessions, held in the City Hall of Albany, this 4th day of October, 1721.
>
> "Present—MYNDERT SCHUYLER, Esq., *Mayor*, and twelve Justices.

"Conradt Borghgaert and Elias Van Schaick, being called to appear to answer to the indictment brought against them by the Grand Jury for stealing potatoes, they both appear. The indictment was read to them and asked whether they were guilty or not guilty. They plead not guilty. The Petit Jury was called and sworn. Four witnesses were sworn. The Jury went out and a constable was sworn to keep them. The jury return and find Conradt Borghgaert and Elias Van Schaick not guilty.

SINGULAR JUDGMENT.

"Mr. Collins, Attorney for the King, moves that they be discharged, paying costs of suit; the Court give judgment for costs accordingly."

The Colonial Courts had a singular way of conducting business. Here were two persons indicted for stealing, who plead not guilty; were brought to trial before a jury, who pronounced them not guilty; whereupon the Attorney for his Majesty the King of England moves that they be dis-

charged, paying the costs of their trial, and the Court directed a judgment to be entered against them for the costs accordingly, although found innocent of any crime. The question occurs to us, what would have been their fate had they been found guilty?

We find the following entry in the records of the Court of Sessions, held on the 6th day of June, 1722:

"The Grand Jury sent in a presentment against Jacob Vosburgh, Esq., for giving a judgment which was not in his power, concerning a cow, the goods of John Bernhard.

"Entered, that Peter Van Buren, Esq., acquaint Jacob Vosburgh, Esq., of the presentment brought against him, concerning the judgment, that he had no business to give, that he may appear at next Court of Sessions to make answer to ye same."

The following subpœna was issued in the case of a negro woman, named Nan, arrested for willfully setting on fire and burning the stable of Johanis Wendell, of the City of Albany:

"City and County of Albany, ss.:

"GEORGE, By the grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

"To Eliza Lansing and Hendric Ten Eyck. We command you and every of you that, all and singular, your business set aside, and all excuses ceasing, you and every of you, in your proper persons, be and appear before our Court of Sessions of the City and County of Albany, in the City Hall therein, on the third day of this instant July, at one o'clock in the afternoon of that day, to testify all and singular, those things which you or any of you of your knowledge or notice may know in a certain cause now depending before the said Court, and on behalf of his Majesty, by bill or information, against a negro woman, of Abraham Kip, of the city, called 'Nan,' on suspicion of burning the stable of Johanis Wendell, of the said city. And of this you and every one of you must by no means omit, under penalty of £100.

"Dated, in Albany, the second day of July, in the eighth year of his Majesty's reign, A. D. 1722.

"Per cura,

"PHILIP LIVINGSTON."

SEVERE PUNISHMENT.

The negro woman Nan was brought to trial at the time mentioned in the said subpœna, and was convicted of burning the building therein named, whereupon the following sentence was pronounced:

"It having been adjudged that the said negro woman, called 'Nan,' is guilty of the crime charged against her; she shall, therefore, within the space of ten days, be whipped behind a cart, on the naked back, twenty lashes, round this city, at the places following: Before the City Hall; at the corner of the house of Johs. Teller; at the corner of the house of Jacob Yetts, Jun.; at the corner of the house of Johs. Ten Broek; before the gate of John Wendell, and before the gate of Anthony Van Schaack, double the lashes; then at the corner of the house of Stephanis Groesbeck; at the corner of the house of Jan Jans Bleeker; at the corner of the house of Johs. Bleeker, Jun.; at the corner of the house of Philip Livingston; at the corner of the house of John Manse; at the corner of the house of the widow of John Dircks; at the corner of the house of Jacob Lansing; at the corner of the house of Johs. Dangler; at the corner of the house of Anna Mary Carnisie; at the Great Bridge, and then at the City Hall, five lashes; after that to be imprisoned for the space of one year, unless her master will enter into bond and sufficient security to export her out of this province, and pay the charge of her imprisonment.

"Copy of this judgment given to a constable to be executed."

REFUSAL TO DRINK THE ROYAL FAMILY'S HEALTH.

At a Court of Sessions held in the City of Albany, at the City Hall, on the 4th day of August, 1722, the Grand Jury sent up the following presentment:

"The jurors of our Sovereign Lord the King, impaneled and sworn to enquire for the body of the City and County of Albany, on their oath present Philip Verplanck, of the City of Albany, surveyor, for that he, the said Verplanck, on the 28th day of May last, without the gates of the said city, at a bonfire, did make disturbance, and hindered Myndert Schuyler, Esq., one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace of the said city and county, in drinking the health of the Royal Family at the said bonfire.

"(Signed) JOHS. MANGAEL, Foreman."

The following entry was made, at a subsequent day of said term, and the case was thus disposed of:

"Philip Verplanck, of this city, who was bound over to appear at this Court by recognizance, being called and appeared; ordered that he be discharged on paying the fees."

There are some records of the Colonial Court of Sessions missing after the term of the Court held January 8, 1723; but it continued to hold its reg-

ular sessions down to 1775, when it was discontinued by the opening scenes of the Revolution.

THE MAYOR'S COURT of Albany, to which we have referred, was a very important tribunal; there exists a pretty full record of its proceedings in Albany, entitled, "*Minutes of the Mayor's Court of Albany.*" Many persons are inclined to the opinion, from some of the entries in these records, that it had the jurisdiction and was a court of sessions; we find no other record of a court of sessions of that period.

In 1686 Albany was incorporated as a city, and provisions were made for holding a Mayor's Court three times a year. The Mayor, Recorder and four Aldermen were associated with the judge in holding the Courts of Oyer and Terminer. We shall give some of the proceedings of this court hereafter.

THE SUPREME COURT was originally established in this State by Act of the Colonial Legislature, May 6, 1691, and continued by limitation to 1698; after this it was continued by proclamation, and finally by ordinance of the Governor-General and Council, dated May 15, 1699.

It was empowered to try all cases, civil or criminal, with jurisdiction and procedure like the English courts of King's Bench, Common Pleas and Exchequer, and was possessed of all the powers of those courts; but it had no equity side. By a subsequent act of the General Assembly the judges were made Judges of Nisi Prius, and annually performed a circuit through the counties of the State, at which time they had a commission of Oyer and Terminer and General Jail Delivery, in which some of the county judges were joined.

Regular terms of *Nisi Prius*, or Trial Courts, were held at Albany after the act of the Assembly we have referred to. This was the Colonial Supreme Court, with a *Nisi Prius* branch now known as the Circuits.

We have briefly described the Courts during the Colonial period. Among these Courts, the Court of Common Pleas was one of the most important. It was established in New York and Albany by the Charter of 1686; by the Act of 1691, a Court of Common Pleas was established in each county in the State; at first it was composed of one judge and three justices, but in 1702 it was ordered that the judge be assisted by two or more justices in holding the courts, all of whom were appointed by the Governor, and held office during his pleasure. It had cognizance of all actions, real, personal and mixed, where the amount sued for exceeded five pounds. Its practice assimilated to the King's Bench and Common Pleas at Westminster. Its errors were corrected in the first instance by Writs of Error into the Supreme Court. Appeals were allowed to the Supreme Court for any judgment where the amount involved exceeded twenty pounds. The clerks were appointed by the Provincial Governor—except the clerk at Albany, who, in some instances, was appointed by the King.

The Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the City of Albany, or any three of them, were, in 1686, *ex-officio* members of the Court of Common Pleas, acting when no judge was present. On May 27, 1691, Peter Schuyler was appointed the Presiding Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Albany; May 27, 1702, he was succeeded by John Abeel, who served until October 14, 1702, when Peter Schuyler was reappointed. Judge Schuyler presided for the long term of fifteen years, when, on December 23, 1717, he was succeeded by Killian Rensselaer, who presided till 1726, when Rutger Bleecker succeeded him. Judge Bleecker pronounced the laws from the bench of Common Pleas till 1733, when he was succeded by Ryer Gerritse, who, on November 28, 1749, was succeeded by Robert Sanders.

The court then consisted of Robert Sanders, Esq., and Sybrant G. Van Schaick, judges; John Beekman, Leonard A. Gansevoort and Robert Roseboom, assistants. The first records which can be found of the proceedings of this court that can be regarded as reliable are as follows:

"At an Inferior Court of Common Pleas, held in and for the City and County of Albany, at the City Hall of the said city, on Tuesday, the 5th day of June, 1750. Present—

"ROBERT SANDERS, } Esqr's.,
"SYBR'T G. VAN SCHAICK, } Judges.

"JOHN BEEKMAN, }
"LEONARD A. GANSEVOORT, } Assistants.
"ROBERT ROSEBOOM, }

"Commission read, Court opened.

"The following were among the cases called:

"Gerret Borghgherdt, by A. Collins, his Attorney, vs. Isaac Van Alstyne, by Richard Stevenson, his Attorney.

"The Sheriff returns the venire; the action deferred till next Court, the Deft. being sick.

"Jacob C. Ten Eyck, by Richd. Stevenson, his Attorney, vs. Albert Van Slyke, by A. Collins, his Attorney, who Confesses Judgment to the Plaintiff for the Sum of one hundred and forty-three Pounds, one half Penny, with Lawful Interest, and costs. Whereupon Judgment is Granted Accordingly.

"The next case was France Claw, Junr., by A. Collins, his Attorney, vs. Joh's Van Duesen, by A. Crooke, his Attorney.

"The Sheriff returned the venire with a panel of the Jury, who, being called, the following appeared, and were sworn, viz.:

"Albertus Becker, Philip Shelters, Pietrus Bogardus, William Plase, Hans T. Willer, George Redinbergh, Richard Oliver, Philys Selt-Pagh, Martin Cooper, Paul Dick, Kihan Stafle Been, Benj'n Hilton.

"Pleading read.

"The following evidence sworn for the Plaintiff."

Here follows the names of seven witnesses for the plaintiff, one of them ("Isaac Vosburgh) sworn on his *Voire Dire*." Four witnesses were sworn for the plaintiff.

"Declaration and Affidavit of the widow Cobus read for the plaintiff; Court duly addressed by Counsel for the parties.

"Jury charged. Two Constables sworn to keep the Jury, and the Jury go out.

"France Claw, Junr., by Collins, vs. Joh's Van Duesen, by Crooke.

"The Jury returned, and, asked if they were agreed on their verdict, answered, 'Yes.' Being asked for whom they found it, answered, 'for the Plaintiff, Sixteen Pounds damages, and Sixpence costs.' Whereupon, Mr. Collins said: 'May it please the Court, the Pltf.'s Att'y remits eight Pounds of the damages, being more than he sued for.' Whereupon, on motion of the Plaintiff's Attorney, the Court grants Judgment for the remaining eight Pounds and costs of suit."

The proceedings of the court at that early day were very similar to those in the courts at the present time. For instance: The following is the proclamation of the crier before the presiding judge charges the grand jury:

"Hear Ye! Hear Ye! All men or persons are strictly charged and commanded to keep silent whilst his Majesty's Commission of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas is reading."

Proclamation to open court:

"Hear Ye! Hear Ye! All men or persons that have anything to do at this Inferior Court of Common Pleas, let them draw near, give their attention, and they shall be heard."

Proclamation to adjourn the court:

"Hear Ye! Hear Ye! All men or persons that have here appeared at this Court of Common Pleas may for the present depart, and attend again as the Court orders."

Juror's Oath: "You shall well and truly try the issue joined between A. B., Plaintiff, and C. D., Defendant, and a true verdict give according to the evidence, so help you God!"

It appears that in those days there were two constables sworn to attend the jury, with different oaths; one of them was probably to sit at the outside door of the jury-room, and the other to sit by the door on the inside. Their oaths will be regarded by the officers of the present court as somewhat singular. The outside constable's was as follows:

GRAND JUROR'S OATH.

"You shall go out with such jurors as shall have leave of the Court; you shall not suffer any person to speak to them, neither shall you speak to them, but bring them in presently, so help you God."

Constable's oath who attended the jury inside: "You shall well and truly keep every person sworn on this jury together in some private and convenient room, without meat, drink, fire, candle or lodging, or anything that shall minister to their comfort; and you shall not suffer any person whatever to speak to them, or any of them, neither shall you, yourself, speak to them, unless it be to ask them whether they be agreed on their verdict. So help you God."

One of the most stubbornly contested cases was that of Masta Winne, who appeared in person against Hendrick Van Buren, by Rutgert Corry, his attorney. The case was tried by a jury, and a large number of witnesses were sworn for the respective parties. The jury found a verdict for the defendant, upon which judgment was entered. Whereupon Mr. Winne moved for forty days to file his declarations, and the defendants moved for forty days more to file their pleas, which the court granted accordingly.

APPEALS.

This procedure will hardly be understood by lawyers of the present day. As we understand it, however, this was the course adopted to remove the case to an Appellate Court. When a party was defeated, he asked leave to file his declaration or plea, as the case might be. This compelled the other party to do the same. At the expiration of the time for filing the respective pleadings, and they being filed, the case was appealed; the proceedings were stayed on granting the first motion.

Judge Gansvort was one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas under the Federal Government.

At a Court of Common Pleas for the City and County of Albany, held at the City Hall, in the City of Albany, on the 2d of October, 1759, Volkert P. Douw was one of the judges of that court. This is the first time we find Judge Douw occupying the Bench of the Colonial Court of Common Pleas. He continued to preside on the bench until January 10, 1771, when hewas succeeded by Rensselaer Nicolls.

The Colonial Court of Common Pleas continued to hold its regular terms of court under the Colonial laws until January, 1776, when the increasing spirit of American Independence caused it to dissolve. Its last presiding judge was Henry Bleeker; its last term began at the City Hall, in the City of Albany, January 19, 1776.

LAST COLONIAL COURT.

There is a singular incident connected with the recorded proceedings of this term. Opposition to all manner of British rule, executive, legislative and legal, had now manifested itself to such a degree that the judges and officers of the court at the term about which we are writing organized under the immediate fear of a popular outbreak. Nevertheless the court convened and proceeded with its business. The sheriff returned a few writs, a few judgments by confession and by default were taken, and some unimportant business was transacted, when the following cause was reached :

SOLOMON ECKER
agst.
HARME QUACKENBOSS.

The entry in the rule book then proceeds as follows : "On motion of Peter W. Yates, attorney for the defendants, ordered that the plaintiff show cause at ——." Here the entry is suddenly broken off, probably by fear of the popular outbreak of the Sons of Liberty, and it is the last proceeding of the Colonial Court of Common Pleas.

On July 26 following the Declaration of Independence was read in front of the City Hall to a vast assembly of the citizens of Albany and the surrounding country.

It is proper to add that the only attorney present at the court we have described was Peter W. Yates. Henry Ten Eyck was sheriff at this time, the last under the English government; Stephen De Lancy, clerk. The associate judges were *John H. Ten Eyck* and *Henry Van Schaack.* Judge Van Schaack had just been appointed. He was a lawyer controlling a very respectable practice.

It was the practice of the clerk of the Colonial Court to enter in the common rule book at the term of court the names of all the lawyers having causes to dispose of, as follows:

"Mr. Gansevoort's rules." Then would follow a list of his causes, and the manner in which they were disposed of. Then would follow:

"Mr. Peter W. Yates," and his causes and the manner of their disposition, and so on.

At some of the terms the leading lawyers would have from ten to twenty cases under their rules, with a brief entry opposite each cause, like the following: "The def't in this cause has confessed the action and suffered jud. before Judge Douw for £6 4s. 2d. damages, besides costs of suit. On motion of Mr. Gansevoort, attorney for pl't'f, judgment is ordered for the same." Often the entry would be, "Interlocutory judgment."

PROMINENT LAWYERS.

Of the lawyers whose names most frequently appear in those courts were Richard Gansvort, A. Sylvester, Mr. Corry, Robert Yates, Peter W. Yates, Mr. Bleeker. The two Yateses, Robert and Peter W., seem to have controlled for many years an extraordinary amount of legal business.

The Court of Common Pleas which we have described was establishsd in the State of New York by the Provincial Governor and Council, May 15, 1699, and continued in the County of Albany down to January 19, 1776. But we can find no earlier record of the court than we have given.

This court had cognizance of causes above five pounds, and, as we have seen, had three judges and three assistant judges. With some of the justices they held at the same time a Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the trial of criminals.

After the adoption of the first Constitution this Court of Common Pleas was reorganized without any material change in their procedure; it continued in existence in this way until the adoption of the Constitution of 1821, when some changes were made in it, one of which was increasing the number of judges in some counties to the number of twelve.

The Constitution of 1821 provided for the appointment by the Governor of five judges in each county, of whom one was designated as *First Judge.* This court continued until it was abolished by the Constitution of 1846, and a county court instituted in its place.

The First Judge of the Albany County Court of Common Pleas was *Volkert P. Douw.* He was appointed First Judge of the county by a provincial convention, by which he was commissioned January 6, 1778.

FIRST COURT AFTER THE REVOLUTION.

We have seen that Judge Douw was presiding judge of the Court of Common Pleas for many years; he served with ability and learning down to May, 1775, when, moved by his patriotic spirit, he declined to hold his office under the British Governor-General of New York, and resigned.

Owing to the unsettled state of the country, few courts were held under the Constitution of the State until after the close of the war. We can find no record of any court at which Judge Douw presided, nor of any court in the County of Albany until 1785. In the meantime Judge Douw was by reason of his age compelled to retire from the bench, and on March 6, 1781, *Abram Ten Broeck* was appointed by Gov. George Clinton First Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Albany County. Peter Van Ness, John Price and John M. Beekman were appointed associate judges or justices. The first record of the sittings of the Court of Common Pleas in the County of Albany after the Revolution, which can be found, is the following:

"At a Court of the Common Pleas, held for the City and County of Albany, at the City Hall, in the City of Albany, on Tuesday, the 10th day of January, 1785. Present—

"Abraham Ten Broeck, Esq., First Judge.

"Peter Van Ness, Esq.,
"John Price,
"John M. Beekman,
} Associate Judges.

"After organizing the court adjourned until the 19th day of January, 1785.

"The court met pursuant to adjournment, January 19, 1785. Present—

"Peter Van Ness, Esq.,
"John Price,
"John M. Beekman,
} Associate Judges.

"On reading a license under the hand of Richard Morris, Esq., for the admission of Killiaen Van Rensselaer, Esq., to the bar of the Supreme Court, ordered that the said Killiaen Van Rensselaer be admitted an attorney and counsellor at law in this court.

"Abraham Ten Broeck, Esq., First Judge, took his seat."

LAWYERS PRESENT.

Among the attorneys present at this court were Mr. Visscher, who had a large number of causes on the calendar; Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Gansevoort, Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. Bay, Mr. Sill, Mr. Graham, Mr. Sylvester and Mr. Lush. These gentlemen represented a large number of causes, of which there were 131 on the docket; but none of them appear to have been tried, although several were referred, showing that the practice of trying causes in that manner was as prevalent then as at the present.

There were several judgments taken by default, and many "interlocutory judgments" entered. It seems to have been a law term of the court, as there is no record of a grand or a petit jury.

This term of court was succeeded by regular terms thereof down to 1821. The following is a list of the first or presiding judges of that court down to 1846:

Leonard Gansvort, appointed March 19, 1794; John Taylor, appointed February 7, 1797; Nicholas N. Quackenboss, appointed January 13, 1803; David McCarthy, appointed March 13, 1804; Charles Cooper, appointed March 29, 1806; Jacob Ten Eyck, appointed June 8, 1807; Apollo Moore, appointed June 6, 1812.

Mr. Judge Moore discharged the duties of this office till March 15, 1828, when he was succeeded by James L'Amoreaux, who discharged the duties of the office till March 12, 1833, when he was succeeded by Samuel Cheever. Judge Cheever was, on the 17th day of May, 1838, succeeded by Jacob Lansing, who presided till April 17, 1843, when he was succeeded by Peter Gansevoort, who held the office of First Judge until the court was abolished by the provisions of the Constitution of 1846.

This court was continued without material change by the Constitution of 1821 until its abolishment in 1846. The judges were appointed by the Governor and Senate for a period of five years. By the Constitution of 1846 all judicial officers were made elective.

The following is a record of the earliest Mayor's Court we can find:

"At a Mayor's Court, held at the City of Albany, at the City Hall of the said city, on the 20th day of May, 1760. Present—

"Sybrant G. Van Schaick, Esq., Mayor.

"Jacob Ten Eyck, Esq.,
"Jacob Lansing, Esq.,
} Aldermen.

"Benson Turner, *agt.* "John Barron, } by Corry. by Yates.

"The sheriff returned the venire in the above cause with the panel of the jurors annexed."

Then follow the names of twelve jurors, after which appear the names of the witnesses sworn, and the following entry: "The jury charged and

retired under two constables. The jury returned, and being asked whether they were agreed on their verdict answered 'Yes;' being asked for whom they found it, answered 'for the plaintiff, thirty-nine pounds damages, and six pence costs.'

"On motion of Mr. Yates, attorney for the defendant, the judgment being deferred until next court."

There were seventy-five causes on the calendar.

At this term "Robert Yates produced license appointing him an attorney at law for the Mayor's Court and for the Court of Common Pleas for the City and County of Albany, and was accordingly admitted." Mr. Yates was one of the most distinguished lawyers of his times.

The last record of the Mayor's Court under the Colonial government closes with the year 1768. It was a court of much importance, and had, as we have said, both civil and criminal jurisdiction. After the adoption of the Federal Constitution another Mayor's Court was organized for the City of Albany, to which reference will be made hereafter.

THE SUPREME COURT UNDER THE FIRST STATE CONSTITUTION.—On the 19th of February, 1777, the "Convention of the Representatives of the State of New York," assembled by adjournment to Kingston, N. Y., and on the 20th of April succeeding adopted, agreeably to the recommendations of the Continental Congress, the first Constitution of the State of New York. In it the existence of the *present* Supreme Court of the State was recognized. On the 3d of May, 1777, the Convention elected John Jay Chief Justice, and Robert Yates and John Morin Scott Associate Justices. Scott, however, declined, and John Sloss Hobart, who received the next number of votes, was declared elected. Judge Hobart was one of the most distinguished men of his times. He was one of "the Sons of Liberty," organized in the City of New York in November, 1765, to oppose the execution of the Stamp Act. From that time till the day of his death, February 4, 1805, he was constantly in public life, serving in various legislative and judicial offices, as United States Senator and a Judge of the United States Court in New York. When Hobart was appointed a Justice of the Supreme Court, Robert R. Livingston was appointed Chancellor, and Egbert Benson Attorney-General.

Fifteen persons were, on the same day, elected a Council of Safety to carry on a temporary government until the Constitution could be put into operation. On the 8th of May, 1777, a plan of government was reported, in which were the names of the above members of the Supreme Court, as were those of the Chancellor and Attorney-General, and was adopted by the Convention. The plan also provided for the election of a Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, a Senate and an Assembly.

The Convention dissolved on the 13th of May, and on the 14th the Council of Safety went into operation. On the 20th a commission for holding Courts of Oyer and Terminer and General Jail Delivery in the State, drafted by Chief-Justice Jay, was issued by the Council. On the 5th of June following the Council directed that, until Legislature should otherwise provide, the Supreme Court should sit at Kingston, and that the terms should be the same as throughout 1774. These terms were the same as provided for in the ordinance of 1760. The seal of the Supreme Court was likewise ordered to be delivered to the Council.

On the 9th of August, 1777, the first term of the Supreme Court of the State under the Constitution was held, and Chief-Justice Jay delivered the first charge to the Grand Jury.

In 1778 the Judges of the Supreme Court were empowered to devise a seal, and it was directed that all proceedings of the Court should be before the "People of the State of New York," instead of, as heretofore, "Before our Sovereign Lord the King," etc.

On the 18th of May, in 1784, the first Grand Jury of the Court of Oyer and Terminer after the Revolution sat in the City of New York. Judge Hobart, with whom was associated James Duane, Mayor of the city, held the court; Judge Hobart delivered the charge to the Grand Jury.

FIRST COURT UNDER THE CONSTITUTION HELD AT ALBANY.—On January 1, 1785, the terms of the Supreme Court were directed to be held at Albany on the last Tuesday of July and the third Tuesday in October, and that in the City of New York on the third Tuesday in January and April in every year; the April and October terms to continue for three weeks, and the January and July terms for two. Accordingly the first term of the Supreme Court ever held in the City of Albany convened on the last Tuesday of July, 1785. Hon. Richard Morris, who had been appointed Chief Justice in place of John Jay, presided.

From that time down to the present the Supreme Court of the State has held regular terms, according to appointment, in the City of Albany.

The most practical and, perhaps, the most perfect manner of presenting the history of the Bench and Bar of Albany County is to give it in the lives

of the judicial officers, the eminent jurists and lawyers, who made that history. We begin with

ROBERT YATES.

Robert Yates was an eminent jurist, prominent in the legal and legislative history preceding and during the Revolution. With John Jay, John Sloss Hobart, William Duer, Gouverneur Morris, Robert R. Livingston and others, he was a member of the memorable committee appointed on the first of August, 1776, to prepare a form of government for the then new State of New York. The committee reported March 12, 1777, which report was debated until April 20 following, when the first constitution of the State of New York was adopted. He was a member of the first Provincial Congress, which assembled May 22, 1775, and adjourned the following November. He was also a member of the second Congress, which convened February 12, 1776, and adjourned May 13 following. On May 8, 1777, he was appointed a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State, serving till October 28, 1790, when he was appointed Chief Justice of the State. In 1787 Judge Yates was appointed by the Legislature of the State, with Alexander Hamilton and John Lansing, Jr., a delegate to the convention which formed the Constitution of the United States. According to the form of the resolution, they were appointed "for the sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation, and reporting to Congress and the several legislatures such alterations and provisions therein as shall, when agreed to in Congress and confirmed by the several States, render the Federal Constitution adequate to the exigencies of government and the preservation of the Union."

Chief-Justice Yates and John Lansing withdrew from the convention, because it did not more effectually secure the rights of the individual States; they were anti-Federalists or Republicans.

"To these men and their copatriots the nation is indebted for the ten important amended Articles which were subsequently made a part of the Constitution." Hamilton was the only delegate from this State who signed it.

Judge Yates was also a commissioner to settle the rival land claims of New York and Vermont, also of Massachusetts and Connecticut. He was born in 1738 and removed to Albany early in life, where he spent the remainder of his days. He died in 1801.

JOHN LANSING, Jr.

John Lansing, Jr., was born at Albany, on the 30th of January, 1785. He studied law with Robert Yates, afterward Chief Justice, in Albany, and with James Duane, in the City of New York.

In 1776 and 1777 he was the military secretary of Major-Gen. Schuyler, Commander of the Northern Department, and who was engaged in the summer of the latter year in active operations to resist the advance of Burgoyne. In a letter to James Duane, dated at Saratoga (now Schuylerville) on the 30th of November, 1776, Mr. Lansing declined accepting, by reason of his holding the above post under Gen. Schuyler, a commission of lieutenant in the new levies of troops.

After being admitted to the Bar, Mr. Lansing pursued the practice of his profession in the City of Albany with great success.

From 1780–1 to 1784 he was a member of Assembly (the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th Sessions) from the City of Albany.

On the 3d of February, 1784, he was appointed Member of Congress, under the articles of confederation, and on the 26th of October following was reappointed.

On the 13th of January, 1786, he was elected Speaker of the New York Assembly. On the 28th of April following he, together with John Haring, Melancthon Smith and Robert Yates, was appointed (in place of John Jay and Walter Livingston, resigned) on the commission that met at Hartford, in that year, and made final decision of the territorial claims of New York and Massachusetts.

On the 29th of September, in the same year, he was appointed, by the Council of Appointment, Mayor of Albany.

In 1786 he was again elected Member of Assembly from the City and County of Albany.

On the 26th of January, 1787, he was once more delegated a Member of Congress under the Confederation.

On the 6th of March, in the same year, the New York Legislature appointed Mr. Lansing, Alexander Hamilton and Robert Yates to the Philadelphia Convention, which assembled on the 25th of May, and framed a Constitution of the United States. Mr. Lansing, together with Mr. Yates, was opposed to the principles of the Constitution, as presenting a system of consolidated government at variance with the rights of the States. He retired from the Convention with Mr. Yates, on the 5th of July, 1787, before the Constitution had been definitely settled upon by that body, but not until it was seen how it was to be established, and published his reasons for so doing in a letter jointly with Mr. Yates to Gov. George Clinton.

In 1788 Mr. Lansing was again a Member of the New York State Convention which ratified the Constitution from Albany County.

On the 12th of December, 1788, the Assembly of the State of New York re-elected him Speaker.

By an act of March 6, 1790, he was appointed by the Legislature one of the commissioners on the part of the State of New York to settle the controversy of that State with Vermont; and on the 28th of September following he was appointed one of the justices of the Supreme Court of the State.

In the succeeding year, by an act of the Legislature passed on the 6th of July, Judge Lansing, Abraham Van Vechten and Robert Yates were appointed commissioners to determine the claims of citizens of the State of New York to lands situated in Vermont, ceded by New York at the settlement of the controversy, and what portion of certain moneys ($30,000) each claimant should receive.

On the 15th of February, 1798, Judge Lansing received the appointment of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State, in place of Chief-Justice Robert Yates, who had resigned under the constitutional limit of sixty years.

On the 21st of October, 1801, Chief-Justice Lansing was appointed Chancellor of the State of New York, in place of Chancellor Robert R. Livingston, who had also resigned under the above limit.

On February 4, 1804, Chancellor Lansing was nominated by a Republican legislative caucus to the office of Governor of the State of New York, but in a letter of the 18th of that month he declined the nomination.

On the 28th of January, 1817, he was appointed a Regent of the University.

In 1824 he was chosen a Presidential Elector from the City and County of Albany.

On December 8, 1829, Chancellor Lansing visited the City of New York on business, which detained him several days. He was a guest at the City Hotel. The evening of December 12 was dark and stormy. Having an important letter for Albany, which he desired to mail, he left the hotel with a view of depositing it in the mail box on board a steamer that was to leave New York that evening. He did not return to the hotel, and was never seen or heard from after leaving it. It is generally believed that he fell into the river and was drowned, and yet his body was never recovered.

Fifty-five years have passed away and the mystery that hung over this sad event has been deepened by the lapse of each succeeding year. The sudden disappearance of a citizen so illustrious, whose long life had been mostly devoted to the interest of the State, produced a sensation at Albany as deep as did that of the sudden death of De Witt Clinton, a little less than a year previous. Although Chancellor Lansing was in his seventy-sixth year at the time of his death, he was vigorous and active in mind and body. In person he was large and handsome, with remarkably fine features. He was a fascinating conversationalist, dignified and impressive in his bearing.

He was married in 1781 to Miss Ray, daughter of Robert Ray, Esq., a distinguished citizen of the City of New York; four children, all daughters, were born to this marriage.

Chancellor Lansing was the author of a small volume entitled "Reports of Select Cases in Chancery, and in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, in 1824 and 1828," viz., in Chancery, Lansing *v.* The Albany Insurance Company, March 24, 1824; Egberts *v.* Lansing, September 7, 1822; Lansing *v.* Goelet; Supreme Court, Globe Insurance Company *v.* Lansing, February Term, 1826.

ABRAHAM VAN VECHTEN.

Among the great American lawyers whose names appear on the roll of the Albany Bar is that of Abraham Van Vechten. No name is more honored in the history of the State than his—honored not only as a learned, eloquent and eminently successful lawyer, but as a legislator whose wisdom and profundity are seen in the enactment of many of the laws that have given protection and greatness to the State of New York.

He was born at Catskill, December 5, 1762. He received his elementary education at Esopus, now Kingston, New York, completing his education at Kings, now Columbia College. At the close of the revolutionary war he commenced the study of law under the direction of Chancellor John Lansing. He was one of the first lawyers admitted to the Bar after the organization of our government. Immediately after his call to the Bar he opened an office at Johnstown, Montgomery County, New York, but was soon invited to occupy a more extensive field in the City of Albany.

The high places at the Bar were then occupied by gifted advocates, among whom were Hamilton, Burr, Harrison, Jones and Livingston. But the brilliancy of such names could not cast young Van Vechten in the shade. He soon ranked among the illustrious seniors as an equal and a competitor for the highest professional eminence; untiring in his efforts, the naturally great powers of his mind were continually developed and expanded.

His intellect was formed to grapple with the most abstruse and difficult subjects of legal and judicial investigation; and he early inured himself to the most intense application of mental industry. In acuteness and the ready comprehension of any subject presented for his investigation, he had few equals. Nature seemed to have furnished him with powers eminently adapted to the illustration of legal principles, but he made no display of legal lore; his learning seemed incorporated with all his thoughts. What he once read was well digested and remained ever ready for application.

A large portion of his life was spent in the discussion of legal questions in our highest courts of law and equity; he was always listened to with profound attention by the ablest judges in the State and nation. His arguments, clear and learned, always elucidated and instructed, and greatly aided the tribunals to which they were addressed in coming to correct conclusions. His style was remarkable for perspicacity and strength, enforced by thoughtful logic.

In his manner he was usually calm and unimpassioned, yet earnest and forcible. His talents were too conspicuous to allow him to confine his efforts to the Bar. He was repeatedly chosen to represent his fellow citizens in both branches of the Legislature. The State Senate Chamber was the theatre of some of his highest intellectual efforts.

As a member of the *Court for the Correction of Errors* he has left behind him enduring monuments of his legal learning.

On February 13, 1813, he was appointed Attorney-General of the State. He was the successor of that illustrious lawyer, Thomas Addis Emmet. In February, 1815, he was succeeded by Martin Van Buren. The high and responsible duties of Attorney-General were never discharged with more ability and success than by Mr. Van Vechten.

During the administration of Gov. John Jay, that great statesman, in recognition of Van Vechten's commanding talents as a lawyer, tendered him —then one of the youngest members of the Bar—the office of Judge of the Supreme Court of the State. The offer was modestly declined, as Mr. Van Vechten preferred to practice his profession instead of presiding on the bench. The lawyer and the student are often astonished at the vast number of our reported cases heard in the Supreme Court and *Court for the Correction of Errors* in which Mr. Van Vechten represented one of the parties litigant.

"Over a half century his brilliant mind was constantly shedding its light over the jurisprudence of the State and nation. The Bar long delighted to accord to him its highest honors."

To the younger members of the profession he greatly endeared himself by his kind and courteous manners; and by all he was venerated as an illustrious model of professional excellence. In his daily consultations with his clients he was emphatically a peacemaker. It was his constant habit to advise the settlement of disputes without recourse to litigation, allowing no selfish interest to influence his advice or bias his mind in giving his opinions.

He was Recorder of the City of Albany from 1797 to 1808; Regent from January, 1797, to 1823; State Senator from 1798 to 1805; member of Assembly from 1805 to 1815; Attorney-General for the year 1810, and again appointed in 1813—serving two years, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1821.

His character as a citizen in the private walks of life afforded a model of excellence. "He constantly displayed in his intercourse with his neighbors and acquaintances the most amiable social qualities. To his other traits of character was added one which is justly deemed of far the most importance; he was a sincere believer in the Saviour of the world and a venerated member of the Dutch Reformed Church of Albany. In his judicatories his parental counsels were received with reverence as eminently calculated to promote the peace and prosperty of the church. His disinterestedness was a prominent feature in his character and was the foundation of that unbounded confidence which was reposed in him by all who knew him."

On May 24, 1784, Mr. Van Vechten was united by marriage to Miss Catharine Schuyler, daughter of Philip P. Schuyler and Anna Wendell. This union proved eminently happy, and Mr. Van Vechten's domestic life was proverbial for the felicities it afforded.

JOHN V. HENRY.

John V. Henry was one of the earliest members of the Albany Bar. He was admitted to practice as an attorney at law at a term of the Supreme Court held at Albany in January, 1782. Col. Aaron Burr was admitted at the same term. On the 14th of April following Mr. Henry and Burr were admitted to practice as counselors at law.

The advantages of a finished classical and legal education, united to great native mental powers, very soon gave Mr. Henry a commanding position in his profession, and he rapidly attained a State and national reputation, ranking with Hamilton, Burr, Hoffman, Lansing, and other great luminaries that adorned the Bar.

Possessing attractive elocutionary powers, controlled by close and ready logic, enlivened and strengthened by extensive reading, stimulated by ambition, it was natural that he should be attracted to the political arena. Here his abilities were speedily recognized and appreciated, and he became a leader.

In 1800 he was chosen Member of Assembly for Albany County. By re-election he represented this county in the Assembly in the Legislature of 1801-2. He was the acknowledged leader of the Federal party in those bodies. So moderately and so justly did he govern and exercise his political sentiments that he gained the esteem and friendship even of his political opponents, with a very few exceptions. Hence his great influence in the Legislature.

In January, 1800, Mr. Henry was appointed Comptroller by John Jay, then Governor of the State. As he was eminently qualified for the duties of this office, his appointment was very popular. George Clinton, who had been Governor from 1777 down to 1794, was in 1795 succeeded by Jay, elected in the Gubernatorial election of that year. Gov. Jay was re-elected in 1798. In 1801 Gov. George Clinton was re-elected. Mr. Clinton, though apparently friendly to Mr. Henry, suddenly removed him from the office of Comptroller. At the time of this removal the Governor had been in office but a few months. Mr. Henry's successor was Elisha Jenkins, a merchant of Hudson, N. Y.—a man in every sense Mr. Henry's inferior. This appointment of Jenkins was made at the instance of Ambrose Spencer, at that time a political boss, with powers equal to any of the modern rulers of political parties. Spencer afterward became a Judge of the Supreme Court and Chief Justice of the State, ranking among the greatest and purest of American judges.

Though Mr. Henry's removal from office greatly disgusted him, we must, on the whole, regard it as a fortunate circumstance in his life. It caused him to adopt an irrevocable resolution never again to accept any office, but devote himself entirely to the practice of his profession. This resolution gave him that commanding position at the Bar of the State and nation we have already described.

For many years his practice was confined to the General Term of the Supreme Court, the Court for the Correction of Errors, and in the United States Supreme Court.

To use the language of another, "The great superiority of Mr. Henry as an advocate consisted in his skill in condensing his arguments—in saying everything which could be said in favor of the position he wished to establish with the fewest words. These words were selected in the best possible manner. He never used a word except the very best to express his ideas. He was not generally

florid, and seldom aimed at brilliancy, though, if the occasion required, he could be impressive, brilliant and powerfully eloquent." He continued to devote all his time, talents and energies to his profession until the 22d day of October, 1829, when he was suddenly removed from the scenes of his earthly labors and ambition by the hand of death.

We give the following account of Mr. Henry's death as we find it in the *Albany Gazette* of October 24, 1829:

"Mr. John V. Henry, one of the most distinguished lawyers in the State, is no more. He attended the Supreme Court on Wednesday morning; on his way from the court-room at the Capitol, about 11 o'clock in the forenoon, when opposite the residence of Chandler Starr, in State street, he was seized with an apoplectic fit. He was taken into Mr. Starr's and medical aid was immediately rendered. He lingered until half-past two o'clock yesterday afternoon, when his mighty spirit was yielded up to the God who gave it. His age was about sixty-four.

"The death of Mr. Henry is a public calamity. The tears his family shed over his lifeless form fall not alone. Those who respect the probity, the independence, the gallant bearing, and the high talents which sometimes redeem human nature from suspicion, must also lament the fall of such a man as this, in whom these traits were so happily combined.

"And so depart, with fearful rapidity, the sages, the statesmen and the jurists of our day. Clinton and Wells, and Emmet and Henry, have, in their turn, ceased to be. And what a lesson to mankind do their sudden deaths impart. One by one the wise and virtuous fall into the deep gulf of Time, and yet thousands tread thoughtlessly on the solemn verge.

"The Supreme Court of the State, in session in the City of Albany, adjourned on Friday without doing any business in consequence of the death of JOHN V. HENRY."

At this time John Savage was Chief Justice, William L. Marcy and John Woodworth were Associate Justices of the Supreme Court.

At the opening of the court on Friday morning, the day after Mr. Henry's death, that great lawyer, Daniel Cady, in the presence of those illustrious judges, and distinguished lawyers from all parts of the State, arose and in a voice indicative of the deepest sorrow announced the death of Mr. Henry. So sensible and deep was Mr. Cady's emotion that, with all his commanding powers of eloquence and his usual self-control, he could at first hardly proceed with his announcement. Gaining composure, he pronounced a beautiful and touching eulogy upon the distinguished deceased. He concluded by moving that the court adjourn until the next day.

The Chief Justice, after observing that the motion of Mr. Cady accorded well with the feelings of the court, who deemed it due the memory of so distinguished a lawyer as Mr. Henry that this mark of respect should be shown, directed that the court adjourn until the next day.

JOHN V. N. YATES.

This distinguished lawyer, scholar and politician was a son of Chief-Justice Robert Yates. He was born at Albany in 1779. After receiving a liberal education he entered the office of John V. Henry, under whose tuition he prepared for the Bar. After receiving his degree as Attorney at Law, he began practice in Albany. With the advantages of extraordinary talents, an excellent classical and legal education and influential friends, he rapidly made his way to the front rank of his profession.

In 1803 the Legislature appointed him one of a committee with John Cuyler and Charles D. Cooper to report an estimate of the cost of a State and Court House in Albany.

On March 7, 1804, they submitted their report to the Legislature, and it was adopted.

On April 6 following an act was passed authorizing the erection of the building.

In 1808 he was appointed a Master and Examiner in Chancery. In June, 1808, he was appointed Recorder of the City of Albany.

In January, 1809, he was removed, to make place for Mr. Graham, and was restored in 1811, serving till July 8, 1816, when he was again removed, as before, for political purposes. In the administration of this office Mr. Yates exhibited rare judicial abilities.

In April, 1818, he was appointed Secretary of State, serving till February 13, 1823, when he was re-appointed, serving till 1826, when he was succeeded by Azariah C. Flagg.

In the administration of this office he exhibited abilities which commended him largely to public favor.

In 1808 Mr. Yates became embroiled in a memorable legal contest with Chancellor Lansing. This contest grew out of an attempt of the Chancellor, in his official capacity, to punish Yates for malpractice and contempt of court. The case was seriously important in many senses, one of which brought the Court of Chancery and the Supreme Court of the State in collision.

At the time of which we are speaking Yates was a Master in Chancery. By the ninth section of the act then in existence concerning Attorneys, Counselors at Law and Solicitors in Chancery, all these officers were forbidden to bring any action in the name of another attorney or solicitor, without his knowledge and consent.

At this time Yates was not a solicitor of the Court of Chancery, but began an important suit in that court, using the name of one Peter W. Yates, a solicitor, without his knowledge, against the statute. Complaint was presented to Chancellor Lansing, who granted an order for the arrest of Yates. He insisted that he appeared as solicitor with the consent of Peter W. Yates, but that gentleman denied the consent.

Mr. Yates excepted to the issuing of the order for an arrest; he insisted that the charge against him was a crime; that the Court of Chancery had no criminal jurisdiction; that whether he was guilty or not was a question which the consti-

tution provided should be tried by a jury. But the Chancellor took a different view of the case. Mr. Yates was denied bail, and sent a prisoner to the old Albany jail.

He was highly popular with the people, and his imprisonment caused great excitement. He was a proud, high-minded man, inflexible in his purposes, ardent in carrying them into execution, and he determined to contest what he deemed to be the high-handed course of the Chancellor toward him, and he carried his determination with unequaled earnestness into effect. He retained Thomas Addis Emmet as his counsel, who applied to Judge Spencer for a writ of *habeas corpus* for the release of his client from imprisonment, which was granted, and, after a full hearing, Mr. Yates was discharged. Whereupon, by order of the Chancellor, Mr. Yates was re-committed to prison, on the ground that the Supreme Court had no right to interfere with the proceedings of the Court of Chancery. The General Term of the Supreme Court opened about that time at Albany, and Mr. Emmet immediately moved in open court for another writ of *habeas corpus* to bring before it the body of Mr. Yates. He was brought before the court, and after a full argument the first and second arrests of Yates were sustained, and he was remanded to prison. The case was immediately removed to the Court for the Correction of Errors, the Chancellor using every effort to prevent the allowance of the writ; but he was defeated and the case was brought to argument in that court. A judgment of the court was finally rendered, declaring the arrest of Yates illegal and directing his discharge. Soon after being remanded to jail he obtained bail. The case will be found in 6 Johnson's Reports, 335. Yates immediately brought an action against Lansing for false imprisonment, and another long legal contest ensued, in which the Chancellor succeeded on the ground that he was not liable, as he acted in a judicial capacity.

Mr. Yates was afterward appointed by the Legislature to add notes, references and succinct matters touching the laws under our colonial government to the revised laws of New York of 1813—a duty which he discharged with singular ability and success.

He was afterward the recipient of many distinguished official positions.

Mr. Yates was a valuable contributor to the literature of his country, and until a short time previous to his death the productions of his pen added largely to his own honor and to that of the city in which he lived. He died in Albany, January 10, 1839, aged sixty years.

MARTIN VAN BUREN.

Martin Van Buren was born in Kinderhook, then in the County of Albany, now Columbia, December 5, 1782. In his boyhood he exhibited a love of knowledge, a fondness for books, "a quickness of apprehension, a shrewdness of observation; but the limited means of his father denied him the advantages for an education, except those taught in a common school." He soon mastered all the branches taught in that humble institution of learning, and became a teacher in the common schools. In this occupation he acquired the means of defraying the expenses of an education at the Kinderhook Academy for two or three years. In this institution he acquired an excellent English education and became a very fine Latin scholar.

"As a student," says one of his biographers, "young Van Buren was distinguished not only for his industry and application, but for his unwillingness to take anything upon trust, and his consequent habit of investigation and reflection. He was fond, too, of argumentative discussions; he had never studied dialectics as taught in the schools and knew but little about Aristotle or Locke, yet he was a natural logician, and handled the weapons of those whose very names he was ignorant with great skill and ability. He was ambitious to surpass his companions in extemporaneous speaking and English composition; many were the encomiums he received for his excellence in these branches."

Mr. Van Buren, like Ben Jonson, who pursued his classical studies with a trowel in his hand, was always a student; always found time, especially in his earlier years, to devote to classical studies. A desire to become a lawyer by profession was his early ambition, so strongly indulged that he began his legal studies at the early age of fourteen. His preceptor was Francis Sylvester, Esq., a leading member of the Bar. He pursued his legal studies with unwearied diligence and much success. At the age of eighteen he began to try causes in justices' courts, those tribunals which afford the legal student such a field for improvement in public speaking, in examining witnesses, in arranging testimony and in sharpening the perceptive faculties. He soon became famous as an advocate in these courts, acquiring a large and lucrative practice therein. He often met as opponents the leading members of the Columbia Bar, whose respect he gained by the exhibition of his rare abilities, his courteous and high-toned bearing.

While a student he was an active politician and gave his allegiance to the Democratic party. His regard and admiration of Thomas Jefferson were almost unbounded. In the great contest between Adams and Jefferson, he advocated and defended the Republican principles with much ardor and ability. Though yet in his teens, he addressed Republican gatherings, wrote resolutions, memorials and pamphlets. In the autumn of 1800, when only eighteen years of age, he represented the Democrats of his native town in a Congressional convention. Mr. Van Buren completed the last year of his studies in the office of William P. Van Ness, of the City of New York, one of the brilliant lights of the Bar, and subsequently one of the justices of the Supreme Court of the United States for the Southern District of New York. At a term of the Supreme Court of the State, held at Albany, October, 1803, Martin Van Buren was called to the Bar. After remaining in Albany a few months he returned to Kinderhook and actively began his professional career. The Columbia County Bar at this time was one of the strongest and most brilliant

in the State. Here William W. Van Ness, Elisha Williams, Thomas P. Grosvenor and Jacob Rustin Van Rensselaer, all of them prominent Federalists and distinguished lawyers and politicians, seemed to stand in the way of Mr. Van Buren's professional and political advancement.

He was a Democrat; they were Federalists. They belonged to the aristocratic families of the county and State; Van Buren to the humbler ranks of life. They were wealthy and powerful; Van Buren was poor, with nothing to rely upon but his own energy and talents; these, it seems, were sufficient; with them he won his way to distinction, triumphing over his powerful and disdainful rivals. His business increased, his clientage daily became more numerous and influential, and it was not long before he became the acknowledged leader of the Columbia Bar.

In the meantime he was as active, energetic and powerful in politics as he was in his profession. Space will not permit us to enter into any description of his splendid and eventful career; but from 1808 to 1837 the history of that career is the political history of the State; at least, that history could not be perfectly written with the career of Martin Van Buren omitted.

On the 20th of March, 1808, he was appointed Surrogate of the County of Columbia. The manner in which he discharged the duties of this office largely enhanced his professional reputation. About this time he removed to Hudson, a measure which contributed largely to his advantage. At this time Elisha Williams, undoubtedly the most gifted and eloquent lawyer of his time, whose magnificent oratory rendered him famous at the American Bar, was a resident of Hudson. Martin Van Buren soon became the rival of this great lawyer. In order to grapple with his formidable opponent Van Buren was compelled to submit to the most intense study; when the day's work was ended, after a little rest, he retired to his study and gave himself to his books with such deep application that frequently the dawning day paled the light of his lamp. In this way he successfully armed himself to meet his antagonist in the arena he had entered.

His great success at the bar, his acknowledged abilities as a politician, soon led him to that legislative career which gradually advanced him to the most exalted position in the nation. In 1812 he was nominated by the Democrats of the Middle Senatorial District, of which Columbia County was a part, as their candidate for State Senator. He was opposed by a no less distinguished opponent than Edward P. Livingston, then a member of the State Senate. Mr. Livingston was a Democrat; but there was something in his connection with the Bank of America which rendered his nomination distasteful to the Democrats, or a large majority of them, and they refused to renominate him, preferring Van Buren. Nevertheless he received the nomination, and received the support of the entire Federal party, together with the friends of Gov. Lewis. This was a powerful combination, but Van Buren overthrew it, after a desperate struggle; but his majority was only two hundred in a poll of over 25,000.

He entered the State Senate at an extra session, November 3, 1812, and became the leader of his party in that branch of the Legislature. From this time he remained almost constantly in public life down to the time of his retirement from the Presidential chair.

In the spring of 1816 he was re-elected to the Senate, and shortly afterward became a resident of the City of Albany. This removal became necessary on account of the great increase of his professional business, and to give him greater facilities for discharging his official duties.

In 1817 Benjamin F. Butler, his distinguished pupil, who reflected so much honor upon his preceptor, became his law partner, forming one of the most influential legal firms in the State.

On February 6, 1821, Mr. Van Buren was elected by the Legislature a Senator in Congress. This caused him to partially withdraw from his practice, leaving his large business to Mr. Butler. He was occasionally employed in very important cases, among which were the cases of *Wilkes* vs. *Lyon*, argued in the Court for the Correction of Errors in 1823, and that of *Varick* vs. *Johnson*, argued in the same court in 1828; reported in 2 Cowan, 338; 2 Wendell, 166. These cases have always been read by the lawyer and the student with great interest and profit. The arguments of Mr. Van Buren appear at length in them. The briefs were prepared by Mr. Butler.

Mr. Van Buren appeared for the last time before a jury in the trial of the Astor case, and that of the Sailor's Snug Harbor, in the fall of 1827. His speech in the State Senate on the disputed accounts of Gov. Tompkins — the last he ever delivered in that body—was a memorable and magnificent production.

The Constitutional Convention of 1821 was composed of the ablest men connected with the great political parties in New York. Among them were James Kent, Rufus King, Ambrose Spencer, Abraham Van Vechten, Elisha Williams and Peter R. Livingston. Foremost among these was Martin Van Buren. He took part in all the important discussions, and established the claim of his friends that he was a high-minded, gifted, eloquent and independent statesman. In his speeches there was none of that *ad captandum* eloquence calculated to touch the passions of the multitude; they were the offsprings of research, of an enlarged and liberal mind, with statesman-like views. In the Senate of the United States, then composed of the ablest and most illustrious statesmen of the nation, Mr. Van Buren took a commanding position.

He was early committed against the policy of distribution of the public lands, subsequently advocated with so much zeal and ability by Mr. Clay. He was never friendly to a high protective tariff, but voted for the tariff of 1824, though not entirely satisfied with all its details. He delighted to repeat the witty remark of John Randolph concerning the tariff movement of 1827–8, which he regarded

almost wholly of a political character. "That tariff," said Mr. Randolph, "does not refer to manufactories of any sort or kind, except to the manufacture of a President of the United States."

After the death of Mr. Clinton, in February, 1828, Mr. Van Buren became Governor of the State, but on being appointed Secretary of State under President Jackson, he resigned the Governorship. This event took place March 12, 1829.

He subsequently became Vice-President of the United States, and at a Democratic National Convention held at Baltimore in May, 1835, he was unanimously nominated a candidate for President of the United States. Col. Richard M. Johnson was nominated for Vice-President. Mr. Van Buren was inaugurated on the 4th of March, 1837, and entered upon the duties of his great office.

The subject of the abolition of slavery constituted an important feature in his inaugural address; the agitation of this great question had begun in the year 1834–5 in the Northern States. Mr. Van Buren and his friends strongly opposed the movement. Though he brought to the office much ability as a statesman, the highest and most conscientious patriotism, there were many unfortunate circumstances that tended to render his administration in a measure unpopular. We cannot say that at this time his opposition to the anti-slavery question injured him as much as has been alleged. The measure had not then been far enough advanced in a political sense to have a bearing upon his administration. What tended most to injure it was the terrible revulsion, or financial crisis, which prostrated the industry and commercial interests of the nation. The Whig party adroitly took advantage of this unfortunate state of things and attributed the financial depression of the country to the policy of Mr. Van Buren's administration. This resulted in his defeat for re-election in 1840 and the elevation of Gen. Harrison. He retired from the Presidential chair to private life. His nomination by a wing of the Democratic party at Buffalo in 1848, and his defeat, are events too well known to need any description here.

BENJAMIN F. BUTLER.

Benjamin F. Butler, an historic name in the State and Nation, a lawyer of the highest ability, a scholar of rare endowments, and a citizen of great purity of character, was born at Kinderhook, in the County of Columbia, December 17, 1795. His father was a merchant at that place; a man of strict integrity, industrious in his vocation, and honorable in his relations to the society in which he lived.

The early years of young Butler were passed in attending a common district school and in assisting his father in his store. He was a boy of respectful manners and an intellectual turn of mind. While engaged in the store, he became a favorite of a learned and distinguished Presbyterian clergyman, who resided near his father; from this gentleman he received his first knowledge of books and the rudiments of a classical education. At the age of fourteen, Benjamin, already far advanced in his studies, was sent to Hudson Academy, where he remained several years, an energetic and successful student. When his academic course was ended, he entered the office of Martin Van Buren, then a young lawyer who had been at the Bar but a few years, but who was regarded as a young man of great promise, and who had already secured a respectable position at the Columbia Bar. This was in the year 1812. In the year 1816 Mr. Van Buren removed to Albany, where he entered upon his extraordinary official career. Young Butler accompanied him. In 1818 Mr. Butler was called to the Bar, and immediately became the partner of Mr. Van Buren, a relation which existed until February, 1821, when Mr. Van Buren was appointed a Senator in Congress. In 1827 Mr. Butler was united in marriage to Miss Allen, a young lady of many accomplishments and many mental and personal attractions. She was a sister of the gallant Lieutenant William H. Allen, who distinguished himself in the engagement between the frigate "United States" and the British ship-of-war "Macedonia," in 1812, and who was afterward killed by pirates in the Gulf of Mexico.

The firm of Van Buren & Butler was the most distinguished legal firm in the State. The senior member stood at the head of the State Bar, and his practice at the United States Supreme Court and his position as a Senator in Congress gave him a national reputation.

Mr. Butler, with his unwearied industry, tenacious memory and active intellect, followed rapidly in the footsteps of his preceptor and former partner.

Among the important cases which, by Mr. Van Buren's retirement from the firm, were left for Mr. Butler to conduct, were *Wilkes* vs. *Lyon* and *Varick* vs. *Johnson*. These cases attracted great attention throughout the State, and for a considerable time occupied the attention of the Court for the Correction of Errors.

The labor necessary to their preparation for argument was immense; but Mr. Butler brought to the task that industry and research for which he was so distinguished. After several weeks of labor he placed in the hands of Mr. Van Buren a thoroughly arranged, exhaustive and perfect brief. Mr. Van Buren argued the cases, assisted by Mr. Butler.

For two years after his admission to the Bar Mr. Butler confined himself to the Circuit Courts, attaining a highly respectable reputation as a jury lawyer. He first appeared in a General Term of the Supreme Court in October, 1820, when he argued the case of the *People* vs. *Foote;* his opponent was the late Thos. J. Oakley, who then ranked among the great lawyers of the State. Soon after this, he argued, in the same court, the celebrated case of the *President and Directors of the Bank of Auburn* vs. *Blanchard et al.*, his opponent was Daniel Cady, an illustrious character in the legal history of the State.

One of Mr. Butler's first cases in the Court for the Correction of Errors was that of *Manaham* vs. *Gibson*—a case of historic importance. The opposing counsel was that giant of the Bar, J. V.

Henry. In the celebrated case of *Troup* vs. *Smith*, and that of *Morton* vs. *Cragan*, Mr. Butler was associated with Samuel A. Talcott, one of the brilliant ornaments of the New York State Bar.

Mr. Butler appeared so often in the Supreme Court that a history of his cases he conducted in that court would fill several volumes.

On February 19, 1821, he was appointed District Attorney of Albany County, discharging the duties of this office till January, 1825, when he was succeeded by Edward Livingston.

Though the labors of this office were heavy, and for one so young its responsibilities great, Mr. Butler's success was in proportion to his labor, and he retired from the office with the well-earned commendations of the public. Before his official term expired, a law was passed by the Legislature of 1824, appointing Chancellor Kent, Erastus Root and Benjamin F. Butler commissioners to revise the laws of the State; but these gentlemen did not enter upon the duties thus assigned them, as the Legislature of 1825 passed an act by which Mr. Butler, John Duer and Henry Wheaton were made commissioners to revise the statute laws. Not long after the passage of this act, Mr. Wheaton was appointed *charge d'affaires* to the Court of Berlin, and John C. Spencer was appointed in his place.

As was said by a distinguished member of the Bar, "the selection of Mr. Butler, who had then so recently commenced his practice, for a position so high and responsible, carried with it the evidence of the high estimation in which he was held by the Legislature. It was an undertaking of great hazard to his professional reputation, as well as an immense labor. It involved for a time the entire sacrifice of his business, as he was obliged to devote his time almost exclusively to that business. He undertook it, and, notwithstanding the prejudices it at first encountered, it was carried to a successful termination."

In the language of Judge Kent, "All who knew the indomitable energy of John C. Spencer will naturally believe that his spirit pervaded the whole work; but, judging from internal evidence, I cannot avoid believing that much of the essential excellence of the Revised Statutes, and more of the labor which adapted them to our general system of jurisprudence—the plan and order of the work, the learning of the notes, the marginal references, and the admirable index which accompanies it—should be ascribed to the labor, the patient touches of unwearied art, bestowed by Mr. Butler. The statutes, however, reveal the learning, skill, labor and ability of each of their great authors."

Three years later a new edition of the statutes was deemed necessary, and the revisers were once more called to the work of revision. The whole existing statute laws of a general nature, all the acts of the Legislature passed since the year 1825, were carefully examined; the statutes themselves critically reviewed and re-arranged, with annotations and references made by the Supreme Court, the Court of Chancery and the Court for the Correction of Errors.

This new edition was reported to the Legislature at its annual session in the winter of 1836, and by appropriate acts was passed as the Statutes of the State of New York. Other editions have succeeded it, embracing acts since passed. They are voluminous but indispensable works in the library of a practicing lawyer.

Mr. Butler was elected a member of the Legislature of 1828, and left on its records indubitable evidence of his ability as a legislator.

In 1833 Mr. Butler was appointed commissioner, with Theodore Frelinghuysen, to settle the long-disputed boundary line between New York and New Jersey, and brought this difficult question to a highly satisfactory adjustment. In the autumn of 1833, before the labors of the New Jersey commission were terminated, Mr. Butler was appointed Attorney-General of the United States, in place of Roger B. Taney, appointed Chief Justice of the United States. A few days before Mr. Butler's departure for Washington to enter upon the duties of his office, the citizens of Albany, without distinction of party, assembled and publicly expressed their regard for his virtues as a citizen and their admiration of his talents as a lawyer. Among those who addressed the meeting were Stephen Van Rensselaer, Abraham Van Vechten and Harmanus Bleecker.

In October, 1836, while discharging his duties as Attorney-General, Mr. Butler was appointed Secretary of War in the Cabinet of President Jackson. He discharged the duties of the two offices until the 4th of March, 1837. In the Department of War there was at this time a large accumulation of business, owing to the Seminole war; but Mr. Butler, by his assiduity and systematic method, brought up the arrears of business, and left the department in a satisfactory state to his illustrious successor, Felix Grundy, of Tennessee.

The legal opinions rendered by Mr. Butler while Attorney-General are still read and admired for their profundity in substance, their perfection in diction; they are also established as reliable precedents.

On the 4th of March, 1837, President Van Buren entered upon the duties of his administration. Mr. Butler continued to discharge the duties of Attorney-General until January, 1838, when he resigned and returned to the practice of his profession. Within a few months, however, the office of United States District Attorney for the Southern District of New York became vacant, and Mr. Butler was appointed to fill that office. He discharged these duties until the inauguration of President Harrison, when he resigned. When President Polk assumed the executive chair he tendered Mr. Butler the office of Secretary of War, but the offer was respectfully declined for reasons which were entirely satisfactory to the President. Not long after, however, the President tendered to Mr. Butler the office of United States District Attorney for the Southern District. This position Mr. Butler did not hesitate to accept, as it did not interfere with the duties of his profession. He discharged these official duties until after the election of Gen. Taylor, when he

was removed for political reasons. In the meantime Mr. Butler had become a citizen of the City of New York.

In the summer of 1856 he made a visit to England, but returned very soon to complete a professional engagement of great importance. This was the great case of *Levit* vs. *Curtis*, which had been before the court for a long time, and was then pending in the Court of Appeals. He was compelled to terminate his European tour in order to conduct the argument of the case at a term of the court then approaching.

In 1835 the Council of the University of the City of New York having decided to establish a faculty of law in that institution, Mr. Butler was requested to prepare a plan for its organization. He complied with the request, and on the 29th day of May, 1835, submitted to Rev. J. N. Mathews, then Chancellor of the University, a document entitled "A Plan for the Organization of a Law Faculty and for a System of Instruction in Legal Science in the University of the City of New York." His plan was warmly approved by the Council and promptly accepted by the most flattering resolutions.

Mr. Butler continued to devote his entire energies to the duties of his profession; but it was apparent to his friends that his health was rapidly failing, and they prevailed upon him to visit Europe again. Accordingly, in October, 1868, he embarked on the steamer Arago, bound for Havre, intending to remain abroad two years. On the 29th of October he landed at Havre. He visited Harfleur and Rouen, and on the 3d of November he arrived at Paris. The next day he wrote a long and interesting letter to his son, William Allen Butler, Esq. In the evening of that day he was taken ill, and his disease rapidly progressed, and finally, on the 8th of November, his earthly career ended.

GREENE C. BRONSON.

Among the illustrious legists whose names embellish the roll of lawyers of Albany County is Greene C. Bronson, who for twenty years and upward was a gifted and successful contestant at the Albany Bar.

He was born at Utica, Oneida County, N. Y., in 1789. He began his practice at Utica about the year 1815; he early developed a peculiarly strong judicial mind and method, in recognition of which he was, on April 13, 1819, appointed Surrogate of Oneida County. He discharged the duties of this office for two years with singular ability. In the fall of 1822 he was elected member of Assembly from Oneida County, and was honored by the position as chairman of the Judiciary Committee. The next year he was tendered a renomination, but declined, and devoted himself to his profession.

On February 27, 1829, he was appointed Attorney-General of the State, the successor of Samuel A. Talcott, universally acknowledged one of the greatest of American lawyers. Mr. Bronson discharged the duties of this office till January 12, 1836, when he was appointed one of the Justices of the Supreme Court. We should have said that about the time he was appointed Attorney-General he removed to Albany, where he resided over twenty successive years.

On March 5, 1845, he was appointed Chief Justice of the State, in place of Hon. Samuel Nelson, appointed a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Few members of the American Bench rank higher than Judge Bronson; the opinions written by him always command the respect and admiration of the student and the practitioner; the ingenuity and exactness with which they are written, their polemical strength and the extent of their erudition, are hardly equaled by those of any other judge. He occupied the Bench as Chief Justice two years, when he resigned, and was succeeded by Samuel Beardsley, the last of the Chief Justices under the Constitution of 1821.

In 1853 he was appointed Collector of the Port of New York, and removed from Albany to that city. In 1859 he was Corporation Counsel for the City of New York, serving until 1863, when he retired to private life.

In politics Judge Bronson was a Democrat, and during the divisions of the Democratic party into Hard Shell and Soft Shell factions, he was the leader of the Hard Shell wing. Some of his speeches delivered in defense of his position created marked attention throughout the nation for the skill of their argument, the beauty and strength of their diction, and, more than all, for their boldness, and, as the opposition journals termed, for their audacity.

Judge Bronson died in the City of New York, September 3, 1863.

MARCUS T. REYNOLDS.

During a period of twenty-six years Marcus T. Reynolds was one of the leading members of the Albany Bar. The history of his career during that time is the history of the Supreme Court, Court for the Correction of Errors and the Court of Appeals. For ten years previous to that time he often appeared in the different courts that held their sittings in Albany; an examination of the reports of the cases argued in the Appellate Courts of the State from 1817 to 1853 shows that Mr. Reynolds represented more cases adjudicated in the Supreme Court and Court of Errors than almost any other lawyer in the State.

He was born at Florida, Montgomery County, N. Y., December 22, 1788. When he was ten years of age he was placed in a high school at Canajoharie, where he remained three years. Leaving Canajoharie, he entered a collegiate school at Utica, where he was fitted for college. In 1805 he entered Union College, from whence, in 1808, he was graduated, standing second in his class.

While in college he developed those polemical and elocutionary talents, that keen and sparkling wit, which distinguished him as an advocate. Having graduated, he began the study of law in the office of that truly great lawyer, Matthias B. Hildreth, of Johnstown, N. Y. Mr. Hildreth was for several years Attorney-General of the State.

Young Reynolds was a particular favorite with his learned preceptor, who spared no pains in advancing his student in acquiring that knowledge necessary for a profound and successful lawyer. On October 12, 1811, Reynolds was called to the Bar. About this time Addison Gardner, Samuel Stevens, John A. Collier, Charles O'Conor, William H. Seward, Ogden Hoffman and Alonzo C. Page were called to the Bar.

Mr. Reynolds began his practice at Johnstown, N. Y.; here he was compelled to contend with Daniel Cady, of whom it may be said he was a gladiator in the legal arena of uncommon prowess. Other eminent lawyers became the antagonists of Mr. Reynolds, and in contending with legal giants he rapidly grew to be one himself.

He continued to practice at Johnstown until 1828, when he removed to Albany, where he spent the remainder of his life, and where he retained that position which has given him an undying fame in the legal history of the State.

The legal speeches of Mr. Reynolds were natural, easy, replete with argument, never too artificial, and *recherche*. His gestures were very few, generally with his right arm and forefinger, occasionally dropping the palm of his left hand upon the table, if one was before him; if not, he balanced it before him in an easy, natural manner.

He had the faculty of passing from "grave to gay, from lively to severe," with surprising facility. This is illustrated by his arguments in cases like *Mabee* vs. *Peck*, and cases like *The People* vs. *Lamprey*. So widely did these intellectual efforts differ from each other that a stranger would naturally have believed them to be the productions of different minds. The former case involved the consideration of mere abstract questions of law, and his argument abounded in nothing but reason, relieved by no lucid narration—no appeal to the feelings—no address to the imagination, and yet it was an intellectual triumph; those who listened to him could hardly think it possible for a feeling of pathos, sympathy or pleasantry ever to enter his bosom, so thoroughly prosaic was his speech. Lamprey was tried for the murder of his own nephew. There were many circumstances in the case which appealed strongly to sympathy, and Mr. Reynolds interposed a powerful and successful defense, founded not only upon the facts, but upon grave and intricate questions of law. His address to the jury was an inimitable specimen of legal oratory. It was often enlivened by momentary displays of wit and humor; it abounded in exquisitely wrought passages, in which pathos and argument were interfused. Even on the discussion of the legal questions in this case, "he cast the playful hues of his fancy;" so that it was difficult to determine whether at the bar he was the giant or magician—Briareus or Prospero.

He carried his cases by being thoroughly imbued with them himself, and then, by a clear and well-defined statement to court and jury, imparting the impression that he had no doubt of the right of his case. Before a jury he had a sort of magnetic power, by which he photographed his own ideas and reasons upon the minds of the jury.

Many years before his death he was thrown from a horse; the fall produced an injury to one of his knee-pans of such a serious character that amputation became necessary. Immediately after the accident he was taken into a store, and the wound was examined by one of the most skillful surgeons in Albany, who became convinced that amputation must inevitably follow, and he so informed the sufferer, stating further that perhaps it had better be done on the following day.

"I wish you to proceed instantly. I cannot have the matter upon my mind," said Reynolds. The surgeon obeyed. This was before chloroform was used by surgeons, but Mr. Reynolds submitted to the operation without a groan. After the loss of his leg he generally conducted his causes sitting.

In person he was slightly above the ordinary stature; his frame was slender, but well proportioned; in his earlier years his form was more athletic. His face was thin; his high forehead evinced intellectual power; he lived a life of devotion to his profession, never seeking or holding public office. Simple and retired in his tastes and habits, a warm and generous friend, an open and manly adversary. Many of the religious, charitable and literary institutions of Albany are indebted to him for pecuniary aid and valuable assistance. For many years he was a member of St. Peter's Church, and for a long time one of the vestry.

In his social relations, Mr. Reynolds possessed those qualities which accompany a refined and sensitive mind, causing him to be greatly beloved in the sacred circle of home.

He died on the 13th of July, 1864, in the seventy-seventh year of his age.

Ten years previous to his death, owing to ill health, he retired from the Bar, and nearly withdrew from former associations and society. At last his splendid intellect vanished, and his last years were passed in mental darkness.

SAMUEL STEVENS.

It would be impossible to give a history of the Bar of Albany without some description of Gen. Samuel Stevens. From the year 1837 down to the adoption of the Code of Procedure Samuel Stevens, Marcus T. Reynolds and Nicholas Hill were, perhaps, three of the most prominent lawyers in the State. They were constantly engaged in the principal courts, often on the same side, but more frequently opposed to each other.

Gen. Stevens was a lawyer of rare accomplishments, an advocate of great power. Like Ogden Hoffman, he contrived to give interest to a dry detail of facts by a happy adaptation of his mind to them; he could, on the instant, select from a variety of matters those which would make the best appearance and be least exposed to observation and to answer. "He could estimate the probable case which was hid in his adversary's brief, and prepare his own to elude its force." As a speaker he was as effective before the court as either Hill or Reynolds; as a jury lawyer he was more successful

than the former, because he was more emotional, more vivacious and more vehement. His gesticulation was active and frequent, and he often illustrated his argument with a humorous story which contained force and point; his good nature always prevailed at the Bar, accompanied by an incisive wit ever at his command, ever agreeable, because it never descended to offensive satire. In his manner he was what might be called free and easy; like Martin Grover, when at the Bar, his mouth was always occupied by a quid of tobacco, by no means infinitessimal in size. He was popular with the people, and thus he had one quality of the successful politician. He was first known to the political world as one of the ablest and most eloquent supporters of DeWitt Clinton in the State.

In 1825 he represented his native county, Washington, in the Assembly, and although one of its youngest members, he was regarded as the leader of the Clintonian party in that body. In 1827 he was again elected to the Assembly. In February of that year he delivered a speech in the House on that part of the Governor's Message which referred to internal improvements. This speech gave him a State reputation as an ingenious reasoner and an accomplished legislative debater. He afterward identified himself with the Whig party, and in the Legislative Caucus held in February, 1839, was strongly sustained for candidate for Attorney-General; Willis Hall, of New York, was, however, the successful candidate, on a vote of 45 to 42. He was never again before the public for any civil office, excepting once when he was nominated for Lieutenant-Governor.

In personal appearance Gen. Stevens differed materially from both Hill and Reynolds; he was short, thickset, tending to corpulency; his eyelids were always partly closed, as though they were affected by the light. He was of nervous temperament, active, energetic and restless.

The names of Hill, Reynolds and Stevens are strongly associated together; at the Albany Bar there was scarcely a case of importance tried in which one of the three did not appear as counsel.

Gen. Stevens was not so long identified with the Albany Bar as Hill and Reynolds, but he has left on its history a name and fame of which this Bar may be justly proud.

He was for a time a partner of James Edwards, Esq., a distinguished member of the Albany Bar, and afterward he was the law partner of Peter Cagger, under the firm name of Stevens & Cagger, which became one of the most powerful in the State, and continued for several years.

JOHN C. SPENCER.

John C. Spencer, ranking among the ablest of American lawyers, was for many years a member of the Albany Bar. Here he achieved his greatest legal and political triumphs. His name is not only identified with the legal but with the political history of the State.

The political career of De Witt Clinton is largely blended with that of John C. Spencer.

He was born at Hudson, N. Y., August 12, 1786; he was a son of Ambrose Spencer, to whom we have often referred in this work. From his earliest years he was accustomed to the society of distinguished, learned and gifted men. His first knowledge of politics was drawn from witnessing the contest of our great American politicians who flourished in the early part of the present century. He saw how causes were tried by witnessing the legal contests of Hamilton, Burr, Hoffman, Emmet and other great lawyers.

He prepared for college at Hudson Academy, and entered Union College in 1799. During his collegiate course a friendship began between himself and Dr. Nott—afterward for many years the distinguished president of that college — which warmed as it ripened, and continued until the death of Mr. Spencer.

As a student young Spencer was distinguished for close and thorough application to his studies, for the same thoughtful reserve, the same dignified reticence, which marked his character as a lawyer, legislator and cabinet minister.

In July, 1803, at the age of seventeen, Spencer graduated with scholarly honors exceedingly gratifying to all his friends. On leaving college he began the study of law with his distinguished father. In July, 1809, he was called to the Bar; very soon after this he was united in marriage to a daughter of James Scott Smith, a highly respected citizen of New York City. Miss Smith was a lady of rare accomplishments, with that high cast of character which eminently qualified her for the wife of John C. Spencer. At this time Western New York, though mostly a wilderness, was attracting the attention of the enterprising and intelligent people of the eastern and southern parts of the State. The beauty of its scenery, embellished by lakes, rivers and hills, with their grand old forests, and its prospects for speedy settlement and future greatness, were vividly portrayed by tourists.

Among those who decided to emigrate to that country was Mr. Spencer, and in September, 1809, he became a resident of Canandaigua. With a few law books and fifteen dollars in money he began that professional career which has rendered his name memorable in the State and nation.

He used to describe, in a pleasing manner, the first dinner of which he and his wife partook in their "own hired house" at Canandaigua.

"Our meal was served on a plain kitchen table. I was seated on a cheap, old-fashioned chair—the only one we boasted of—and Mrs. Spencer occupied a common wooden stool. But everything on the table, though simple, was nicely cooked, and we enjoyed our meal with a relish never equaled at the more sumptuous repasts of our more prosperous days."

In 1809 Ontario County embraced within its limits all that territory included within the Counties of Yates and Wayne, together with all that part of Monroe and Livingston lying east of the Genesee River. After Mr. Spencer became a resident of Western New York the population rapidly increased, and its great agricultural and other ad-

vantages developed to a surprising degree. The Ontario Bar became one of the most eminent in the State, at the head of which Mr. Spencer always stood.

In February, 1818, he was appointed by Gov. Tompkins Prosecuting, or District, Attorney for the five western counties of the State. It was a position of great responsibility and labor, but he discharged his duties with great alacrity and success. In the spring of 1817 he was elected a representative in Congress, taking his seat in that body December 1, 1817, remaining in the House during its fifteenth session. While in Congress he received the nomination for United States Senator by the Clintonian members of the Legislature. Col. Samuel Young and Rufus King were his opponents. He received 64 votes, Col. Young 57; but Mr. King was elected. For a politician as young as Mr. Spencer then—only twenty-eight years of age—this development of strength was exceedingly flattering to him. In the autumn of 1819 he was elected member of Assembly, and when the Legislature convened on January 2, 1820, Mr. Spencer was chosen Speaker. He was re-elected in the fall of 1821, and again a candidate for Speaker, but was defeated by a few votes. He was elected to the Legislatures of 1831 and 1833.

Mr. Spencer represented the old Seventh Senatorial District in the State Senate from 1825 to the close of the year 1828. He left the impressions of his great learning and genius on the records of both branches of the Legislature of this State, and many enactments of importance which make a prominent part of our legal structure owe their existence to his learning and genius.

In 1826 the abduction of Morgan created an unparalleled excitement in the State. To secure the conviction of the abductors the great abilities of Spencer were invoked, and he was appointed by Gov. Van Buren a special public prosecutor for that occasion.

But so skillfully and so secretly was the crime committed that all efforts of Mr. Spencer, aided by the power of the State, failed to bring the culprits to justice, and the mystery which hung over the affair at that time rests upon it now. Out of it grew the Anti-Masonic party, the foundations of which were laid by Thurlow Weed, William H. Seward, John C. Spencer, Frederick Whittlesy, Bates Cook and others. For a time it was very powerful, particularly in the western part of the State. It was short-lived, however, and soon withered away, or, rather, was absorbed by the Whig party, which was founded on broader principles of State polity.

Mr. Spencer, with Seward, Weed and others, became leaders of the Whig party.

In the autumn of 1836 he removed from Canandaigua to Albany, where he resided the remainder of his life. He aided materially in the election of Gen. Harrison, who died very soon after assuming the executive chair. John Tyler, who succeeded him, appointed Mr. Spencer his Secretary of War, and though the Whig party dissolved all connection with Tyler, Spencer continued to adhere to him through his administration. He advocated the election of Gen. Taylor and the election of Gen. Scott. After the Presidential election of 1852 he never mingled in politics. This, in brief, was the career of John C. Spencer as a politician; the history of his legal career would fill volumes. A distinguished part of his legal work was in the part he took as one of the revisers of the New York Statutes. Gov. Clinton died on February 28, 1828. Before his death he appointed commissioners for the revision of the Statutes; they were John C. Spencer, John Duer and Benjamin F. Butler. These gentlemen were selected for their high standing as lawyers, regarded, as they were, as the most learned of the profession in the State. The successful manner in which they discharged their duty is too well known to need comment here. The Revised Statutes of the State of New York are grand and enduring monuments of the genius, the learning, the purity and wisdom of John C. Spencer, John Duer and Benjamin F. Butler. Though, through the innovation of subsequent law-makers and codifiers, many of their sections have been repealed, yet many remain, indispensable to the practicing lawyer.

In 1849 he was appointed one of the codifying commissioners, but to the great regret of the judiciary, the profession and the public he declined the appointment and retired to private life.

Few men were more beloved in Albany than Mr. Spencer; its public interests seemed to be his interest, and his relations to its society were of the most pleasing nature. To his efforts the Albany Hospital owes, in a measure, its existence. As was said by a distinguished citizen of Albany, speaking of the hospital, "Its interests and welfare never ceased to occupy his mind; and I have no doubt his agency in its foundation was a rich consolation on his bed of death."

The State Asylum for Idiots is another institution which owes much to his influence and generosity. In many other benignant and public matters his name is honorably identified. He continued the dispenser of charities, public and private, until his death.

About the middle of May, 1854, he visited the City of New York, being then an invalid. While there his disease took a more violent and dangerous turn, which rendered it apparent that the life of the great statesman and lawyer was about to close. He lingered until about the 20th of May, when he quietly and peacefully passed away. He was then in the sixty-eighth year of his age.

In the lovely cemetery of Albany, among all the beautiful and artistic monuments which embellish it, speaking its silent language of respect for the dead, none is oftener visited, none elicits more veneration, or brings up historic associations more vividly, than the shaft which commemorates the spot where repose the remains of John C. Spencer.

JAMES EDWARDS.

Mr. James Edwards was a member of the Albany Bar, whose professional acquirements,

scholarly attainments and high character gave him a State reputation.

He was born in Greenfield, Saratoga, N. Y., December 9, 1799. He removed to Albany in 1816; here he began the study of law in the office of his uncle, Hon. Alfred Foote, at that time one of the most eminent lawyers in Albany. In 1822, at a term of the Supreme Court held in Albany, he was admitted to the Bar, and soon afterward formed a partnership with Gen. Samuel Stevens, whose biography appears in this work. The business of the firm was large and important, extending into very many of the counties of Central and Southern New York.

To use the language of the *Albany Argus*, "Mr. Edwards brought to his practice many admirable qualifications. He was always distinguished for his sound practical judgment, his solid legal attainments, his promptness and accuracy in business, energy, firmness and integrity of character, and conscientious fidelity to the interests of his clients. Among his clients and friends and the citizens of Albany he was always regarded as a most substantial, upright and leading man. He was kind-hearted, true in his friendship, warm and generous in his sympathies, ever open to the appeals of the poor and suffering, and ever seeking to rule his life in accordance with Christian principles. He was a liberal-minded, public-spirited and valuable citizen, always seeking a warm interest in all measures for the promotion of public interests."

Mr. Edwards died suddenly on May 21, 1868, aged sixty-nine years.

AZOR TABOR.

Azor Tabor was born at Knox, in the County of Albany, May 1, 1798. After a careful and thorough classical education he entered the office of John Lansing, Chancellor of the State, where he prepared for the Bar. After his admission to practice he opened an office at Albany. A prosperous and distinguished legal business opened to him, and he pursued a long and honorable career at the Bar. He ranked among the ablest lawyers of the State, discharging the duties of a very large legal practice with fidelity and capacity, which commanded universal approbation.

His chosen profession was his almost exclusive pursuit. From this he was rarely tempted to turn aside. The only position he ever held was State Senator from the Albany district. He was elected in November, 1851; took his seat in the Senate July 6, 1852, closing his Senatorial career December 31, 1854. As a member of the Judiciary Committee—as an occasional debater—he exhibited that power and compass of mind, that extraordinary condensation of language, which rendered him so distinguished at the Bar. But as his ambition was confined to his profession, he had no taste for legislative honors, and, declining a renomination, he left the Senate and a most honorable Senatorial record, to pursue without interruption his duties at the Bar.

In April, 1833, he formed a partnership with that accomplished lawyer and highly esteemed citizen, Amos Dean. This relation was highly advantageous to both parties and continued several years.

In 1854, owing to failing health, he retired from the profession and became a resident of Knox, his native town, where, on June 10, 1855, he died.

As has well been said, "his life was that of an honest, earnest, able man, and he left a memory upon which there is no stain."

In the character of Azor Tabor the strength and vigor of manhood was softened by the gentleness of manners and tastes which belong to and adorn the other sex. We may say without affectation that the history of the Albany Bar is enriched and embellished by his learning, his unostentatious and yet powerful eloquence, and by his virtuous and blameless life.

AMOS DEAN.

Amos Dean was born at Barnard, Vt., January 16, 1803. Like many other prominent lawyers and jurists of this State, he acquired his early education in the common schools, where he prepared for the great calling of teaching. Engaged in this occupation, he sustained himself while pursuing his academic course preparatory to entering college. He entered Union College in 1823, and graduated from thence in 1826.

At this time his uncle, Jabez D. Hammond, a distinguished lawyer and writer, was in partnership with that illustrious judge, Alfred Conkling.

Mr. Dean began the study of law in their office; he was a diligent student; one of those who delighted in the nice distinctions and the philosophy of the law as a science. Intricate and dry as is the study of law to some, to young Dean it had attractions that amounted to fascination; and so he came to study it as a matter of recreation, blending instruction with delight. Long before his admission he had the gratification of hearing his uncle say: "Amos is a very thoroughly read lawyer already."

He was admitted to practice at the May Term of the Supreme Court in 1829, and went at once assiduously and earnestly to the work of his profession.

For several years, and during the earlier period of his practice, he was associated with Azor Tabor, then recognized as one of the most eminent of the Albany Bar. Says the *Albany Evening Journal*:

"Professor Dean never assumed to attain celebrity as an advocate before juries. While he possessed marked abilities as an orator, which could have been educated to an eminent order by practice, his instincts and tastes led him to another field of industry in his profession. His amiability of disposition, his natural reserve, his kindly nature, his guilelessness and his overflowing charity repelled him from the theatre of professional strife and conflict. He was peculiarly adapted to the duties of the office and the counsel room. Here he became eminent for wisdom, prudence and sagacity. These qualities, added to that higher and nobler one of an unimpeachable integrity, brought to him clients, success and fame.

"Professor Dean was a scholar by education, study and taste. This led him to appreciate the benefits of a popular education, and to aid in its popular advancement. Impelled by such purposes, he conceived, in early manhood, the plan of establishing associations for the mental improvement of young men.

"In 1833 he gathered about him a few young friends of kindred tastes in an office in Albany, and there planted the germ of the "Albany Young Men's Association." From this beginning hundreds of kindred institutions that have since blest the country by their beneficent influences abroad.

"Upon the organization of this association, Mr. Dean was unanimously selected as its first president. By the energy and sagacity of his administration the foundation of that noble edifice of popular education, from which, for so many years, so much moral and intellectual light has been shed upon the youth of our city, and which has been the model for so many like structures in all sections of the Union.

"In 1833 he was associated with Drs. March and Armsby in establishing the *Albany Medical College;* from that time to 1859 he held in it the position of *Professor of Medical Jurisprudence.* When the law department of our university was established Mr. Dean was wisely and appropriately chosen one of its professors. In this sphere, so well adapted to his tastes, his talents shone out most brightly. His pupils, scattered all over the land, bear testimony to the value of his instruction.

"Professor Dean has attained considerable eminence in the field of authorship and literature. In early life he delivered a series of able and interesting lectures on phrenology, a science then in its infancy. These lectures were afterward embodied in a book.

"In early life he was the author of a *Manual of Law,* which proved a valuable aid to business men. He delivered several valuable addresses and lectures upon subjects of public interest. In 1833 he delivered the Annual Address before the Albany Institute. He pronounced a eulogy upon the death of Jesse Buel before the State Agricultural Society, and an Annual Address before the Senate of Union College. But his greatest achievement in literature was not given to the world, because of his death. This was the *History of Civilization,* upon which he had been engaged for several years previous to his death.*

"His industry, research and ability gave assurance of the merit and attraction of his work.

"We have spoken of Professor Dean only as a professional and public man. If we sought to add panegyric to what we have said, we should speak of his qualities as a man and of his virtues in private life. Herein, if possible, his character was higher and nobler than in any other walk of life.

"To the qualities which we have described he united a pleasing address, a quiet demeanor, a generosity of sentiment and an absence of guile that endeared him strongly to the circle of his companionship."

Such was the tribute paid to Professor Dean by that eminent journalist of the State, Thurlow Weed. Those who remember Professor Dean—and there are many still in Albany who do—will bear ample testimony to the truth and fitness of Mr. Weed's beautiful sketch of his life.

*Since the death of Professor Dean, his great work, upon which he spent so many years, has been published in seven octavo volumes.

HENRY G. WHEATON.

In the year 1828 Mr. WHEATON graduated with the highest honors at Union College, and immediately commenced the study of law at Albany. At the May term of the Supreme Court he was admitted to practice and opened an office at Albany.

As he had been an ardent, close and appreciative student both in law and in the classics, as he possessed those mental endowments so necessary for a lawyer, he rose rapidly to distinction.

As has been said of Mr. Wheaton by another intimately acquainted with him, "He was accomplished in mind and manners, irreproachable in character and habits, and elevated in aspirations. All who saw him enter upon the battle of life anticipated for him a prosperous, brilliant and honorable career. He married an attractive young lady, descended from one of the oldest and most wealthy families in Albany, and lived in a style becoming his position and prospects. He devoted himself industriously to his profession, of which he soon became an ornament." He took rank with Reynolds, Stevens, Tabor and other leading members of the Albany Bar. By many he was regarded the superior of either of those exceedingly able lawyers, especially before a jury.

He represented Albany County with marked ability in the Legislatures of 1835, 1840 and 1841. We have said he was in the Assembly of 1835. Mr. Wheaton was a candidate for Assembly in the autumn of 1834 for Albany County. His opponent was David G. Seger. The canvass was very close, and each candidate claimed the certificate of election; but it was given to Mr. Wheaton, and he took his seat in the Assembly, January 6, 1835. Mr. Seger, however, contested his seat with such success that on January 9, 1835, Mr. Wheaton was ousted and Seger took his seat. The former and his friends, of which he had many, always insisted that Seger succeeded by partisan influence, and not on the merits of his case. They afterward pointed contemptuously to what they had deemed (but with how much reason we are unable to state) Mr. Seger's humble career as a legislator, in contrast with what Mr. Wheaton would have been, and what it subsequently was.

As we have said, he was elected to the Legislatures of 1840 and 1841, and was regarded as one of the most eloquent and influential members of the House in both of those sessions. Some of his speeches made on its floor are almost unrivaled as specimens of legislative eloquence.

On March 30, 1841, Mr. Wheaton was appointed District Attorney of Albany County. He made a useful and exceedingly able public prosecutor. It was an unfailing custom in those days to

appoint none but the most eminent and successful advocates to the office of District Attorney. It was justly regarded as a most important and responsible position—the people's advocate, compelled, in the discharge of his duties, to oppose the strongest and most gifted of the profession. In the year 1855 the management of a large estate in the City of New York compelled him to take up his residence there. The care of this property and some unfortunate turns it took greatly impaired his health, rendering him despondent.

On August 26, 1865, Mr. Wheaton, in attempting to cross the railroad track near Yorkville, caught one of his feet in what is known as a frog, and was thrown to the ground. Before he could extricate himself an approaching train passed over him, instantly killing him.

NICHOLAS HILL.

It is said in the *Bench and Bar of New York* that Nicholas Hill, in some of his characteristics, resembled John C. Spencer; they were both men of strong intellectual powers, active, restless men of vast research, vigorous logic, unwearied industry and capable of immense mental labor. Both were wanting in imagination; both were learned, close, critical polemical lawyers. But here the analogy ends; for much of the power which impelled Spencer to action was political ambition; this led him into a career which in a measure subordinated his professional zeal to politics, to divide his great talents and learning between the Bar and the political arena, between the duties of the legislator and the Minister of State.

Mr. Hill, on the contrary, concentrated all his mental powers upon his profession; this gave him a mastery at the bar which few men are capable of attaining. He disliked politics, and there was nothing in official position that could attract him from the sphere to which he had devoted himself. He was ambitious, but his ambition was confined to his profession; all his study and reading was subservient to that ambition; therefore his knowledge of the law, his power of applying it to practical use, of wielding its subtleties with facility, and separating truth from error in a manner which rendered him unqualed at the bar of the State, and we may say of the nation.

His life was unvaried by those events which excite the ambition of the politician and the statesman. It was spent over books, in the contests of the forum, before learned and venerable judges, whose deliberations were aided and enlightened by his learned and powerful arguments.

Nicholas Hill was born in the County of Montgomery, New York, October 16, 1806. His father was a revolutionary soldier, who, on leaving the army, became a useful preacher of the gospel.

Young Hill early exhibited a love of books, a quick comprehension of their contents, an unusual tenacity of memory. An indomitable energy and perseverance enabled him, with the aid of his father—who was an accomplished scholar—to acquire a very excellent classical education.

Choosing the legal profession for his avocation in life, he began the study of law with Daniel Cady, of Johnstown, with whom he prepared for the Bar. After obtaining his degree as an Attorney at Law, he commenced practice at Amsterdam, New York, meeting with but little success, his practice being largely confined to the justices' court. At length he removed to Saratoga, New York, where he made the acquaintance of that illustrious judge, Esek Cowen, "whose life and career seemed to offer that example of singleness of purpose, devotion to his profession and unwearied industry upon which he molded his career." Judge Cowen soon discovered in Hill those mental qualities which constitute a successful lawyer, and he gave him his influence and advanced his professional interests in many ways. At length he formed a copartnership with Sidney Cowen, Esq., a son of Judge Cowen. Associated with Mr. Cowen, he prepared that great work known to the legal profession throughout the nation and in England as *Cowen & Hill's Notes to Phillips on Evidence*, which remains a lasting monument to the ability, energy, industry and learning of its authors—a work which may be considered a law library by itself.

The unassuming manner and native modesty of Mr. Hill tended at first to retard his progress at the Bar. Though a close and powerful reasoner, he did not possess those showy elocutionary qualities which dazzle the multitude and bring a lawyer rapidly into notice.

Though he loved the forum and delighted in its contests, yet there were many of the attributes of the retiring scholar in his nature, and hence he derived the most sincere pleasure in the silence and retirement of his study.

He had many qualities which constitute the successful jury lawyer, and gradually attained a high position as an advocate. Marcus T. Reynolds and Samuel Stevens, for several years his great rivals in the profession, had been distinguished at the Bar of the Supreme Court in banc and in the Court for the Correction of Errors a long time before Mr. Hill was known in either of those tribunals.

But from his first appearance there he created a very favorable impression on the minds of all the members of the Court. In the case of *Tilden* vs. *Gardiner*, which was one of the earliest argued by him before the General Term, his argument was listened to with profound attention by both the Bench and the Bar. "We shall hear from that man very often hereafter," said Chief-Justice Nelson to Judge Bronson, as he was folding the papers in the case, after the conclusion of Mr. Hill's remarks. Doubtless the reputation which the *Notes to Phillips on Evidence* had given aided him in gaining the confidence of the judges, and in obtaining the appointment of State Law Reporter in 1841. The manner in which he prepared these reports greatly enhanced his reputation. They are characterized by the same methodical and expansive mind which is conspicuous in all his works.

He was one of the most accomplished and accurate pleaders in the State, and few exceeded him

in the faculty of analyzing a complicated question or clinching a contested conclusion. These qualifications greatly aided him in the labors of reporting the adjudicated cases of the State Courts, enabling him to adjust them so that the student or the practitioner could determine at a glance the real points decided in them. Soon after receiving this appointment, he removed to Albany, where he resided the remainder of his life.

He occupied the position of State Reporter five years, when his increasing legal business compelled him to resign. Soon after his resignation he formed a copartnership with Peter Cagger and John K. Porter, constituting a firm which combined every variety of legal talent—a firm which was distinguished for its capacity and for the vast amount of legal business which it controlled. Each of its members possessed attainments which gave them superiority at the Bar, or in whatever intellectual field they chose to enter.

Mr. Hill devoted himself to the General Term and the Court of Appeals; at length his business at the latter Court increased to such extent that he was compelled to confine himself almost exclusively to that tribunal.

Mr. Hill's manner at the Bar was calm, dignified, natural and unassuming. The vivacity and strength of his mind, his prodigious quickness of conception, his plain but ready language, rendered him an effectual speaker in the forum. He gained the attention of the jurors by the natural force of reason; his language was never above or beyond them; it went direct to their understanding. He considered the case at bar with them, viewed it from their stand-point, and he "dexterously accommodated himself to what he detected to be the passing mood of each of the twelve," leading them instead of driving them to their conclusions.

One of the most powerful weapons which an advocate can use is candor. This was possessed by Mr. Hill, and it was, indeed, formidable in his hands. Without any parade of learning, he convinced the judges that he had examined every phase of the question he was arguing, and was, therefore, capable of enlightening their minds and aiding them in their deliberations; hence he was strong at *Nisi Prius*, still stronger before the Court in banc.

His habits of life were regular and frugal, the only excess in which he indulged being his intense, never-ceasing application to his books, the study of his cases and his briefs.

At length the physical powers of Mr. Hill, which were never strong, began to yield to constant and unrelaxed labors; with the flight of each week this became more and more apparent, until finally his friends persuaded him to suspend his professional toils. He yielded to their advice, and they soon had the satisfaction of seeing his bodily strength and vigor return and his energies revive; thus he continued for several weeks, until he believed himself able to resume his usual duties. But, alas! Even at the moment when hope was highest, with the prospect of returning health, he suddenly fell before the destroyer, and Nicholas Hill was numbered with the dead. This sad event occurred on the first day of May, 1859. He was then in the fifty-fourth year of his age—at that period when he yet had years of activity, labor and usefulness before him.

The intelligence of his death produced the most profound sorrow throughout the State, particularly among the members of the legal profession. When it was announced in the Court of Appeals, in that arena where he had so long been a prominent contestant, where he had occupied a place since the organization of the court, a scene of sorrow unequaled on such occasions and in such places followed.

Mr. Hill's death was announced in the Court of Appeals, by Hon. John H. Reynolds, in a eulogium which will never be forgotten. He was eminently qualified for that delicate and responsible duty.

Mr. Reynolds was one of the ablest members of the Albany Bar; a man of rare argumentative powers, enlarged and liberalized by scholarly training and set off by literary accomplishments. He had been the law partner of Mr. Hill, and knew him, perhaps, better than any other man, and was tenderly attached to him.

Mr. Reynolds' professional endowments, his pure and elevated character, endeared him to his brethren of his profession; in a word, he was one of those whose names adorn the history of the Albany Bar.

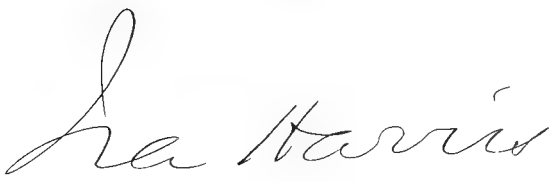
PETER CAGGER.

Few members of the Albany Bar left a brighter or more lasting record, not only as a lawyer, but in all that makes up an esteemed and useful citizen, than Peter Cagger.

He was born at Albany, July 6, 1812. His parents were natives of Ireland, where his father was extensively engaged in business. Before the birth of Mr. Cagger, his father removed his family to the United States, and for a brief period were residents of the City of New York, but they soon removed to Albany, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

We cannot describe the career and character of Mr. Cagger in more fitting language than the following, written by a distinguished journalist of Albany:

"The record of Mr. Cagger's life exhibits a series of happy antitheses. A Democrat of the Democrats, the bold, sagacious and widely known partisan, almost upon all occasions the sole daring manager of the interests of a great party, and the absolute controller of its fortunes and destiny—local, State and national; he was so happily constituted as to attract, without effort, in seasons of fierce political excitement, the most potential among those of antagonistic sentiment, and to number among his friends his most bitter political opponents. A Catholic of the Catholics, his very name a tradition and a household word among the people of his faith; largely identified with the early history of the old church in Albany; an intelligent, conscientious and faithful believer, he was, at the same time, the chosen confident, the familiar friend, the



trusted, most honored and reliable adviser of many whose peculiar religious bias might have suggested other counsel and far different associations. To the young, to the middle-aged, his cotemporaries, and to the old there was something so genial, so magnetic and so inspiring about Peter Cagger that the abrupt intelligence of his sudden and unlooked-for death will be clothed with additional pain. We might detail, if we chose, unnumbered instances of his kindness, his noble charities, the beautiful traits and Christian influences which accompanied him through the years which Providence has bestowed, and which will live before Heaven, and before men, perhaps, when the record of the lawyer has faded, and the memory of the politician is extinct. The poor, the widow, the orphan, the unprotected, never appealed to him in vain; the tears of his own fatherless and bereaved family will mingle, as it were, with a tide of grief from hidden sources, and the hearts his own kind heart made happy, and the homes his liberality blessed, will keep his memory bright when even the marble has crumbled upon his grave."

Michael Cagger, the elder brother, was a young man of great promise, of thoughtful, philosophic mind, and attracted the attention of distinguished men, who discovered in him unmistakable elements of future greatness. He died in the very prime of life. William Cagger, another brother, was for a time engaged in business in Albany, and afterward in the New York Custom House, in which position he died. Mr. Cagger married Maria Maher, daughter of James Maher, well known for a considerable period as State Librarian, and in the War of 1812 as the gallant Captain of the "Irish Greens," a military company originating in Albany and which bore a prominent part in the famous conflict at Sackett's Harbor. A daughter, the sole remaining issue of this marriage, survives him.

At an early period of life he was placed in the then celebrated law office of Reynolds & Woodruff. Even as a clerk his remarkable administrative capacity began to manifest itself, and the efficiency of his labors was occasionally recognized in the most handsome manner by the distinguished principals of that powerful firm.

Mr. Cagger afterward associated himself with Mr. Samuel Stevens, and the firm name of Stevens & Cagger became speedily potential in legal circles. After a successful practice of some years, Mr. Stevens, a very able man and the peer of renowned lawyers in the legal arena, yielded to excessive labor; and shortly after his decease a new legal firm, that of Hill, Cagger & Porter, was established, which will go down to posterity as one of the most remarkable combinations of ability and fitness for the several departments of a great law office ever known in the annals of the State.

"The great intellect of Hill shone in the court of last resort, where his genius coruscated, and in which his profound learning, and the unbending integrity of his character, secured reverence even of the Bench; the commanding eloquence, the penetrating mind, the admirable sagacity of Porter took easy precedence of all others at *Nisi Prius;* and the extraordinary administrative talent of Cagger, ready at once and at a moment's beck for abstruse pleadings, for the minutiæ of petty litigation, with its inexhaustible fund of device and ingenuity; instinctively prepared for all combinations, of finance, of politics, and at home in important business negotiations—all these things combined to make this famous trio so constituted as if every requisite and possible demand had been foreseen and provided for."

In the midst of his successful career as a lawyer and politician Mr. Cagger was suddenly summoned from earth. On the 6th of July, 1868, while riding with a friend in the City of New York, he was thrown from his carriage and instantly killed.

This distressing event cast a gloom over his native city, whither his remains were tenderly carried.

At the time of his death Mr. Cagger was fifty-six years of age.

IRA HARRIS,

Distinguished as a lawyer, judge, and Senator in Congress, was born at Charleston, Montgomery County, N. Y., May 31, 1802. His father was Frederick Waterman Harris; his mother's maiden name was Lucy Hamilton. When he was six years old his parents removed from Charleston and became residents of Preble, N. Y. Here his father became one of the extensive landowners in the County of Cortland. Ira prepared for college at the Homer Academy, and in September, 1822, became a member of the Junior class in Union College, from whence he was graduated in 1824. He immediately entered the office of Augustus Donnelly, a highly respectable counselor at law, of Homer, N. Y., where he remained one year, and then went to Albany, N. Y., where he continued his legal studies under that great jurist, Ambrose Spencer. He continued with Judge Spencer until his call to the Bar in 1827. Opening an office in Albany, he began his practice under favorable circumstances. At the end of six months he formed a copartnership with Salem Dutcher, Esq., one of his associates in college, which proved to be a very successful relation. It continued until 1842, when it was dissolved by the removal of Mr. Dutcher to New York. His next law partner was Julius Rhoades, Esq. His knowledge of law, his rare professional accomplishments, brought him rapidly before the public. As an equity lawyer he stood pre-eminent.

In the autumn of 1844 he was elected to represent Albany County in the Assembly. In 1845 he was re-elected, and in the spring of 1846 was chosen as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention which assembled in June that year. In this body, as in the Legislature, Mr. Harris took a very conspicuous position. In the fall of 1846 he was elected to the State Senate, but after serving one session he was elected a Justice of the Supreme Court, and resigned his seat in the Senate for one on the Bench. At the expiration of his term, then four years in duration, he was elected for the full term, which had been extended to eight years. To

use the language of another, "It was not until his elevation to the Bench that the abilities of Judge Harris were fully displayed. He exhibited profound knowledge of the law, much judicial capacity and severe, though courteous, impartiality."

His charges to juries were models of excellence in the clearness with which the facts proven and the law bearing upon them were presented. The published opinions of Judge Harris during the twelve years he sat upon the Bench evince extensive learning and strength of reasoning.

Upon leaving the Bench he spent a year in Europe. On his return home he was, in 1861, elected to the Senate of the United States. His opponents for this distinguished position were Horace Greeley and Wm. M. Evarts. In the Senate his abilities were recognized; he was placed upon the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Judiciary, and the Select Joint Committee on the Southern States. He soon became the intimate and trusted friend of President Lincoln. In the darkest hours of his administration Mr. Lincoln always found light in the co-operation of Senator Harris, and in his moments of despondency sympathy and support. During the civil war Senator Harris was most efficient in raising a regiment of cavalry for the Union, which was called after his name, as was also a regiment of infantry.

In 1868 the Senatorial term of Mr. Harris expired and he returned to private life, having won the distinction of a wise, useful American statesman. Hardly had he become accustomed to his home life when he was again summoned by his fellow citizens into public service. He was again elected to a seat in a constitutional convention—the convention of 1867. In this body he especially distinguished himself in his famous speech on "Government of Cities." When this convention adjourned Judge Harris had been in public life over twenty-three years.

He had been connected with the Albany Law School from its organization in 1850, and lectured to the students whenever his official duties permitted. He now accepted the appointment of Professor of Equity Jurisprudence and Practice, devoting himself wholly to the school down to the time of his death, which took place December 2, 1875. The lectures of Judge Harris proved eminently popular and useful. He was for many years President of the Board of Trustees of Union College; he was President of the Albany Medical College, and of the Board of Trustees of Vassar College; he was one of the founders of the Rochester University—its first and only Chancellor.

Among the public addresses of Judge Harris was an oration delivered on the occasion of a jubilee anniversary of the old academy at Homer, a lecture delivered at Albany upon the life and character of Roger Williams. For many years he held the office of deacon in the Emanuel Church in Albany, and was also President of the American Baptist Missionary Union.

In 1869 he conferred the degrees upon the students at the commencement exercises of Union College. On the 2d of December, 1875, Judge Harris was summoned from the scenes of earth "to that better land." His death caused great sorrow at Albany and throughout the State; his funeral was one of the largest that ever took place in the city. The Bench and the Bar testified their respect for his memory, and for his brilliant career as a lawyer, judge and citizen, in eloquent and appropriate eulogies. All classes of citizens united in honoring the departed jurist, statesman and esteemed citizen.

Judge Harris was a brother of Hon. Hamilton Harris. He left a widow, two sons and four daughters. Col. William Hamilton Harris, the eldest son, served thirteen years in the U. S. Army, and afterward, at his own request, was honorably discharged. Capt. Ira Harris, his other son, served ten years in the U. S. Navy. Resigning his commission, he became an extensive iron manufacturer at Kansas City, Missouri.

RUFUS W. PECKHAM

was a learned, distinguished lawyer and jurist.

His early training was favorable to the development of his strong mental powers, and the scenes of his professional activity were propitious for their exercise.

He was called to the Bar at a brilliant period in its history. He studied his profession under the instructions of illustrious jurists, and among his companions were those whose names are bright on the historic page.

He was born at Rensselaerville, in the County of Albany, December 30, 1809. In his early boyhood his father removed to Otsego County, near Cooperstown, where young Peckham grew into manhood. Like most boys at that period, he was sent to the common district school—that time-honored and still valuable institution—to attain a primary education. When he was thirteen years of age he became a student in Hartwick Seminary, under the management of Rev. Dr. Hazelius. In this institution he prepared for college. In 1825, when in his sixteenth year, he entered Union College, taking an advanced standing, which enabled him to join the graduating class of 1827.

"While in college he displayed a degree of natural quickness and talent which enabled him easily to maintain a high rank in a class distinguished for scholarship. He early manifested a taste for military pursuits, and while in college devoted a portion of his time to the study of military tactics, his proficiency in which secured for him the rank of captain in the celebrated battalion of Union College Cadets, one of the most highly creditable organizations in point of soldierly bearing and discipline in the entire State. Throughout life he exhibited the bearing and many of the characteristics of the trained soldier, and was possessed in an eminent degree of the qualities of moral and physical courage which remained distinguishing traits down to the last moment of his life."

Having a brother, who was a distinguished physician, living in Utica, he went to that city for the purpose of preparing to enter the legal profes-

sion. At this time Greene C. Bronson and Samuel Beardsley—whose names are indissolubly connected with the learning and dignity of the old Supreme Court, and with the honors and erudition of its Bench—were practicing lawers, as a legal firm, which ranked first in the State of New York.

It was in the office of these gentlemen that young Peckham studied his profession. It is a singular coincidence that these eminent lawyers and their student should each in after life attain high judicial honors, and pronounce the law from high appellate courts of the State, the student from the court of *dernier ressort*, leaving a record over which the practitioner and the legal student love to linger.

The advantages of such tutorship of these eminently learned and gifted lawyers was duly appreciated by young Peckham, and it left its impress upon his whole professional career. He was guided by them up to a distinguished professional position. He continued with them until 1830, when he was called to the Bar. This event took place immediately after attaining his majority. Six years later, on January 6, 1836, Greene C. Bronson was appointed a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State, and on March 5, 1845, he was made Chief Justice of that Court.

Early in February, 1844, Esek Cowen, one of the most illustrious of American judges, then a Judge of the Supreme Court, died, and Samuel Beardsley was appointed to succeed him on the Bench, a fit representative of his great predecessor.

In 1845 Greene C. Bronson departed this life, and Samuel Beardsley was appointed Chief Justice in his place. Before Judge Bronson and Judge Beardsley ascended the Bench they were both the recipients of high official honors. The former was appointed Attorney-General of the State, serving from February, 1821, till February, 1829, when be was succeeded by Mr. Beardsley, who served till January, 1836. In 1831 Mr. Beardsley was elected to Congress, serving in the Twenty-second, Twenty-third, Twenty-fourth and Twenty-eighth Congress. During his service he became, as has well been said, one of the pillars of President Jackson's administration.

After his admission to the Bar Mr. Peckham became a partner of his brother, George W. Peckham, Esq., who had then become a member of the Albany Bar. The firm was prosperous from the beginning. The Albany Bar, always brilliant, learned and commanding, was especially so at this time. With its powerful gladiators young Peckham was compelled to contend in his struggle for the eminence he attained. In the contests with such opponents he derived strength and courage, which at length made him their equal. Among his competitors were Marcus T. Reynolds, Samuel Stevens and H. G. Wheaton, then the principal jury lawyers at the Albany Bar. It was not long before Peckham was regarded as a successful rival, found on one side or the other of most of the leading cases tried at the Albany Bar. He was what may be called an eloquent, terse, logical, legal orator.

In 1839 he was appointed by Gov. Marcy District Attorney of Albany County, discharging its duties with singular ability till 1841, when he was succeeded by Henry G. Wheaton.

In 1845 he was a candidate for Attorney-General, his opponent being John Van Buren, by whom he was defeated by a single vote.

In 1852 he was elected a representative in Congress from the City and County of Albany; he took his seat on January 2, 1853, serving through the administration of President Pierce.

"Although a life-long Democrat, and elected by the Democratic party, he refused to be bound by party ties when the interests of the nation were at stake, and exercised an independence as wise and honorable as it was fearless. He opposed the passage of the Nebraska bill by voice and vote; his thorough grasp of the problems of the day enabled him to discern the effects which that measure would be likely to produce—an effect which he foretold with wonderful accuracy." After retiring from Congress he continued the practice of his profession in Albany, associating himself with Lyman Tremain, then a young lawyer, but who afterward won a name conspicuous in the history of the State.

In 1859, accompanied by Chief-Justice Beardsley, he visited Europe. On his return in the fall of that year he was elected a Justice of the Supreme Court, serving his term of eight years. He was unanimously re-elected; before this term closed he was elected a Justice of the Court of Appeals. Few American judges possessed rarer judicial accomplishments than he. The truth of this remark is fully sustained by the legal reports of the State.

"On the 5th of November, 1873, Judge Peckham and his wife sailed for Europe on the ill-fated steamer Ville du Havre, of the French line, which, on the 22d of the same month, when in mid-ocean, collided with the British ship Loch Earn, and went down in the darkness of the night, carrying two hundred and twenty-six souls into eternity; among those who perished were Judge Peckham and his affectionate wife. Even the awful nature of the impending calamity served but to bring out those noble qualities of heart and soul for which he had through life been distinguished. In this supreme hour of peril his tall form took its place among the helpless and abandoned ones. Grasping his loving wife by the hand, he endeavored to sustain and cheer those around him, and, uttering those memorable words which, borne to us by a survivor, have sent a thrill of admiration over two continents, 'If we must go down, let us die bravely!' sank into the deep waters of the Atlantic."

Judge Peckham was twice married. His first wife, a daughter of the Rev. Dr. Lacy, formerly Rector of St. Peter's Church, Albany, was the mother of his two sons, Wheeler H. Peckham, of New York, a distinguished lawyer, and Rufus W. Peckham, of Albany, now one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the State.

The profession throughout the State, and we may say largely throughout the nation, testified its high respect for the memory of Judge Peck-

ham and their sorrow for his death in expressions of grief and in tributes of respect and admiration.

Memorial services were held in St. Peter's Church, Albany, in his honor, December 14, 1873, and were attended by a vast number of friends and sympathizers.

The judges of the Court of Appeals attended in a body, wearing mourning badges on their left arms. The whole service was intensely impressive. Perhaps no better description of Judge Peckham can be given than that which we copy from the sermon delivered at the funeral by Rev. W. A. Snively, rector of the church:

"Beneath the courtly dignity of his manner and the almost austere aspect of his outward bearing, there was a heart of almost feminine tenderness, a truly reverent spirit and an amiability and a patience which no contradiction could exhaust. His integrity was not an official assumption—it was a personal fact. The rectitude of his judicial character expressed itself in the daily relations of life, in the amenities of social intercourse, and in the intimacies and refinements of his own generous hospitality. Even in the freedom of recreation from professional toil there was no lowering of his personal dignity and his courtly bearing; and in the sacredness of his home and the intimate relations of personal friendship, that dignity was sweetened by a tenderness, a simplicity and an affection which in such a combination are as beautiful as they are rare. And the closing hour of his earthly life blended both of these characteristics as with the same breath he cheered and sustained the hearts around him that were paralyzed by fear and spoke his last recorded words, which showed that even in that supreme moment he was his own grand and heroic self."

LEWIS BENEDICT.*

Col. Lewis Benedict, son of Lewis and Susan Benedict, was born at Albany, N. Y., September 17, 1817.

His early studies were prosecuted at Cayuga County, N. Y., but his preparation for college was made mainly at the Albany Academy. In 1834 he entered the Sophomore class of Williams College, and was graduated in 1837. Immediately after graduating he entered the office of the late John C. Spencer, at Canandaigua, where he completed his legal education.

In January, 1841, he was licensed to practice at a General Term of the Supreme Court, held at Albany. He commenced practice in that city, and quickly took a respectable position at the Albany Bar. In 1845 he was appointed City Attorney, and at the expiration of his term was reappointed.

In 1847 he was appointed Judge-Advocate-General on the staff of Gov. John Young. In 1848 he was elected Surrogate of the City and County of Albany for the term of four years. His entire vote greatly exceeded the strength of his party. In 1849 he received the appointment of Judge-Advocate-General from Gov. Hamilton Fish.

In 1852, and also in 1860, he was the candidate of the Whig party for the Recordership of the city, and shared in the defeat of its nominees.

In 1854 he was appointed, by the Controller, one of a board of commissioners charged to ascertain and report concerning the pecuniary and other conditions of the several state prisons, and also to devise laws for their better regulation and discipline. The results of the labors of this commission are contained in a voluminous report made to the Assembly in 1856.

In the fall of the year 1860 he was nominated by the Union men of his district for member of Assembly and elected, being the only Union candidate returned from the county at that time. This was the last public position of a civil character held by him.

Both the beginning and the end of his life develop the same characteristics—great fondness for ease and recreative enjoyments—yet with ready power to subordinate such tastes, or repress them altogether, in obedience to the claims of any serious engagements.

As a boy, he was noted for his zeal and diligence in study, and not the less for enterprise in play.

His collegiate career resembled his academic; it was successful to whatever degree he chose to make it. A classmate, now president of a college, describing him, says: "It is doing injustice to none of his classmates that in mind, as in person, he had no superior among them all. His rank as a scholar was high, and he could have made it higher. His mind was quick and clear, and he learned with great facility. His critical power was unusual, and no one could detect the weak points of an argument or the incorrect use of terms sooner than he."

He graduated with distinction, and three years afterward was appointed to deliver the Master's oration.

While a student at law he maintained sufficient ardor of pursuit to enable him to acquire a knowledge of the elements of that science; but his taste for general literature was decided enough to save him engrossment by studies purely professional. The uncommon facility with which he acquired knowledge—the result of his quick perception and retentive memory—afforded him intervals to indulge his tastes without neglecting his proper studies; he therefore read much besides law, and digested well what he read.

On his admission to the Bar, Marcus T. Reynolds, then in the zenith of his professional fame, received him as his law partner, and elevated him at once to a high position in the practice. Other connections and associations occurred to make his entrance upon his professional career one of the most promising that could fall to the lot of a young practitioner.

The City Attorneyship, which Col. Benedict held two terms, was the first political appointment he ever received. From that time, however, he was actively and earnestly a political partisan, and ap-

*The author is under obligations to a "Memorial of Brevet Brigadier-General Lewis Benedict, Colonel of the 162d Regiment, N. Y. V. I.," published in 1864, for some of the facts in this sketch.

peared less and less in the forum and more and more in the committee-room and upon the hustings. The tersest record of his political labors would be the history of every party struggle, State or national, that occurred from his entrance into political life until he joined the army. He was always a leader. He was often delegate to conventions, State and county; chairman of committees, general and local; a prolific author of addresses and resolutions, and a frequent speaker at political assemblages.

He was acute in his perceptions of the qualities of men, and accurate in his estimate of moral worth.

In his various public services he manifested capabilities which provoke regret that they were not also used for purposes of a less general character. The judicial duties of the Surrogate are not generally appreciated; yet there is no jurisdiction within which more complex or nice questions present themselves for adjudication, to say nothing of the enormous pecuniary interests and the multitudinous personal rights which are involved.

The clearness of his mind and the equity of his convictions receive some illustrations from the circumstance that, of the many judgments pronounced by him during the term he held the office, but one, and that made in the beginning of his official career, is known to have been reversed.

In the Legislature Col. Benedict took a highly honorable position. As the Chairman of the Insurance Committee, he exhibited useful administrative abilities. On the floor of the House, as a speaker, he always commanded respect and attention. He never addressed the Speaker unless he was master of the subject he proposed to present or advocate.

He was in the Legislature at that period when every lover of the Union began to feel the peril it was approaching. As no one loved the Union of States more deeply than Col. Benedict, none was an earlier or a more active supporter of it.

As early as January, 1861, Gov. Morgan endeavored to impress upon the Legislature the immediate necessity of placing the State on a war footing. Col. Benedict comprehended the importance of prompt action, for he anticipated the coming conflict. He therefore sustained the Governor with all his ability and eloquence.

He rejoiced when the President called for volunteers, but regretted that the number was so small. Writing to a friend after that call, he said: "The sentiment of the North is not satisfied with the present call for troops. The Government would be justified in demanding three hundred thousand men."

Upon this call Gov. Morgan, by a special message, requested the action necessary on the part of the Legislature, and that body responded by "An Act to Authorize the Embodying and Equipment of a Volunteer Militia, and to Provide Defense." This act was passed April 16, 1861. This act authorized the enlistment of thirty thousand men, and appropriated three millions of dollars for the purpose.

The passage of this act was largely due to the energies and exertions of Col. Benedict.

It was largely through his instrumentality that the selection and appointment of officers of the organization contemplated by the act was directed to be made, according to Sec. 11, Art. 11, of the Constitution, the importance of which was that the force should have a voice in the choice of officers to command it.

After this Col. Benedict gave all his time to the imperiled Union.

Col. Benedict had had considerable experience as a citizen soldier, and stood high among the efficient and well-drilled officers of the accomplished military corps of Albany, and had been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel of the City Cavalry. Soon after leaving the Legislature, in the spring of 1861, he decided to enter the service of his country in the tented field. The New York Fire Department, while recruiting the 2nd Fire Zouaves, conferred upon him the Lieutenantcy of the proposed regiment. He was commissioned in June, 1861. The regiment was ordered to Washington, where it arrived on the 24th of July. Difficulty having occurred as to what brigade it should be attached, it was finally decided, after some delay, by the War Department, to attach it to the Excelsior Brigade, after which the regiment was known as the 73d Regiment, Excelsior Brigade. During the Winter of 1861-2, the regiment did picket duty and advanced itself, by constant drill, to be one of the most competent and accomplished in the brigade.

The affection with which Col. Benedict was regarded by his men was demonstrated by daily incidents, and never more touchingly then when some of his wild boys preferred to share the horrors of a rebel prison with him than to leave him in his helplessness on the field of Williamsburg.

The history of his career as a soldier from that time until he fell in battle is one of singular, almost thrilling, interest.

After his capture at Williamsburg, he was taken to Richmond, and afterward to Salisbury, N. C. His imprisonment ended after several months by an exchange. In September, 1862, one month after his exchange, he was commissioned Colonel of the 162d (3d Metropolitan) Regiment. In October following the regiment proceeded to New Orleans; but owing to various mishaps to the fleet, it did not reach the city until December. In January, 1863, he was designated Acting Brigadier, and in that capacity was actively employed, rendering important service previous to the siege of Port Hudson, where he was conspicuous in most of the terrible fights during that memorable siege. He was foremost in the terrible slaughter of June 14, 1863. When it was decided to storm the fort, Col. Benedict was given command of the Second Battalion, selected to serve "as the forlorn hope." This selection was a tribute to his coolness and courage. From that time forward he followed Gen. Banks through all his marches and victories. His last command, the 3d Brigade of the 1st Division and 19th Corps, was composed

of the 116th, 162d and 165th New York, two Maine regiments and an independent battery. No brigade fought more courageously or did more to turn the tide of battle.

The Red River campaign under Gen. Banks will ever be read with the deepest interest. It presents a series of bloody battles almost unequaled in the heroic conduct of the officers and soldiers engaged in it. When the army reached Pleasant Hill, about the 7th of April, there occurred a series of conflicts unparalleled in the history of the war. On the 9th of April, 1864, the final contest of the campaign took place. It was a day long to be remembered, a day when the tide of battle repeatedly changed, when the surging columns of the enemy were driven from their position, to return reinforced to a terrible and often successful charge, and so the conflict continued.

"In the conflict on the slope, and perhaps in the *melee* of that critical moment, when the reinforced enemy caused our line to hesitate and even to recoil, and the fortunes of the day seemed doubtful, when by almost superhuman efforts on the part of the officers the men were rallied to that frantic charge which gave victory to the Union arms and saved its army, its navy and its jurisdiction in the Southwest."

In this charge Col. Benedict, leading his brigade, in full view of the whole line of the enemy, fell pierced with several bullets. He was first wounded in the right arm and soon his horse was wounded; but still he pressed on, and in a few moments was shot through the head and died instantly.

No death could have produced more profound sorrow in the army, nor have occasioned a greater loss to it. When the intelligence of his death reached Albany, the home of his youth, where he was so generally beloved, it wrapped the city in general gloom.

On May 2, 1864, his remains reached this city and were received by a committee of the Common Council. Another committee met the remains on their arrival in New York City and accompanied them home.

The respect paid by the authorities and citizens of all classes to the dead soldier attested the high esteem in which he was held and the sorrow felt for his death.

On May 7, 1864, the members of the Albany Bar convened at the Capitol in large attendance to do honor to his memory. Hon. Rufus W. Peckham was called to the chair. Messrs. Wolford and Edwards were made secretaries. A series of eloquent resolutions were adopted, expressing the estimation in which Col. Benedict was held by his brethren of the profession. An eloquent, impressive eulogium was pronounced by the Hon. Lyman Tremain, followed by remarks from Hon. John K. Porter, Hon. Clark B. Cochrane, Hon. Hale Kingsley, Isaac L. Edwards, Esq., and Hon. C. L. Austin. The press of the city also paid the memory of Col. Benedict brilliant tributes of respect, and he was finally laid at rest amid tears and benedictions of the people of his native city.

LIST OF LAWYERS IN ALBANY CITY IN 1884.

J. J. Acker, 496 Broadway.
George Addington, 25 North Pearl.
George W. Albright, Beaver Block.
Albright & Stanwix, 10 Beaver Block
Wm. A. Allen, 18 Douw's Building.
Arthur L. Andrews, 444 Broadway.
Buel C. Andrews, 14 North Pearl.
Austin Artcher, 18 Douw's Building.
Frederic Baker, 119 State.
Isaac B. Barrett, 50 State.
E. A. Bedell, Attorney-General's Office.
Edwin P. Bellows, 119 State.
James W. Bentley, 18 South Pearl.
James J. Bennett, 52 State.
Richard W. Brass, 73 State.
Edward J. Brennan, Chapel, corner Maiden Lane.
Walter M. Brown, 55 State.
C. J. Buchanan, Chapel, corner Maiden Lane.
A. T. Bulkley, 25 North Pearl.
Eugene Burlingame, 452 Broadway.
Henry D. Burlingame, 50 State.
Fred W. Cameron, 37 Maiden Lane.
Duncan Campbell, 6 Tweddle Building.
Lewis Cass, 55 State.
Chase & Delehanty, 25 North Pearl.
J. H. Clute, 12 Tweddle Building.
Alden Chester, 18 and 19 Tweddle Building.
J. H. Clute, 12 Tweddle Building.
Wm. K. Clute, City Building.
Mark Cohn, 29 North Pearl.
A. J. Colvin, 3 North Pearl.
L. Lorenzo Conley, 7 Partition, E. A.
Thos. F. Connor, Beaver Block.
Joseph A. Conway, 82 State.
Martin D. Conway, 116 State.
John T. Cook, 37 Maiden Lane.
J. F. Cooper, 24 North Pearl.
Edwin Countryman, 99 State.
Monroe Crannell, 69 State.
Walter S. Cutler, 192 North Pearl.
Franklin M. Denaher, 78 State.
Edwin G. Day, 31 North Pearl.
F. B. Delehanty, 25 North Pearl.
John A. Delehanty, 3 Douw's Building.
Philander Deming, 12 Jay.
DeWitt & Spoor, 35 to 38 Tweddle Building.
George Downing, 94 State.
Herbert T. Downing, 94 State.
Draper & Chester, 18–19 Tweddle Building.
Louis Dreyer, 75 State.
Z. A. Dyer, 44 State.
James W. Eaton, Jr., 17 Museum Building.
Jerome W. Ecker, 78 State.
James J. Farren, 49 State.
George W. Featherstonhaugh, 31 North Pearl.
Walter D. Frothingham, 69 State.
Worthington Frothingham, 69 State.
J. E. Gallup, 94 State.
John J. Gallup, 94 State.
George N. Gowey, 72 Hudson avenue.
Scott D'M. Goodwin, r. 6 Albany Savings Bk. Bldg.
Anthony Gould, 55 State.
Clifford D. Gregory, 99 State.

George Stuart Gregory, 49 State.
J. Wendell Griffing, 864 Madison avenue.
Alfred A. Guthrie, 3 North Pearl.
W. R. Guthrie, 77 State.
John Gutmann, 80 State.
Mathew Hale, 25 North Pearl.
William H. Hale, 59 North Pearl.
Lewis B. Hall, Room 6, 89 State.
Daniel P. Halpin, 37 Tweddle Building.
Fred. C. Ham, 74 State.
Thos. H. Ham, 74 State.
A. Hamilton, 29 North Pearl.
Samuel Hand, 25 North Pearl.
Ira Harper, 41–42 Tweddle Building.
Frederick Harris, 20–23 Tweddle Building.
Hamilton Harris, 20–23 Tweddle Building.
Julius F. Harris, 31 North Pearl.
William B. Harris. 82 Livingston avenue.
Samuel S. Hatt, 86 State.
Nathan Hawley, 30 Douw's Building.
Hawley & McNamara, 82 State.
William Hayes, 21 Green.
D. C. Herrick, 5 Douw's Building.
Isban Hess, 11 Douw's Building.
Albert Hersberg, 7 Albany Savings Bank Building.
W. S. Hevenor, 9 Douw's Building.
B. R. Heywood, 79 Chapel.
George D. Hill, 3 North Pearl.
Wm. J. Hillis, 18 South Pearl.
N. P. Hinman, 49 State.
G. R. Hitt, 55 State.
Henry T. Homes, 25 Tweddle Building.
Lansing Hotaling, 74 State.
Wm. F. Hourigan, 40 State.
Leonard G. Hun, 25 North Pearl.
Marcus T. Hun, 25 North Pearl.
Oliver M. Hungerford, 74 State.
C. B. Hutchings, 15 Douw's Building.
G. D. Hurlbut, 119 State.
Robert Imrie, 93 State.
Charles M. Jenkins, 452 Broadway.
J. B. Jermein, 2 James, corner State.
James C. Johnson, 55 State.
Frank Kampfer, 80 State.
W. S. Kelley, 17 Tweddle Building.
J. M. Kimball, Beaver Block.
Charles B. King.
Dwight King, 108 Hudson avenue.
J. H. King, 69 State.
Wm. H. King (patent law a specialty), 31 N. Pearl.
Leonard Kip, 24 Tweddle Building.
George W. Kirchwey, 7 Museum Building.
C. Krank, 74 State.
Arno F. Krumbholz, 76 State.
L. C. G. Kshinka, 50 State.
Desmond S. Lamb, 18 Beaver.
A. & W. Lansing, 26–27 Tweddle Building.
Peter C. Lansing, 320 Clinton avenue.
Herman S. Lary, Bank Building, Greenbush.
I. & J. M. Lawson, 37 Maiden Lane.
J. A. Lawson, 37 Maiden Lane.
W. L. Learned, 298 State.
H. C. Littlefield, North Pearl, corner Pleasant.
Orville S. Long, 9 Douw's Building.
Wm. Loucks, 50 State.

Wm. J. Mackesey, 18 South Pearl.
John F. Manson, 68 State.
Manson & True, Ferry, cor. Broadway, Greenbush.
H. S. McCall, 5 Douw's Building.
H. S. McCall, Jr., 5 Douw's Building.
John T. McDonough, 114 State.
W. C. McHarg, 50 State.
James A. McKown, 114 State.
Wm. H. McNaughton, 44–45 Tweddle Building.
James C. Mathews, 18 South Pearl.
J. W. Mattice, 9 Tweddle.
P. F. Mattimore, 841 Broadway.
Charles W. Mead, 86 State.
Edward J. Meegan, Beaver Block.
Thomas A. Meegan, Beaver Block.
Payton F. Miller, 25 North Pearl.
Charles H. Mills, 44–45 Tweddle Building.
Charles W. Mink, 225 Green.
G. W. Miner, Albany Savings Bank Building.
N. C. Moak, Chapel street, corner Maiden Lane.
John F. Montignani, 73 State.
W. D. Morange, 69 State.
Judson H. Morrey, Jr., 62 Tweddle Building.
Wm. T. Murray, Room 8, Museum Building.
Max Myers, 72 State.
Wm. D. Murphy, 421 Clinton avenue.
Edward Newcomb, 5 Albany Savings Bank Build'g.
M. C. G. Nichols, 187 Livingston avenue.
Nathaniel Niles, 7 Albany Savings Bank Building.
Frank S. Niver, 99 State.
Norton & Bentler, 73 State.
John C. Nott, 50 State.
Edward W. Nugent, 52 State.
Myer Nussbaum, Albany Savings Bank Building.
Smith O'Brien, 9 Tweddle Building.
John J. Olcott, 69 State.
John B. O'Malley, Rooms 7–8, 44 State.
Myron H. Oppenheim, Tweddle Building.
Leonard Paige, 55 State.
Parker & Countryman, 99 State.
A. J. Parker, Jr.
George Parr, 74 State.
R. W. Peckham, Room 7 Albany Sav. Bank.
John DeWitt Peltz, 35–38 Tweddle Building.
John C. Pennie, 149 Madison avenue.
A. B. Pratt, 94 State.
Charles H. Ramsey, 71 State.
Joseph H. Ramsey, 71 State.
Rankin & Featherstonhaugh, 31 North Pearl.
Wm. F. Rathbone, 79 Chapel.
Cornelius B. Reardon, 24 North Pearl.
Edward T. Reed, 39 Tweddle Building.
Hugh Reilly, 29 North Pearl.
Dexter Reynolds, 25 North Pearl.
Simon W. Rosendale.
S. C. Rodgers, 52 Tweddle Building.
Edward D. Ronan, 34 Tweddle Building.
Wm. P. Rudd, 20–23 Tweddle Building.
J. G. Runkle, 18 High.
James M. Ruso, 52 Tweddle.
Joseph W. Russell, Jermain's Building, 2 James st.
J. H. Sand, 114 State.
Bleecker Sanders, 24 North Pearl.
H. T. Sanford, 74 State.
Thomas Sayre, 443 Broadway.

Robert G. Scherer, 73 State.
Wm. M. Scott.
Andrew G. Seelman, 80 State.
Osgood H. Shepard, 443 Broadway.
S. O. Shepard, 443 Broadway.
Hiram E. Sickels, 25 North Pearl.
George W. Smith, 74 State.
Horace E. Smith, 43 Tweddle Building.
Stuart G. Speir, Museum Building, Room 9.
C. T. F. Spoor, 35 to 38 Tweddle Building.
Nathaniel Spaulding.
B. I. Stanton, 22 Tweddle Building.
David H. Stanwix, Beaver Block, Room 10.
J. Stedman, 443 Broadway.
P. A. Stephens, 78 State.
John B. Steele, Jr.
Henry E. Stern, 37 Maiden Lane, Room 2.
George H. Stevens, 48 Tweddle.
John A. Stephens.
Clarence Strevell, 24 North Pearl.
Elliott I. Stiles, 5 Partition, E. A.
Henry C. Stryker.
J. B. Sturtevant.
Geo. V. Thatcher.
Wm. W. Thompson, 74 State.
Geo. L. Thompson, 444 Broadway.
C. M. Tompkins, Albany Savings Bank Building.
Tracey & Cooper, 24 North Pearl.
A. H. Tremain, 13 Tweddle Building.
George M. True, 66 State.
Lucien Tuffs, Jr., Beaver Block.
Thomas J. Van Alstyne, 9 Douw's Building.
Andrew Van Derzee, 14 Tweddle Building.
W. Bayard Van Rensselaer, 25 North Pearl.
Abram Van Vechten, 3–5 North Pearl.
Lansing Van Wie, 16 Second avenue.
Alonzo B. Voorhees, 73 State.
Fletcher Vosburgh.
Isaac H. Vrooman, 282 Hamilton street.
Edward Wade, 93 State.
Frederick E. Wadhams, 33 Tweddle Building.
R. B. Wagoner, 86 State.
Augustus H. Walshe, 85 Hawk.
John W. Walsh, 79 Chapel.
Walter E. Ward, 37 Maiden Lane.
Hiram L. Washburn, Jr., 44 State.
Cyrus Waterbury, Jr., 44 State.
Robert H. Wells, 94 State.
Jacob Wendell, 184 Elm.
W. S. Whitmore, 86 State.
Thos. F. Wilkinson, 16 Douw's Building.
John S. Wolfe, 14 North Pearl.
Bradford R. Wood, 25 Tweddle Building.
J. Hampden Wood, 25 Tweddle Building.
Horace I. Wood.
Francis H. Woods, 116 State.
O. M. Wright, 25 North Pearl.
Edwin Young, 79 Chapel.
William A. Young.

MEMBERS OF THE ALBANY COUNTY BAR OUTSIDE THE CITY OF ALBANY.

BERNE.

Z. B. Dyer, Edward V. Filkin, John D. White.

COEYMANS.

C. M. Barlow, S. Springstead,
W. Scott Coffin, Cornelius Vanderzee,
J. M. Harris, Gerrit Witbeck.

COHOES.

James F. Crawford, Rosin J. House,
Charles F. Doyle, John E. McLean,
Peter G. Falardo, Peter D. Niver,
George H. Fitts, James R. Stevens,
Lawrence B. Finn, Earle L. Stimson,
Isaac W. Hiller, Henry A. Strong,
Murray Hubbard, James Wallace.

GUILDERLAND.

Hiram Griggs, Atchison Mitchell.

NEW SCOTLAND.

B. H. Staats.

RENSSELAERVILLE.

Lawrence Faulk, Norman W. Faulk, William R. Tanner.

WESTERLO.

Farley Fisher, Alonzo Spaulding.

WEST TROY.

Geo. F. Alexander, A. D. Lyon,
L. R. Beekley, Eugene McLean,
E. L. Blood, Volkert J. Oathout,
James W. Boyle, D. J. O'Sullivan,
John H. Gleason, Isaac B. Potter,
F. L. Getty, Alfred W. Richardson,
J. D. Hallen, Thomas F. Riley,
William Hollands, Peter A. Rogers,
C. D. Hudson, Elias Van O'Linda,
Isaac W. Lansing, James W. Warford.

GREEN ISLAND.

James R. Torrance.

JUDGES AND OTHER COURT OFFICERS

FOR ALBANY COUNTY, OR RESIDENTS OF THE COUNTY.

MASTERS OF COLONIAL COURT OF CHANCERY.

John Abeel and Evert Banker, Oct. 13, 1705; P. P. Schuyler, 1768.

CHANCELLORS OF STATE COURT OF CHANCERY.

John Lansing, Jr., Oct. 21, 1801; James Kent, Oct. 25, 1814; Reuben H. Walworth, April 22, 1828.

CHIEF JUSTICES FROM ALBANY COUNTY OF THE SUPREME COURT FROM 1777 TO 1847.

Robert Yates, September 28, 1790; John Lansing, Jr., February 15, 1798; James Kent, July 2, 1804; Smith Thompson, February 3, 1814; Ambrose Spencer, February 9, 1819; Greene C. Bronson, March 5, 1845.

PUISNE JUSTICES *of Supreme Court.*

Robert Yates, May 8, 1777; John Lansing, Jr., September 28, 1790; Ambrose Spencer, February 3, 1804; Greene C. Bronson, January 6, 1836.

A Circuit Court was created by the Constitution of 1821. It was the *Nisi Prius*, or Trial Court of the Supreme Court. The State was divided into eight districts or circuits, corresponding to the Senatorial Districts. At least two Circuit Courts and Courts of Oyer and Terminer were required to be held in each county annually, the Circuit Judge presiding. Each of the Circuit Judges was to appoint a clerk for the Court of Equity, to be held by each judge respectively.

CIRCUIT JUDGES *from Albany County.*

William A. Duer, April 21, 1823; James Vanderpoel, January 12, 1830; Amasa J. Parker, March 6, 1844.

The Constitution of 1846 abolished the old Supreme Court, the Court of Chancery, Court for the Correction of Errors, and the Circuit Courts; instituting a Court of Appeals, a Supreme Court with an Equity side, and retaining the Court of Oyer and Terminer. The Judges of these Courts were all made elective.

JUDGES OF THE COURT OF APPEALS *from the County of Albany.*

Alexander S. Johnson, November 5, 1851; John K. Porter, Jan. 2, 1865; Rufus W. Peckham, May 17, 1870; Samuel Hand, June 11, 1878.

JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT *under the Constitution of* 1846.

Ira Harris, June 7, 1847; Elisha P. Hurlbut, June 7, 1847; Malbone Watson, June 7, 1847, and Nov. 8, 1853; Amasa J. Parker, June 7, 1847; Ira Harris, November 4, 1851; Deodatus Wright, April 20, 1857; Rufus W. Peckham, November 8, 1861; William L. Learned, June 21, 1869; Rufus W. Peckham, Jr., November 6, 1883; William L. Learned, November, 1884.

Judge Peckham is a son of Hon. Rufus W. Peckham, a judge of the Court of Appeals, who was a passenger on the steamer *Ville du Havre,* which, on the night of November 22, 1873, in mid-ocean, collided with the British iron ship *Loch Erin.* Two hundred and twenty-six souls, among whom were Judge P. and his wife, were drowned.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS AND SPECIAL SESSIONS.

A Court of Common Pleas was established in Albany County by the provisions of the Dongan Charter, 1686. A Court of Common Pleas was established in each County by an act of the Colonial Legislature in 1691. The first State Constitution retained the Court of Common Pleas, varying its procedure to accord with the State Government. The Constitution also organized a Court of Sessions, it being the criminal side of the Common Pleas, as the present Court of Sessions is the criminal side of the County Court. The judges were appointed by the Governor and Council of Appointment down to 1821, when the latter body was abolished, and the Common Pleas judges were appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice of the Senate, down to the Constitution of 1846, which abolished the Court of Common Pleas, created a County Court, a Court of Sessions to be presided over by one County judge in each County elected by the people. It provided for the election of two justices in each County who, with the County judge, constituted a Court of Sessions for the trial of criminals. These session justices, with a justice of the Supreme Court, constituted the Court of Oyer and Terminer in each County for the trial of criminals of a higher grade.

We give the names of the First Judges of the Court of Common Pleas during its existence, followed by the County Judges appointed or elected since under the first Constitution of 1777, and of the Constitution of 1846 :

MAYOR, RECORDER AND ALDERMEN *of Albany, or any three of them, from 1686.*

Peter Schuyler, May 27, 1691; John Abeel, May 27, 1702; Peter Schuyler, Oct. 14, 1702; Killiaen Van Rensselaer, Dec. 23, 1717; Rutger Bleecker, Dec. 23, 1726; Ryer Gerritse, Dec. 23, 1733; Robert Sanders, Nov. 28, 1749; Sybrant Goose Van Schaick, Jan. 5, 1758; Rensselaer Nicoll, May 14, 1762; Abraham Ten Brock, March 4, 1773; Walter Livingston, March 22, 1774; John H. Ten Eyck, March 21, 1775; Volkert P. Douw, Jan. 6, 1778; Abram Ten Broeck, March 26, 1781; Leonard Gansevoort, March 19, 1794; John Tayler, Feb. 7, 1797; Nicolas N. Quackenbush, Jan. 13, 1803; David McCarty, March 13, 1804; Charles D. Cooper, March 29, 1806; Jacob Ten Eyck, June 8, 1807; Apollos Moore, June 6, 1812; James L'Amoreaux, March 15, 1828; Samuel Cheever, March 12, 1833; John Lansing, May 17, 1838; Peter Gansevoort, April 17, 1843; William Parmelee, June, 1847; Albert D. Robinson, Nov., 1851; George Wolford, Nov., 1859; Jacob H. Clute, Nov., 1863; Thomas J. Van Alstyne, Nov., 1871; John C. Nott, Nov., 1883.

COURT OF PROBATE.

By an Act of 1787, Surrogates were empowered to be appointed, the Judge of the Court of Probates holding jurisdiction in cases of decease out of the State, or of non-residents within the State. On March 10, 1797, an act was passed providing that the Court of Probate should be held in Albany, and that the judge and clerk should remove the books, papers and documents of that court to that city, and reside there. This court held appellate jurisdiction over the Surrogate's Court, On March 21, 1823, it was abolished, and its jurisdiction conferred on the Chancellor, who exercised it until the Court of Chancery was abolished in 1846.

Its jurisdiction was then conferred on the new Supreme Court. The records of this court were deposited in the office of the Court of Appeals at Albany. The following are the Albany County Judges of the Court of Probate :

Leonard Gansevoort, April 5, 1799; T. Van Wyck Graham, March 16, 1813; Gerrit Y. Lansing, July 8, 1816.

SURROGATES.

Surrogates, under the first Constitution, were appointed for an unlimited period by the Council of Appointment, and an appeal lay from their decisions to the Judge of the Court of Probates of the State. Under the second Constitution they were appointed by the Governor and Senate for four years, and appeals lay from their decisions to the Chancellor.

The Constitution of 1847 abolished the office of Surrogate, except in counties where the population exceeded 40,000, and devolved its duties on the County Judge. In counties exceeding this population the Legislature may authorize the election of Surrogates. They are elected for six years, and are allowed to take the acknowledgment of deeds and administer oaths in the same manner as County Judges.

SURROGATES *of Albany County.*

John DePeyster, April 3, 1756; William Hannah, November 18, 1766; Peter Lansingh, December 3, 1766; Stephen DeLancey, September 19, 1769; John De Peyster, March 23, 1778; Henry Oothoudt, April 4, 1782; John De P. Douw, April 4, 1782; Abraham G. Lansing, March 13, 1787; Elisha Dorr, April 12, 1808; John H. Wendell, March 5, 1810; Richard Lush, June 11, 1811; John H. Wendell, March 3, 1813; George Merchant, March 17, 1815; Christopher C. Yates, April 19, 1815; Ebenezer Baldwin, July 7, 1819; Abraham Ten Eyck, Jr., February 19, 1821; Thomas A. Brigden, April 11, 1822; Anthony Blanchard, April 9, 1831; Moses Patten, Febru-

ary 28, 1840; Anthony Blanchard, February 28, 1844; Lewis Benedict, Jr., June, 1847; Orville H. Chittenden, November, 1851; James A. McKown, November, 1855; Justus Haswell, November, 1859; Israel Lawton, November, 1863; Peter A. Rogers, November, 1871; Francis H. Woods, November, 1883.

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS.

This officer was at first Assistant Attorney-General. The counties were divided into districts, in which he had jurisdiction; hence the name of District Attorney. The act of February 12, 1796, divided the State into seven districts; that of 1801, into thirteen districts. By the laws of 1818, each county was constituted a separate district for the purposes of this office. Under the second Constitution, District Attorneys were appointed by the Court of General Sessions in each county. Under the Constitution of 1846, they were made elective.

Abraham Van Vechten, February 16, 1796; Samuel S. Lush, April 6, 1813; David L. Van Antwerp, June 21, 1818; Samuel A. Foote, July 3, 1819; Benjamin F. Butler, February 19, 1821; Edward Livingston, June 14, 1825; Rufus W. Peckham, March 27, 1838; Henry G. Wheaton, March 30, 1841; Edwin Litchfield, March 30, 1844; Andrew J. Colvin, March 21, 1846; Samuel H. Hammond, June, 1847; Andrew J. Colvin, November, 1850; Hamilton Harris, November, 1853; Samuel G. Courtney, November, 1856; Ira Shafer, November, 1859; Solomon F. Higgins, November, 1862; Henry Smith, November, 1865; Rufus W. Peckham, Jr., November, 1868; Nathaniel C. Moak, November, 1871; John M. Bailey, November, 1874; Lansing Hotaling, November, 1877; D. Cady Herrick, November, 1880.

COUNTY CLERKS.

The County Clerk, during the colonial period, was Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, Clerk of the Peace, and Clerk of the Sessions of the Peace, in his own county. Under the first State Constitution, it was his duty to keep the County Records, and act as the Clerk of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas and Clerk of the Oyer and Terminer. These last duties were conferred upon him by the Act of February 12, 1796. The seals of the County Clerk were the seals of the Court of Common Pleas in their respective counties. County Clerks are now Clerks of the Supreme Court, Court of Oyer and Terminer, County Court and Court of Sessions. The term of office since the adoption of the Constitution of 1821 has been three years.

Ludovicus Cobes, 1669; Robert Livingston, 1675; Johannes Cuyler, March 2, 1690; Robert Livingston, 1691; William Shaw, 1696; Robert Livingston, 1705; Philip Livingston, 1721; John Colden, February 23, 1749; Harme Gansevoort, September 25, 1750; Witham Marsh, 1760; Stephen De Lancy, January 25, 1765; Leonard Gansevoort, May 8, 1777; Matthew Vischer, 1778; Richard Lush, September 29, 1790; Charles D. Cooper, March 3, 1808; William P. Beers, February 28, 1810; Charles D. Cooper, February 5, 1811; John Lovett, March 3, 1813; George Merchant, March 31, 1815; Henry Truax, June 6, 1820; George Merchant, February 19, 1821; L. L. Van Kleeck, November, 1822; Conrad A. Ten Eyck, November, 1828; Henry B. Haswell, November, 1837; William Mix, November, 1843; Lawrence Van Dusen, November, 1846; Robert S. Lay, November, 1849; Robert Harper, November, 1852; Robert Babcock, November, 1855; Smith A. Waterman, November, 1861; Giles K. Winne, February 9, 1865; Isaac N. Keeler, June 20, 1868; John McEwen, November, 1868; Albert C. Judson, November, 1871; William E. Haswell, November, 1874; John Larkin, November, 1877; William D. Strevell, November, 1883.

SHERIFFS.

This officer, during the colonial period, was appointed annually by the Governor-General and Colonial Council. Under the first Constitution, he was appointed annually by the Council of Appointment, and no person could hold the office for more than four successive years; he could hold no other office, and must be a freeholder. Since the adoption of the Constitution of 1821, he has not been required to be a freeholder, is elected for three years, and is ineligible for the next succeeding term.

John Manning, April 6, 1665; Gerrit Swart, Aug. 17, 1668; Andrew Draeyer, Oct., 1673; Michael Siston, Nov. 4, 1674; Johannes Provoost, Oct., 1677; Richard Pretty, Oct., 1678; Lodovicus Cobes, Oct., 1679; Richard Pretty, Oct., 1680; Gaspar Teller, March 1, 1691; John Apple, Dec. 1, 1692; Simon Young, June 19, 1696; Johannes Groenendyke, Oct., 1698; John Williams, Oct., 1699; Jonathan Broadhurst, Oct., 1700; Jacobus Turk, Oct., 1702; David Schuyler, Oct., 1705; Henry Holland, Oct., 1706; Thomas Williams, Oct., 1712; Samuel Babington, Oct., 1716; Gerrit Van Schaick, Oct., 1719; Henry Holland, Oct., 1720; Philip Verplanck, Oct., 1722; Thomas Williams, Oct., 1723; Goose Van Schaick, Oct., 1728; James Stephenson, Oct., 1731; James Lindsay, Oct., 1732; Henry Holland, Oct., 1739; John Rutger Bleecker, Oct., 1746; Jacob Ten Eyck, Oct., 1747; Thomas Williams, Oct., 1748; Richard Miller, Oct., 1749; Abraham Yates, Oct., 1754; Abraham Yates, Jr., Oct., 1755; Jacob Van Schaick, Oct., 1759; Hermanus Schuyler, June 18, 1761; Henry Ten Eyck, Oct., 1770; Hendrick J. Wendell, Sept. 27, 1777; John Ten Broeck, March 22, 1781; Hendrick J. Wendell, Nov. 29, 1782; John Ten Broeck, Sept. 29, 1786; Peter Gansevoort, Jr., Sept. 29, 1790; John Ostrander, Jr., Sept. 29, 1792; John Given, Sept. 29, 1796; Hermanus P. Schuyler, Feb. 25, 1800; John J. Cuyler, Jan. 28, 1801; Hermanus H. Wendell, Jan. 12, 1803; Lawrence L. Van Kleeck, Feb. 28, 1807; Solomon Southwick, Feb. 10, 1808; Jacob Mancius, Feb. 13, 1810; Peter P. Dox, Feb. 12, 1811; Jacob Mancius, Feb. 23, 1813; Isaac Hempstead, March 17, 1815; Leonard H. Gansevoort, March 6, 1819; Cornelius Van Antwerp, Feb. 12, 1821; Cornelius Van Antwerp, Nov., 1822; C. H. Ten Eyck, Nov., 1825; John Beckey (removed Oct. 5, 1829), 1828; Asa Colvard, Nov., 1829; Albert Gallup, Nov., 1831; Angus McDuffie, Nov., 1834; Michael Artcher, Nov., 1837; Amos Adams, Nov., 1840; Christopher Batterman, Nov., 1843; Oscar Tyler, Nov., 1846; William Beardsley, Nov., 1849; John McEwen, Nov., 1852; William P. Brayton, Nov., 1855; Thomas W. Van Alstyne, Nov., 1858; Henry Crandall, Nov., 1861; Henry Fitch, Nov., 1864; Harris Parr, Nov., 1867; George A. Birch, Nov., 1870; Albert Gallup, Nov., 1873; John Wemple, Nov. 6, 1876; James A. Houck, Nov., 1879; Wm. H. Keeler, Nov., 1882.

Hon. AMASA J. PARKER.

AMASA J. PARKER.

AMASA J. PARKER was born June 2, 1807, at Sharon, Parish of Ellsworth, Litchfield County, Conn., where his father, the Rev. Daniel Parker, was settled for twenty years as a Congregational clergyman. On both sides Mr. Parker traces his descent from families distinguished in the early history of New England, sharing in the perils and occupations of Indian warfare, and, at a later day, in our Revolutionary struggle. His maternal grandfather, Thomas Fenn, of Watertown, Conn., represented that town for more than thirty sessions in the Legislature of his State.

The Rev. Daniel Parker removed into New York State with his family, when his son Amasa was nine years of age.

Great pains were taken with his education, and under the personal instruction of his father, as well as of other capable teachers, he completed, with great thoroughness, a full collegiate course of study, and in June, 1823, when but sixteen years old, though having the personal appearance of more advanced age, he was appointed Principal of the Academy located at the City of Hudson, an institution chartered by the Regents of the University of this state, and entered immediately upon the duties of the position, He remained there four years, and on the first of May, 1827, resigned his place to prosecute the study of the law. During the last year of his service in the academy, he had entered the office of Hon. John W. Edmonds, but his duties elsewhere gave him but little time for his legal studies.

He was eminently successful in his labors as principal of the Academy. Under his charge the institution acquired distinction and attracted students from different and distant parts of the country. He resigned his trust with the various departments of the academy full of students and in the height of its prosperity, because he felt that the time had come for him to devote his whole attention to the necessary preparation for his intended profession.

An incident occurred when he was in charge of the academy worthy of mention. The friends of a rival and successful institution in a distant town of the same county, in order to promote its interests, made capital of the fact that the principal of the Hudson academy was not himself a graduate of any college. To put such an objection at rest, young Parker, in the summer of 1825, presented himself at Union College; submitted to an examination for the whole college course of study, and graduated with the class of 1825. The singular fact occurred that one of his own former students graduated with him in the same class.

On resigning the charge of the academy in May, 1827, Mr. Parker entered the office of his uncle, Amasa Parker, Esq., an eminent lawyer of Delhi, Delaware County, who had been established there many years. Upon his admission to the Bar in October, 1828, he entered into a copartnership

with his uncle, and the firm of A. & A. J. Parker (well known to the profession throughout the State) was not dissolved till Mr. Parker's appointment to the Bench in March, 1844.

During all that time Mr. Parker was engaged in a large professional business, perhaps more extensive and varied than that of any other country law office in this state. He soon acquired a professional standing that secured him a large practice as counsel in the highest courts of the state. He attended quite regularly the circuits of Delaware, Greene, Ulster and Schoharie counties, and occasionally those held in Broome, Tioga and Tompkins counties, and in other counties more distant, as well as the stated Terms of Chancery and of the Supreme Court, as the printed reports of those courts show. It has been said, by those acquainted with the subject, that at the time of his appointment to the Bench he had tried more cases at the Circuit than any other lawyer of his age in the State.

Mr. Parker always insisted that his success, in establishing a large practice as attorney and counsel, was owing to his promptness, system and method rather than to any other peculiar talent. It was the rule of his life never to fail to answer a business letter on the same day on which it was received, to send to his client a check for money collected by the first mail, and never to fail in keeping an appointment at the precise time fixed for it. This latter practice he never omitted on the bench, having rarely if ever failed to open his Court at the precise hour appointed. In this way he enforced the most punctual attendance of counsel, parties and witnesses, and by it he was enabled to accomplish much more business.

During the fifteen years of Judge Parker's practice, before he was appointed to the bench, he mingled somewhat actively in political contests of the day. In the fall of 1833 he was elected by the Democratic party to the Assembly without opposition, and served in 1834. In 1835 he was elected by the Legislature of this State a Regent of the University of the State, being then twenty-seven years of age, and was the youngest person ever elected to that distinguished trust. He held it for nearly ten years, and resigned it when appointed to the bench. In November, 1836, he was elected to the Twenty-fifth Congress to represent the district then composed of the Counties of Delaware and Broome. This time also he ran without opposition, no candidate being nominated by the opposite party. He entered upon the duties of the office at the extra session held in September, 1837, and served during the three sessions of that Congress. These were exciting and sometimes stormy sessions. The Sub-Treasury measure was proposed by Mr. Van Buren at the extra session of 1837, and was warmly advocated by Mr. Parker and others, but it did not secure the support of all the Democratic members. Upon it Congress was very nearly divided, and questions were frequently decided by the casting vote of the Speaker, Mr. Polk. It was not till a later Congress, when the measure had become better understood, that it was passed into a law, and it still remains in force, its wisdom being now admitted by all parties.

During his service in Congress, Mr. Parker was actively engaged in the duties it imposed, on committees and in the discussions in the House. His speeches on the Mississippi Election case, on the Sub-Treasury bill, on the Public Lands, on the Cilley and Graves duel and on other subjects, are reported in the proceedings of that Congress. Hiram Gray, Richard P. Marvin, Henry A. Foster, Arphaxad Loomis, John T. Andrews and Amasa J. Parker were the last six survivors from this State of that memorable Congress.

Mr. Parker, at the close of his term, returned to the practice of his profession.

In the autumn of 1839 he was nominated as a candidate for State Senate from the Senatorial district then corresponding nearly in boundary to the present Third Judicial District of this State. There were two vacancies to be filled in addition to the term then expiring. There were, therefore, three Senators to be chosen. The year before, Alonzo C. Paige had been elected by less than fifty majority. But on this occasion the three Democratic candidates were all defeated by a majority little more than nominal.

In the spring of 1834 Mr. Parker was appointed District Attorney of Delaware County, which place he held for three years and till the expiration of his term, and was not a candidate for reappointment.

The later incidents of Judge Parker's life are more familiar to our readers. He was appointed, by Gov. Bouck, Circuit Judge and Vice-Chancellor of the Third Circuit on the 6th of March, 1844, and immediately removed to the City of Albany, where he has since resided. He held that office till the spring of 1847, when it was terminated by the adoption of the Constitution of 1846. He was then elected in the Third Judicial District a justice of the Supreme Court of this State for a term of eight years.

At no time in the history of this State have the judicial labors devolved upon a judge been more difficult and responsible than those which he was called on to discharge during his twelve years of judicial service. It was during this time that the Anti-Rent excitement which prevailed throughout a large portion of his judicial district was at its height, crowding the civil calendar with litigation, and the criminal courts with indictments for acts of violence in resisting the collection of rents.

The trial of "Big Thunder," before Judge Parker, at Hudson, in the spring of 1845, lasted two weeks, and the jury failed to agree. When the next Court of Oyer and Terminer was held in that county, Judge Parker was engaged in holding the Court in Delaware County, and Judge Edmonds was assigned to hold the Columbia Oyer and Terminer in his place. At that Court "Big Thunder" was again tried and was convicted and sent to the State prison.

In the summer of 1845 Osman N. Steele, Under Sheriff of Delaware County, while engaged with a posse in his official duties in the collection of rent

due from Moses Earle, at Andes, in that county, was violently resisted by about two hundred men armed and disguised as Indians, and was shot and killed by them. Intense excitement prevailed in the county. A great struggle followed between those who resisted and those who sought to enforce the laws.

On the 25th of August, 1845, Gov. Wright declared the County of Delaware in a state of insurrection, and a battalion of light infantry was detailed to aid the civil authorities in the preservation of order and the making of arrests. At the inquest held on the body of Sheriff Steele and at a Court of General Sessions, the whole subject was fully investigated. Some indictments were found for murder, but most of them were for manslaughter and lesser offenses.

Over two hundred and forty persons were indicted, most of whom were arrested and in custody awaiting trial at the then approaching Oyer and Terminer.

The regular jail and two log jails, temporarily constructed for the purpose, were filled with prisoners. Under these discouraging circumstances, and with armed men stationed in the Court room and throughout the village to preserve order, Judge Parker opened the Oyer and Terminer at Delhi on the 22d of September, 1845. A brief statement of these proceedings and an extract from the charge of Judge Parker to the Grand Jury will be found in the History of Delaware County, by Jay Gould, published in 1856 and dedicated to Judge Parker.

After charging the Grand Jury he gave notice that, whatever time it might take, he should continue to hold the court till every case was tried and the jails were cleared.

The indictments were prosecuted by the District Attorney, assisted by John Van Buren, then Attorney-General, and by Samuel Sherwood, a distinguished member of the Bar, then of New York, but who formerly resided at Delhi, and the prisoners were defended by able counsel, among whom were Samuel Gordon, Mitchell Sandford and Samuel S. Bowne.

John Van Steenburgh was first tried and convicted of murder. Edward O'Connor was next tried with a like result. Both were sentenced to be executed on the 29th of November, then next; four others were convicted of felony and sent to the State Prison for life, and thirteen were sent to the State Prison for different terms of years. A large number who had been engaged in resisting the sheriff, but who had not been disguised, pleaded guilty of misdemeanors. Some of these were fined, but as to most of them, and as to some who pleaded guilty of manslaughter, sentence was suspended, and they were told by the Court they would be held responsible for the future preservation of the peace in their neighborhoods, and were warned that if any other instance should occur of resisting an officer, or of a violation of the statute, which made it a felony to appear for such purpose armed and disguised, they would at once be suspected, and might expect to be called up for sentence. Under this assurance they were set at liberty, and it is but justice to them to say that they became the best possible conservators of the peace, and that no resistance of process by violence has ever since occured in that county.

At the close of the third week of the court, all the cases had been disposed of. No prisoners were left in jail except those awaiting execution or transportation to the State Prison; the military were soon after discharged, and the log jails taken down, and peace and good order have ever since reigned in the county.

A report of the trial of Van Steenburgh, with a note referring to the business of that court, will be found in *I. Park, Cr. Rep., 39.* The sentences of Van Steenburgh and O'Connor were subsequently commuted by Gov. Wright to imprisonment for life; and, about a year later, all those in the state prison were pardoned by the successor of Gov. Wright.

Great credit was awarded to Judge Parker for his successful discharge of the delicate and difficult duties devolved upon him at the Delaware Oyer and Terminer, and at the next commencement the degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred on him by Geneva College.

As has been stated, Judge Parker's services as Circuit Judge and Vice-Chancellor terminated in 1847 by the adoption of the new state constitution of 1846, under which an elective judiciary succeeded to the exercise of the judicial powers of the state. In all the counties of the Third Judicial District, meetings of the Bar were held, and complimentary addresses to Judge Parker were signed, approving his judicial course, and from his associates on the Bench of the Rensselaer Oyer and Terminer he received a similar earnest recognition of his services and of their personal respect.

Judge Parker was one of four Justices of the Supreme Court, elected in the Third Judicial District in June, 1847, being chosen by a very large vote; and he entered upon the duties of this office on the first of July, 1847. During his term, he served one year, during the year 1854, in the Court of Appeals. His term of service as a Justice of the Supreme Court expired on the 31st of December, 1855. His opinions in causes pending in that Court will be found in the first twenty-one volumes of *Barbour's Supreme Court Reports.* In the year 1854 Judge Parker served in the Court of Appeals, and was there associated with Judges Gardner, Denio, Alexander S. Johnson, Allen and others. His opinions in that court are reported in 1st and 2d volumes of *Kernan's Reports.* Among those most worthy of reference, is the case of *Snedeker* vs. *Warring*, reported in 2d *Kernan*, 170, a case which attracted much attention at the time, for the reason that it presented a very nice question, and one that had not been before decided either in this country or in England. It was finally decided on the authority of cases adjudged under the civil law on the continent of Europe. It involved the question whether a statue, colossal in size, erected as an ornament on the grounds in front of a country residence, and securely attached to the earth by

its weight, was real or personal property. The case was argued by very able counsel, and it happened, by the practice of the Court, in turn, to fall to Judges Johnson and Parker to write opinions. At the close of the argument, as the judges were separating for the day, in a few words of consultation that took place between the judges who were to write, Judge Johnson said he had an impression that the statue was real property. Judge Parker said his impression was that it was personal. A month later, after both the judges had spent much time at the State Library in examining the authorities, but without having again spoken together on the subject, and after each had written his opinion, ready to be read and discussed at the next meeting of all the judges, Judge Parker met Judge Johnson and said to him: "I have changed my opinion, and have come to the conclusion that the statue is real property." And Judge Johnson said in answer, "and I have changed mine, and have concluded it is personal property." When the meeting of the judges was held for consultation soon afterward, both opinions were read after discussion; the vote stood four and four, and thus it remained till near the end of the year, when on further discussion and consideration, five voted with Judge Parker and two with Judge Johnson, and the case was decided

Judge Parker was nominated by the Democratic Convention for re-election in the autumn of 1855, Ambrose Z. Jordan being the candidate of the Republican Party, then newly organized, and George Gould that of the "Know-Nothing," an American party. Prominent members of the last named party proposed to nominate Judge Parker, but he declined being its candidate. A very small vote was cast for Mr. Jordan, but Judge Gould was elected. That was the year when the American "Know-Nothing" party, suddenly springing up, swept the State by large majorities. Judge Parker was very largely ahead of his ticket, being beaten by the American candidate by only about a thousand votes; while the state officers on the American ticket in the same judicial district had a majority of several thousand.

Judge Parker then resumed the practice of his profession at Albany, and though afterward repeatedly offered nominations for the Supreme Court and for the Court of Appeals, when the Democratic party to which he belonged was in the majority in his district and in the State, he always declined, and preferred the independent practice of his profession.

In the fall of 1856 he was nominated by the Democratic State Convention for the office of Governor. The opposing Republican candidate was John A. King. Erastus Brooks was the "American" candidate. Though Judge Parker received several thousand majority in the judicial district where he was beaten the year before by about a thousand majority, he was defeated in the State, Gov. King being elected by a heavy majority. Mr. Buchanan, who was elected President that year by the votes of the other States, and against whom the majority in the State of New York was nearly ten thousand votes more than the majority against Judge Parker, who ran largely ahead of his ticket, tendered to the latter offices of distinction, which the latter declined. And later in his administration, he nominated him for U. S. District Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and the nomination was confirmed by the U. S. Senate, without reference, but Judge P. refused to qualify, preferring his own private professional practice.

In the fall of 1858 the Democratic State Convention again nominated him for the office of Governor. His Republican opponent was E. D. Morgan, who was elected by about 17,000 majority, though Judge Parker ran again largely in advance of the rest of the ticket.

Since that time Judge Parker has not been a candidate for any office except that he was elected in 1867 a delegate from the County of Albany to the State Constitutional Convention, in which he served in the years 1867 and 1868, as a member of the judiciary and other committees. The judiciary article framed by that convention was the only portion of the constitution finally adopted by the people.

On Judge Parker's retirement from the Bench, he engaged at once in the practice of his profession at Albany, taking into partnership in 1865 his son, Amasa J. Parker, Jr., and adding to the firm in 1876 Ex-Judge Edwin Countryman, under the name of Parker & Countryman. He devoted himself with great industry and success to his professional duties. He had a great love for his profession and for the principles upon which the law and its administration are founded. He was engaged in a large professional practice and in many of the most important cases that have come into the courts, as is shown by the State and Federal Reports. Among the most notable litigations in civil cases was a question of the right to tax National Banks, which he argued before the Supreme Court of the United States, in the employment of the city of New York, reported in 4 *Wallace Rep.*, 244; and in this State, the title of Trinity Church to property in the city of New York; the Levy will case, reported in 33 *N. Y.*, 97; the famous controversy between the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company and the Pennsylvania Company; and that of the boundary line between the States of New York and New Jersey, reported in 42 *N. Y.* Rep., 283. He rarely engaged in criminal cases, and his defense of Cole for the murder of Hiscock, and his acting in two or three other murder cases, were exceptional. He declined a retainer of $5,000 offered him to act as counsel in the defense of Tweed.

With the late Judge Ira Harris and Amos Dean, he engaged, in 1851, in the founding of "the Albany Law School," which established a high reputation under their government and care, and he continued for about twenty years one of the professors in that institution, and resigned only because of the pressure of his professional practice. He had found time while on the bench and afterward for preparing for the press some law books which he thought needed, among which were six

volumes of *Reports of Criminal Cases*. He also, assisted by two other gentlemen of the profession, edited the fifth edition of the Revised Statutes of this State.

He was an earnest advocate of the reforms inaugurated in the State Constitutional Convention of 1847, by which the Court of Chancery was abolished and law and equity powers were vested in the same tribunal, and the practice of the courts simplified. He visited Europe in 1853 while similar reforms were under consideration in England, and, at the request of Lord Brougham, he addressed the Law Reform Club of England at its annual meeting, explaining to its members the results of his experience on the Bench in regard to the changes that had been made in this State, especially as to the administering of law and equity in the same Court.

In politics he was, throughout his whole life, an active member of the Democratic party. Believing thoroughly in the principles of that party as founded by Jefferson, and that their success was indispensable to the welfare and prosperity of the country, he advocated them with earnestness, but always with due respect for the judgment of those who differed from him.

He labored strenuously to avert the catastrophe of civil war, and presided at the famous State Democratic Convention held at Tweddle Hall, in Albany, in February, 1861. He always believed afterward, as he believed then, that with temperate counsels, on the part of the Republican leaders then about entering upon the control of the Federal Government, civil war could have been avoided; but when the first blow was struck at Fort Sumter, and rebellion was thus inaugurated, he did not hesitate to regard the die as cast, and became at once an earnest advocate of a vigorous prosecution of the war on the part of the Government, and freely contributed his own money and time to the raising of men and means for that purpose.

But his patriotism did not prevent his earnest protest against what he deemed the gross abuse of power practiced, for merely partisan purposes, by high Federal officials, in the making of unnecessary, arbitrary arrests of Northern men, whose only offense was an honest and independent difference of opinion, and a free confession of it, on subjects of mere party difference in no way involved in the prosecution of the war to put down the rebellion. This tyrannical exercise of power and gross violation of the right of personal liberty he stoutly resisted, and not only denounced it on the stump, at the hazard of his own personal liberty, but he freely gave his professional services to obtain redress for such wrongs.

A notable instance of this character occurred in the case of *Patin* vs. *Murray*, tried at the Greene Circuit before Judge Ingalls in June, 1864, by Judge Parker as counsel for plaintiff, in which a jury composed of men of both political parties gave to this plaintiff for such an arrest and false imprisonment a verdict of $9,000 damages. An attempt was made to remove this case, after verdict and judgment, for retiral, into the U. S. Circuit Court, under an act of Congress that had been conveniently passed for the purpose of defeating such recoveries. Judge Parker insisted that the act was unconstitutional, being in violation of the seventh article of the amendments of the U. S. Constitution, and under his advice the State authorities refused to make a return to the writ of error. Application was then made to the U. S. Circuit Court to compel the return, and on demurrer, a peremptory mandamus was adjudged. To review that judgment a writ of error was brought by Judge Parker, and the case was removed into the United States Supreme Court held at Washington. It was first argued, in that court, in February, 1869, by Judge Parker for the plaintiff in error, and by Mr. Evarts, then Attorney-General of the United States, for the defendant in error.

The Judges were divided upon the question and ordered a re-argument, which took place in February, 1870, Attorney-General Hoar then appearing for the defendant in error, and Judge Parker again arguing for the plaintiff in error. The judgment of the U. S. Circuit Court was then reversed and the unconstitutionality of the act of Congress was established.

The case is reported in 9 *Wallace U. S. Rep.*, 274.

During a long life of professional labor, Judge Parker never lost the tastes acquired in early life for classical study and literary pursuits, and he was in the habit of setting apart a stated portion of his time for such purposes. He enjoyed an occasional return to the reading of the Greek and Roman authors; and those, with the attention given to the current literature of the day and a mingling in the duties of social life, afforded him an agreeable relaxation from severer studies and a healthful change to the mind. These tastes brought him in connection with the educational institutions of the State, in several of which he served for many years as a Trustee.

Among other duties of that character, he was for many years President of the Board of Trustees of the Albany Female Academy, President of the Board of Trustees of the Albany Medical College, a Trustee of Cornell University, and one of the Governors of Union College.

When a member of the Assembly in 1834, Mr. Parker, as chairman of a select committee, had made an elaborate report urging the establishment of a State Hospital for the Insane, which led to a more full consideration of the subject by the people, though it was not till several years afterward that the first State Hospital for the Insane was established. Doubtless it was owing to the interest Mr. Parker had taken in the subject that he was, afterward, appointed by Gov. Fenton one of the Trustees of the Hudson River State Hospital for the Insane at Poughkeepsie, a trust which he held till 1881, when he resigned, and Gov. Cornell appointed the son of Judge Parker in his place.

Judge Parker married, in 1834, Miss Harriet Langdon Roberts, of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and of his large family of children, Mrs. John V. L. Pruyn, Amasa J. Parker, Jr., Mrs. Erastus Corning and Mrs. Selden E. Marvin, all residents of Albany, still survive.

HAMILTON HARRIS.

While a biographical memoir ought to be strictly adapted to its subject in all its lights and shades, it ought also, with a certain measure of independence in the writer, to be adapted as far as possible to various tastes.

The reflective man will read it for instruction, the frivolous for amusement, and the critic, according to his disposition either to detect faults or to display its beauties.

The first will require fidelity in the narrative; the second, variety in the incidents, and the third, a watchful attention to the rules of good writing. But, after all, the success of the biographer depends upon the character he describes, just as the pencil of the artist depends for success on the contour of the features he reproduces upon canvas.

In entering upon the duty of presenting to all classes of readers the life and career of Hamilton Harris, such are the facilities presented in the mind, character and career of our subject, that we feel a consciousness that the fault will be ours if the mental portrait we are about to give is deficient in its lineaments or wanting in that which truth demands; for there are elements in his character which should render the task successful.

No name is more conspicuously associated with the Albany, and we may well say with the State Bar, than his. Few lawyers have brought to the Bar a more energetic mind, a more fortunate combination of legal and scholarly acquirements, or stronger or more practical administrative abilities.

"All professions," says Burke, "particularly the legal, narrow and dwarf the intellect by chaining it rigidly to rules, precedent and procedure." Doubtless Mr. Harris has felt the full force of this remark, for he has always found time in the midst of his most engrossing political and official duties to continue his early classical studies, and a critical reading of history, and the productions of the great English writers. In literature as well as law he has submitted to the most laborious and persevering process of private study.

In the preparation of this biography reference has been had to the public journals of the day, from which extracts have been freely made.

Hamilton Harris was born at Preble, Cortland County, N. Y., May 1, 1820. His parents were natives of the State of New York, but his father was of English and his mother of Scotch descent. At an early period in the history of Cortland County they settled at Preble, and they may therefore be regarded as pioneers of that delightful part of the State. When old enough, young Harris began his education in the common school of his native town, and after mastering all the branches taught there, he entered Homer Academy. After successfully pursuing his studies in that institution for a time, he became a student in the Albany Academy, where he completed a preparatory course for college. He entered Union College in the class which graduated in 1841. At college he was known as a diligent and successful student. We are assured that there was much in his collegiate course that pointed to future success in life. He was vigorous in health, elastic in spirits, in temper enthusiastic yet self-governed, with powers active and well disciplined, and thus he was in every way fitted to enter upon this critical era of his life well prepared for the intra-mœnial influences which surrounded him.

The little strifes, rivalries and jealousies of Union were encountered with the same equanimity of temper with which he encountered the more engrossing rivalries and contests of the Bar, and his own rank in scholarship was from the beginning to the conclusion of his collegiate career of the highest order.

In 1841 he was graduated with a high reputation as a classical scholar. He distinguished himself at the commencement exercises by a very able and admirably delivered address. The magnitude of the subject was equaled by the maturity of thought which he brought to its consideration, and it was indeed as strong in reasoning as it was elegant in diction.

All of the college productions of Mr. Harris indicate his conviction that language is not merely the dress, but the very body of thought; that it is to the intellect what the muscles are to the principles of physical life; that the mind acts and strengthens itself through words; that it is chaos till defined and organized by language. The attempt to give clear, precise utterance to thought is one of the most effectual processes of mental discipline. Of his graduating address we shall have occasion to speak hereafter.

Through all his college course it was evident that the mind of Mr. Harris was gravitating toward the legal profession. At this time the Hon. Ira Harris, his brother, afterward one of the ablest and most eminent of the Judiciary of the State and a United States Senator, was and had been for a long time in the midst of an extensive practice at the Albany Bar. Young Harris entered his law office as a student, where he carefully and laboriously prepared for his admission to the Bar. His call to practice took place in 1845. Having decided to make Albany his future residence, he opened an office in that city and began the practice of his profession.

Though surrounded by learned, experienced and gifted rivals, the progress of his reputation was soon a matter of common remark; he seemed to possess a natural adaptation for legal polemics; he entered the contests of the Bar with an industry which no excess of toil could weary, and with a self-command and practical ability which showed that he possessed *in extenso* the qualities and acquirements which would soon render him an accomplished advocate. He gradually exhibited a masculine eloquence which ignored superfluous decoration and fancy, alike strong in reason, attractive in ethical beauty and logical skill.

The following are his business connections which have diversified his legal life. In 1848 he became a partner with Hooper C. Van Vorst, afterward a Judge of the Common Pleas of New York City. This relation was dissolved in 1853 by the removal

of Mr. Van Vorst to the City of New York. Soon after this he was associated with Samuel G. Courtney, a son-in-law of Daniel S. Dickinson, and for several years United States District Attorney for the Southern District of New York.

In 1857 he formed a copartnership with those brilliant lawyers, Clark B. Cochrane and John H. Reynolds. This was one of the strongest legal firms that ever existed in Albany.

During this connection Mr. Cochrane and Mr. Reynolds both became Members of Congress. The copartnership ended with Mr. Cochrane's death in 1867, but Mr. Harris and Mr. Reynolds continued their association till the latter's death in 1875.

Mr. Harris has now associated with him in the practice of his profession his son, Frederick Harris, and William P. Rudd.

In the autumn of 1853 he was nominated and elected District Attorney of Albany County, serving until January 1, 1857. Mr. Harris' administration of this important office is remembered as largely enhancing his reputation and advantageous to the public. During his administration he conducted several of the most important and stubbornly contested prosecutions for murder ever tried at the Albany Bar; indeed, we know of few more important cases in legal history.

Among these was the trial of the People *vs.* Hendrickson, indicted for the murder of his wife by poison, in 1853, and the several trials of McCann for the murder of his wife in 1856.

Mr. Harris entered upon his duties as District Attorney of Albany County on the first day of January, 1854. Hendrickson had been tried and convicted of murder in the first degree, but the prisoner, through his counsel—Hon. John K. Porter—had brought error to the Court of Appeals, and it had not been argued when Mr. Harris entered upon his duties, and the duty of conducting it in the Appellate Court fell upon him.

Mrs. Hendrickson died suddenly at Bethlehem on the morning of March 7, 1853. She was discovered by her husband dead in bed, at about two o'clock in the morning. He aroused the family, who saw by her appearance that she had been dead but a few moments. In the evening of that day, at the Coroner's inquest, Hendrickson stated under oath the circumstances of her death. He said he went to church with her in the afternoon of the day previous, returning in the evening; his wife complained of ill-health, retiring about eleven o'clock. He awoke at about two in the morning by a noise in the barn. On speaking to his wife, he found her motionless, and her face cold; thinking her dead, he alarmed the family.

When asked as to his having been in Albany, he said: "I was there two weeks ago last Saturday." "Have you been there since?" After pretending to reflect, he said: "Oh, yes, I think I was there one week ago last Saturday." "Have you not been there since? He replied: "I was there last Saturday." When asked what he went for, he said he took a load of timber to the mills there; his brother was with him; he then gave the names of the different places he visited with his brother. He did not remember going to Springstead's drug store, nor any other drug store. When the question was again directly put to him, "Were you not in some drug store in Albany?" he was in a somewhat reclining position in his chair, as if grieving; the question seemed to startle him, and, after some hesitation, he finally replied: "I do not remember." On the trial, the People offered to prove the statements of Hendrickson before the coroner. The evidence was objected to as inadmissible, but the Court admitted it under an exception. The People offered to prove, as a motive for the act, that Lawrence Van Duzen, the father of Mrs. Hendrickson, by his last will, gave all his property to his wife for life, with a remainder over, one-half to his only son, the other half to be equally divided between Mrs. Hendrickson and her sister. This evidence was objected to, but admitted under an exception. This case required in the counsel for the People, not only great legal learning, but a thorough acquaintance with medical jurisprudence, particularly in the science of toxicology, as it was insisted that the victim died from the effects of strychnine. Hendrickson was convicted, as before stated, and sentenced to be hanged.

The duty of conducting this case in the Appellate Court placed Mr. Harris in a most responsible position, involving much labor and learning. The counsel for the defense relied upon their exceptions to the admission of the evidence we have referred to as involving sufficient error to give them a new trial.

The exhaustive and admirably prepared brief of Mr. Harris, and its logical reference to authorities, on which was founded a very able argument, fully sustained the rulings of the Judge at the trial, and in due time the decision of the Court was handed down, affirming the conviction of Hendrickson. The case was reported in 10 N. Y. Reports, 13.

The trials of McCann, for the murder of his wife, which took place July 8, 1856, was another great case. On the morning following her death, the dead body of Mrs. McCann, the wife of the prisoner, was found on the floor of one of the rooms in the house occupied by him and his wife, with a ghastly wound over the right eye, which fractured the skull and opened the brains. There were eight wounds on her head, disfiguring her to such an extent that those who knew her best could hardly recognize her. Suspicion at once fell upon McCann. There were several strong motives proven that induced him to commit the murder, and it was evidently done with deliberation—as the law has it, "with malice prepense." He was indicted and brought to trial at a Court of Oyer and Terminer, in November, 1856. Mr. Harris as District Attorney appeared for the People; Hon. Lyman Tremain, Hon. Rufus W. Peckham and J. M. Kimball, Esq., conducted the defense, which was insanity. It was insisted by the defense that McCann killed his wife while suffering from delirium tremens, under the delusion that he was resisting the attack of persons determined to kill him. There were several circumstances proved

which the defense insisted established this theory, one of which was that McCann used two axes in killing his wife, or rather that he killed her with one ax and chopped her to pieces with another; that he seized them both to fight the men whom he believed were assaulting him. He made no attempt at flight, but remained near the body of his victim nearly all night. Neither did he make any attempt to conceal the body.

The defense of delirium tremens was held to be no defense until Chief-Justice Story laid down the law which settled that a man committing a crime, suffering under this disease, is not responsible for it.

The defense summoned to the trial some of the ablest physicians of the times, including Dr. Alden March, Dr. Thomas Hun, Dr. S. O. Vanderpoel, Dr. J. Swinburne and Dr. B. P. Staats.

It is said that Mr. Tremain never in the course of all his practice made a more powerful defense than on this trial. Mr. Harris, however, was equal to the occasion. His cross-examination and examination of the medical witnesses might easily have caused a stranger to believe him some eminent physician, experienced in treating cases of insanity, so ready was his understanding of that disease.

The medical testimony was of great value, and has been repeatedly used as precedent in similar cases, particularly that of Dr. Hun. It is doubtful whether the subject of delirium tremens was ever more admirably dissected or more ably explained than on this trial.

McCann was convicted and sentenced to be hanged.

The execution was fixed by the judges on January 23, 1857. A few days before the execution was to take place his counsel removed his case to the General Term, where the conviction of McCann was affirmed. From the judgment of the General Term his counsel brought error to the Court of Appeals, and after argument of Messrs. Peckham & Tremain on the part of the defense, and of Mr. Harris on the part of the People, a new trial was ordered.

The new trial commenced in November, 1857. Another long and exciting contest took place, resulting in the disagreement of the jury. In March, 1858, McCann was again placed at the bar for trial, and for the third time the public interest was aroused over this truly great case. This trial, like the second, resulted in a disagreement of the jury, there being eleven for conviction and one for acquittal. The jury deliberated nearly sixty-three hours, and during all this time the one juror stood alone against the pressure of his fellows.

To use the language of a leading journal of the day:

"The case was summed up for the defense by the Hon. R. W. Peckham in a most admirable manner. He was followed by Hon. Hamilton Harris on the part of the People. The intense earnestness and powerful eloquence of this gentleman gave him in this case, as in all others, great influence with the jury."

A proposition was finally made to have McCann plead guilty to manslaughter in the first degree, which was accepted by Mr. Harris, and the prisoner was sentenced to State Prison for life. Thus ended a trial which is without precedent in the criminal trials of the State. The case is reported in 16 N.Y. Reports, 58, and is regarded as an important and leading one.

Among other important murder cases which Mr. Harris conducted were those of The People *vs.* Phelps, The People *vs.* McCrossen, The People *vs.* Dunnigan and The People *vs.* Cummings. In all these cases Mr. Harris was opposed by the ablest lawyers of the time. The success that attended him sufficiently attests his accomplishments as a prosecuting officer. The comments of the press upon the manner in which he conducted his arduous duties are gratifying testimonials.

One important criminal case in which Mr. Harris appeared against the prosecution was the case of The People *vs.* Reimann, indicted for complicity in the murder of Emil Hartung. Reimann was at first indicted as accessory before the murder, the principal being Mrs. Hartung, wife of the deceased, but he was subsequently indicted as principal for causing Hartung's death by administering to him arsenical poison. The case created great interest; indeed, there were features in it which invested it with dramatic interest.

Mr. Harris appeared for the defense; the prosecution was conducted by District Attorney Ira Shaffer, assisted by Samuel G. Courtney.

Mrs. Hartung had been convicted of the murder of her husband by poisoning, and was sentenced to be hanged. It was contended by the counsel for the People that Reimann was her guilty paramour. She was a handsome and attractive woman, with whom Reimann was passionately in love, and he aided in the taking off of her husband, to permit him to marry her. Much time was consumed in obtaining a jury, and more in taking the evidence. After the people rested, Mr. Harris made a motion for the discharge of Reimann on the ground that the evidence was insufficient to convict him. The motion was supported by an elaborate and cogent argument, to which Mr. Courtney replied with force and eloquence. The Hon. George Gould, who presided at the trial, after a learned and critical review of the whole evidence and the argument of the respective counsel, granted Mr. Harris' motion, and Reimann was discharged. But there were two more indictments against him; one for being accessory before the fact, the other for being accessory after the fact, and he was remanded to jail. A motion soon followed to admit him to bail, and another sharp legal contest ensued. He was finally discharged.

A history of the *causes celebres* in which Mr. Harris has been engaged has filled volumes, interesting to both practitioner and student. From 1816 down to 1876 there had been forty-three murder cases tried in the County of Albany, and Mr. Harris appeared as the leading counsel in no less than ten, either for the People or the defense.

Though he is not what might be termed a criminal lawyer, it has been his fortune, as we have seen, to be engaged in very many important crimi-

nal trials. This practice has always had strong attractions for accomplished legal minds; it gives ample room for the exercise of well-disciplined imagination and sympathy; it gives scope to a critical knowledge of the Statute laws, common law and the law of evidence. It requires a deep insight into the springs of human action; therefore no man can become a really successful criminal lawyer without becoming equally successful in other departments of practice.

By a well-sustained progress Mr. Harris has attained a reputation in the trial and argument of civil actions that ranks him among the ablest lawyers of his time.

As he advanced in his profession he devoted himself exclusively to civil business, to the entire exclusion of the criminal, and the result has been that he has enjoyed for a long time an extensive and lucrative practice as well as a high reputation in the courts. The reported cases in the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals argued by him show in some degree the extent of the business and the magnitude of the cases in which he has been engaged and the important questions of the law which he has argued. The following quotations from leading newspapers express the public estimate of Mr. Harris as an advocate. The *Albany Press* of January 6, 1884, in a review of the lawyers of Albany, says of Mr. Harris: "He is an able and adroit lawyer, logical in argument and brilliant in speech. He excels more especially as a jury lawyer, and as such ranks among the best at our bar." The *Albany Evening Journal* of January 17, 1885, in speaking of Mr. Harris' law firm, said:

"It possesses probably the largest and most lucrative patronage, and is one of the most successful firms in Albany. To this result Senator Harris' eminent ability as a pleader, his thorough knowledge of the law, his forensic powers and his winning personality have largely contributed."

The *Albany Argus* of May 10, 1885, in commenting upon an important railway case then being tried at the Circuit Court, spoke of Mr. Harris as follows:

"No man could study a case harder than does Hamilton Harris. He masters every detail of fact, knows exactly what his witnesses will testify to, and as for the law, long experience in this class of cases has made him, so to speak, an encyclopedia of railroad decisions. Hamilton Harris' manner in court is quiet and highly dignified. He pays close attention to the conduct of the case. His voice is strong and harsh to one unaccustomed to hear him speak, and his style of delivery is plain, but earnest and effective. His manner is blunt, gruff and, to a certain extent, dictatorial; but no juryman ever sat in a box and listened to him through a case without feeling that, back of his manner, was not only great power of mind, but an honest, kindly heart. Few lawyers conduct a case with so much earnestness. When you hear him speak, you feel immediately that he is in earnest. This quality and his shrewdness and policy make him one of the most successful lawyers that ever defended a corporation."

Our space will not permit of a general review of the important civil cases in which he has been engaged. We shall only allude to two of the later ones, which were of great public interest, and in which Mr. Harris won great distinction throughout the State.

During the Legislative session of 1884 William McDonald was arraigned at the bar of the Senate for refusing to answer questions before a Legislative committee. He was committed by the Senate to imprisonment in the common jail for contempt. In proceedings taken in the courts for his release Mr. Harris appeared as one of his counsel, and his argument for McDonald, which required and received at his hands as much research and learning as has been displayed in any case brought before the courts in late years, greatly extended his reputation as a profound lawyer. The commitment was declared by the General Term of the Supreme Court illegal, and McDonald was discharged. The case is reported in 32 Hun, 563.

During the Legislative session of 1882 Mr. Roosevelt preferred charges against Mr. Justice Westbrook, of the State Supreme Court, for misfeasance and malfeasance in the discharge of his judicial duties. It was alleged, among other things, that the Judge, "Without stint and without regard to judicial propriety, had appointed relatives to office, in which they had received large fees; that he had been guilty of judicial impropriety in the celebrated Manhattan Elevated Railroad case; that he had improperly given advice aiding the defense of the Manhattan Company, and that he had improperly informed Jay Gould and others touching certain actions of the Court." The charges against the Judge, taken together, made a strong *prima facie* case against him. The alleged facts were ingeniously marshaled and strengthened by accumulated allegations. They were sent to the Judiciary Committee of the Assembly for investigation, after a spirited debate.

Mr. Harris was retained by Judge Westbrook to conduct his case before the committee. The investigation before the committee began on April 21, 1882, and finally closed on the 27th of the following May, Mr. Harris making the closing argument.

Judging from the comments of the press, his argument was one of extraordinary power and eloquence. The *Troy Press*, speaking of it, says: "The argument of Mr. Harris was very able, and exposed the wickedness and absurdity of the charges against Judge Westbrook." The *Albany Evening Journal* says: "There can be no answer to Mr. Harris' defense of Judge Westbrook, the only counsel before the committee who can be truly said to enjoy a large experience in his profession."

The New York *World* of May 29, in an able review of the case, said: "Mr. Hamilton Harris' argument in vindication of Judge Westbrook fills a closely printed pamphlet of nearly fifty pages; but so close and clear is his presentation of the case, that no lawyer will object to its length." After quoting to some extent from the argument, the review continues its favorable comment upon it, and the whole article is highly complimentary to Mr. Harris. The Judge was honorably acquitted.

We have thus given a sketch of Mr. Harris as a lawyer. We shall now briefly consider his political career, which, though extended, has been subordinate to his profession.

Quite early in life he became prominent in the Whig party in Albany County, advocating its measures on the platform and with his pen with such fidelity and ability that he soon took his place among the leaders of the party in the county and State. In the autumn of 1850 he was elected member of Assembly from the County of Albany. It was at this session of the Legislature that the building of the State Library and the improvement of the State Capitol became a prominent subject of legislation. Its success was largely due to the efforts of Mr. Harris. He was also a member of the joint committee of six to call State conventions and to construct a new party platform, which was one of the first steps in the formation of the Republican party. Mr. Harris aided largely in founding the Republican party, and has always been justly regarded as one of its strongest and ablest champions. From 1862 to 1870 he was a member of the Republican State Committee; from 1862 to 1864 he was chairman of the Executive Committee; from 1864 to 1870 he was chairman of the Republican State Committee, in which position he displayed great executive ability, and by his skillful political management more than once led his party to victory in closely contested State elections. As has been said of him by a prominent writer: "His keen intuitions and his rare skill as an organizer, with a singular union of discretion with boldness, render him a natural leader of men." As a delegate in many State and national conventions, Mr. Harris was active and strongly influential in sustaining the measures of his party.

At the Legislative session of 1865 the question of erecting a new capitol at Albany, which had been agitated for many previous sessions, culminated in more decisive action. Mr. Harris was elected President of a new Board of Capitol Commissioners, serving until 1875 with ability and success so marked that he has been frequently termed "The Father" of that great measure. The Buffalo *Commercial Advertiser*, commenting upon the subject, says: "Let the people of Albany remember that to Hamilton Harris more than any other man they are indebted for the new capitol from its inception in 1865 to its progress in 1879."

To this the *Albany Evening Journal* made answer: "Never fear: Albanians will always remember it." The *Albany Express*, speaking of Mr. Harris' labors in behalf of the new capitol, says: "In other hands all the doubtful elements of the situation would have worked against it. Not so in the hands of Mr. Harris. The leader of the Senate, by force of character, and with a strong cause committed to him, his uniform courtesy and persistent labor carried the project through the crisis." The *Albany Evening Journal*, the New York *Sun*, the *Ogdensburg Journal*, the *Troy Daily Times*, all contain extended editorials commendatory of Mr. Harris' able and successful efforts in behalf of the new capitol. The latter paper, in speaking of the structure, says: "The father of this structure, which is to rank foremost among the majestic buildings of the world, is Hamilton Harris. Albany owes a debt of gratitude to Senator Harris for his advocacy of the stupendous enterprise and for his labors in carrying it on, which it can never repay." He studied hard to devise means to have the new building completed as soon as possible, without having the burden of taxation fall upon posterity. His bills relating to the matter were framed with great fairness, practicability and good sense, and the citizens of the State of New York will always applaud his earnestness, zeal and perseverance in the great cause in which he was enlisted.

In the autumn of 1875 he was elected to the Senate of the State from his district. On taking his seat in that body he entered into its deliberations and its proceedings with a facility that indicated natural legislative abilities.

As chairman of the Finance Committee, of the Committee on Joint Library, and of the select Committee on Apportionment, his labors were useful and exhaustive.

On the floor of the Senate he always took a prominent part in the discussion of leading public questions; his arguments never failed to command respect and attention.

At the expiration of his Senatorial term he was, in 1877, re-elected by a large majority. Having served his second term in a manner which brought to him high Senatorial honors, he decided to abandon public life and devote himself exclusively to the extended duties of his profession. From this resolution he has deviated but in one instance. In the fall of 1884 he ran as one of the Republican Electors on the State ticket. In October, 1879, his name was prominently brought forward for re-election to the Senate, and under circumstances so flattering that few could have resisted the nomination. But Mr. Harris, adhering to his resolution, on October 3, 1879, in a brief note published in the *Evening Journal*, most respectfully, but peremptorily, declined to accept the nomination under any circumstances.

Among his Senatorial addresses which have passed into history are those touching the New Capitol; on the question of Convict Labor; on the Grand Army bill; on the question of historical societies holding real estate for preservation and monumental purposes; on Higher Education; on Sectarian Appropriations, and on Taxation. He closed his Senatorial career under the following high tribute from the *Morning Express*. "Mr. Harris is a natural leader; he unites discretion with boldness. His zeal is regulated by mature reflection. His knowledge of men is intuitive, and his intuitions have been sharpened by wide intercourse. He is a close thinker, a cultured scholar, a thorough lawyer, a skillful organizer and ready debater, and he has a wide knowledge of, and devotion to, the interests of the State."

We shall close our sketch with some remarks touching his literary acquirements and labors, and as we conceive him to be in private life.

Mr. Harris is one of those who believe that to complete a lawyer's education, to enable him to take an elevated position in it, much more is needed than mere knowledge of law; but that he should

honor and cultivate, as unspeakably useful, that literature which corresponds to and calls forth the highest faculties, which expresses and communicates energy of thought, fruitfulness of invention, force of moral purpose, a thirst for the true and a delight in the beautiful.

Mr. Harris has exhibited his literary taste and culture, and abilities as a writer, on the lecture platform, and as a speaker in the popular assembly. He possesses the rare faculty of putting his readers or his audience in full possession of his thoughts, and in keeping the communication between himself and them always open; always avoiding those affected grasps after originality on the the one hand, and that sickly prettiness of style on the other, so much sought after by commonplace lecturers and writers.

Several of his addresses have been published. We cannot avoid, in this connection, some reference to an admirable lecture delivered by him on the subject, "Politics and Literature," before the Young Men's Association of Albany. To use his own language: "Politics and Literature was the theme of the speaker long years ago, when he bade 'good-by' to college halls and boyish fancies, and stepped upon the stage of active duties to play his humble part in the great drama of life."

Mr. Harris took up his subject from the standpoint of long experience, as he says, in the struggles of the world; and thus it was full of most valuable thoughts and suggestions. The *Albany Argus*, in speaking of it, says: "Mr. Harris was able to give to the literary discussion of politics in the abstract the fruits of an experience in the concrete which few men can claim—an experience which has covered a long period of time, notable associations, occasional vicissitudes and refreshing successes."

He denied that public men and politicians are absolved, in any degree, from the obligations of strict honor and morality. He insisted that political power is not a prize which justifies mean acts and compliance with usages that would be scorned in private life; that platitudes, intrigues, hollow pretensions and appeals to base passions deserve signal rebuke when employed to compass political ends.

"The man," said the lecturer, "who devotes himself to politics as a business, for the purpose of securing position for support, is worthy of little consideration, and gathers the least satisfaction that can be derived from any of the employments of men. His existence is a miserable one of servility and solicitation, delays and disappointments, to end generally in poverty and obscurity. He who would best serve the state and win a name and secure public confidence should possess lofty principles, a keen faculty of vision to discover the wants and interests of society, an accurate acquaintance with current events, opinions and social tendencies, a deep penetration into the motives of human action, and a clear determination of the results of measures and movements."

The manner in which Mr. Harris illustrated the advantage of combining literary attainments with political acumen was very forcible and happy. He gave many instances from history, where the treasures of literature increased the usefulness and strength of political labor.

"The low ambitions of life," he said, "and the grosser pleasures of sense, are characteristic of the illiterate. Literature is the source of refinement and enlightenment; it imparts wisdom, elevates thought and adorns character."

The numerous favorable comments of the press upon this address evince at once its ability and its effect upon the public mind.

An address delivered by Mr. Harris before the Young Men's Association of Albany, on "The Tower of London," was a production that created great interest on its delivery, and was eagerly read after its appearance in the public journals. It is remarkable for its historic research, and for the pleasing diction with which he so vividly described that grand old fortress of the past, around which so many historical incidents cluster, and where so many precious relics of the grandeur, power, and, we may say, weakness of England are gathered. This structure has often been described by tourists, but few, if any, have described it in the manner and in the light of history, which Mr. Harris did in his address.

"Its story" he said, "is interwoven with the annals of Great Britain. The historic memories of eight centuries cluster around it. The history of many of the bravest as well as the darkest deeds of the Empire is written in its walls. With it is associated the glory of proud triumphs and gorgeous ceremonials, together with the pathetic and tragic vicissitudes and mutations of human fortune."

These deeds and the worthiest actors in them attracted the pen of the lecturer. His portraiture showed a wide range of reading and the appreciative and discriminating hand of a close student.

Another of his productions which was listened to and read with interest was his lecture before the Young Men's Working Society. The subject was "No Royal Road to Knowledge."

A Fourth of July oration, delivered by him in early life before the Young Men's Association of Albany, was quite out of the order of such productions in thought and originality.

We might take many interesting extracts from many other addresses and give extracts from many of Mr. Harris' literary productions, but space will not permit. It is proper to say, however, that some of his most pleasing productions are his memorial tributes to departed distinguished jurists and legislators. Perhaps nowhere in the language of eulogy can there be found a more well-deserved and more touching and well-expressed tribute than that paid by Mr. Harris to the memory of John Morrissey in the Senate of this State.

The "Memorial Wreath," as he appropriately called his beautiful eulogy upon that great lawyer and beloved citizen, Lyman Tremain, commanded general admiration, in that, as in all other like productions, Mr. Harris did not become the extreme panegyrist. He drew his mental portrait with truth to the original, avoiding on the one hand inordinate praise, and on the other a stinted denial of true merit.

His tribute to James A. Garfield was a most adequate eulogy upon the Glorious Martyr. It was a touching and attractive portraiture of the martyred President drawn with a master hand, guided by an oppulent mind.

The literary taste of Mr. Harris is exhibited in his elegant home, which abounds in books. The recondite productions of great and gifted writers of all ages are found in his large, valuable and carefully selected library. To use the language of another, "Mr. Harris has made the selection of books a specialty; he has brought together on his shelves all the principal works of eminent English and American statesmen, orators, poets, jurists and scholars from Lord Bacon to Edward Everett." He spends much of his time in his library; to him it is peopled with living minds, speaking to him of history, of philosophy, eloquence and all the riches of ancient and modern literature. Here voices come to him from the Athenian Arena; from the Roman Forum; from the English Parliament; from the American Senate; from our own great scholars, writers and scientists; from the Bench and Bar of the world.

It is natural that a mind thus devoted to books and research should be a friend to the cause of education and the diffusion of knowledge by the establishment of schools and colleges. And we find that not only in private life, but in his legislative career, he has been the warm advocate of the cause of popular and higher education.

One of his ablest speeches in the Senate was in support of higher popular education. This speech, which was widely circulated through the State by the friends of popular education, was delivered January 29, 1879, in committee of the whole, having under consideration the Governor's Message.

That document recommended the abandonment of the system of aiding the public high schools, which had prevailed so many years in the State. The Governor in his Message took strong grounds against the State's aiding in giving higher education to the children of the poor, terming it legalized robbery to do so. Hon. Thomas C. E. Ecclesine, Senator from the City of New York, strongly sustained the Governor in a speech delivered in the Senate. He insisted that higher education disqualified the poor for the duties and labors to which alone they are by nature adapted, and that injustice is done by trying to educate the children of the poor for callings which they can never fill.

This attack upon the education of the poor brought Senator Harris to his feet, and he repelled it in the admirable speech to which we have alluded. The debate was long and ardent, continuing at intervals until the 5th of February, 1879, when Mr. Harris closed it. He reviewed the various laws which had passed favoring popular education and the great advantages flowing to the people from these laws.

"The true theory," he said, "upon which the State educates its children is not simply for the benefit or advancement of the individual, but it is to enlarge his mind and elevate his character, so as to increase his efficiency and value as a citizen, and thus add power and influence to the community in which he lives, contributing thereby to the prosperity and elevation of the State. The time has arrived in the history of the world when a nation takes rank according to the intelligence and elevation of the people. The hope for the prosperity of free institutions especially rests upon popular education." Again Senator Harris said that "the doctrine that higher education disqualifies the poor for their duties and labors is the old doctrine of caste and aristocracy, which debars the people of despotic countries from rising above the condition in life in which they were born. It is the expression of the belief that all men are not equal. It is the utterance of a disbelief in the first principles upon which our government was founded. It is not the doctrine of America, which throws wide open the door of every school-house, that all children may receive the benefit of the best education, so that they may better their own condition in life, and thus better the condition of the State itself. If the views of the Governor should be adopted, the State would step back a half century instead of advancing, and the children of poor men would have to dismiss all desire and ambition to improve their condition, and be kept in the position in which they found themselves by the accident of birth. Many of our greatest men, men of eminence in public life and in the professions, have been taught in our free schools, and sprung from the lower conditions of life. Had the views of the Governor prevailed, many of the men who have molded the opinions of the country, framed its laws and upheld its institutions, would have been forced to pass their lives in following the same narrow path that their fathers trod and remain in the condition in which they were born. I say, then, that the proposition that a higher education than the rudimentary one of the common schools is not a benefit to the poor man, that the children of the poor should only learn to labor and not to think, is monstrous, even though it comes from the Executive Chamber."

Such was the champion which the cause of popular education found on the floor of the Senate in Hamilton Harris. We could cite many other instances where he strongly advocated our system of popular education, did space permit.

Thus he naturally became popular with the friends of education throughout the State. Early in the year 1885 two vacancies occurred in the Board of Regents of the University. When the Legislature convened that year his name was very soon brought forward as a candidate to fill one of the vacancies. The members of the Senate and Assembly, fully appreciating his accomplishments for this honorable position, and his services in the educational interests of the State, favored his appointment. On the 10th of March, 1885, the Republican members of the Senate and Assembly convened to nominate Regents, and Mr. Harris, with Mr. Beach, of Schuyler County, was unanimously elected.

This action, being ratified by the Legislature of our State in joint convention, was greeted with general approbation by the press and the voice of the public. Speaking of it, the *Evening Journal* said:

"The position of Regent of the University is the single honor within the power of the State to bestow upon its scholars, and the unanimous accord of the nomination for that position to the Hon. Hamilton Harris, of this city, and to Mr. Daniel Beach, of Schuyler County, was a fitting and especially appropriate tribute to the learning and ability of the two gentlemen chosen. To be chosen out of the many public-spirited scholars of the State would be a great compliment to confer upon any citizen. To be chosen unanimously and without the consideration of any other name is a recognition that has seldom been awarded by the State to learning. The designation of Senator Harris, of Albany, for the position is one the propriety of which our citizens will gratefully recognize. Although Mr. Harris' reputation through the State rests chiefly on his political and professional achievements, Albanians know him also as a man of research and attainments in the field of literature, and in those general studies which bring grace and symmetry to the mind. His interest in the educational affairs of the State and of the city has been often demonstrated,

Wm. L. Learned

and he will bring to the Board of Regents a practical knowledge of the requirements of our school system that cannot but be of advantage to the State."

Thus we have rapidly traced the early life of Mr. Harris, his entrance into his chosen profession, his successful career as a lawyer, writer and speaker, his career as a Legislator, and in other public places. His private life needs no mention here. He has been singularly fortunate in his domestic relations. In 1850 he married, in Buffalo, Lucy Moody Rogers, the eldest daughter of the late Nathaniel Rogers, of that city, and has two children—Frederick Harris, who is now associated with him in the practice of law, and Lucy Hamilton Harris. He, with his refined and highly cultured family, occupies and adorns a distinguished position in the brilliant social circles of the Capital City.

He may be called a positive man. It has been said of him truthfully that "he throws himself heart and soul into whatever business he does and whatever cause he espouses." His opinions both of persons and things are decided and confident. In forming them he is entirely free from the errors which spring from undue examination or want of just appreciation. In other words, he weighs men very much as they are, regardless of adventitious circumstances. Long a prominent resident of Albany, he has exhibited, as we have seen, the character of a liberal and public-spirited citizen; has identified himself with all prominent measures, tending not only to the advancement of the city, but of the State and country, and has fairly won for himself an honorable place in history.

WILLIAM L. LEARNED.

The judiciary is a department in our government of higher importance than all others. It was this department which gave force and vitality to the Constitution, which, till its formation, was almost inert in the exercise of its power. It is about the only department untainted from the corruptions of politics. While politicians expend their zeal on transient interests which derive their chief importance from their brief connection with a party, it is the province of the Judge to apply those solemn and universal laws of rectitude on which the security, industry and prosperity of the individual and the State essentially depend.

That we should naturally reverence and honor our judicial officers; that we should select them with care and sedulously weigh their qualifications for the office, their merits and demerits, in the balance, is natural, and when not found wanting, vouchsafe them the large honors which are their due.

In view of these reflections we enter upon the task of briefly tracing the life and career of the distinguished jurist and long-experienced Judge whose name stands at the head of our sketch—the Hon. William Law Learned. For many years he has been a delegated minister of justice and has received an uncommon evidence of the esteem in which he is held by the Bar and the public by his recent election for the second time to the office of Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York.

The career of such a man is eminently worthy a place in history; it is pleasant and profitable to give that history to the public, and we perform our grateful task as follows:

Judge William L. Learned is a native of New London, Conn., born there July 24, 1821. His father was Ebenezer Learned, who was twice married, his second wife being Lydia Coit, the mother of Judge Learned, he being the only child of the second marriage.

Both his parents descended from early New England settlers. His paternal ancestor, William Learned, was a native of England, who came to this country and became a resident of Charlestown, Mass. John Coit, his maternal ancestor, was a native of Wales, who left that country about 1638, and became a resident of Salem, Mass., for we find his name in the records of that town in that year.

His grandfathers, Amasa Learned and Joshua Coit, were representatives in Congress; the first from 1801 to 1805, the latter from 1793 to 1798. They were both men of distinction and took conspicuous parts in the public affairs of the State.

Judge Learned seems to have inherited his love of the legal profession, for his father was a distinguished lawyer who for many years occupied a respectable position at the Bar, but who later in life became the cashier of one of the banks of the State of Connecticut.

Young Learned began his education at the Union School in New London, an institution of high repute, in which he prepared for college. Yale became his Alma Mater. He entered that time-honored institution in 1837, from whence he was graduated in 1841. His college course was characterized by diligence and conscientious devotion to his studies. As a result, he stood high with the students and was a favorite with the faculty. His rank as a student is indicated by the fact that he was salutatorian of his class, and his popularity by his membership of the society known as the Skull and Bones.

Among his classmates were several who have since become distinguished. Among them is Donald G. Mitchell, favorably known as "Ik Marvel," author of "Reveries of a Bachelor" and other pleasing productions.

Three Justices of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Joseph F. Barnard, Lucien G. Birdseye and Gilbert Dean, were classmates of Judge Learned.

William E. Robinson, a prominent politician; B. G. Northrup, a well-known educator; Stephen D. Law, a very acceptable writer on the laws of patents, and Rev. Thomas F. Peters, eminent for his works of benevolence in the City of New York, were also members of this class.

Immediately after leaving college Mr. Learned entered the law office of Wm. F. Brainard, of New London, with whom he pursued his studies one year. Having formed a pleasant acquaintance with those highly respected lawyers, Messrs. Gould & Olin, of Troy, N. Y., he accepted an invitation

from them to continue his studies in their office. This was about the year 1842.

In recognition of his learning, ability and great purity of character, Mr. Gould, the senior partner, was elected Mayor of Troy in 1852, and in November, 1855, he was elected a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State for the Third Judicial District. Mr. Learned's associate in the office of Gould & Olin was George C. Waite, a brother of Chief-Justice Waite, of the United States Supreme Court.

Young Learned was called to the Bar at the fall term of the Supreme Court of the State in 1844, which held its sittings at Rochester. This was the old "Supreme Court of Judicature of the People of the State of New York," Chief-Justice Samuel Nelson presiding, Esek Cowan, Greene C. Bronson—names illustrious in legal history—associates.

Mr. Learned decided to make Albany the place of his future residence, fully aware that, in his professional career in that city, he would be compelled to contend with what may be well termed giants of the Bar. With a well-balanced confidence in his own abilities, with a consciousness that his intellectual weapons would be stronger, brighter and more effective by wielding them in the conflict against great and accomplished minds, he entered, confidently and determinedly, into the honorable rivalry he had sought.

This selection of a field of labor was judicious and fortunate. If he met the usual embarrassments and discouragements of young lawyers, he overcame them by severe application, steady perseverance, and the happy adaptation of his vigorous mind to his pursuit. Prosperity attended him, and he gradually but surely moved on to the front rank of his profession, and from thence to the distinguished judicial position he now occupies.

In 1850 he formed a copartnership with the late Gilbert L. Wilson, who afterward became secretary of the New York Central Railroad Company.

After this partnership had existed some time, James C. Cook became a member of the firm, which now took the name of Learned, Wilson & Cook. After the withdrawal of Wilson the firm was known as Learned & Cook. It took a very high and influential position, controlling an extended and important clientage; it continued until 1867, when Mr. Cook decided to retire from practice; this dissolved the firm, and its business devolved upon Mr. Learned.

The large responsibility which now rested upon him was met with talents, ability and learning, which added largely to his reputation as a lawyer. Perhaps no practicing lawyer at that time stood higher in public estimation than did Mr. Learned. He continued his practice until the summer of 1870, when that distinguished jurist, Rufus W. Peckham, who had been one of the Justices of the Supreme Court since 1861, was appointed a Justice of the Court of Appeals. This left a vacancy on the Bench of the Supreme Court, and Mr. Learned was immediately appointed by Gov. Hoffman in place of Judge Peckham.

In the autumn of 1870 Judge Learned was nominated by the Democratic party of the Third Judicial District as a Justice of the Supreme Court; his Republican opponent was the late Henry Smith, an acknowledged leader of the Bar and a man of commanding eloquence. Judge Learned was, however, elected for the full term of fourteen years.

He entered upon his judicial duties with that ability and success which his high reputation as a counselor at law fully indicated he would. As a trial judge he possessed that urbanity and patience in the conduct of those difficult cases so wearying and patience-trying to the judge in a manner that rendered him popular with the Bar, jurors and the general public.

In January, 1875, he was appointed Presiding Judge of the Third Department by Gov. Tilden. This appointment was made to continue during the remainder of his term. His associates were those eminent jurists, Hon. Douglass Boardman, of Ithaca, and Hon. Augustus Bockes, of Saratoga Spa. The ability and celerity with which the Supreme Court for the Third Department conducted its work elicited general commendation from the Bar. Though its calendars were very large, embracing many important cases, the business of the court was not permitted to accumulate, and its calendars were cleared to such an extent that cases were disposed of with great rapidity and satisfaction. It is said that the New York judges are overworked, from the Court of Appeals to the County Court. This, to a large extent, is true. Perhaps no men in the State are subjected to such constant and exhaustive labors as the judges of our courts. Certainly the justices of the Third Department may be said to be overworked in their endeavors to prevent that accumulation of business so disastrous to litigants.

The first opinion pronounced by Judge Learned was delivered in the case of *Gould* vs. *The Town of Oneonta*, at the January Term of 1875, very soon after assuming the duties of presiding justice. It is reported in 3 Hun, 404. This was followed by several cases in which he pronounced the opinion of the Court. He seemed to come to his judicial duties with that ease and directness which indicated a natural talent for their discharge. In 1874 he was appointed one of the Faculty of the Albany Law School. His associate members were Hon. Ira Harris, Hon. Matthew Hale and Isaac Edwards. The department of jurisprudence to which he confined his lectures at first was The Civil Law. These lectures required the expenditure of much labor and research—the most extensive legal learning. The success which attended them, their popularity with the students, is a sure indication that this demand was fully supplied. In the course of a few years two other departments were taken up as the theme of his lectures, one on Equity, the other on the Trial of Causes. These three courses he continues to deliver.

Among Mr. Learned's literary work was the duty performed by him as editor of an edition of *Madam Knight's Journal* and an edition of *"Earle's Microcosmography."*

A very valuable article from the pen of Judge Learned on "The Tardiness of Justice" appeared in the *North American Review* for June, 1885. It commends itself strongly to the judge, the lawyer and, above all, to the business man; for, really, the tardiness of justice is one of the great evils of the times, and Judge Learned deals with the subject as one who speaks with knowledge and with authority. He says:

"One cannot begin a lawsuit that involves a considerable amount, with any hope of a reasonably speedy decision; a year's time would be short for its termination; and the plaintiff may not reach the end in three, four, five or six years. A short time since a counsel, in arguing a matter, referred to a case that had been pending eighteen years, and was just at issue for trial. The case may be found reported as early as 1873, in one of its 'many steps,' and was in fact begun in 1869 (Smith *vs.* Rathbun, 66 Barb., 402; 13 Hun, 47). It has graduated some of its counsel to the bench, and has seen several of the judges who sat in it carried beyond the term of their judicial career. Another case pressed forward by the plaintiff and entitled to a preference on the calendar of the courts was begun in 1874, and, after four trials, reached its happy end in 1880. These are not unusual instances.

"In civil matters, the delay of Justice is a great wrong. *Bis dat qui cito dat* is a maxim as true in law as of charity. Men can bear what they believe to be a wrong decision, if it be made promptly; but they cannot bear the uncertainties of delay. 'Hope deferred maketh the heart sick.' It is the weary watching by the bedside, not the fatal termination, that tries the mind and body. And so with a pecuniary claim which one man makes against another. * * * Perhaps there is no other cause of delay so great as the extensive right of appeal given by our present system. In many matters that belong merely to the preliminary skirmishing, as it might be called, appeals to the General Term can be taken, with the result of delaying the trial; such matters, for instance, as motions to change the place of trial. Yet these are often questions, to a great extent, of good discretion, in which the discretion of one judge might better be made conclusive, for the sake of preventing delay. This, however, is of less importance than the freedom of appeal after trial. It may be said generally that, after trial, the defeated party has three appeals, under any of which he may obtain a new trial. First, he may apply to the court before which the case was tried. If unsuccessful, he may appeal to the General Term. If unsuccessful there, he may appeal to the Court of Appeals. In the crowded condition of the calendars, this assures him a very comfortable postponement of the final result. When, however, he shall at last have his cause decided by the highest court, and shall have succeeded, and shall have obtained a new trial, he will not have reached the end. He must go back and try the case again. And, armed with the decision of the highest court in his favor, he will probably succeed in his defense, at the trial. That, however, is not the end. The plaintiff will now appeal; and when the defendant once more reaches the higher court, he may find that there is a *distinguendo*, and that that court didn't mean quite what he thought they meant.* Once more, then, there must be a new trial. And once more he may climb the ladder of appeals, and get a new lesson in wisdom from its topmost round—at least a new lesson of patience."

The Judge points out, with much ability and discernment, the serious evils, the delay and expense, in the practice of referring causes for trial.

"References," he says, "are very expensive, and the expense falls on the defeated party. They are always protracted, because the convenience of two or more of the counsel and of the referee must be consulted, and because the referee cannot exercise that power of compelling promptness which can be exercised by the Court. Thus a trial, which before a court or jury might be finished in a few days, will be before a referee for months, by reason of short sessions and long adjournment. It is to be hoped that since the recent increase in the number of judges, there will be a return to that practice when nothing was referred, except long accounts. * * * It is certainly the duty of the State to provide a sufficient number of Judges; so that, if they do their duty faithfully, there should be no delay in reaching a cause soon after it is ready for trial."

*Marston vs. Sweet, 66 N. Y., 206, and S. C. 82 N. Y., 526; Urquhart vs. Ogdensburgh, 91 N. Y.

On the 27th of May, 1855, Judge Learned was united by marriage to Phebe Rowland Marvin, daughter of Alexander Marvin, a distinguished merchant of Albany. This accomplished and highly esteemed lady died March 31, 1864, leaving three daughters. On January 15, 1868, Mr. Learned was married to Katherine S., a daughter of the late Clinton DeWitt, one of the most accomplished members of the New York City Bar, whose exalted career had been suddenly terminated while yet in early manhood. In 1878 Yale College conferred upon Judge Learned the degree of LL. D.

As we have said, Judge Learned was elected for the long term of fourteen years. As this term was to terminate with the expiration of 1884, he was nominated by the Democrats of the Third Judicial District as their candidate for the office of Justice of the Supreme Court for that district. He was elected, and in January, 1885, entered upon the discharge of his judicial duties with the experience of over fourteen years of arduous labors on the bench.

His appointment as presiding Justice of the Fourth Department removed him from the circuit, or *Nisi Prius*, the duties of which, as we have seen, he discharged with singular ability. It was his fortune while presiding as a Circuit Judge to try several exceedingly important criminal cases. So important were some of them that they attracted the attention of the press and the public throughout the nation. Space will not permit any description of these cases, but our work would not be complete without some reference to two of them, one *The People* v. *Lowenstein*, the other *The People* v. *Filkins*, for the robbing of an express car near Albany on the 6th of January, 1871.

The questions of fact involved in these cases were most remarkable, remotely connected, some of them obscure and apparently unimportant, yet when cleared of obscurity, clearly developed and fairly connected, formed a chain of evidence of such unerring certainty that they resulted in the conviction of both Lowenstein and Filkins. A brief reference to the cases of Filkins and Lowenstein belong appropriately to this biography:

On the 6th of June, 1871, Thomas A. Halpine, a messenger for the American Express Company, got into his car at Albany twenty-five minutes past five, P. M., in the rear of the express office. The car was drawn by an engine to the bridge, now known as the Upper Bridge; a train came over, to which the car was attached. Its doors were ajar a few inches; the safe was locked and the key in Halpine's pocket. A few moments after the car started a man sprang in, shut the door through which he entered, jumped over and shut the other door. After a few words passed between the men, the stranger presented a pistol and shot Halpine through the neck. He fell, and the shot was repeated. This shot entered under Halpine's right eye; the shot was

again repeated, taking effect near the right ear. The victim was insensible, and apparently dead. When the car reached the Green street station Halpine recovered sufficient consciousness to recall what had taken place. The car had stopped. By a strong effort he reached the door, faint and bleeding. He called for assistance, which resulted in his being taken from the car. An examination of the safe showed it had been unlocked and a large sum of money taken therefrom. The key had been taken from the pocket of Halpine, and with it the safe was unlocked. The circumstances created great excitement, and for a time the affair was wrapped in mystery. At length suspicion began to attach itself to John A. Filkins so far as the Express Company was concerned. On learning this he fled to Canada, but was followed and arrested, indicted and brought to trial.

What most embarrassed the prosecution was the fact that Filkins bore a good reputation, and on the trial he proved that at about the time the crime was committed he was at his home far up the hill on one of the streets of the city. It was difficult to believe he could have crossed the river and reached his home in so short a time. But his pistol was found near the spot where the crime was committed, by a boy, and Halpine positively identified him as the robber who had assailed him. There were many other facts in the case, on both sides, rendering it, as we have said, one of great difficulty and interest.

The prosecution of Filkins was conducted with great skill and vigor by that distinguished lawyer, Hon. Rufus W. Peckham, then District Attorney, and now a Justice of the Supreme Court. He was aided by William J. Hadley, whose opening address was most clear and forcible. Hon. N. C. Moak, so well known for his thorough research and unwearying ability, was counsel for the prisoner.

The charge of Judge Learned to the jury is remembered as one of great ability and fairness. With exact analysis he went through the conflicting evidence, disentangling the material from the immaterial, and presenting it clear and direct to the jury, who, after due deliberation, returned a verdict of guilty, and Filkins was sentenced to States Prison at Clinton for a term of twenty years. He had not been there long when he made his escape, and has never since been heard from.

It was never known by the public how much money was taken from the safe, but it was sufficient to induce the company to offer a reward of $5,000 for the apprehension and conviction of the robbers.

The Lowenstein case, like the Filkins case, was one of great importance.

At this time Hon. N. C. Moak was District Attorney, and he conducted the case for the people with masterly ability, and Hon. D. Cady Herrick, who has since filled admirably the office of District Attorney, was counsel for Lowenstein.

On August 7, 1873, a man happened to take a short cut in crossing from the turnpike over the farm of one Jones. On reaching a fence that crossed his course, he discovered in a hollow, or basin in the ground, a man apparently asleep, but on attempting to awaken him he was startled to find that he was dead. His throat was cut and he had been shot in the head, and there were nine bullet holes in different parts of his body.

In his pocket was found a card of Theodore Grunewald, barber and hair-dresser, 35 Atlantic street, South Brooklyn.

On inquiring of Grunewald it was learned that he did not know the deceased; but it was learned that a former workman of his had left his shop early in the morning and taken his wages and other implements with him. On going to his residence it was learnd that his name was Lowenstein, and that he lived in the house of John D. Weston, who answered the description of the deceased.

Weston had recently drawn four hundred and fifty dollars from the bank, and, on the morning of August 5, got up between four and five, went away and was never afterward seen, except that he took the Harlem train at nine A. M., which reached Albany at five P. M.

Lowenstein was absent from home on August 5, but returned about nine A. M., the 6th, saying he had been to Philadelphia. Though a man of small means, he soon had plenty of money, purchasing a barber shop and paying for it the sum of three hundred and fifty dollars.

For some reason, on the 11th of August, he hurriedly fled and went to St. Catherines, Canada, but not till several circumstances were discovered pointing so strongly to his guilt that warrants for his arrest were issued, with which he was followed to St. Catherines, arrested, brought to Albany and committed to jail.

Near where Weston's body was found, on the lower board of the fence, a razor marked L. VII. When Lowenstein was arrested there was found in his possession a set of razors similarly marked and numbered from I. upward to VI.; it was proven that he had given away one similar to the others, and marked L. VIII.

The account he gave of himself on the trial was, that he had been to Philadelphia, and was there when the murder was committed; that he went to obtain a sum of four hundred and fifty dollars in money which he had previously hidden in a hole in the wall of Moyamensing prison. The point most embarrassing to the prosecution was, that Lowenstein was away only the 5th of August, returning at nine A. M. of the 6th, while Weston must have been killed the night of the 5th, a few miles west of Albany, not far from the Central Railroad track.

On the trial Lowenstein produced a very respectable woman, a resident of Philadelphia, who swore positively that she saw him in Philadelphia on the 5th, having conversed with him on the occasion. When Lowenstein fled to Canada, for some reason, he went by way of Philadelphia, and it was contended by the prosecution that the woman was mistaken in the time of meeting Lowenstein.

The trial began January 28, 1874, and was, perhaps, one of the most protracted of any criminal case ever tried in Albany. It was one of those difficult cases of fact and law extremely exhausting to the Court, but the well-balanced mind, judicial fairness and learning of Judge Learned enabled him to preside with great success. Like his charge to the jury in the Filkins case, his charge was a model of judicial ability. Lowenstein was convicted and executed.

"Of Judge Learned's eminent abilities as a jurist or judicial officer, of his superior qualities of mind and character, and, of course, of usefulness, it is unnecessary to speak here; to do so would be but the work of supererogation; suffice it to say, he has left the impress of his large abilities and extended learning upon the history of the State." The numerous opinions which he has delivered enrich the learning of our reports from the 3d of Hun down to the present time. Distinguished and useful as has been his public life, his life as a citizen is in every way in harmony with his public life, and therefore it is no affectation to say he occupies an exalted position among the people of the Capital City.

Whatever tends to the advancement of its public interests, to the promotion of religion, of education and the proper embellishment of the city, has always found in Judge Learned an ardent, able and successful advocate. He is now President of the Albany Female Academy and of the Albany Law School, and for many years has been one of the trustees of those two corporations and of the Albany Academy.

Matthew Hale.

MATTHEW HALE.

The records of the courts of the State of New York bear ample evidence of the high abilities and successful career of the distinguished lawyer whose name stands at the head of this chapter, and whose life we are now to briefly trace. His is a life and career which it is a pleasure to record; though it may contain no striking events, no sensational vicissitudes, it still contains very much of interest to the scholar, the jurist and the lawyer, It is replete with those incidents in the life of all criminal lawyers which attract to it the interest of all intelligent classes.

Matthew Hale was born at Chelsea, Vt., June 20, 1829. His father was Harry Hale, Esq., a descendant of Thomas Hale, who came to Newbury, Mass., in 1638. This Hale was the son of an English yeoman from Hertfordshire, England.

Matthew Hale's mother was Lucinda Eddy, a descendant of Miles Standish and of John Alden, the son of Miles Standish having married the daughter of John Alden and Priscilla, his wife.

After a careful preparatory training, young Hale entered the University of Vermont at Burlington. At college he excelled, especially in languages, standing first in his class in this department, and was a favorite with his class and with the faculty. He was graduated in 1851. In 1854 he delivered the Master's Oration. In 1883 the College conferred upon him the degree of LL. D.

Having chosen the legal profession for his future occupation, he commenced the study of law in the office of Kellogg & Hale, at Elizabethtown, Essex County, N. Y. The senior member of this firm was the Hon. Orlando Kellogg, and the junior member the late Hon. Robert S. Hale, an older brother of Matthew, who served two terms in Congress with distinction, and was for many years prior to his death in 1881 a Regent of the University.

In 1853 Mr. Hale was admitted to the Bar at the General Term held at Salem, N. Y. He chose Poughkeepsie, N. Y., as his first field of professional labor, practicing there from 1853 to 1859. His first law partner was his brother, Henry Hale, now at St. Paul, Minn. After the dissolution of this firm by the removal of his brother to the West he formed a business relation with Gen. A. B. Smith, under the firm name of *Hale & Smith.* In 1859 Mr. Hale removed to New York City, and became the law partner of the late Lot C. Clark, under the firm name of Clark & Hale. This firm was successful, gaining remunerative practice and taking a respectable position in the city and in Richmond County, where it had the leading business. It continued until 1863, when Mr. Hale removed to Elizabethtown, N. Y. Here he became a member of the firm of *Hand & Hale,* consisting of the late Hon. A. C. Hand, his father-in-law, R. L. Hand, Esq., and himself. The senior member of the firm, A. C. Hand, had been one of the first Justices of the Supreme Court elected under the Constitution of 1846. This firm was distinguished for the varied ability which its members brought to its large practice, and it obtained an extended reputation.

After the death of Mr. Cagger, which occurred in the summer of 1868, by which the firm of Cagger & Hand was dissolved, Mr. Hale decided to remove to Albany, and he has here resided since that time.

On his removal to Albany he became the law partner of Hon. Samuel Hand. He continued his relations with Judge Hand until 1881, though during this time there were several changes in the firm. It was for a time Hand, Hale & Swartz, and Hand, Hale, Swartz & Fairchild, afterward Hand, Hale & Bulkley. These firms succeeded to the business of Hill, Cagger & Porter and Cagger & Hand, and acquiring many new clients, had an extensive practice in the State and Federal Courts.

Since 1881 Mr. Hale has been in partnership with Mr. A. T. Bulkley, under the firm name of Hale & Bulkley. We have thus given the various business relations of Mr. Hale since he commenced his practice.

It has been Mr. Hale's fortune during his practice to conduct, as counsel, a large number of cases in the Federal and State Courts, which may well be termed "heavy causes," exceedingly interesting not only to the legal profession but to the public. The following important cases in which he was counsel will give the reader some knowledge of the magnitude of his business as an advocate and counselor :

He appeared for the Ramsey Board of Directors in the great legal contest with Fisk and Gould for the control of the Albany and Susquehanna R. R. Company in 1869 and 1870. This is one which may be called an historic case, summoning the ablest lawyers in the State to it. Mr. Hale's associates in the case were Judge W. F. Allen, A. J. Vanderpoel, Geo. F. Danforth and Henry Smith. Among the opposing counsel were David Dudley Field, William C. Barrett and Hon. A. J. Parker.

Although not seeking employment in criminal cases, Mr. Hale has been engaged in many important criminal trials. He was associated with Hon. Wm. A. Beach for the prosecution in the trial in Saratoga County of Wm. Witbeck for the murder of Millard Griggs, a deputy sheriff, in the execution of a writ of possession in one of the anti-rent cases ; and has successfully defended many cases for murder and other offenses in the State and United States Courts, the last being the defense of Levi McCauley, who was acquitted of the murder of his wife, at the Essex Oyer and Terminer, in June, 1884.

Few cases created more public interest than the proceedings brought by the English stock owners of the Erie Railway Company in 1872 to obtain the control of that corporation. In this contest Mr. Hale appeared for the English stockholders. He was also engaged in the Mayoralty suit between Messrs. Judson and Thacher, in 1872 ; for the People in the Canal suits instituted by Gov. Tilden ; in the trial before the Senate of John F. Smith ; in a large number of cases brought against the N. Y. C. and H. R. R. R. companies, tried at

the Albany Circuit. He was counsel for the Albany National Exchange Bank in what were known as *The Bank Tax Cases*, in one of which he obtained a decision in the Supreme Court, holding that the State law taxing shareholders in National Banks was, to some extent, unconstitutional. He was counsel associated with Gen. Wayne Swayne, of New York, for the Western Union and other telegraph companies in the suits brought by the Attorney-General to recover taxes of these corporations under the laws of 1881.

In the investigation of the charges against John F. Smyth, before the Senate, in 1877, Mr. Hale appeared as one of the counsel for the people. This case began March 7, and continued several weeks. Its proceedings occupy about 550 pages. Mr. Smyth was Superintendent of the Insurance Department, and was tried before the Senate for deliberately and wantonly violating the law known as chapter 593 of the laws of 1873. Mr. Hale appeared, as we have said, for the people; his closing argument, or summing up, was an effort of extraordinary ability and learning. It was listened to with profound interest, and gained for its author the approbation of the public. Smyth was acquitted of the charge against him by the Senate by a vote of nineteen to twelve.

The argument of Mr. Hale in the case of the *Supervisors of the County of Albany*, plaintiffs in error, vs. *Edward N. Stanley*, in the United States Supreme Court, largely increased his reputation as a lawyer before the Court in Banc.

It is impossible to read Mr. Hale's argument in this case without being impressed with the precision and clearness with which he presented the real points in issue, or, to use the language of Mr. Justice Miller to Mr. Hale during the argument, "the manner in which he came to the very marrow of the case." He conducted the argument with the calm confidence of one who felt that he could rely upon himself in any emergency. When replying to the authorities brought by his antagonists, he exhibited great skill and the nicest discrimination, destroying in a few words their position.

In 1884 Mr. Hale was appointed one of the Commissioners of Appraisement of the lands proposed to be taken for a Park, or State Reservation, at Niagara Falls, and wrote the opinion of the Commissioners in the case.

Like most lawyers, Mr. Hale has participated to some extent in the politics of his times. He early gave his political allegiance to the Republican party, but always maintained that independence of thought and action through which he exerted his honest convictions in regard to men and party measures, never permitting his conscience to be governed by party supremacy. He supported all the Republican candidates for President, excepting Mr. Blaine.

On October 8, 1884, Mr. Hale addressed a letter to Grange Sard, Esq., which was read at a mass meeting in Albany, on that day, giving in an able, thoughtful and scholarly manner his reason for supporting Mr. Cleveland instead of Blaine. "For myself," he said among other things, "after long deliberation, and with great reluctance, I have come to the conclusion that Mr. Blaine is unworthy of support. With great reluctance, because, having given my first vote at the Presidential election for Gen. Fremont in 1856, and having voted for every Republican candidate for that great office since, I would much prefer to continue to support the party of my first choice; because I thoroughly appreciate the traits which make Mr. Blaine so attractive and agreeable to those who know him socially; because, from education, from association, from conviction, and, perhaps, somewhat from prejudice, I am not an admirer of the Democratic party." He then gives the reasons for refusing to support Mr. Blaine.

It is not our province to analyze those reasons; but it is proper for us to say that they bear the impress of thoughtful candor, of careful consideration, and a thorough knowledge of all the bearings and details of his subject. His letter was published in many of the Democratic and Independent journals throughout the nation, and was a valuable campaign document for Mr. Cleveland.

In 1880, when it became apparent that Gen. Grant was to be urged by a portion of the Republican party for a third-term nomination for President, Mr. Hale was one of the first to declare against the nomination. On January 3, 1880, a very large meeting of the Republican citizens of Albany convened at Martin Hall, in that city, and, after a full exchange of views in relation to the President for the next term, it was unanimously resolved that the nomination of any man for the third term for the Presidency was contrary to the spirit of our Federal Union, and a resolution was adopted to form a club opposed to any man for a third term. At a public meeting held in the same hall on January 7, 1880, the committee on officers, appointed at a previous meeting, reported the name of Hon. Matthew Hale as president of the club. On receiving notice of this appointment, Mr. Hale signified his acceptance in a letter in which his views of the third-term question were forcibly and eloquently set forth. On Monday evening, April 26, Mr. Hale delivered a lecture on the *Conditions and Limits of Party Fealty*, in Steinway Hall, in the City of New York. The significant title of this lecture, and the ability of the lecturer, drew an immense audience. It began with a brief history of parties in America, tracing it down to the origin of the Republican party and to the close of the war. He then considered the party platform since the war, taking up the electoral system and its design, as explained by Hamilton, and why this design was not fulfilled. He then reviewed the plan of Benton and Sumner; the abandonment of the caucus system, and its causes. In connection with this, he directed the attention of his audience to the Presidential election of 1824, in which Wm. H. Crawford was nominated for President by the Democratic caucus. He showed that prior to this time Congressional caucuses had selected the candidate already designated by popular expectation; but in 1824 the caucus candidate turned out to be the third on the list. Andrew Jackson and

John Q. Adams each received more electoral votes than Crawford, none of the candidates having a majority, and the election was thrown into the House of Representatives, and, by a combination between the friends of John Quincy Adams and Henry Clay, the former was elected President; the first and only case, up to this time, in which a President had been nominated by the House of Representatives. Mr. Hale then gave the origin of the National Convention system, and how machines control these conventions, and considered how resistance to these machines became a duty, to suppress party despotism. We have only time to glance at this important party document, so potential in arousing that independent spirit in politics, which it is believed will eventually result in the overthrow of that despotic party leadership, the bane of our political institutions.

Though Mr. Hale has never, in any sense, sought office, yet he has consented in two instances to accept the nomination for honorable official positions. He was elected a delegate to the Constitutional Convention which assembled at Albany June 4, 1867, and adjourned *sine die* February 28, 1868; but an adjournment from September 24 to November 12, 1867, had been agreed to by the convention.

Mr. Hale represented the Sixteenth Senatorial District. His high rank as a lawyer, and his scholarly attainments and practical oratorical powers, gave him a high position in that convention. He was on the Judiciary Committee, of which Hon. Chas. J. Folger was chairman. The other members were: Wm. M. Evarts, Chas. Andrews—now of the Court of Appeals, Amasa J. Parker, Francis Kernan, George F. Comstock, and other distinguished lawyers. It is a significant fact that Mr. Hale was put in nomination as a delegate to the convention by both political parties. In November, 1867, he was elected to the State Senate, serving in 1868–9. Here again, in the Senate, Mr. Hale's abilities were liberally recognized. Though he did not often claim the attention of the Senate as a speaker, when he did, he was listened to with profound attention, and his speeches were always considered weighty and cogent. He was a member of the Judiciary Committee. The severe and constant labors of Mr. Hale, as a member of this committee, have left their impress upon the record of its proceedings.

After his removal to Albany, Mr. Hale, in 1871, received the nomination of the Republicans for the Assembly, but declined to accept it. In 1883 he received the Republican nomination for Justice of the Supreme Court in the Third Judicial District, but was defeated by Hon. Rufus W. Peckham, though he was far ahead of his ticket in this strong Democratic district.

Mr. Hale's ability as a writer is generally acknowledged; he always throws a strong light upon his subject, and never loses sight of the substance of it in the style. Though he seldom indulges in flights of fancy, or excursions of the imagination, he unites the two extremes of refinement and strength. We have already alluded to some of his written productions. A paper, submitted by him to the State Bar Association, at its annual meeting, November 16, 1880, on *Illegal and Erroneous Taxation and Its Remedies*, was read with marked interest throughout the State. In considering this important subject, he has examined with the most critical care all the cases adjudicated in our courts—and there are very many touching the question of taxation and of assessments. It is, therefore, full of instruction, not only to the lawyer and layman, but of great value to town officers, especially assessors, supervisors and collectors. Perhaps no matter has been brought before the Bar Association more interesting or more profitable than this paper.

In April, 1880, there appeared in the *National Quarterly Review* a very elaborately written article on the third-term question from the pen of Mr. Hale. We have alluded to some of his other efforts on this question, but the article now under consideration was a far more exhaustive review of the whole case than any of the productions of other writers on this subject. Aside from the beauty of its diction, the perspicuity and erudition of his reasoning gave the article great popularity, and added largely to the numbers of those who opposed the third Presidential term. There is that about it which gives it perpetuity, and it will long exist a powerful and unanswerable argument against a third election of candidates to the Presidential chair.

Harper's Weekly for April 4, 1885, contains a very able article from the pen of Mr. Hale, entitled "The Lessons of the Elections of 1884," which has been read with marked interest.

Speaking of the allegiance of the people to party rule and discipline, he says: "There are a few obvious lessons taught by the election of 1884—obvious, but still liable to be overlooked. The first, and perhaps the most important, is, that party discipline can no longer be relied on to carry a Presidential election. Men have ceased to regard the support of party nominations as a sacred duty. They refuse blindly to obey the dictates of party conventions. They will even vote for the candidate of the party to which they have always been opposed, if they believe the good of the country will be thus promoted."

Mr. Hale proves that the election of Mr. Cleveland in 1884 was effected by men who were really opposed to the Democratic party, believing they could best serve their country by voting against their party.

He has always occupied a high rank as a citizen of Albany. Few are more respected; few carry into society more of those attributes which render it attractive than he. He has been for many years a trustee of the Albany Savings Bank, one of the oldest, largest and most conservative of these institutions in the State. He has been, from its foundation, one of the trustees of the Fort Orange Club, and has been connected with various other social and charitable organizations in Albany. As a conversationalist he is always interesting, and knows how to blend instruction with delight.

In 1856 he was married to Miss Ellen, daughter of Hon. A. C. Hand; but after eleven years of married happiness he suffered a deep affliction in her death. In 1877 he married Mary, daughter of Col. Francis L. Lee, of Boston, Mass. His home is one of refinement and taste—a happy retreat from the cares and turmoil of his profession and from his public duties.

NATHANIEL C. MOAK.

Mr. Moak occupies so high a position at the Albany bar, and we may say at the bar of the State, that their history without his character and career would be wanting in much that would be interesting and instructive.

The life and career of one who, like him, has the erudition of a scholar, is accomplished in the learning of his profession, experienced and skillful in the contests of the forum, and has seen life and human nature only as such lawyers can see it, must of necessity reveal much that is akin to the romance of real life reflected from every phase of human character.

This renders the work of sketching his life, in which we are engaged, we trust, one of interest and of instruction, valuable to all the citizens of Albany and Schenectady Counties and the general public.

Nathaniel Cleveland Moak was born at Sharon, N. Y., October 3, 1833. His father, Jacob M. Moak, was a descendant of the Albany County Moaks, and his mother, Amy Cleveland, was a daughter of Henry Cleveland, a descendant of the Clevelands, of Woburn, Mass. Jacob Moak, the father of Nathaniel, was a farmer, who at an early period of his life removed to Sharon, and followed his occupation. Like all farmers at that comparatively early period, his means were too limited to give his son any large advantages for an education, though the mind of young Moak very early exhibited those traits which, under proper instruction, develop into the accomplishments of the scholar. Happily he possessed the qualities of industry and unwearied perseverance in whatever he undertook. These directed to overcoming the obstacles in his way to an education resulted in success. He began his education attending the common schools; when old enough to labor on the farm he could only attend school during the winter months; but every leisure moment opened to him the treasures of knowledge, for books were his constant companions.

In 1849, at the age of sixteen, he attended two or three terms at the Cherry Valley Academy, gaining money for his expenses by working on a farm. From 1850 to 1851 he attended the academy at Cooperstown, N. Y., the principal of which was John Leach. Never was there a more ardent or successful student. Very rapidly he trod the paths of literature and science. While a student at Cooperstown Academy he made much proficiency in the study of anatomy and physiology in the office of Dr. Fox. The knowledge he attained in these branches has been of immense advantage to him in the practice of his profession; it laid the foundation for his remarkable practical knowledge of medical jurisprudence.

Young Moak's favorite studies were mathematics, the sciences and the English classics; of these through life he has been a close and critical student. He particularly admired the healthy honesty and manliness developed in their style, sentiment and philosophy.

In the winters of 1851-2 and 1852-3 he taught a district school. The benefit he derived from this occupation was of great value to him. It gave his mind a peculiar discipline; it taught him the art of self-government, and the government of others; the school-room to him was a fountain of learning. In teaching others he taught himself, and thus, like many statesmen, jurists, divines and gifted men in all the avocations of life, he learned from his experience as a teacher that which was of inestimable value to him in after life. It was his early ambition to become a lawyer, and to this he subordinated all his energy, his industry and his study. In the autumn of 1853 he became a student in the law office of James E. Dewey, of Cherry Valley. He commenced his studies with energy, and a keen appreciation and love of the science of jurisprudence. He soon obtained sufficient knowledge of the law to begin practice in justices' courts.

It was not long before he became a champion in these courts, and his services as a counselor in them were sought for far and near. He frequently met lawyers of ability and standing, although these courts were then, as they are now, a practicing school for young lawyers, legal skirmish grounds for older ones. Here young Moak met every variety of mind and ability; here he learned to grapple with the sharp and obtuse questions of law which often occur in these Courts; here he practiced the rules of evidence, and learned to examine and cross-examine witnesses. Thus he acquired that confidence in himself so necessary in a young lawyer.

He continued his studies and his practice in justices' courts till January, 1856, when he was called to the Bar. He remained in the office of Mr. Dewey until November 1, 1859, when he became the law partner of Judge Edwin Countryman, then an eminent member of the Otsego Bar, residing at Cherry Valley, and now a leading member of the Albany Bar, in partnership with Hon. Amasa J. Parker.

Mr. Moak continued in partnership with Judge Countryman until January, 1862, when the latter removed to Cooperstown. Mr. Moak then formed a partnership with Edwin Clark, with whom he continued till September, 1865. The Rebellion was, during that period, at its height. Mr. Moak entered heart and soul into the cause of the Union, while Mr. Clark was equally patriotic. As it was hardly possible for both partners to enter the Union army, they entered into an agreement that one of them should do so; that the other should remain at home and pay to the family of the absent partner his share of the firm's earnings; that the partnership should not be dissolved. Both members were

Nathaniel A. Moak

equally willing to go, but which should be the one? This important question they decided to settle by casting lots, and the duty of becoming a soldier fell upon Mr. Clark. They immediately proceeded to raise Company G, of the 121st N. Y. Vs. Mr. Clark was made captain, and moved to the front.

Mr. Moak remained and conscientiously carried out the agreement with Captain Clark.

In the autumn of 1865 Mr. Moak removed to Oneonta, N. Y., opened an office, and began there the practice of his profession under very favorable circumstances. In the fall of 1867 he was invited to and became a member of the firm of Smith & Bancroft, composed of the late Henry Smith and the late Le Grand Bancroft. The new firm was known as Smith, Bancroft & Moak.

In January, 1880, Mr. Bancroft died. Mr. Chas. J. Buchanan had, a short time previous to the death of Mr. Bancroft, become a member of the firm, and it was now known as Smith, Moak & Buchanan. This became one of the most conspicuous law firms in the eastern part of the State. Mr. Smith died December 1, 1884.

Albany opened an appropriate field for the exercise of Mr. Moak's talents, and he naturally took a high position at its Bar. Retainers of great importance and interest rapidly came to him. The trial of many of the important cases of the firm fell to him, and were conducted with great ability, learning and success, whether conducted at the Circuit or in the Court in Banc. He was retained by Mr. Ramsey in his famous "Susquehanna war" with Gould and Fisk. This was an historic litigation, and the scene of the contest was shifted to Rochester, on which battle ground it measurably terminated.

In November, 1871, Mr. Moak was elected District Attorney of Albany County, and entered upon his duties January 1, 1872. The manner in which he administered the duties of this highly responsible office largely increased his reputation. Brilliant, learned and successful as were his predecessors, he lost nothing when compared with them.

It was during his administration that the trial of the celebrated case of *The People* vs. *Lowenstein* took place, and of course Mr. Moak conducted the prosecution.

The crime was most appalling. The circumstances connecting Lowenstein with it were at first remote and doubtful, but, by a singular and admirable process of synthesis, Mr. Moak so combined them that the product was an inevitable conclusion of the prisoner's guilt.

His argument to the jury was confessedly a very able and successful effort. He made no attempt at high-wrought eloquence; he invested his argument with no far-fetched decorations of elocution; its strength was its profundity, comprehensiveness and ingenuity. It was enriched in language pleasing and significant, and it completely overthrew the hypothesis of the defense, founded on the singular circumstances of the case. It is one which the practitioner and the student read with pleasure and profit. It is richly interlarded with quotations from legal authorities, both European and American, and exhibits immense reading and close analytic research. Lowenstein was convicted and executed.

Among other important cases which he conducted was that of *The People* vs. *Clune and others* (the Modocs), and *The People* vs. *Phelps*, for plundering the State treasury.

His term expiring, he was appointed by Gov. Dix as special counsel in the Phelps cases. All the convictions were affirmed in the Court of Appeals.

As an instance of his persistence and untiring industry may be mentioned the case of Frank R. Sherwin, the broker through whom Phelps disposed of the State drafts. Sherwin, having been subpœnaed as a witness on the Phelps trials, a few days before their commencement, went to Europe and failed to appear. Mr. Moak had him indicted in 1874 for criminal contempt; watched for him until he came to New York City in 1882; caused his arrest, voluntarily, and without compensation; followed his case, on *habeas corpus*, to the Court of Appeals; afterward tried and convicted him on three indictments, for which he was sentenced to the Albany Penitentiary for two years and to pay a fine of five hundred dollars, and followed the convictions, on appeal of Sherwin, to the Court of Appeals.

After retiring from the office of District Attorney he confined himself mostly to civil cases, though occasionally he accepted retainers in important criminal cases.

In 1878 he conducted the prosecution of one of the most important and singular cases in legal history—the case of *The People* vs. *Jesse Billings, Jr.*, indicted for shooting his wife. This crime was committed at Northumberland, Saratoga County, on the 5th of June, 1878, at about eight o'clock in the evening. The trial commenced at Balston Spa early in September, 1878, and concluded on the evening of October 13.

Mr. Moak began his address to the jury October 7, and closed it on the 11th. Here Mr. Moak again exhibited his rare accomplishments as an advocate. His argument is before us as we write, and we write after a close and thorough examination of it. On our table are the arguments of several great advocates in great criminal cases, with which we have carefully compared that of Mr. Moak, and we do not hesitate to say that it compares favorably with that of the almost unequaled argument of Ogden Hoffman in the case of *The People* vs. *Robinson*. His argument occupied four days, in which a vast number of circumstances and a large amount of precedent were examined, and yet from its commencement to its close compelled the closest attention of the Court, jurors, and a vast audience. The trial lasted six weeks. The jury did not agree, and on the second trial Billings was acquitted on grounds difficult to be understood, for Mr. Moak's conduct of the case left little doubt in the public mind of Billings' guilt.

Mr. Moak has done a large amount of intellectual labor outside of his profession. "In 1869," says a writer, "he edited *Clarke's Chancery Reports*, contributing elaborate notes. Speaking of this edition of these reports, the Messrs. Abbott

say, in the preface to their digest: 'Much additional value has been given to the collection in a new edition by N. C. Moak, of Albany, who has enriched nearly all the cases with instructive notes, which bring together concisely the result of much research and experience.'

"Mr. Wait, in the preface to his digest, says: 'A new edition, edited by Nathaniel C. Moak, Esq., appeared in 1869. Mr. Moak's notes are very clear, accurate and valuable, and give evidence of great learning and experience.'

"In 1873 Mr. Moak edited *Van Santvoord's Pleadings*, bringing the work down to that time, doubling its matter and adding largely to its value. It has remained the standard upon pleading in New York and several other States which have adopted its Code.

"In 1872 he began the republication of the current English cases, under the title of *English Reports*, with elaborate notes. Thirty-five volumes have been published, circulating in all States of the Union, and giving him a national reputation as an excellent and learned lawyer. In 1881 he published an edition of *Underhill on Torts*, greatly enlarged. Mr. Moak seems to 'revel in work,' having also, in addition, gratuitously prepared a set of legal forms for use by the profession, and a catalogue of law books—almost a legal bibliography—for gratuitous circulation.

"Mr. Moak never forgets his own early struggles, and no lawyer in the State is more ready and willing to freely aid young lawyers in the conduct of their cases."

Listening to the legal arguments of Mr. Moak, one is impressed with the opulence of his mind and the evidence of his research. To use his own language, in a celebrated case, "a lawyer one day may be engaged in a case involving the laws of steam or electricity; the next in a case of malpractice, involving the anatomy of the human system; the next in a case in which knowledge of toxicology is required; or one involving the consideration of some literary or scientific production." Certainly these have many times entered into cases conducted by him, in each of which he exhibits a familiar and practical knowledge. Of course, such a man requires a large amount of varied intellectual aliment; this he derives from one of the largest and best selected private libraries in the State, both legal and miscellaneous.

His law library contains all the American, English, Irish, Canadian and other reports, and is one of the most valuable in the Union. His miscellaneous library numbers some 5,000 volumes, carefully selected, of great value and practical utility.

Few men possess a more chaste and appreciative literary taste than Mr. Moak; this he exhibits in his written productions, in his speeches, and in his conversation.

A strong friendship existed between Mr. Moak and Gov. Dix. Perhaps no man had a more thorough appreciation of Gen. Dix's literary accomplishments than Mr. Moak. Among the works of the former was his translation of *Dies Iræ* and that of *Stabat Mater*. Though they were privately printed, they found their way into Judge Nott's "Seven Hymns of the Mediæval Church" and other kindred publications. A part of *Dies*, the first translation thereof, appeared in Bayard Taylor's "Faust," whereupon Mr. Moak, in a happily worded letter, congratulated the Governor upon his name being so favorably mentioned, in such a great work, and by such an accomplished scholar. In reply, Gen. Dix wrote Mr. Moak an elegant letter, descriptive of the circumstances attending the translation to which we have referred. This letter, full of instruction and interest, is found on pages 233-34, vol. 2, of the "Life of Gen. Dix," by his son, Rev. Dr. Morgan Dix.

"The first translation," says the letter, "was made during our Civil War, while I was in command of the department of Virginia, and when I had many weighty matters to divert my time and thoughts from literary occupation. Although it had been much commended, I was never satisfied with it, and a few months ago I printed it privately, and now I send you a revised rendering of that immortal hymn. The translation of *Stabat Mater* was made while I was Minister to France. It was more leisurely prepared, and I see no reason to correct it, though I cannot say that it is what I should wish it to be. The stanza of the former quoted by Bayard Taylor is as follows:

> "'Day of vengeance without morrow,
> Earth shall end in flame and sorrow,
> As from saint and seer we borrow.'

"It is this stanza (the first) which has always proved most troublesome to translators, and it is the one with which I was dissatisfied more than with any other in my translation, when I allowed it to go to the press. My dissatisfaction was greatly increased a few years later on finding, in one of Thackeray's novels—I do not, at this moment, recollect which—a passage somewhat like this: 'When a man is cudgeling his brains to find any other rhymes for "sorrow" than "borrow" and "morrow," he is nearer the end of his woes than he imagines.' I felt instinctively that any one familiar with this passage would, on reading my translation, be conscious, at the very commencement, of a sense of the ludicrous altogether incompatible with the solemnity of the subject. * * *

"With a pleasant remembrance of our association in Albany, I am, dear sir,

"Very truly yours,

"N. C. Moak, Esq. John A. Dix."

In politics Mr. Moak is a Democrat, but he is in no sense aggressive in his advocacy of his principles, and, though prominent in his party, has never sought office, or been an active politician, except in 1879, when chairman of the State Committee of the Anti-Tilden wing of the party, and in 1880, as a delegate of that wing to the Cincinnati Convention. In 1884 he was a warm supporter of Gov. Cleveland for President, taking the stump and making speeches in all parts of the State. He was one of the most interesting, cogent and effective speakers of that hard-fought campaign, doing yeoman service in the cause which he so ardently espoused.

Samuel Hand

SAMUEL HAND.

SAMUEL HAND was born, May 1, 1834, in the County of Essex, in the State of New York. He is a son of the Hon. Augustus C. Hand, an ex-justice of the Supreme Court for the Fourth Judicial District of the State, who was elected, June 7, 1847, at the first judicial election under the Constitution of 1846.

Among the distinguished jurists called to the Supreme Court with Judge Hand at that election in that district, was Hon. Daniel Cady, Hon. Alonzo C. Paige, Hon. John Willard. Judge Hand also represented the Fourth Senatorial District of the State in the sixty-eighth, sixty-ninth and seventieth senatorial sessions.

Samuel, at an unusually early age, exhibited a remarkable progress in study, so that at the age of fourteen he was fully prepared for college. He accordingly entered Middlebury College, in Vermont, but at the end of his sophomore year, in 1851, he was transferred to Union College, from whence he graduated under circumstances gratifying to his friends.

He immediately entered his father's office and commenced the study of law. Here he enjoyed rare advantages for attaining his legal education; advantages of which he fully availed himself, and he went to his examination for admission to the bar thoroughly prepared to enter upon the brilliant career which lay before him.

In May, 1854, his examination and call to the bar took place.

After practicing at Elizabethtown, New York, about three years, he removed to Albany, where he formed a very advantageous partnership with the late John V. L. Pruyn: this was in October, 1859. He continued a partner of Mr. Pruyn until 1861, when he became a member of that distinguished law firm, *Cagger & Porter*, which, after his connection with it, was known as *Cagger, Porter & Hand.*

Few legal firms have ever existed in the State that controlled so large and extended business as this. Its career is brilliantly recorded in the exceedingly large number of cases found in the Law Reports of the State and in those of the Federal Courts.

In January, 1865, Mr. Porter was appointed a Judge of the Court of Appeals, and the firm was known as *Cagger & Hand*, down to July 6, 1868, when the sudden and melancholy death of Mr. Cagger dissolved it. In another part of this work we have given a brief biography of Mr. Cagger, and an account of his tragic death, which threw a gloom not only over the city of Albany, but over the whole State. After the death of Mr. Cagger, Mr. Hand associated himself in business with Hon. Mathew Hale and Nathan Swartz. The latter, who had been a member of the firm of Cagger & Hand, continued in the new firm, under the name of *Hand, Hale & Swartz.* This firm did an immense business, as the records of the State Courts show. In 1873 Charles S. Fairchild, subsequently Attorney-General of the State, became a member of the firm, which was known as *Hand, Hale, Swartz & Fairchild*, under which title it continued until the autumn of 1875, when Mr. Fairchild was elected Attorney-General. In 1877 Mr. Swartz removed to Colorado, and the firm was continued under the name of *Hand & Hale* until 1880, since which time Judge Hand has been practicing alone, doing an extensive business as a counselor. We should have said that the partnership of Hand & Hale was interrupted in 1878 by the appointment of Mr. Hand as a Judge of the Court of Appeals in the place of Hon. Wm. F. Allen, who died June 3, 1878.

Judge Hand carried to the Bench the same unwearied industry that distinguished him at the Bar. His opinions exhibit the extent of his labor; they are written in a concise, clear and dignified style, strong and logical, comparing in every sense favorably with those of his learned brethren on the Bench.

He was appointed June 10, 1878, and immediately took his seat on the Bench. On June 17, seven days after taking his seat, the case of *Mowry* vs. *Rosendale* was argued. Judge Hand wrote the opinion of the Court; it was his first opinion. The case was decided September 17, 1878 (74 N. Y., 360).

On June 19, 1878, the case of *Lewis* vs. *Seabury* was argued; Judge Hand delivered the opinion of the Court and the case was decided September 24, 1878 (74 N. Y., 409).

The following are among the cases in which Judge Hand wrote the opinion of the Court: *The People of the State of New York* vs. *The Mutual Gas Light Company of Brooklyn* (74 N. Y., 434), *Read* vs. *The City of Buffalo* (74 N. Y., 463), *Hayes* vs. *Hawthorn* (74 N. Y., 487), *Bowery National Bank* vs. *Duryee* (74 N. Y., 491), *Dickinson* vs. *City of Poughkeepsie* (75 N. Y., 65), *Canfield* vs. *The Baltimore & Ohio R. R. Co.* (75 N. Y., 144), *Bardine* vs. *Stevenson* (75 N. Y., 164), *Clafflin* vs. *Meyer* (75 N. Y., 260), *Slater* vs. *Merritt* (75 N. Y., 268), *Miles* vs. *Loomis* (75 N. Y., 288), *Barr* vs. *Bininger* (75 N. Y., 344), *Godfrey* v. *Godfrey* (75 N. Y., 434). The last case decided by him was *McMichael* vs. *Kilmer* (76 N. Y., 36). This case was argued December 13, 1878, a short time before the Judge left the Bench. The case of *Lowry* vs. *The Brooklyn City R. R.* was argued December 11, 1878, Judge Hand writing the opinion in both of the above cases while in office, and they were adopted by the Court. He left the Bench of the Court of Appeals December 31, 1878, and very soon he appeared at its Bar and argued the important case of *Wellsborough* vs. *The New York & Canada R. R. Co.* (reported in 76 N. Y., 182). From that time to the present his practice has been largely confined to the Court of Last Resort.

When Judge Hand left the Bench he was succeeded by Hon. Geo. F. Danforth. He returned to the practice of his profession with a large business in the Court of Appeals. His business has so rapidly increased that since 1870 he commands a practice not excelled by any

lawyer in the State. In the argument of cases his exposition of the precedents upon which he relies, or which are cited by his opponents, are always full, and if occasion requires, very minute; he develops with care and precision the principles on which they turn, distinguishes them from analogous or conflicting decisions, and as his purpose requires, either presents their reasonings and conclusions in a clear and familiar light, or forcibly assails them with the weapons of learning and logic. He maintains throughout the argument a correct and attractive diction, and always retains the attention of the judges, enabling them to see the real character of the case.

The following are some of the important cases in which Judge Hand has taken a distinguished part:

Susquehanna Litigation of 1869, '70 and '71; *Von Woert* vs. *The City of Albany.* There were thirty of these cases, all of them vitally affecting the interests of the city. The *quo warranto case,* between Thacher and Judson, rival claimants for the office of Mayor of Albany, tried in 1873. The *impeachment in* 1879 *of John F. Smyth,* Superintendent of Insurance. Judge Hand conducted the prosecution of this case for the People on the retainer of Gov. Robinson.

The People vs. *Belden,* action brought in 1876 by the State to recover about $400,000. This case is remembered as one of the most important ever litigated in this State. It was conducted by Judge Hand from its commencement until after its trial and report of the Referees. These gentlemen were Judge Emmott, Judge Tappan and Isaac Lawson; they made a report in favor of the State to the amount of nearly $400,000.

Judge Hand was counsel for the Canal Investigating Commission of Gov. Tilden in 1875–6. In 1877 he was engaged in the *Elevated Railroad* litigation, as counsel for the Metropolitan Railroad. In this case the constitutionality of the Rapid Transit act was passed upon. In 1884 he was engaged as counsel in the $1,000,000 *Water Meter* suit, better known under the title of *Baird* vs. *The Mayor of New York.* This list of cases might be greatly enlarged, but, as we have said, it is sufficient to give the reader an insight into the extensive practice of Judge Hand.

Judge Hand has been honored with several important official positions, of which we shall give some account. In the beginning of his professional life, he became attached to the Democratic party, to which he has ever since given a firm and considerate allegiance. His high professional standing and learning, his large acquaintance with leading men of the State and Nation, has ranked him among the leaders of the Democratic party. Had not a love of his profession and professional ambition been paramount to political ambition, there is no doubt but he would have long ago occupied a very exalted official position, for such has been tendered him, and been respectfully declined.

In 1863 he was appointed Corporation Counsel of Albany, and was re-elected, and continued in office until the spring of 1866, when the control of the city government passed into the hands of the Republicans. During his administration of this office the city paid no counsel fee, except in one instance.

He was appointed reporter of the Court of Appeals, January, 1869, serving till March, 1872. The six volumes of his reports are from 40 to 45 N. Y., inclusive.

In 1872, on account of his large and increasing counsel business, he was compelled to resign his position as reporter. In 1875 he was appointed Judge of the Supreme Court for the Third Judicial District, by Gov. Tilden, but declined. After the nomination and declension of Horatio Seymour, as the candidate for Governor in 1876, by the Democratic State Convention, it was the wish of Gov. Tilden—then in nomination for President—that Judge Hand should be placed on the Democratic ticket as Governor in place of Mr. Seymour. Accordingly, at the instance of Mr. Tilden, it was agreed by the leaders of the party to place him in nomination at an adjourned convention to be held. Though everything then pointed to the success which crowned the Democratic party that year, Judge Hand, for reasons which controlled him, reluctantly declined to become a candidate for Governor. In November, 1875, according to a concurrent resolution of the Legislature, Judge Hand was appointed a commissioner to devise a plan for the government of cities. The other members of the commission were Mr. Evarts, Judge Lott, Edward Cooper, E. L. Godkin, of the *Nation,* Simon Sterne, James C. Carter, Dr. Anderson, of the Rochester University, and Hon. Joshua R. Van Cott.

On June 25, 1884, the degree of LL.D. was conferred upon him by Union College.

His love of study, as we have said, was one of the earliest traits of character which he developed. This love of study has strengthened as he has advanced in life. Though the study of his profession has been intense, yet he has never neglected a judicious continuation of his classical studies. His literary taste, refined and elevated by a familiar acquaintance with the best authors, ancient and modern, renders him an appreciative and generous critic, a pleasing and instructive companion.

In 1861 he edited notes to the American edition of "Philobiblon," written by Debury, Bishop of Durham, and Chancellor of Edward III. This edition is a carefully revised Latin text, and translation of three French prefaces of M. Cocheris, a learned French writer and editor. This work was published by Joel Munsell, of Albany.

Judge Hand was one of the first Vice-Presidents of the New York State Bar Association, and was President of that institution in its third and fourth years, succeeding Judge John K. Porter, its first President. At the annual meeting of the Association, in the second year of his presidency, Judge Hand prepared and delivered an elaborate and highly popular address.

This address has been published in the proceedings of the Association, and large parts of it in the Albany *Law Journal* and other periodicals and

Lyman Demain

journals. He is now President of the *Chi Psi* Alumni Association of Northern New York and the Mohawk and Hudson River Valleys.

In his domestic relations, Judge Hand is happy, and he is held in high esteem, not only by the citizens of Albany, among whom he has long been a resident, but by the citizens of the State generally, with whom he has been brought in intimate relations.

In 1863 he was united in marriage, by the Rev. Dr. John Campbell, to Miss Learned, daughter of Billings P. Learned, Esq., President of the Union Bank, and a niece of Judge Wm. L. Learned, of the Supreme Court.

Judge Hand is still in the vigor of his manhood, at the head of his profession, with a large and influential and opulent clientage ; he has, therefore, many years of usefulness and distinction before him.

LYMAN TREMAIN.

LYMAN TREMAIN, an honored name in the history of the State of New York, was the son of Levi and Mindwell Tremain, and was born at Durham, Greene County, N. Y., June 14, 1819. "The ancestor from whom he derives his Christian name, and who was the progenitor of the Lyman family in America, came among the first colonists to Boston in 1730. Not long after he penetrated the wilderness to the westward into what is now Connecticut, and became one of the founders of Hartford." Lyman Tremain's paternal grandfather was a soldier in the Revolution, belonging to the Connecticut line, and participated in many of the battles of that great struggle for liberty.

His father was among the earliest settlers of the County of Greene—one of its pioneers. He was a farmer and an extensive business man, generally respected for sound sense, intelligence and honorable dealings in the society in which he lived. With his other qualities, he was a lover of books, reading with pleasure and profit the great English and American authors. To his father young Tremain was indebted for that desire for knowledge which continued fresh and warm down to the closing scenes of his life.

He obtained the rudiments of his education in the best school of his native town, very soon mastering all the branches taught there, and then took up the study of the higher branches, which he pursued with great energy and profit without an instructor. He seems to have pursued a judicious course of reading, and he early became enamored with the classical writers of the old English school, of Milton and Dryden, of Shakespeare and Pope. From the solid sense, beautiful diction and imagery of these writers he derived that almost perfect use of language, that versatility of thought and expression, which subsequently enlivened his legal arguments, and gave such attractions to his written productions.

It was Edmund Burke who said that "without a system of self-culture no man can become accomplished in polemics."

At the age of thirteen young Tremain entered Kinderhook Academy, where, under the instruction of a distinguished linguist, he pursued for two and a half years the study of Greek and Latin and mathematics, obtaining an excellent practical education. Leaving the Academy, he entered the law office of John O'Brien, Esq., and began the study of law, afterward completing his legal education with Sherwood & White, a highly respectable legal firm of the City of New York.

In 1840 he was admitted to practice, and immediately returned to Durham, where he formed a partnership with his former preceptor, Mr. O'Brien. The young lawyer received a warm welcome from the people of his native town, and when only twenty-two years of age, they elected him Supervisor, although he was a Democrat and the town was decidedly Whig in politics. After four years' practice, he was, in 1844, appointed District Attorney of Greene County. The Constitution of 1846 made this office elective, and established a County Court in place of the old Court of Common Pleas. At the first judicial election under the new Constitution Mr. Tremain was elected County Judge and Surrogate of Greene County. He was then at the age of twenty-seven. These offices he held three years, discharging their duties with marked ability. In the fall of 1851 he was renominated by the Democrats for County Judge; his opponent was Hon. Alexander H. Bailey, subsequently a State Senator. The contest was very animated and close, and the result doubtful, and depended upon the action of the Board of Canvassers as to whether a certain alleged return from an election district in the Town of Catskill should be rejected for irregularities or counted. The Board rejected the return, awarding the certificate to Judge Tremain, and adjourned *sine die*. Mr. Bailey contested this question by the usual process of an alternative mandamus, returnable at the General Term for the Third Judicial District.

This writ required the Supervisors to show cause why they should not meet again and re-canvass the votes. After elaborate argument, the General Term refused the mandamus, holding that the adjournment of the Supervisors terminated their power to re-convene and re-canvass; that the remedy of Mr. Bailey was to be sought through a writ of *quo warranto*. This left Judge Tremain in possession of the office. But such was his keen sensibility he would not accept the office, where there existed the least doubt of his legal election, and he declined the certificate and Mr. Bailey became County Judge.

In the meantime his practice had rapidly increased, requiring his frequent attendance at the Court of Appeals and the General Term at Albany.

A warm friendship had long existed between himself and the late Judge Rufus W. Peckham, which resulted in Judge Tremain's removal to Albany and becoming the law partner of Judge Peckham, a relation which continued till 1860, when the latter was elected a Justice of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Tremain's reputation had preceded his removal to Albany, and at once gave him a high rank at its Bar.

Long before the meeting of the Democratic State Convention he was prominently mentioned as a candidate for Attorney-General. A little incident occurred in connection with the subject that exhibits Judge Tremain's high sense of honor. He was invited by a distinguished politician to attend the State Convention, under the assurance that his personal attendance would secure him the office of Attorney-General. "I should like the nomination for Attorney-General very much, but it would lose all its pleasures were I to go to Syracuse and personally seek it." He did not go; but he was there nominated by acclamation, and at the ensuing election he was elected, serving two years.

One of the important cases which he conducted was that of the *People* vs. *Mrs. Hartung*, indicted for the murder of her husband. Mr. Tremain assisted the District Attorney of Albany County at this trial.

Mr. Tremain experienced in this case one of the greatest difficulties of an advocate—that of trying a cause against a prepossessing woman.

The prisoner was a young and handsome woman, the motive for her crime being her love for another man. Her modest appearance, quiet demeanor, her youth and beauty, created the strongest sympathy for her. She was ably defended, but the proofs of her guilt were strong, and presented to the jury by Mr. Tremain in such a convincing, able and exhaustive manner that she was convicted. Her case was removed to the Supreme Court, where the conviction was affirmed. An appeal was taken to the Court of Appeals, where her conviction was again affirmed. In both these tribunals Mr. Tremain conducted the argument for the people.

Another very important criminal case in which he assisted the District Attorney of New York County occurred while he was Attorney-General—the case of the Italian, Cancemi, charged with the murder of a police officer in the City of New York.

After some progress in the trial, the prosecution learned that one of the jurors was corrupt. The matter was finally arranged by a stipulation, signed in open court by the prisoner, his counsel and the counsel for the people, providing for a verdict by the remaining eleven, and that it should be the same as though tried by the twelve. The trial proceeded and Cancemi was convicted; whereupon, notwithstanding their solemn agreement in writing, the prisoner's counsel took an appeal to the General Term of the Supreme Court, alleging, as a ground of error, that this stipulation was illegal and void, on the ground that the prisoner or his counsel cannot consent to a trial by less than the number of twelve jurors. The Court held with the prisoner's counsel, and the conviction was set aside.

In 1859, as Mr. Tremain's official term was drawing to a close, he was again put in nomination by the Democrats of the State, but it was carried by the Republicans; Hon. Charles G. Myers, his opponent, was elected. While Mr. Tremain was Attorney-General he had, upon the request of the Senate, given to that body an elaborate opinion covering the question of the constitutionality of repealing the act for the Collection of Tolls, coming to the conclusion that the act was valid.

His successor, by request, in March, 1860, sent a communication to the Legislature that, in his opinion, the repealing act was unconstitutional, and he brought an action to test the constitutionality of the act, and to recover back tolls from the railroad company. Mr. Tremain was employed to defend such claim as senior counsel. On trial at the Circuit a non-suit was granted; the people appealed to the General Term, and the non-suit was affirmed. They then appealed to the Court of Appeals, and the non-suit was again affirmed. This ended the litigation. Mr. Tremain's arguments were masterly vindications of the power of the Legislature to pass the repealing acts.

This was exceedingly gratifying to him, as Attorney-General Myers had strenuously held to the reverse of this. Thus he stood a leader in his profession, taking part in the most important cases in the State, when the War of the Rebellion broke out.

We have seen that down to this time Mr. Tremain was a Democrat; but after occupying the position in opposition to civil war for some time, he became convinced that it was the duty of every patriotic citizen to use every exertion to sustain the Government in the Rebellion, and he gradually gravitated toward the Republican party as the Rebellion increased in its dangerous proportions, and when the only questions at issue became the approval of certain of the acts of the Administration, and their probable or possible effect, not only upon the war itself, but after the return of peace.

He was charged by his old political friends with inconsistency in separating from his life-long political friends and joining, as he did, the Republican party; but he felt compelled to this by a sense of duty to his country. In proof of his sincerity, he gave his first-born son, "his beautiful and his brave," a mere stripling, to the service of his country; but he parted with the brilliant youth, and, alas! he parted with him forever.

In the autumn of 1862 he was, without solicitation, nominated for Lieutenant-Governor, with Gen. Wadsworth as the candidate for Governor, against Horatio Seymour and David F. Jones, Democratic candidates for Governor and Lieutenant-Governor. The Republican ticket was defeated by a majority of about 10,000.

Mr. Tremain now returned with a renewed vigor to his large legal practice, not forgetting, however, to use his influence and his eloquence in aiding a vigorous prosecution of the war. About this time he was retained in the famous legal tender cases, the question involving the constitutionality of that section of the law of Congress which gave the greenback its legal tender quality. His argument in the Court of Appeals was a powerful vindication of that clause. The constitutionality of it was upheld by a divided vote, and thus an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States was prevented, and greenbacks as legal tenders were made lawful. He was also retained to defend

the banks upon the claims made to tax the shares in national banks created under the act of Congress. Mr. Tremain took the ground that such taxation was illegal, but the Court of Appeals held against him. He then appealed to the United States Supreme Court, where the judgment of the Court of Appeals was reversed. Thus he continued in one of the most distinguished professional careers in the State, advocating in the meantime the vigorous prosecution of the war to its close; but just prior to that happy event he sustained a terrible affliction in the loss of his gallant and almost idolized son, Col. Frederick L. Tremain, who, young as he was, only about 21 years of age, had been promoted for gallant conduct on the field to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the 10th Regiment of New York Cavalry, and fell at the head of his regiment at Hatcher's Run, Va., February 6, 1865.

In the fall of 1865 Mr. Tremain was nominated and elected Member of Assembly from Albany County. His colleague was the Hon. Clark B. Cochrane. On the meeting of the Legislature Mr. Tremain was elected Speaker. The history of that remarkable session bears indubitable evidence of the great ability with which he discharged the duties of this office.

He was engaged with the District Attorney of Albany in the prosecution of Gen. Cole, who had in a cowardly manner assassinated L. Harris Hiscock, a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1867 (8), at Stanwix Hall. Cole was defended by James T. Brady and William A. Beach. The defense was insanity, superinduced by the alleged criminal intimacy of Hiscock with the wife of Cole. The case was twice tried, the jury on the first trial disagreeing; on the second trial the prisoner was acquitted, the jury rendering the singular verdict that just before and just after the murder Cole was sane, but that he was insane when it was committed. Mr. Tremain's argument to the jury has passed into legal history as one of the most splendid efforts ever made at the Bar.

During the whole of Mr. Tremain's professional life he had been subject to frequent and painful attacks of inflammatory rheumatism, which would come suddenly upon him. He would frequently retire at night in perfect health, but before morning would be perfectly helpless, suffering indescribable anguish. All prescriptions produced only temporary relief, and in 1869 he decided upon a voyage to Europe, his wife and daughter accompanying him; he was absent about one year. On his return to Albany, nearly or quite restored to health, as he believed, he was tendered a public reception by citizens who held him in the highest esteem. In 1872 his name was prominently brought forward as a candidate for Governor, but he respectfully but firmly declined the proffered honor. In the autumn of 1873 he was unanimously nominated for Congressman-at-Large on the Republican ticket and was, with the rest of the ticket, elected. "He entered the Forty-third Congress with a constituency of 4,000,000 of people. On taking his seat in the House the Speaker assigned him the second place on the Judiciary Committee in advance of several old and experienced members. He performed all his arduous duties as a member of this committee in a manner that gave him a national reputation."

In 1871 he was called to assist the Attorney-General and Mr. Wheeler H. Peckham, of New York, in the prosecution of the astounding frauds of the Tweed Ring. The great legal contest which this prosecution brought on is one of the most remarkable in legal history, equal in importance and interest to the trial of Warren Hastings on the Begum and other charges. To attack Tweed and his ring was a herculean effort; their power, wealth and influence seemed so great as to defy the law and crush all efforts to convict them.

On Tweed's first trial the jury failed to agree; he was again brought to trial in the fall of 1873, before Judge Noah Davis and a jury. The care and scrutiny which Messrs. Tremain and Peckham bestowed upon the selection of a jury was a striking and interesting incident in this great trial, with the eyes of the world resting upon it. But a jury of honest, unbiased men were obtained and Tweed was convicted upon the great number of counts in the indictment.

After strenuous efforts for an arrest of judgment, he was sentenced upon a number of counts in the indictment, all of them aggregating to a term of imprisonment in the penitentiary for many years.

"Congratulations poured in upon the counsel for the people from all sides, and Mr. Tremain had the satisfaction of bringing to punishment the greatest criminal of the age." Appeals were taken to the higher courts to test the power of the Oyer and Terminer to inflict these several sentences, the result of which was the reduction of the number of sentences to one term of imprisonment.

When Edward S. Stokes startled the whole country by assassinating James Fisk, Jr., it became a question of intense interest to learn who he would select from among the great lawyers of the times as his leading counsel. When, after the most earnest consultation on the subject with his friends, it was known that his choice fell upon Mr. Tremain, every one believed that he had taken the surest step possible to shield himself from punishment; nor were they mistaken, as the result showed. The sentiment of the community was decidedly against Stokes, and that sentiment in a large degree pervaded the jury box. In many respects it was a trial for which Mr. Tremain's mind was peculiarly fitted; in conducting it he showed uncommon tact in sifting testimony, detecting motives, and great art in the examination of the evidence. When occasion occurred for the use of keen satire and scorching sarcasm he used it with powerful effect.

Perhaps no advocate, except William H. Seward, in the defense of Freeman, ever stood more squarely between his client and public opinion than did Mr. Tremain in the Stokes case. Though determined to save his client from the gallows, he had little hope of securing his acquittal before a jury. It was, therefore, his policy, while

exerting every effort in his behalf, to secure sufficient points to obtain a new trial on exceptions in case his client was convicted. The jury did convict him, and Mr. Tremain did save sufficient exceptions on the trial to obtain a new trial. In this he exhibited all the acumen of a thoroughly learned lawyer, for it was his deep knowledge of the law that saved Edward Stokes from the gallows. After his conviction the case was removed to the Supreme Court, where the conviction was affirmed, "the Court holding that while there was error in the charge of the Judge in his definition of *murder*, the law inferred malice from the fact of the killing instead of leaving to the jury to find malice as a fact; yet the Court held the error had not been productive of harm to the prisoner when other portions of the charge were examined." The case was removed to the Court of Appeals. Mr. Tremain's argument in that tribunal was one which the lawyer, the student and the scholar will ever read with delight and profit; it bears the impress of a gigantic intellect and vast research. As a specimen of acute and powerful reasoning, enlivened occasionally by glowing eloquence, it ranks among the finest efforts of American legal oratory. As Dr. Johnson said of a similar effort at the English Bar, "It was bark and steel to the mind."

Mr. Tremain's triumph in results was equal to his great argument. The Court of Appeals reversed the judgment of the Supreme Court and the verdict of the jury, granting Stokes a new trial. Tremain had now obtained his great object; he had shielded his client from the influence of public opinion; he had given public indignation time to cool; he had taught the Courts to fear him, and when the new trial took place he entered upon it confident that he should shield his client from the gallows. Judge Davis, who presided, held every intendment against the prisoner, which was an embarrassment for Mr. Tremain; but he overcame whatever obstacles there were in Judge Davis' course, and with an almost superhuman effort defeated a conviction for murder in the first degree, securing a verdict for manslaughter only, on which Stokes was sentenced to State prison for only four years. Thus the astute and long-sighted policy of Mr. Tremain prevailed, and now, though his truly great defender is sleeping in an honored grave, Edward S. Stokes has for several years been a wealthy, successful and luxurious citizen of New York. So exhausted was Mr. Tremain after the last trial of Stokes, that he fell asleep at the dinner table in his hotel while the jury were deliberating.

During that trial his old disease afflicted him, but he resisted it as best he could with medical aid. In the second session of Congress he took his seat in that body, ranking among the leaders of the House. His speeches on the important questions that arose show that he was as accomplished in parliamentary debate as he was in the discussions of the Bar. Many of his speeches outlived their times, and they will be read as fine specimens of parliamentary eloquence and logic for years to come. Among these was that upon the subject of "The Disposition of the Balance of the Money received from England by virtue of the Geneva Award." This speech was read with profound interest through the United States and Europe. His Congressional career ended March, 1875, and he retired exhausted and suffering from the repeated attacks of disease, aggravated by the unwholesome air of the House.

He returned to Albany, but, unable to resume his business, he decided upon another voyage to Europe with his wife. He returned much improved, though not restored to health. Soon after his return he was unfortunately induced to undertake the defense of Frederick Smith, tried for murder at the Fulton Oyer and Terminer early in 1876. This case was to the people of Fulton County what the Stokes case was to the City of New York. Public opinion was strongly against the accused, as was also the evidence. The court room was crowded, the air in it poisonous to Mr. Tremain, and he became so ill that court was compelled to adjourn, and for a time he was confined to his bed. As soon as he felt himself able, weak as he was, he took his place at the Bar and the trial was resumed. The energy he exhibited was a matter of wonder to all; suffering as he was, he entered on the duty of addressing the jury in a manner so surprisingly powerful that it was hard to believe him suffering from a disease which had a fatal hold upon him. "He stood before the jury for hours, pleading with them by turns, with all his old-time voice and charm of manner, and then clearly and forcibly disintegrating the evidence for the people, denouncing in deep and stern tones its flimsy character. The jury acquitted the prisoner, and the verdict was due to the able manner in which Mr. Tremain tried the cause and to the magnificent manner in which he closed it." This was his last important case; his strength never returned; he breathed with difficulty and his spirits were clouded. He went to his office, but was too ill to take any part in business. At this time his partners were Rufus W. Peckham, son of his old friend and former partner, and now a Judge of the Supreme Court, and his son Grenville Tremain.

We have thus sketched the professional, political and public life of Lyman Tremain, of whom it is no affectation to say that he was one of the most brilliant lights of the Bar of the State of New York, with full mastery of the eloquence of the Bar in its best days.

It remains now to consider briefly his private life. That such a man as Mr. Tremain should be a favorite in the high circle in which he moved is natural. At the head of a refined and happy family, in which centered great domestic happiness, surrounded by all that could make life happy, admired and honored by his brethren of the Bar, it would seem that he was beyond the reach of affliction and sorrow.

In August, 1842, he was united by marriage to Miss Helen Cornwall, of Catskill, N. Y., a lady of much personal worth and many accomplishments. Never were husband and wife more strongly attached. The sufferings of the former from the painful

attacks of the disease we have mentioned rendered him an object of the tenderest care and solicitude to the wife. Her gentle, loving and faithful ministrations did much to sustain him and retard the ravages of disease, strengthening him and enabling him to continue his brilliant and ardent career down to the time when human efforts to succor him became of no avail.

Four children, three sons and one daughter, were born to this marriage, The sons all passed from earth before the death of Mr. Tremain. Their first-born, Frederick, as we have seen, fell in battle. The sorrow and gloom which the death of this gallant young soldier produced in Albany and elsewhere is recorded in a volume devoted to the history of his life. In the fall of 1868, a bright and beautiful boy of seven was suddenly taken away, under the most painful circumstances. He died from the effects of a fall over the banisters of a stairway in his father's house, almost under his father's eyes. His other son, Grenville, his law partner, inherited all his father's talents, all his eloquence, and all his personal worth. Young as he was, he attained a commanding position at the Bar; so commanding that in 1877 he received the nomination, by acclamation, of Attorney-General from the Republican party. This was a spontaneous and splendid tribute, all unsought, both to father and son. The Republican ticket was not successful in the State, but young Tremain received a most flattering vote, running largely ahead of his ticket, and obtaining a majority of votes in Albany County.

But this young man, so gifted, so winning, so idolized by his parents, was suddenly stricken by a fatal illness, which terminated fatally in a very few days. From this terrible blow Mr. Tremain never recovered. The deep fountains of sorrow were opened for him; over his heart a wintry change had come, and the sunlight of his life was shadowed. But he lingered through the summer and fall of 1878, dying on the 30th of November. His death, though not unexpected, created a most profound sensation throughout the State. The Bench, the Bar and the Press attested their respect for his memory; the former by proceedings characterized by the deepest solemnity and sorrow; the latter by tributes the most respectful and of the highest ability. The popular favor which he enjoyed in such unmeasured profusion was exhibited by many unusual demonstrations of public and private sorrow; every degree of talent and of eloquence offered to his memory green and fragrant garlands.

In person Judge Tremain was above the middle height, of strong, vigorous mould and dignified presence. His face was uncommonly attractive, with large blue eyes, broad, open forehead, mouth and teeth of great beauty, and a smile unusually winning and cordial. In private life those who knew him best felt for him the sincerest affection. He was a model husband, father and friend; his disposition was amiable and generous. During his long and at times distressing illness he governed himself with rare self-restraint. His unwearied, heroic patience, unfailing good humor and cheerful courage rendered attendance upon his needs a pleasure to all. Mr. Tremain was a sincere, devoted believer in the teachings of the sacred Scripture. His primary characteristic, that which gave him his peculiar weight in the community, was the force of his moral, religious principles; a force which operated with the steadiness of a law of nature, blending harmoniously with his brilliant talents. To live religiously he did not think himself called to give up the proper pursuits and gratifications of human nature. He believed that religion was in harmony with intellectual improvements, with the pleasures of imagination and society, and especially with the kindly affections, and thus religious principle added tenderness, steadiness, dignity, to the impulses of nature. Without pretension or show, or any striking discoveries of emotion, he felt the claim of everything human upon his sympathy and his service, and his strong abiding hope of a blessed immortality beautifully sustained him during the fatal illness that terminated his life. Finally, may we not say that he whose life and acts we have recorded is really the speaker? That it is he rather than his biographer who teaches us from the tomb where his head now lies low, or rather from that world into which his soul has passed, such valuable lessons as may be drawn from his example in the annals of his life. Reflecting on that life, recalling its modest beginnings and its solid achievements, his fidelity to duty and his loyalty to principle, the soundness of his judgments and the just balance of his thoughts, the simplicity of his character and his winning personal traits; considering the range of offices well filled, his obligation to his clients well and honorably discharged; reflecting on all this, do we not find the elements of a picture of what a man ought to be—the portraiture of the son, the husband and the parent, the student, the scholar, the lawyer, orator, patriot and Christian.

JOHN C. NOTT.

Judge JOHN C. NOTT was born at Norman Vale, the old Taylor homestead in Guilderland, Albany County, N. Y., August 15, 1835. His father was Hon. Benjamin Nott, son of Dr. Eliphilet Nott, for many years President of Union College.

Judge Nott's mother was Elizabeth Cooper, a sister of Gen. John Taylor Cooper, of Albany, and a granddaughter of Gov. John Taylor, a distinguished character in the early history of the State of New York. In 1843 Hon. Benjamin Nott became a resident of Bethlehem, Albany County.

In his early boyhood young Nott attended the common school of Bethlehem, where he acquired a rudimentary education. He prepared for college at the Albany Academy, and entered Union College, from whence he was graduated in the class of 1856. He took his degree, with the reputation of an excellent scholar.

In conformity with his intention of entering the legal profession, he became a student at law in the office of *Cagger, Porter & Hand,* of Albany, a

distinguished law firm, with a State and national reputation. The advantages which young Nott derived from his studentship in this firm of acquiring a solid, practical legal education have been manifested in his professional and judicial career. He was also a student in the Albany Law School, and is an alumnus of its class of 1863, and in that year he was admitted to the Bar.

One or his early traits was a marked love for military affairs; to these he gave such attention that he became an accomplished citizen soldier, exhibiting such decided abilities that in 1865 he was promoted to the rank of Colonel of the Eighty-second Regiment, N. G., S. N. Y. The efficient and practical knowledge he brought to his office exhibited itself in the drill and discipline of his command.

In 1866 he formed a partnership with the late Hon. Wm. S. Paddock, of Albany, in the practice of his profession, under the firm name of Paddock & Nott. This same year he was elected School Commissioner for the First District of Albany County, and although the business of his law firm was large and extended, he found time to discharge in a faithful and acceptable manner the duties of his office. His relation with Recorder Paddock continued to the year 1874, when he was nominated for Police Justice by the Democrats of Albany. He was elected by a plurality of 2,400. In 1878 he was renominated and elected by a majority of 3,700 over his Republican competitor. In 1882 he was a third time nominated, and was elected by a majority of about six thousand. These repeated elections, with such largely increased majorities, eloquently attest the ability with which he discharged his first judicial duties, and the estimation in which he was held by the citizens of Albany.

In 1882 he formed a partnership with Isaac B. Barrett, a gentleman whose legal attainments are generally acknowledged, and who occupies a high standing at the Albany Bar. This partnership still continues, and is a leading firm of Albany.

The appreciation of Judge Nott was manifested in a higher and more marked degree by his elevation to the Bench of the County Court of Albany County.

On October 10, 1883, the Citizens' Association of Albany nominated him for County Judge. Three days later he received the indorsement of the Democratic County Convention, and was elected at the general election in November following, by an unusually large majority of five thousand nine hundred and seventy-seven, being the highest majority of any nominee on the ticket.

He brought to the Bench all those qualities that rendered him so useful and popular in his former official position. He exhibited familiarity with statute law, criminal law and the laws of evidence. In the trial of causes he grasped the facts with rapid precision, and decided both questions of law and fact promptly and without circumlocution.

"On the bench he is not given to verbosity. In passing upon questions of law in a civil action, or imposing its penalties on convicted criminals, he is always brief and to the point. He does not wander off into a maze of decisions, theories or parallel cases, nor does he read vapid homilies to them." He pronounces his decisions in terse, positive language, and he comes to his sentences of criminals with directness and dignity. His severity is always adequate to the crime of which the criminal is convicted, and he gives due consideration to properly established mitigating circumstances.

One of the first trials at which Judge Nott presided was of absorbing interest. It was at the April, 1884, term of the Court of Sessions, and the manner in which he presided commended him alike to the admiration of the Bar and the respect and confidence of the public. Alfred F. Vedder, a minister of the Gospel, was arraigned for procuring an abortion to be performed upon one Anna A. Walters, a young lady who had been one of his flock. The story she told was highly sensational, relating to their first meetings, their visits together to different hotels and to different cities, and in many of the details her story was strongly corroborated by circumstantial evidence. The defense was conducted with great earnestness, and every possible point made and saved for review. Judge Nott held the scales of justice evenly balanced, ruled promptly on the many law questions presented, and at the close of the evidence, in a lucid charge, submitted the case to the jury, which rendered a charge of guilty, and Vedder was sentenced to State Prison for four years.

Many difficult law questions were debated on the trial. Was Miss Walters an accomplice of the prisoner? became a very important question. If she was, her evidence required corroboration under section 399 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. It was argued for the defense that she was a party to the crime, consenting, and equally guilty with the prisoner. Judge Nott held that she was not an accomplice, but rather a victim. An appeal was taken to the General Term of the Supreme Court, and the conviction was affirmed by a divided court. A further appeal was taken to the Court of Appeals, and that court unanimously confirmed the conviction, and thus settled in this State the mooted question of whether a woman who submits to an abortion is an accomplice of the procurer. The opinion of that court was written by Chief-Justice Ruger, and contains a review of the trial, and expressly affirms every ruling made on the trial. This case justly added to the reputation of Judge Nott, and placed him in the ranks of the ablest of our trial judges.

His written opinions have the impress of reflection and learning, always interlarded with sufficient precedent to sustain his conclusions; but they were never loaded down with pedantic quotations. From his written opinions we have room to refer to only two. Although very brief, they are very important, and give the reader a very adequate knowledge of the character and style of his judicial mind and method.

The first of these cases is that of *The People* vs. *John Harrington* and *George Messer, Jr.*, in the Albany County Sessions. The defendants, at the

June term in 1883, Judge Van Alstyne presiding, pleaded guilty to an indictment for burglary in the second degree. Their sentence was suspended and they were discharged from custody. In November, 1884, they were committed to jail by one of the police justices, charged with another crime; whereupon the District Attorney, on December 5, 1884, caused them to be brought into that court, Judge Nott presiding, and moved that each be sentenced under his plea of guilty, entered at the June term of 1883. Their counsel objected to the sentence, under which a very interesting law point was raised and elaborately argued, touching the rights of the court to suspend the sentence of convicted criminals and discharge them indefinitely, and the right of a court to inflict a sentence at any subsequent time on motion of the District Attorney.

At the time the plea of guilty was entered both defendants were under sixteen years of age. When brought up for sentence, Harrington yet was under sixteen, but Messer was over that age.

"In the case of the *People* vs. *Monisette* (20 Howard Pr., 118)," says Judge Nott in his opinion, "the Court of Oyer and Terminer refused to suspend sentence, holding that no suspension of sentence or stay is authorized, except upon a certiorari or writ of error, on application in arrest of judgment, or for a new trial; but this ruling is contrary to the current of cases in this country, and the precise point has been recently determined in the Fourth Department of the Supreme Court in the *People* vs. *Graves*. Says Hardin, J.: 'We regard the essential question in this case so firmly resolved against the appellant by the authorities that we do not deem it useful to open the question for fresh investigation and adjudication (2 N. Y. Crim. Rep., 227). It is just and proper that the power to suspend sentence should exist in the Superior Criminal Courts. Great harm might flow to society in the destruction of the means of those charged with the administration of criminal justice, to expose through this aid dangerous conspiracies to person and property.' 'It would seem,' says Dixon, J., 'that it is stating the matter too broadly to assert that it is always the imperative duty of a court to render judgment on a conviction of crime, unless some legal proceedings for review be interposed; considerations of public policy may induce the court to stay its hand (State *vs.* Addy, 14 Vroom, 113-39, Am. Rep., 546).' In the case of Harrington, the clemency of this court seems to have had no salutary effect upon him. We find him again in the custody of the law, charged with crime, and our duty is to impose sentence upon him, which is that he be confined in the House of Refuge during the pleasure of the managers (Park *vs.* People, 1 Lansing, 263). In Messer's case a different question is presented. In his case, at the time of his plea of guilty, he was one of that class of criminals recognized as juvenile delinquents, and the sentence of the court might and probably would have been to the House of Refuge, where his mind would have been properly trained and means taken to reform and educate him, and although but for the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure (sec. 832), he would be disqualified as a witness (People *vs.* Park, 41 N. Y., 21), yet his right to vote at any election when arriving of age would not be taken away (Penal Code, 711). He is now over the age of sixteen years, and if sentenced he must be imprisoned in a State prison for not more than ten years nor less than five years (Penal Code, 507), or to the Elmira Reformatory, wherefrom he may be transferred to a State prison.

"A sentence now under the plea of guilty would be adding an additional penalty to that which might and probably would have been suffered if sentenced at the time he entered his plea, that of disfranchisement. It is an exemplary rule that any law that changes the punishment and inflicts a greater punishment than the law annexed to the crime when committed is void (Calder *vs.* Bull., 3 Dall., 386-390), and the rule is the same when the law is changed after conviction (Hartung *vs.* People, 22 N. Y., 95). The humanity of our law and the genius of our Constitution require that no severer penalty should be imposed on a criminal than that which existed when the offense was committed or a conviction had. In State *vs.* Addy (43 New Jersey Law Reports, 113), it was held on a conviction of maintaining a nuisance, the court having suspended sentence on payment of costs, so long as the defendant should abate the nuisance, that a sentence of imprisonment at a subsequent time was void.

"The charity of a court should not be allowed to work an injustice to a defendant. Independent of the question of disfranchisement, there is such a marked difference between the methods and prison discipline of the House of Refuge and a State prison that it is apparent that a sentence now of Messer to a State prison would be harder and more severe than if sentenced over a year ago, when the plea was entered! Entertaining these views, the court declines to sentence Messer on his plea of guilty, and remands him into the custody of the Sheriff, under the later criminal charge, upon which he was committed to jail, to be proceeded against as the law directs."

This decision, it will be seen, is sustained by acute reasoning, strongly fortified by legal authorities and common sense suggestions, and exhibits an able, fearless and humane judicial officer.

The other case to which we alluded is that of *Heenan* vs. *The West Shore Railroad.* It is of great importance, as it settles the jurisdiction of the County Court over the person in regard to the service of processes from it, and what constitutes the legal residence of domestic corporations.

Heenan brought an action against the West Shore R. R., in the County Court of Albany County, to recover damages for injury to personal property, caused in defendant's negligence in operating its railroads through the village of West Troy, in Albany County.

The complaint alleges that the defendant is a domestic corporation, engaged in the carrying of freight and passengers for hire in various parts of the State, including the County of Albany; that a part of its line of road is located in this county.

The answer of the defendant admits that it is a domestic corporation, and avers that its principal place of business is, and was at and long before the commencement of this action, established by its articles of association and actually located in the City of New York; that its principal place of business never was established or located in the County of Albany, and that the summons was served upon the defendant in the City of New York. The answer also puts in issue the various allegations in the complaint.

On the trial it was established that the defendant, being a railroad corporation, operated its road through various counties of the State, including Albany County; that by the articles of association and in fact its principal place of business is and was located in the City of New York; that the summons in the action was served upon one of the officers of the defendant in the City of New York.

The plaintiff had a verdict, whereupon the defendant moved for a new trial and a dismissal of the complaint.

"Two questions," said Judge Nott, "are presented for the consideration of the court: first, has the court such jurisdiction as to entertain the action? second, if it has not, has the defendant waived, or is he precluded from raising, the

point, he having appeared and answered? The Code of Civil Procedure provides that for the purpose of determining the jurisdiction of the County Court a domestic corporation or joint stock association, whose principal place of business is established by or pursuant to a statute or by its articles of association, or is actually located within the county, is deemed a resident of the county, and personal service of a summons made within the county, as prescribed by the Code, is sufficient (sec. 541). Our jurisdiction, therefore, by this provision, in the case of a domestic corporation, depends, first, upon the location within our county of its principal place of business, whether by force of a special statute or its articles of association, or its actual location; and secondly, personal service of the summons within the county upon one of those of its officers who may be served under the Code of Civil Procedure with a summons in an action against it.

"The provisions of the Constitution in reference to the County Court (art. 6, sec. 15) are broad enough to permit the Legislature to confer this power upon the County Court, and that it is so eminently proper to cover cases where large business enterprises are carried on within the county, and some of its chief officers within the county directing its principal offices, although the principal office may be located in another county (Gemp *vs.* Pratt, 7 Daly, 197, distinguishing Landers *vs.* The S. I. R. Co., 53 N. Y., 450)."

The conclusions the Court arrives at are as follows:

"Here the principal place of business of the defendant, by its articles of association, and in fact, is located within one county, and the summons was not served in this county. The conclusion reached is, that this Court has not jurisdiction over the defendant. This brings us to the conclusion of the second question: Has the defendant waived, or is it precluded from raising the objection. The plaintiff insists that, the defendant having answered and appeared generally in the action, although by its answer it raised the issue of its residence, it cannot now say it is a non-resident of the county, as the Court could acquire jurisdiction of the defendant by the service of the summons upon a proper officer of the company within the county, which could not be done in the case of an individual.

"I am of opinion that the allegations of the complaint as to residence were sufficient, and as the defect of which the defendant complains did not appear on the face of the complaint, he could not demur (Code, sec. 488). The objection to the jurisdiction was, therefore, properly taken by answer (Code, sec. 498); Holbrook *vs.* Baker, 16 Hun, 176; Mayhew *vs.* Robinson, 10 How, 162-5), and was not waived by appearance in the action, and an answer therein setting up the objection (Sullivan *vs.* Frazer, 4 Robt., 620; Wheelock *vs.* Lee, 74 N. Y., 497-8). In opposition to the rule at common law, under the Code, a defendant may plead as many defenses as he has, whether, as formerly denominated, to the jurisdiction in abatement or in bar (Code, sec. 507; Sweet *vs.* Tuttle, 16 N. Y., 465). It follows, therefore, that the general appearance of the defendant, distinctly by its pleading giving notice of its intention to raise the question of jurisdiction, is no waiver, nor does it preclude the defendant from insisting on the want of jurisdiction of this Court (Landers *vs.* The S. I. R. Co., 53 N. Y., 450; Davidsburgh *vs.* The K. L. Ins. Co., 90 N. Y., 526). The cases cited by the plaintiff's counsel (Paulding *vs.* Hurd Man. Co., E. D. Smith, 38; Ballard *vs.* Burrows, 2 Robt., 206; Olcott *vs.* McLean, 73 N. Y., 223) do not apply to this case. An order must be entered granting the motion of the defendant and awarding a new trial, and the complaint should be dismissed."

This case was appealed to the General Term, and the opinion of Judge Nott was there cited, with approval, and unanimously confirmed.

Judge Nott takes much interest in secret benevolent organizations, known as Masonery, Knights of Pythias, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Order of United Friends, to all of which he has belonged for several years, and is held in high estimation by his brethren of these orders. He finds great pleasure in advancing their interests, and his influence is recognized as salutary and advantageous. In 1879 he was elected Grand Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, and in 1881 he represented the Grand Lodge in the Supreme Lodge. In December, 1881, on the organization of the Order of United Friends, he was elected Imperial Chancellor for the term of two years. The benefits of his administration among the benevolent orders of the United States are generally and warmly acknowledged.

In politics Judge Nott is a Democrat. To this party he gave his adherence early in life, under the conscientious conviction in the rectitude of its principles, though he is willing to acknowledge all real merit in opposing parties and political opponents, recognizing the necessity of political parties in a government organized like our own. While he is strong in his political predilections, he is in no sense a political bigot. In the discharge of his judicial duties he forgets politics, partisans, and political distinctions, deciding whatever matters come before him from the stand-point of strict impartiality.

Judge Nott carries into social life the amenities of a gentleman by intuition and association. Whatever sternness there is in his nature is exhibited only on the bench, and there only as occasion requires. In his social relations he is genial, easy of approach, attached to his friends, and attaches them to himself in those reciprocal relations, always agreeable in private life. Judge Nott has been, and still is, attached to the cause of education, and in this respect is also a very useful member of society. Such are the characteristics and such the career, down to this writing, of Judge John C. Nott, stated without embellishment or amplification. Readers of all classes will concede that an honorable place in the history of Albany County justly belongs to him.

EDWARD J. MEEGAN.

Mr. Meegan possesses endowments that naturally qualify him for attaining success in his profession. Bold, ardent, self-reliant, clear in his conceptions, with an extensive knowledge of books. To these qualities may be added much ingenuity and a quick and ready use of his learning in the trial and conduct of causes, united with the ability to protect himself against the *coup d'état* of the most learned and experienced opponent, and in his turn is formidable in the attack, quick in detecting the errors and omissions of others.

Thus equipped, though quite young, he has reached the head of the junior, if not the senior, Bar of his native city. His singular success in the management of important causes in all of the State Courts is proverbial. Some of these causes have passed into history, made interesting to the student and practitioner by the new and original points which determine cases in his favor. As is natural with one of his ambition, he has found in politics a sphere congenial to his tastes, in which he has gained a position of such eminence and influence

Edward J Meegan

that he has become a power and a leader in the Democratic party, to which he gave his early allegiance, as we shall more fully see in tracing his life and career.

He was born at Albany, N. Y., September 28, 1846. His parents were Thomas and Sarah Meegan, natives of the County of Tyrone, Ireland, from whence they came to this country in 1824, and became residents of Boston, Mass. In 1826 they removed to Albany, where they were highly respected, and there resided until their death.

Young Meegan developed a love of learning, his amusement being found in books and the practical reading of works apparently beyond his comprehension. As the means of his parents were limited, he was compelled to rely much upon his own resources in attaining his education; thus his capacity was not obscured nor his mental growth retarded by pampered indulgence or the want of strong incentive to action. Accustomed to early self-reliance, he entered the battle of life to become a victor.

At an early age he was placed at St. Joseph's Parish School, Albany, where he was carefully and profitably educated. It was in this institution that he gave indubitable evidence that his future life would be devoted to one of the learned professions. Indeed, one of the dreams of his early ambition was the hope of becoming a lawyer, and it is pleasant to record the manner in which those pleasing dreams became reality.

At the early age of thirteen these dreams began to take the form of reality and action. Young in years but precocious in intellect, he entered the law office of *Edwards & Sturtevant*, a highly respectable firm at Albany. He at once entered upon the practicable duties of a legal clerkship, learning that detail of a lawyer's life by witnessing and, in a measure, participating in the most important part of a lawyer's life and duties in the law office; and thus we may say that Mr. Meegan was, in the fullest sense, bred to the law.

He continued with this firm and with Isaac Edwards, Esq., distinguished as the author of "*Edwards on Bills and Notes*," and a highly approved work on *Bailments*, etc., until his admission to the Bar. This event took place in 1867, as soon as he reached the constitutional age of twenty-one years. He opened an office at Albany, surrounded by the highest legal talent and experience, and entered ardently and self-reliant into the practice of his profession.

He had passed with great credit through the teachings of his profession; his studentship was full and unconditional. He gave to the office in which he studied his entire time and attention—much more time than the law requires to fit a student for examination. He read with ambitious fidelity to his calling, and conducted with his own hands many hundred cases through all the intricacies of the Code; so that when he began practice for himself, young as he was, he was a trained and experienced lawyer. With these advantages, and unflagging energies, quickened by ambition, it is not strange that signal success at once attended him.

In May, 1869, he was elected by the Common Council of Albany Corporation Counsel, having then been only two years at the Bar. Perhaps no higher compliment could be paid to the talents of the young lawyer than this. The duties of the office demanded high abilities, learning and prudence. Happily, both for the city and him, he brought to it all these endowments.

When he commenced his official duties there were many unfinished suits, and he was confronted by an accumulation of official work that would have been almost appalling even to an older and much more experienced lawyer. But he entered ardently and sagaciously into the work before him. By his executive ability, professional skill and vigilance he saved the city over half a million of dollars. This was recognized by the city authorities, eliciting thanks from Mayor Thacher. Mr. Meegan continued to discharge the duties of Corporation Counsel until April, 1874. In the meantime his other legal business continued to increase until few, if any, lawyers in the city commanded a larger or more profitable clientage.

He adopted no specialty in his profession, for he had prepared himself for a general law practice. He devoted himself mostly to what is known as civil cases, but he found in the criminal law a field of usefulness and profit. The success which has attended his career at the Bar is the best demonstration of his character and capacity as a lawyer.

Mr. Meegan, having relinquished the office of Corporation Counsel, continued his practice with a useful experience in the management of city cases, particularly actions to vacate assessments for irregularity, etc. He was retained in a very large number of these cases, and was successful in every one. The best evidence of a lawyer's career is what he does and the results; we, therefore, select a few from the many cases conducted by Mr. Meegan as interesting matter, not only to the profession, but the general reader. Some of these cases are largely connected with the history of the City and County of Albany, and are, therefore, appropriate matter for this work. From our limited space, however, we can only give a sufficient abstract of these cases to put the reader in possession of the questions involved in them, and a knowledge of the manner in which they were conducted.

Perhaps one of the most important and interesting cases conducted by Mr. Meegan was that of Wm. H. Keeler, Sheriff of the County of Albany, in which the attempt was made to take from the sheriff the essential powers of his office; in other words, to denude the office.

On May 31, 1882, an act was passed by the Legislature directing the Sheriff of Albany County to remove all the prisoners from the Albany County Jail to the Albany County Penitentiary, designating that institution as the County Jail of Albany County, making the keeper of the said penitentiary the jailer of the said county. He was to be appointed by the joint board of the Supervisors of the county and the Mayor and Recorder of the City of Albany. The said Superintendent was to have the custody and control of all persons confined in the

penitentiary, the same as the sheriff of the county would have were the law not enacted, and no jailer could, therefore, be appointed by the sheriff.

This act was a strange innovation upon the rights and powers of the sheriff, inasmuch as the control and charge of the prisoners in the county have been for centuries the prerogative of the sheriff.

Wm. H. Keeler was elected in November, 1882, and entered upon the duties of his office January 1, 1883, restricted by the act to which we have alluded.

The act had been pronounced constitutional by many leading members of the Bar, but Mr. Keeler decided to test the matter thoroughly. Accordingly, on January 1, 1883, he addressed Mr. Meegan a letter, requesting him to give him his written opinion as to the validity of the act. Mr. Meegan prepared an opinion, in which he elaborately reviewed the law touching the case, coming to the decision that the act was unconstitutional. This opinion was generally acknowledged by the Bar to be singularly learned and exhaustive, and added largely to the reputation of its author as a learned and critical lawyer. As a legal document it is prolific in thought, strong in argument—a condensation of a vast number of authorities to a single focal point, and that the evident unconstitutionality of the act. Strengthened by this opinion, Mr. Keeler invoked the aid of the courts. Litigation followed, resulting in a decision declaring the law unconstitutional and void.

It was a signal triumph both for the sheriff and his counsel. The case created intense interest, and Mr. Meegan undertook it with the prevailing opinion of the Bar against him. It is a case of historic interest, reported as *The People ex rel. McEwen* vs. *Keeler*, 29 Hun's Reports, 175.

Another case of equal interest and importance was that of *The People* vs. *James M. Dempsey et al.*, involving the constitutionality of chapter 532 of the Laws of 1881, amending the Code of Civil Procedure in regard to the method of selecting Grand Jurors in Albany County.

Grand jurors were annually selected by the Supervisors of Counties under the Revised Statutes (3d R. S., 6th ed., 1015; 3d R. S., 7th ed., 2558).

The amendment of the Code to which we have referred changed the method of selecting grand jurors in Albany County, providing that the Recorder of the City of Albany perform the duties imposed upon the Town Clerk, Supervisor and Assessor of Towns in regard to the drawing of grand jurors, instead of drawing the said jurors under the provisions of the Revised Statutes. The change was sweeping, completely revolutionizing the grand jury system, so far as Albany County was concerned.

It provides that the grand jurors in Albany County shall be drawn from the petit jurors' box, and that the names of the proposed petit jurors are selected, not, as heretofore, by the seventeen Supervisors, but by the Recorder of the City of Albany. The grand jury, as organized under this act, found an indictment against James M. Dempsey *et al.* for an alleged violation of the Election laws. Mr. Meegan was retained to defend. This, like the Keeler case, created great interest. It involved an elaborate study of a large number of authorities. Meegan took the ground that the Code, as amended by chapter 532 of the Laws of 1881, so far as it affected the City and County of Albany, is in conflict with the Constitution, as amended November 3, 1874. Article 3 of section 18 of the Constitution provides that "the Legislature shall not pass a private or local bill in any of the following cases: * * * * * selecting, drawing, summoning or impaneling grand or petit jurors."

The case was ably and learnedly conducted by the District Attorney, but it resulted in an order of the Court declaring the indictment void and of no effect, on the grounds of unconstitutionality. From this order an appeal was taken by the District Attorney to the Supreme Court. A motion made by Mr. Meegan for a dismissal of this appeal was successful. His arguments in the different and difficult phases of this case were, by common consent, pronounced masterly efforts. A report of the case will be found in 66 Howard's Pr. Reps., 371, and 65 Howard's Pr. Reps., 365; will be found in *People* vs. *Duff*—Judge Westbrook's opinion.

In the case of *The People* vs. *Petrea*, indicted for grand larceny in September, 1881, by a grand jury organized under the amendment of the Code to which we referred in the foregoing case, Mr. Meegan, in conducting the case for the accused, interposed the same defense of unconstitutionality that he did in the case of *Dempsey et al.*, and with the same results. The Laws of 1881 amending the Code were declared unconstitutional (65 Howard's Pr., 59). The question was again raised in the case of *The People* vs. *Hooghtiud*, 67 Howard's Pr. Reps., 256. Judge Andrews, as will be seen by consulting page 259, expresses the strongest disapprobation of the Court at longer tolerating a system so directly in conflict with the provisions of the Constitution as that provided by the amendment of the Code to which we have referred.

In 1872 Mr. Meegan had charge of the defense in the celebrated case of *The People ex rel. Edmund L. Judson* agst. *George H. Thacher*, involving the title to the office of Mayor of the City of Albany. The trial of the case resulted in a verdict for the defendant. An appeal to the Court of Appeals resulted in an order for a new trial, but, pending the new trial, Mr. Thacher resigned, having served twenty months of his two years.

In 1882 Mr. Meegan was retained for the defense in another contest over the office of Mayor of the City of Albany, that of *The People ex rel. John Swinburne* vs. *Michael Nolan*. A long litigation followed, but, after holding the office fifteen months, Nolan resigned, and Swinburne served the remainder of the two years' term. These cases are so fresh in the recollection of the public that a minute description of them is unnecessary.

Perhaps no case which has occurred in Albany for years has created so much interest as that of *The People* vs. *Frank R. Sherwin*. It arose out of the defalcation of Deputy State Treasurer Phelps.

Henry Smith

When his case was brought to trial, Sherwin was subpœnaed as a witness, and refused to attend, and for such refusal was indicted. Under the provisions of the Statute rendering it indictable for every person subpœnaed in a case like that of Phelps guilty of willful disobedience of the subpœna shall be guilty of a criminal offense and a misdemeanor.

One of the points raised by the defense was that it was not shown that Sherwin willfully and intentionally disobeyed the subpœna, that the burden of dispelling every possible reason which might be regarded by the court as good or otherwise for the non-attendance of the witness rested with the prosecution. Mr. Meegan took no part in the trial, which resulted in the conviction of Sherwin, and to a sentence of one year in the penitentiary and a fine of two hundred and fifty dollars. This was on December 28, 1883. On January 30, 1884, Mr. Meegan was retained. Wm. M. Evarts, Wm. A. Beech, Gen. Tremain and J. Thomas Spriggs had been in the case at different stages. At the urgent solicitation of the defendant, Mr. Meegan accepted a retainer for the purpose of avoiding his sentence upon procuring bail, etc.

Then began a succession of motions and applications in various forms, numberless arguments before the judges of the Supreme Court; at length the indomitable counsel procured stays of the sentence and had Sherwin admitted to bail in the sum of $3,000.

Mr. Meegan had to impeach the indictments; but as there were two pleas of guilty, he could obtain no relief for his client unless he could show cause in the record. He spent many months in diligent and unremitting labor on the case, and at last succeeded in releasing his client on bail until the final decision of the appeal, which is pending.

Few lawyers have been more successful in criticising and analyzing indictments than Mr. Meegan, and when his objections were overruled in the Oyer and Terminer, they have been sustained in the Appellate Courts.

In the celebrated case of the *People* vs. *Devine*, indicted for mayhem, the District Attorney had followed the form in Whorton, but omitted the words "on purpose." Although the indictment contained every other element of the offenses, it was quashed.

In another very important case, that of the *People* vs. *Gassbeck*, indicted for burglary, Mr. Meegan, for the defendant, succeeded in quashing the indictment on an ingenious point after an elaborate and well-sustained argument.

The cases which Mr. Meegan has conducted are too numerous to be even mentioned by their titles for want of space. An examination of his briefs proves them to be copious and learned legal productions and their author an adroit and skillful legal logician, capable of the most patient and persevering energy and research, which no difficulties can baffle, no embarrassments perplex, no amount of professional labor fatigue or discourage. As a forensic speaker, he is always calm; methodical in the arrangement of his matter; terse, vigorous and pointed in his phraseology, and accurate in the choice of his words. It would be strange indeed if a person of Mr. Meegan's professional and social standing and ardent mind should keep aloof from politics. He is a Democrat, thoroughly imbued with the belief that the principles of Democracy should prevail. In the advocacy of those principles, he has brought to bear that intellectual strength, that singular versatility and imperturbable energy which characterize his professional career.

Before reaching his majority, he exhibited the qualities of an accomplished politician.

When he was twenty-one years of age, he assumed the leadership of one of the wings of the Democratic party in Albany, and in the vicissitudes of the political contest that followed, he took the place of one of the most skilled and distinguished politicians of the State, Peter Cagger, in which he has sustained himself with consummate ability and skill.

Without attempting any description of his political career, we may say with truth that he has exhibited on several occasions the fact that he is a power in politics, by no means local, but felt throughout the State. Yet he is still a young man. His success as a politician has not been at the expense of his profession, to which he subordinates politics and everything that can encumber the growth of his professional reputation. But his success and distinction in politics may fairly be considered as the stepping stone to the highest political honors whenever he shall enter the political arena to contend for them.

Having thus described Mr. Meegan as he stands before the public, as a lawyer and politician, it remains for us to say a few words in regard to his position in private life.

On the fifth of June, 1878, he was united by marriage to Miss Kate E. Welch, of Albany.

This union was a happy one, and the domestic relations of Mr. Meegan may be said to have been truly enviable. But on the 10th of January, 1884, after the enjoyment of less than six years of wedded happiness, he suffered an irreparable loss in the death of his wife.

As a citizen Mr. Meegan occupies a high position, possessing those attractive endowments which render him a pleasing and instructive companion. A large and admirably selected library affords him ample intellectual aliment and the gratification of a cultured literary taste.

HENRY SMITH.

Henry Smith was born in Cobleskill, Schoharie County, N. Y., March 14, 1829. His father, Thomas Smith, was for a long time at the head of the Schoharie Bar, and afterward he was a distinguished member of the Albany Bar.

His son, Henry, like many other distinguished legists and advocates, laid the foundation of his education in the common or district schools, which, humble as they were, have attached to them

memories and associations that touch the heart and bring up sympathies in the mind of many an occupant of places of distinction and honor. In a word, they were and are the corner-stone of our system of education.

One of the principal books used in the common schools at that time was Lindley Murray's English Reader, still remembered for the purity, elegance and taste of its diction, the versatility, elevation and excellence of its matter. It was, perhaps, the study of this work that gave Smith the strong, perspicuous, affluent style that characterized his oral and written productions.

What he could not learn in the district school he studied with success under the tuition of his father. At length he entered the academy at Esperance, N. Y., at the head of which was a scholarly, though somewhat eccentric, Scotch gentleman of the name of Wm. McLaren. He was particularly gifted in the art of imparting instruction by a thorough, practical discipline. Young Smith, who was a favorite with him, acquired those scholarly habits, devotion to study, and the knowledge how to study, which was of such advantage to him in life. He was untiring in his devotion to books, and his tenacious memory took the impression of what he read, like characters made in softened steel, hardening when the page was closed, so that he never lost the thought or theme of an author.

Young Smith first conceived the idea of becoming a merchant; accordingly, in 1844, he went to Detroit, Mich., where he engaged as a clerk in a hardware store; but whatever hours of leisure he had were devoted to his books, and he was emphatically a student and a man of business. He soon became convinced that he did not possess the requisite qualities for a successful merchant, and reflection brought to him the consciousness that he was better qualified to enter the profession of which his father was a distinguished member.

After remaining at Detroit a year he returned home and entered his father's office as a student at law. Few students read law as closely, as systematically and as successfully as did young Smith; he loved the quaint style, the metaphysical subtleties of the early black-letter law-writers, and the pages of Bracton, Briton, Fleta, Glanville and Coke-Littleton became familiar to him.

Eighteen months passed away in this entire devotion to study, and then, although but eighteen years of age, he applied for admission to the Schoharie Court of Common Pleas. On the 10th of June, 1847, he passed a critical and successful examination and was admitted to practice as an attorney of the court. Immediately after attaining his majority he was admitted to the Supreme Court, and entered zealously into the practice of his profession at Cobleskill. In the autumn of 1854 Mr. Smith received the nomination for county judge of Schoharie County from the Whig party, to which he had given his allegiance. His party, however, was largely in the minority, and he was of course defeated, but the large vote he received was a flattering testimonial of his popularity.

The talents, industry and energy of the young lawyer brought an abundant reward, and he soon attained a high rank at the Schoharie Bar. His practice soon extended into adjoining counties, and his clientage became so large and important that he decided upon a larger sphere of action, and in February, 1857, he removed to Albany.

By this decision he was conscious that he was entering a legal arena famous in the annals of the State—a bar composed of strong, expert, elegant and accomplished lawyers. But he had already developed abilities upon which he felt he could rely for success in the brilliant field of labor he had selected.

Physically, he was of stalwart mold, his mental structure was strong and vigorous, and his energy and determination were as boundless as his ambition. If he did not leap, Pallas-like, into full professional honors and success, he reached them by safe and sure approaches. To facilitate him in this, he possessed what may be called a legal mind and method; an oratory at once bold, ingenious and persuasive; the suavity of his manner, the equable fairness and honor in which he conducted his practice won for him the friendship and esteem of his brethren of the Bar. That success should be the result of these endowments must be considered almost a matter of course. Professional rivalry, envy, and the hate of defeated suitors and political antagonists might, and did, doubtless, as they ever do, magnify those errors and faults which Mr. Smith shared, in common with mankind.

He brought to the Bar a drastic, physical strength that enabled him to endure the most ardent and exhausting labors. The examination of his cases was close and critical. He firmly rested upon the result of his conclusions concerning them, and never willingly relinquished their advocacy until the final and authoritative judgments of the court were pronounced upon them. He also brought to them a careful, independent, keen discrimination, a quick and ready use of his learning. Wit and humor, ridicule and invective, he employed as circumstances required.

He could on the most exciting occasion be calm and self-possessed, but it was the calmness of stern resolve, persistent and tenacious in its triumphs over passion and irritability. His first law partner after coming to Albany was, we believe, Mr. Hugh W. McClellan. He was for a time a partner with Edward Newcomb, Esq. In 1864 the famous firm of Smith, Bancroft & Moak was formed, which existed until the time of Mr. Bancroft's death, early in 1880. After the death of Mr. Bancroft, the firm was known as Smith, Moak & Buchanan, Mr. B. having been previously made a member of the firm. Like most lawyers, he had ambition for political success, and he early gave his allegiance to the old historic Whig party, so grand, we had almost said "so sublime in the lustre of the great names that sustained it." The allegiance he gave it came warm from the depths of his heart. His first great political sorrow came to him while yet a youth with the defeat of his ideal of all that was illustrious in American statesmanship, Henry Clay.

In 1856, after the dismemberment of the Whig party by its divisions on the question of slavery, the Republican party came into existence, and Mr. Smith at once joined his political fortunes to it, giving it his influence and laboring diligently for its success, and he soon became one of its recognized leaders in the City and County of Albany.

Although in that exciting period of our history he entered ardently into the political arena, he did not forget that success in his profession was the paramount object of his life. Perhaps we may say that he only sought politics as a relaxation from his professional cares and labors, and thus he never permitted the lawyer to be lost in the politician.

In 1862 Mr. Smith received the nomination for Congress in the Fourteenth District. This, however, was merely complimentary, as the Democratic majority in the district was overwhelming. In 1865, and for several years previous, the Democrats had controlled the office of District Attorney in the County of Albany. In the fall of that year Mr. Smith was nominated for District Attorney by the Republicans, and after an unusually hot contest he was elected by a small majority. As has well been said, "The duties of this responsible office were discharged by Mr. Smith to the entire satisfaction of the community, and with much success. His administration was signalized by a notable increase in the number of convictions for grave crimes. Through his efforts a severe blow was dealt to the criminal classes, in high as well as low places. On the 31st of December, 1868, he was succeeded by that distinguished lawyer, Rufus W. Peckham, Jr. In the autumn of 1866, while discharging the duties of District Attorney, he was nominated by the Republicans of Albany for Member of Assembly. Though the Democratic majority in the county was very large, and the prospect of his election quite dubious, yet he was elected by the very flattering majority of 564 votes." This circumstance sufficiently attests the popularity of Mr. Smith. He took his seat in the Legislature January 1, 1867. The Republicans had a large majority in the House, and Edmund L. Pitts, of Orleans County, was elected Speaker. In recognition of Mr. Smith's abilities, he was placed second on the two most important standing committees of the House—the Ways and Means and the Judiciary Committees. To the duties of these committees Mr. Smith brought talents and acquirements that rendered him one of the most useful and successful members; but they also brought a vast amount of labor, research and patience. An examination of the various committee reports of which he was the author is the best evidence, perhaps, of the manner in which he discharged his legislative duties, and it cannot be denied that he stood foremost among the able orators who occupied seats in this Legislature.

In 1868 he was nominated for a member of the constitutional convention from Albany, but was defeated.

Such was the increase of his professional duties, that he was obliged to devote himself with unremitting zeal to his clients, and it is said that he had decided in his own mind to abandon politics forever. But in the fall of 1871 he was persuaded to accept the nomination for member of Assembly from the Second Assembly District of Albany, and was elected by a highly respectable majority. The legislative session opened January 2, 1872. Mr. Smith was with great unanimity brought forward as a candidate for Speaker. In the Republican caucus, held January 8, he was nominated for this important office and the next day was elected.

Mr. Smith's address on taking the Speaker's chair was regarded as a model inaugural. It was liberal and statesmanlike; with no pretensions to eloquence, it was the embodiment of eloquence; though condensed and brief, it was ample and explicit, and withal, it had in it much of that magical vivacity which enlivened all his public addresses and entered into his conversation.

"Every right-minded legislator," he said, "must be deeply and solemnly impressed with the awful responsibility which rests upon him here; and while it requires the exercise of the very best ability, it also requires that it should be exercised with purity, and with a sole desire to the public good; party considerations, political considerations, private considerations, every consideration must be made subservient to the common good of all, and I feel assured that we, as a body, realize these things, and that no man here will permit, in a direct or indirect manner, his judgment to be affected, or himself to be swerved in the slightest degree. To make laws is the highest and most responsible duty ever undertaken by man. We are called here as lawmakers; let us see to it that we make such laws as shall tend to the protection and welfare of the people of this State."

In appointing standing committees he exhibited his high appreciation of worth and ability by appointing several of the most pronounced Democrats. As an instance, he appointed Mr. Jacobs, of Kings, on the Committee of Ways and Means, and he gave the Hon. David B. Hill, of Chemung, a place on the Judiciary Committee. Other leading Democrats were liberally remembered in making up committees.

We cannot follow Mr. Smith's career as Speaker through this remarkably important legislative session. Suffice it to say, it was characterized by a high degree of ability, and in all its details he exhibited the qualities of an accomplished parliamentarian. The session closed May 14, 1872, and with it the public political career of Mr. Smith. Having thus briefly described Mr. Smith as a legislator, we shall now trace a little farther his career at the bar in his maturer years, as we have already described him as a young lawyer. In the contests of the bar he was frequently defeated; but he never lost a cause by inattention or neglect. Charles O'Conor once remarked that "the lawyer who won one-half the causes committed to him must be regarded as eminently successful." Judging Mr. Smith by this standard, we must say that he has been, and is, eminently successful. He never lost a cause by inattention, neglect, or from the want of a full understanding of the law and facts of the case. One strong characteristic was his lucid, concise and suggestive manner of stating facts to the jury. This, in opening a case, is essentially effective. According to Lord Erskine's view, a cause skillfully opened to a jury is already half tried. Perhaps the greatest strength of Mr. Smith at *nisi prius* was his manner of examining

and cross-examining witnesses, especially the manner in which he conducted the latter. Whatever power and effect there may be in a skillful and eloquent address to the jury—and there is much—still it must yield to the effect of an ingenious cross-examination. It is one of the most difficult and important duties which an advocate can perform; it requires a knowledge of human nature, quick sensibilities in discerning the characteristics of a witness, and a subtle discrimination in detecting his peculiarities. When not founded on materials of contradiction, to obtain some information which the witness would be willing to give, it proceeds on the assumption that the party interrogated has sworn an untruth, which he may be compelled or induced to vary. But it is often the means by which good and trustworthy evidence is mischievously weakened or destroyed. In this branch of practice Mr. Smith was eminently effective, possessing the power of reading the thoughts of a witness, of anticipating his answers, of ascertaining his peculiarities, his subterfuges, and finally of drawing forth from unwilling witnesses facts which they struggled hard to conceal. His cross-examination, like James T. Brady's, had the talismanic power of bringing truth out of falsehood, and of often showing dishonest suitors and witnesses the force of the Bible adage, "Be ye sure that your sins will find you out."

Mr. Smith once remarked that he seldom, if ever, failed to detect perjury in a witness, by his or her manner, while testifying. "To the keen, watchful and practical observer," he said, "there is always something in the glance of the eye, something in the manner and the speaking of false witnesses, that betrays them."

We have already alluded to his remarkable memory. He forgot nothing. Every fact, every rule, every principle, once attained, remained with him forever. This was another invaluable faculty to him as a lawyer.

In conducting a purely legal argument, or in conducting an argument founded on facts alone, he proved himself a strong legal logician, with flexible powers of illustration and condensation, demonstrating, in many respects, Cicero's views, "the eloquent lawyer who speaks with sense and candor, in the forum and in civil causes, in such a manner as to prove, to delight and to persuade." Mr. Smith's knowledge of the law was founded on a close and critical study of the books. This is evidenced by his well-considered, well-reasoned and learned legal arguments at the bar, which may be regarded as able contributions to the learning of the profession.

Among the many important civil cases conducted by Mr. Smith was that of the *Walton Dwight's Executors* against the *Germania Life Insurance Company*, tried at the Chenango Circuit in the fall of 1883. The details of this great insurance case are so familiar to the public that it needs no description here. Suffice it to say, that it is by far the most important and interesting case growing out of policies of insurance ever tried in the United States. Mr. Smith appeared for the plaintiff; he opened the case to the jury on the 12th of November, 1883, and began his summing up to them on the the 10th of December following. A close inspection of these efforts of Mr. Smith's, as published, is indubitable evidence, not only of scholarly and legal lore, but of the highest merits of legal oratory. The part he took in this trial was a task for which his mind was peculiarly fitted. His keen sagacity and thorough knowledge of the human heart, and his peculiar force of expression and power of analysis, had the widest scope for their exercise, and he used them with a power of reasoning which the final result of the great case fully demonstrated.

In the great case of the *People agt. Cole*, for killing Hiscock, a member of the constitutional convention, Mr. Smith was associated with the Hon. Lyman Tremain and Hon. Amasa J. Parker. This was a case that called into action all the sympathies of Mr. Smith's nature, and all his talents, and in a manner which aided largely in conducting the case to a successful issue for his client. He was one of the leading counsel in the famous Susquehanna R. R. litigation, and distinguished himself in the uncommon ability which he displayed. It would require volumes to give any adequate description of the numberless trials in which he was engaged through his long and conspicuous professional career. The history of those cases is interspersed through the history of the Federal courts.

We do not insist that Mr. Smith was a perfect or unrivaled lawyer, or that he was not in any respect open to criticism, for there are few who are not; but with every liberal deduction for his faults which truth demands, we are sure that an appeal to the candor of those who have long watched his career at the Bar will decide that he made for himself a name and record which we have not exaggerated, and which is destined to live and shine in legal history.

Mr. Smith was a man of extended learning, general as well as professional, possessing a finely cultivated literary taste and an acquaintance with the best authors, ancient and modern, and he wielded a pen of classic elegance and power.

Genial in his temperament, possessing a fund of agreeable anecdote and a happy manner of relating them, he was attractive and interesting in his social relations and surrounded himself with many friends.

He continued devotedly attached to his profession, as a member of the distinguished law firm, Smith, Moak & Buchanan, until his relations with them were severed suddenly by his death, which took place December 1, 1884.

LE GRAND BANCROFT.

Mr. Bancroft was a man whose life and career as a lawyer, a citizen, a husband and father is surrounded by pleasing memories and associations.

Through the long period of forty years he was a resident of Albany, and held by its citizens in the highest respect and esteem. He possessed charac-

teristics that naturally inspired and retained these sentiments. He had those qualities of thought, of feeling, of judgment; that refined delicacy and sensibility, that devotion to truth and honor, which goes beyond respect and esteem, and inspires admiration. As a lawyer, his talents, his industry, erudition and honorable devotion to his clients naturally gave him a high place in the profession.

His benignity, equability and remarkable candor enabled him to pass through the collisions and turmoil of his profession without making an enemy. A distinguished jurist of Albany said at the time of his death: "I believe I can say of Le Grand Bancroft that he died without an enemy;" so it is quite impossible for his biographer to give any just description of his life and character, without using the language of eulogy.

Mr. Bancroft was born at Elmira, N. Y., May 4, 1818. He was a son of Dr. Rulandus Bancroft, one of the most distinguished physicians and surgeons in the southern tier counties.

He received an excellent rudimentary education, and, at the age of fifteen, became a pupil of Hon. A. S. Thurston, a prominent lawyer and highly cultured scholar of Elmira. With Judge Thurston, young Bancroft continued the study of Latin and other classical studies, which he began in his primary course. Judge Thurston was at this time a highly popular classical teacher of Elmira, with an extended pupilage. The young man soon commended himself to his instructor by his generous and noble qualities of mind, his intelligence, and more than all by the devotion and progress he made in his studies—a characteristic always attractive to conscientious teachers.

Our duties in describing the early character of Mr. Bancroft cannot be discharged more profitably than by using the language of a beautiful letter from Judge Thurston to Miss Jean T. Bancroft, a daughter of the subject of this sketch.

"I can seem to see him now," says the letter, "resting his head upon his two hands, poring over his books, scarce lifting his eyes from them from morning till night; and then, his demeanor, so gentle, so respectful, so polite, attached me to him as I was never attached to any other scholar.

"After I commenced the practice of law in Elmira, and I think it must have been in the year 1837, your father entered my office as a student, and here he was just as studious and indefatigable as he had been as a pupil at school. His tastes seemed to incline him more to that part of the profession relating to Land Titles and Real Estate generally than in any other department. In his habits he was rather retiring, and the 'rough and tumble' of the forum and the practice before the country Justices of the Peace were altogether distasteful to him.

"I don't know what year it was—as my register has been destroyed—that he left my office; it was, probably, about the year 1839 or '40. But I remember well that, when he did go out from me, I gave him an open letter, in which I stated, as near as I could, what kind of a young man he was.

"His father, not being in a situation to pay out money, and your father, fully appreciating the situation, was determined to carve out his own fortune. With my letter in his hand—perhaps with other letters—he made his way to Albany, and, knowing no person in the city, he formed the acquaintance of the late Teunis Van Vechten, with whom he made an arrangement to enter his office and complete his legal studies. What year he was admitted to the Bar, I am unable to state. * * * *

"Of your father's subsequent career as a practitioner at the Albany Bar, there are those who can better speak of it than I can. I can only say that, during all the years he lived in Albany, I never failed, but always made it my first business, when visiting that city, to call upon him; he was so reliable, so unselfish and generous, I could not but always love and admire him. What Marc Antony said of Julius Cæsar cannot be too truly and emphatically said of your father:

"'This was the noblest Roman of them all. His life was gentle, and the elements so mixed in him that Nature might stand up and say to all the world, "This was a man."'"

Such is the tribute paid to Mr. Bancroft by one who knew him from early boyhood, through his student days, and through his long and honorable career at the Bar. It is a testimonial as eloquent as it is just and true that radiates his whole life. It is very rare indeed that such tributes are paid to public and professional men. Certain periods of their lives are often made the subjects of eulogy, but this one, as we have said, covers a whole life, in which no part is omitted.

As we have seen by Judge Thurston's letter, when Mr. Bancroft came to Albany he entered the office of Teunis Van Vechten, then in partnership with John Davis, Esq. Mr. Bancroft had become so proficient in the learning of his profession that, on the death of Mr. Van Vechten, he entered into partnership with Mr. Davis, under the firm name of Davis & Bancroft; this was a profitable business arrangement, and existed several years. It was while a student in the office of Davis & Van Vechten that Mr. Bancroft was called to the Bar. On June 17, 1845, Mr. Bancroft was united by marriage to Miss Emeline Randall, of Albany, N. Y., a lady of many accomplishments and many mental and personal attractions. This union was an exceedingly happy and fortunate one. Mrs. Bancroft survives her husband, enjoying the esteem and affectionate regard of all who know her.

At the dissolution of the firm of Davis & Bancroft, the latter formed a copartnership with S. O. Shepard, Esq., which continued until the breaking out of the late Civil War.

Mr. Bancroft for some time had entertained the thought of devoting the remainder of his life to agricultural pursuits; accordingly, on dissolving with Mr. Shepard, he retired to his farm at Elmira, N. Y., the home of his youth. Three years' experience in conducting his farm convinced him that he was not exactly constituted for a farmer; at any rate, his love for his profession and his professional associates at Albany was so strong and

increasing that it overcame whatever attractions there were for him in a farm life, and he returned to Albany, entering again into the active duties of his profession.

In 1864 he became a partner of those truly prominent lawyers, Hon. Henry Smith and N. C. Moak, under the firm name of Smith, Bancroft & Moak. This connection, we believe, existed down to the time of Mr. Bancroft's death, with the change made by the admission of Mr. Charles J. Buchanan to the firm. As we have seen, Mr. Bancroft's tastes led him to that most intricate and subtle department of legal learning connected with Real Property.

Few persons studied the law of Real Property more assiduously than Mr. Bancroft. Beginning with Littleton's Treatise upon Tenures, published more than four hundred years ago, he made himself familiar with the successive writers who have discussed that subject in all its bearings down to the present time. Few persons were better acquainted with the changes made in the Laws of Real Estate by the Revised Statutes, and with the Amending Statutes which have followed them, than he. He was, therefore, considered high authority in all law touching Real Property, and his knowledge of the land titles, not only in the City but County of Albany, was unsurpassed.

In social life Mr. Bancroft was a favorite. To use the language of the *Albany Law Journal:* "He had ready wit, excellent judgment and a keen appreciation of the ridiculous. Grave indeed must have been the affair out of which he could not extract either pleasantry or consolation. His knowledge of human nature was such, and his tact and patience so great, that, however complex the matter intrusted to his charge might be, or how bitter the respective litigants to the actions were, he almost invariably succeeded in disentangling the knotty questions involved in the controversy, and in bringing about a better feeling to the suit. His family relations were without reproach. He was a devoted husband, a kind and affectionate father. He will ever be remembered by all who knew him for his sterling manhood, his fidelity to his clients, his friendship for all, and his engaging manners.

"One of the most attractive features of Mr. Bancroft was his sincere, unobtrusive piety; piety which exhibited itself in every phase of his life, not by presuming demonstrations, not by words, but by corresponding actions. Such was his charitable piety that to him could have been addressed the language of the Saviour: 'As ye did it unto the least of these, ye did it unto me.'

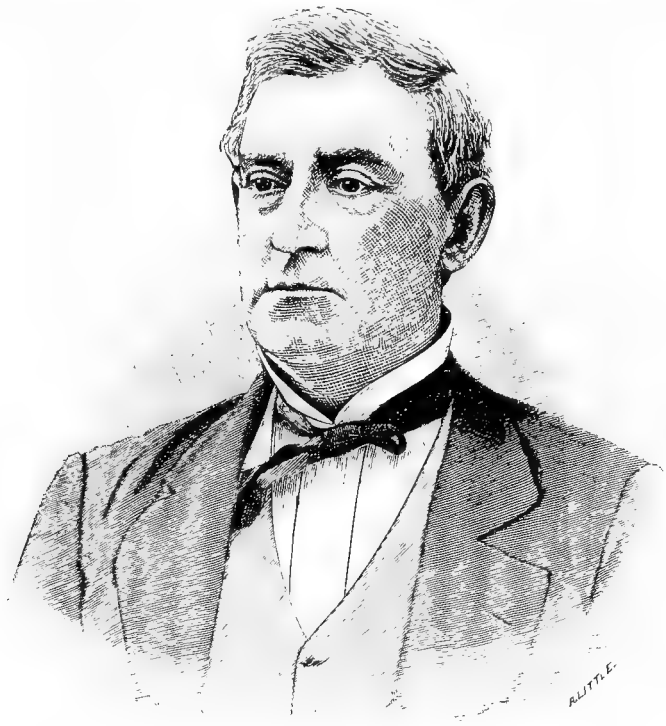
"At an early age, he received the rites of baptism from that distinguished and venerated divine, Dr. Welch, of Albany, and became a member of the Pearl Street Baptist Church, and afterward of Emanuel Baptist Church.

"Through all his years, till the close of his life, he adorned his religious professions as an humble and useful follower of his master.

"Our profession can ill afford to lose such members."

Mr. Bancroft died at his residence, No. 46 Lancaster street, Albany, on the evening of January 20, 1880, at the age of 62 years. His disease was paralysis of the heart.

His departure was a shock to the city, particularly to his brethren of the Bar. He died in the midst of his usefulness, of his fame, surrounded by all that makes life sweet and happy.



WILLIAM S. PADDOCK.

William S. Paddock was a lawyer whose memory the Bar of Albany will always hold in the highest respect—a respect approaching to veneration. Not only will his memory be thus cherished by the Bar, but it will be equally honored by the people of the City and County of Albany with those other names so bright in their legal and civil history.

His large learning, his professional industry, his judicial purity, his integrity, his devotion to all his public duties, and his social worth, justly entitle him to be thus remembered.

He was born at Bethlehem, Albany County, N. Y., May 23, 1821. His ancestry were of English descent; his grandfather, Job Paddock, was an early settler at Amsterdam, N. Y., where the father of Recorder Paddock was born, but who removed very early in life to Bethlehem, where he resided for many years, one of its most respected citizens. At a very early age young Paddock was placed at the old Lancasterian School, in Albany, and, after a thorough discipline in that institution, he entered Albany Academy, one of the most popular academic institutions in the State.

There he passed advantageously through a thorough English and classical course, acquiring a high reputation for his scholarly attainments.

At first his mind was directed to mercantile pursuits, and for two or three years he sedulously devoted himself to the occupation of a merchant. But his native love of study, his devotion to books and his scholarly turn of mind were not exactly adapted to the calling of a tradesman; besides, during all his student days, he had a natural admiration for the legal profession. It was his delight to spend his leisure hours in the court-rooms of the city, and witness the contests of the forum, in which the great lights of the Albany Bar were engaged. Here he saw how causes were tried by Hill, Reynolds, Spencer, Harris, Wheaton, Peckham, Cagger and others whose names are bright in legal history. From them, and from their forensic efforts, he caught the "Promethian spark," which, at length, lit his own way to an honored place at the Bar.

Relinquishing his mercantile business, he entered the office of *Wheaton, Doolittle & Hadley*, a legal firm, each of whose members was prominent in the profession—a legal firm almost unrivaled in strength and versatility of talents and learning. With these accomplished lawyers, young Paddock prepared for the duties of his profession. He studied under the nice mathematical process and subtle distinctions of Special Pleading, but he was called to the Bar in 1847, when the Code of Procedure was a few months old. Accordingly he began his practice under the new regime. His thorough discipline under the old practice, however, sharpened and invigorated his mind, and gave him peculiar qualifications as a pleader under the Code.

His admission to the Bar took place in 1847, and in the following August he entered into partnership with his cousin, Stephen Paddock, Jr., a highly respectable lawyer of Albany, under the firm name of *S. & W. S. Paddock.* This was a fortunate business arrangement for both partners, and existed ten years, when the senior partner, Stephen Paddock, retired, and Mr. W. S. Paddock formed a copartnership with Hon. John M. Bailey, which continued until Mr. Bailey was elected District Attorney. Mr. Paddock then entered into partnership with Hon. John C. Nott, at this writing the County Judge of Albany County. He continued with Judge Nott until the election of the latter to the office of Police Justice, when the firm was dissolved. His next professional connection was with Messrs. Draper & Chester, under the firm name of *Paddock, Draper & Chester.* This relation continued until July 1, 1882, when it was dissolved. All of Mr. Paddock's legal partners were gentlemen of high legal standing and accomplishments; they were profitable and honorable relations, each partner holding the other in the highest respect and esteem.

The abilities and high character of Mr. Paddock as a lawyer summoned him to judicial duties. In 1856 he was elected to the ancient and honorable office of Recorder of the City of Albany. When he entered upon his first administration, the exciting Mayoralty controversy between Hon. Eli Perry and Dr. John P. Quackenbush was at its height. Each of these gentlemen claimed to have been elected Mayor of the city. The singular turn which this contest took added, as we shall see, largely to the responsibilities of Recorder Paddock, and it also greatly increased his reputation. "Each of the contestants maintained his right to act as Mayor, and both appeared at the meetings of the Common Council as its presiding officer. The matter was taken to the courts, under a compromise by which Recorder Paddock was to act as Mayor pending the litigation. The case was never brought to trial, and the City of Albany enjoyed a season of prosperity and success under the administration of William S. Paddock, acting in the dual capacity of Mayor and Recorder." To say that his administration in both positions was successful, is but to repeat well-known facts of history; but he received only the salary of Recorder, while Messrs. Perry and Quackenbush each received the full salary of Mayor. He was three times elected Recorder, the first time, as we have seen, in 1856, and the last time in 1876. During this long term of judicial service he won the confidence and esteem of the members of the Bar and of the general public to a degree almost unprecedented. He was one of those men who made his way so quietly through the paths of usefulness to public honors that the voice of envy and jealousy was never raised against him, and never questioned his integrity or doubted his ability.

To use the language of the *Albany Evening Journal:* "Mr. Paddock was known to the profession as a very careful lawyer, his fealty on the side of the right being paramount to all other considerations. Never, in the whole course of his life, was he known to do a wrongful act intentionally. If he believed his convictions were right, he would adhere to them, come what might."

Again, as was said of him by another: "He was a polished gentleman, loved by those who had the pleasure of being admitted to the list of his intimate friends. As a magistrate, if the occasion demanded, he was stern and uncompromising, but always courteous and accessible. He was always liberal, his purse always open to deserving want, and his sympathies as deep as his charities were wide. Mr. Paddock early in life associated himself with the Democratic party, and was to the day of his death a faithful and consistent member of that organization, and one of its acknowledged leaders.

"He was a member of Master's Lodge, No. 5, F. and A. M.; Temple Chapter, No. 5, R. A. M.; Temple Commandery, No. 2, K. T., and of the Masonic Relief Association."

Recorder Paddock's domestic relations were exceedingly happy. On May 20, 1851, he married Miss Magdalene, daughter of Gerrit and Cornelia Hotaling, of Albany; five sons and one daughter were born to this marriage, all of whom survive him but one son. They are Howard, William G., Edward, George and Carrie Paddock.

Such was the life and career of William S. Paddock, a man of large influence and usefulness in his profession, in his official capacity and as a private citizen. It is hardly necessary for us to say that the death of such a man, genial and generous, should produce profound sensation and sorrow in the city where he had long occupied so conspicuous a position. Up to 1880 he enjoyed the most robust health. In May of that year he had an apoplectic attack, which left the base of his brain affected; he, however, recovered, so he was able, to an extent, to conduct his business. In the summer of 1882 he was again prostrated with the same disease; at length, about the last of December, the last and fatal attack came. He lingered until the 19th of January, 1883, when he died.

James A. McKown

JAMES A. McKOWN.

Mr. McKown, who occupies a highly respectable position at the Albany Bar, was born at Guilderland, Albany County, March 19, 1819. His father was Absalom McKown, a prominent and much esteemed citizen of Albany County. His mother's maiden name was Edith Le Grange, daughter of John Le Grange, Esq., a man of high standing in his day.

The advantages of young McKown for obtaining an education were confined principally to the common district school. In his youthful days our present system of general education was unknown, and institutions ranking above the common schools were few; but he utilized to the fullest extent every advantage he had; he obtained a very good practical education, with which he attained his success in life, through his own unaided efforts. He, therefore, belongs to that large and valuable class of men with which the legal, and generally all professions, abound—self-made men. It was his early ambition to become a lawyer; to that end he directed every energy.

In recognition of his intelligence, sound judgment, practical good sense and legal information, he was quite early in life elected a Justice of the Peace at Guilderland, serving in a very acceptable manner for the almost unprecedented long period of eighteen years.

His eminent services as a Justice of the Peace were fully recognized, not only by the people of Guilderland, but by the people of the county at large, and this, in 1852, brought him forward as a candidate for the office of Associate Judge of Albany County. He was elected, and took his seat on the bench of the County Court and Court of Sessions. In 1853 he was re-elected. His judicial term extended two years, and was very acceptable to the people of the county.

Mr. McKown was a close, industrious and appreciative legal student; but he did not apply for admission to the Bar until 1853, when, on motion of that distinguished jurist, Hon. John K. Porter, he was admitted to practice in all the courts of this State; and, in 1865, he was, on motion of Hon. Ira Harris, admitted to the United States Supreme Court.

In April, 1856, Mr. McKown made the City of Albany his residence, where he has continued to reside from that time down to this writing, 1885.

His judicial mind and method prepared the way for his election to the office of Surrogate of Albany County. This event took place in the fall of 1855. The duties of this office are important and difficult. No judicial position is more so than that of Surro-

gate. It requires a peculiar cast of mind and much depth of learning to successfully discharge the duties of the office.

We can say without affectation that Mr. McKown brought to the office abilities, learning and industry of a high order, which rendered his administration successful, and he retired from the office with the good wishes and good opinion of the Bar and the public.

In his practice he has had no specialty, but has conducted a general legal business with success, and has always surrounded himself with a respectable and profitable clientage.

His long identification with the Albany Bar, his high and upright character, his honorable course as a practitioner, has given him an eminent place in his profession.

Mr. McKown belongs to the Republican party. He espoused the tenets of that party under the firm belief that they are the safest and best for the State and nation. Though he is decided in his political opinions, he is in no sense aggressively so. He is not, and never has been, a seeker after office or place.

In his religious proclivities he favors the Baptist Church.

In 1837 he was united by marriage to Miss Alida Van Valkenburgh.

In his official career Mr. McKown, as we have seen, commanded the respect of the people of Albany County. As a lawyer and citizen, and in all relations of private life, he has always had in a large degree the confidence and esteem of the public; and, finally, few, if any, are more entitled to honorable mention in the history of Albany County than James A. McKown.

MAJOR-GEN. JOHN TAYLER COOPER.

Major-Gen. JOHN TAYLER COOPER was born in Albany, in April, 1798, and died August 13, 1878, in his eighty-first year. His father was Dr. Charles D. Cooper, who, in his time, was one of the most distinguished of Albany's physicians. His mother was the niece and adopted daughter of the wife of Gov. John Tayler, who was Lieutenant-Governor of the State of New York from 1813 to 1822, and Acting-Governor part of the time. His brother, Charles D. Cooper, became a noted Episcopal clergyman of Philadelphia, and survived him. He had two sisters, one of whom, Elizabeth, married Benjamin Nott, and became the mother of Hon. John C. Nott, of Albany, and the other, Margaret, married Joel B. Nott. Benjamin and Joel B. Nott were sons of Dr. E. Nott, president of Union College.

Gen. Cooper attended the best schools of Albany, and subsequently entered Union College, where he graduated, after four years' study, in 1818. Afterward he entered the law office of Messrs. John V. Henry and James McKown, and studied for the Bar, being admitted to practice in 1821. Forming a copartnership with Simeon DeWitt Bloodgood, who was at one time editor of the *Advertiser*, printed by Webster on the old Elm Tree corner, he practiced his profession until Mr. Bloodgood's removal to New York, when he retired permanently from legal life. He had inherited a fine fortune indirectly from Gov. John Tayler, and was not, therefore, dependent upon his own exertions for a livelihood; but his years were not to be passed idly, for the care of his property and his devotion to matters of interest to him kept him fully occupied almost to the day of his death.

His youth had compassed the period of the second war with Great Britain, and the exciting scenes of his boyhood imbued him with a martial spirit, and he manifested an active interest in military affairs. Shortly after graduating from college he entered Col. Knickerbocker's regiment as adjutant, and was active in promoting its efficiency. He was successively promoted to be major and lieutenant-colonel, and finally succeeded to the command of the regiment. When the Marquis de La Fayette visited America in 1824, Col. Cooper was dispatched by the Common Council of the City of Albany to meet the great champion of Liberty at Kinderhook and escort him to Albany, where high honors were paid him. On his leaving, Col. Cooper was in command of the escort which accompanied the distinguished visitor as far as New Lebanon. Afterward he was promoted to the major-generalship of the Third Division, New York State Militia, a position which he held for many years, until he was retired at the commencement of Gov. Fenton's term of office, a law being enacted in that year which abolished all of the old militia offices and established the National Guard of the State of New York. Published accounts of the obsequies of Gov. Marcy in 1857 show that Gen. Cooper took a prominent part in the funeral arrangements and ceremonies. He is remembered as a firm and helpful friend of the Albany Burgesses' Corps, of which he was a life member.

Gen. Cooper was twice married. His first wife, whom he married in 1822, was Miss Charlotte Henry, daughter of John V. Henry, the eminent attorney in whose office he studied law. She died childless, and some years later Gen. Cooper married the widow of Clarkson F. Crosby, of Watervliet, whose maiden name was Schuyler, and who was descended from the famous family of that name who bore so conspicuous a part in the early history, not alone of New York, but of our country. There was no issue by this marriage. His stepson, J. Schuyler Crosby, married Harriet Van Rensselaer, youngest daughter of Stephen Van Rensselaer, of Albany, and became Governor of Montana Territory and subsequently Assistant Postmaster-General of the United States; and of his two stepdaughters, the elder married William L. Thompson, son of John C. Thompson, of Troy, and the younger, in 1878, became the wife of Rev. Thaddeus A. Sniveley. Rev. Howard Crosby, D.D., of New York, is their father's brother.

The freedom from business cares, which was such a marked feature of Gen. Cooper's life, permitted him several times to visit Europe and to travel quite extensively in the most interesting por-

JOHN LYLE COOPER

tions of the old world, including Russia, Egypt and Syria.

The private life of Gen. Cooper was quiet and unostentatious. He ranked as one of the most highly respected and universally esteemed citizens of Albany, adding much to its prosperity and contributing to the growth of many of its important institutions. Of the most pronounced "Old School" Democratic proclivities, he was not a politician, and never held any civil office, the only positions not military in their character which he ever accepted being those of warden of St. Peter's Episcopal Church and president of the Home for Aged Men. To the strictness of his habits may be attributed his long and, for the most part, robust life. In personal appearance he was erect, finely proportioned and of martial bearing. He was known to possess strong sympathy with the poor, and, in a private way, he dispensed charities with a liberal hand. His public donations to various charitable objects were not inconsiderable. Noted for his wise and prudent management of business affairs, he left a large and valuable estate, consisting of real and personal property, in Albany, besides an extensive farm near Cedar Hill, on the Hudson, about nine miles distant from the city, which he called "Guy Park." His death was not entirely unexpected, and it was deeply regretted by the many who knew him, not alone in Albany, but throughout the State. He is remembered as one of the few Albanians who, in their closing years, linked the Albany of three-quarters of a century ago with the Albany of the modern period; and his name is not likely to soon pass from the scenes amid which he was worthily born, lived an admirable life and died at peace with God and his fellow men.

ISAAC EDWARDS.

Isaac Edwards was born in Corinth, Saratoga County, N. Y., August 30, 1819, and at the time of his decease, March 26, 1879, was nearly sixty years of age. He was the second son of John and Sarah (Cooper) Edwards. His parents were of good New England stock and had removed from Watertown, Conn., to Corinth. His father was a thrifty farmer, and desired that his four sons should succeed him in the same occupation. The early years of young Edwards were passed on his father's farm. His school education was commenced in the public schools of his native town, and continued in the Waterford Academy, under the care of that excellent instructor, the late Prof. Taylor Lewis, of whom he often spoke in the highest terms of admiration. His law studies were pursued in Albany, in the office of Messrs. Edwards & Meads, with the strictness and fidelity which ever marked his subsequent course. After his admission to practice, at the July term of Court in 1843, he formed a partnership with his uncle, the late Mr. James Edwards, which was not long continued, his uncle soon forming a partnership with the late Mr. Samuel Stevens, and Mr. Edwards, preferring the independence of a

single office, formed no other partnership, but almost at once entered upon his successful career as a lawyer and author. His clients were among the most respectable merchants of the city, and he retained their business year after year.

His duties and labors were of such a nature that they afforded him much time for the hearing of references, and during the twenty years preceding his death he undoubtedly heard and decided more important cases than any other lawyer in this section of the country. His mind was eminently judicial and adapted to the hearing of long and intricate cases, and so well balanced that, in the weighing of evidence, he had no superiors. However much any party or attorney may have been disappointed by his adverse decision, no one ever charged him with being influenced by fear, favor or friendship. Absolute justice was his sole aim and endeavor. In 1855 appeared Mr. Edwards' work on "Bailments." It was welcomed by the Bench and Bar as the best American work on the subject, and it has been growing in favor with the legal fraternity since. In 1878 the work was revised, portions of it were rewritten, later decisions were cited, and new chapters were added. Since the publication of the first edition, commercial transactions have been widely extended, business has been enlarged, and many new and perplexing questions have come before our numerous courts for discussion and adjudication. The most marked developments have reference to pledges, or collateral securities, transportation and telegraphic messages. Upon these subjects the second edition is full and explicit, and demonstrates that in this branch of the law Mr. Edwards was thoroughly informed as to the decisions of the courts. In 1857, two years after "Bailments," appeared his work on "Bills and Notes." a treatise complete in itself, and surpassing that of every other author who had written upon the same subject in the English language. A second edition was published in 1863. Both of these valuable works are intended for the practitioner as well as for the student. To be appreciated they must be read and utilized by the practical lawyer. In 1870 he published an essay upon "Factors and Brokers" In this he exhibits the same fullness and clearness of definition which characterize his larger works. Mr. Edwards wrote and published several essays and biographical sketches of different members of the Bench and Bar, all of which demonstrates the clearness of his mind, his just appreciation of the merits of others, and his happy faculty of presenting his views in an interesting and instructive manner. He thoroughly understood the law, and he loved to elucidate its principles. His estimate of justice and the law to establish and enforce it can be best expressed in his own words:

"Justice being the supreme interest of mankind, the law established to enforce it is a most worthy object of labor and study. Aside from its value as the measure and conservator of our rights, the law is one of the noblest of the applied sciences. It is beneficent in its purpose; it aims to secure equality between men in their dealings with each other. It lies at the foundation of our system of governments; it is both a source and a principle of authority in our halls of legislation and in our tribunals of justice. It underlies our institutions and conserves them. It reaches the individual reason and covers with its protecting power social interest and every relation of life. It is the conscience of the state, everywhere present in the manifold activities of her citizens."

Many years of his later life were passed in inculcating principles like the above on the mind of youth. Years ago the question of the improvement of the public schools of Albany was agitated, and Mr. Edwards took a prominent position in favor of advanced education. His relations to Mr. Carlton Edwards, one of the editors of the *Morning Express*, were such that the columns of that paper were freely offered for his use, and from time to time appeared powerful and pungent articles from his pen. Many of these articles were published under Mr. Edwards' care and scattered broadcast over the city, and aided much in producing in the minds of its citizens a desire for the improvement which has been wrought in its public schools. Shortly before the death of Prof. Amos Dean, Mr. Edwards was invited to deliver a few lectures before the Albany Law School. His clearness of diction, his fullness of illustration and his correctness of definition proved his fitness to fill the position of so distinguished a lecturer as Prof. Dean, and upon the death of the latter he was unanimously elected to the vacant professorship, and from that time until his death he was the moving spirit and power of the Law School, delivering about one-half the lectures, and presiding at nearly all the courts of exemplification and instruction. The position of the Albany Law School may be attributed more to the standing and reputation of Mr. Edwards, as professor and author, than to any other of its instructors. His duties were laborious and exacting, and it is no discredit to the late Prof. Dean to say that he brought to the school knowledge and capability equal to those of his predecessor; and the classes graduated under him are witnesses to the excellence both of the matter and the manner of his instructions. Four years before his death he was chosen a member of the Board of Public Instruction. As chairman of the Law Committee his reports on subjects referred to that committee were always clear, strong and convincing. His great interest in popular education made the work connected with this trust a veritable labor of love.

As a politician Mr. Edwards was not a partisan, although in his early life a Whig and afterward a stanch Republican. As a speaker he was clear, logical and forcible, using nice distinctions and strong illustrations; and his early success before juries and in several political campaigns gave assurance that, had he turned his attention more directly to other branches of his profession, he would have taken high rank as an advocate.

Mr. Edwards was an earnest and devoted Christian. He early united with the Second Presbyterian Church. When the movement was made to

organize a Congregational Church he was one of the first to give support to the enterprise, and as one of the committee chosen to prepare its articles of faith and mode of government, he did much toward shaping and guiding the measures which have given the organization such prominence in the city.

He was a conscientious member of his profession, a clear and careful author, a loving and beloved instructor, the eminently true and social friend and the good citizen, bearing with fidelity no small share of the public burdens.

His works will be perused by eager students when most of his contemporaries are forgotten. His influence as a professor and teacher, although wide and extended, will become wider as the years go by. While we speak of him as a lawyer, teacher and author, we will not forget his higher virtues as a man. So far as is the lot of mortals, his was a spotless character. Although competent to fill the highest places, he sought the humblest stations. With learning to which we all who knew him bowed with respect, he walked humbly before God and man. Beyond the members of his family circle and intimate friends, he will be remembered by the Bar, among whom his daily life was passed, by clients who depended upon his counsel, by his pupils who treasured his lectures and advice, by good citizens who were charmed by the graces of his private life, and by the wide circle of the public, who will long remember his instruction and treasure his counsel.

MEDICINE IN ALBANY COUNTY.

By FREDERIC C. CURTIS, M. D.

WHEN Henry Hudson came up the Grande River in the first decade of the seventeeth century, and on a lovely September afternoon, when the hills were clothed in autumn red, dropped anchor off the point where Albany now stands, there is no doubt that he would have found on inquiry that the dusky aborigines interestedly watching his movements from the shore were not unfamiliar with the medicine man. In one fashion or another medicine has been practiced in all ages. It is not the purpose of this narrative to trace the medical affairs of this locality back among the Mohawks and Mohegans; to commence the history of them, even during the century which followed the building of Fort Orange, a limited array of facts are found. In the voluminous records of our early history scant reference is made to the medical events which formed a part of it. To construct in any detail a sketch of them would require a fund of as yet unpublished traditions of an unbroken line of Dutchmen, all to the manor born, or a draft on the imagination unworthy of the truthful chronicler.

It is not remarkable that this should be so, for in a community intently occupied in obtaining the necessaries of life, subduing forests, planting settlements, and meeting the dangers that surrounded it from unfriendly natives, contentious governments, and a rigorous climate, there was little time to think of more domestic matters, and few, especially among these Dutch Colonies, where commercial tastes ruled, and learning was backward, to make note of them. The healthy, laborious people who came to these shores required few physicians, and they and their surroundings presented few attractions to Old World practitioners. Still they were not unmindful of their need of the medical man, and there were those among them who in some sort practiced the art or the domestic traditions of medicine.

During the early years of all the American Colonies there were many who were looked to for advice in sickness who possessed but the simplest knowledge of medicine. The literature of the profession was not so voluminous but that any educated man might make himself familiar with the theories and practices of the times. Schoolmasters, clergymen and government officials were frequently somewhat versed in medicine; the clergy especially gave attention to the subject, as missionaries of the present day often do, by study prior to leaving the Old World. This was more frequently the case in the New England Colonies, but was also true here. Among the Dutch dominies, Rev. Dr. Megapolensis is said to have made some pretense to a knowledge of medicine. He might better have stuck to preaching, however, if his practice was of a piece with the advice he gives, in writing on the medical usages among the Mohawk Indians, and which the good vrouws to whom it was addressed very sensibly repudiated. Another of the medico-clerics was Dominie Mancius, who educated his son in medicine so that he was for a lifetime one of the prominent physicians of Albany. It is worth mentioning in this connec-

tion that, nearly two hundred years later, George Upfold, a young physician here, studied theology, and eventually became Bishop of Indiana. The Indians had learned the medical value of some indigenous herbs, and the Indian medicine man may be mentioned as one of the accessories of early colonial practice. He sometimes won a wide reputation. The story of the High Rock Spring, first disclosed to white men by the wonderful result upon Sir William Johnson, who was carried to it by the Indians, is familiar to all. Their theories, so far as they had any, were essentially supernatural, as is at the present time commonly the case among barbarous and ignorant people.

The Dutch West India Company are said to have been exceptional in their care for the health of their sailors, all their vessels being provided with a surgeon, or some one having a familiarity with medicine. They extended the same consideration to their colonies. Reference to it repeatedly recurs in their regulations, one of which is as follows: "The patroons and colonists shall, in particular and in the speediest manner, endeavor to find ways and means whereby they may support a minister and a schoolmaster, that the service of God and the zeal for religion may not grow cold and be neglected among them, and that they do for the first procure a *comforter of the sick.*" This functionary, variously termed in the original *kranck-besoecker* or *zieckentrooster*, is the first recognized person charged with the care of the sick in the Dutch Colonies. He was probably of an inferior order of clergy, for he is mentioned as conducting the religious service on Sundays. But he is also often found serving in other capacities and holding civil office, in which, however, he was not peculiar, for the duties of the preacher, doctor, soldier and government official were frequently performed by one individual in primitive times.

The first comforter of the sick at Fort Orange was Sebastian Jansen Crol. His earliest appearance in the history of the New Netherlands, in which he played a considerable part, was in this capacity at Fort Amsterdam. He came to this colony in 1626, two years after it was established, having been appointed Vice-Director and Company's Commissary to Fort Orange. It is a matter of justifiable inference that he continued his medico-clerical duties here, in addition to those of the office to which he was appointed. He appears to have been a judicious man, and served the colony well in his various capacities for twenty years.

He was succeeded in official position, in 1646, by Harmanus Myndertse van der Bogart. It is only in this official capacity that Van der Bogart is spoken of, but there appears no doubt that he is identical with the ship surgeon of the same name who came to New Amsterdam in 1630 in the *Eendraght.* His term of service here was short, for he is said to have been burned to death in 1648 in an Indian wigwam on the Mohawk River.

To another than Surgeon Van der Bogart, however, belongs the honor of having been the first regular physician who came to this locality. In 1642 the number of the colonists had become sufficiently large for the Patroon to comply with the West India Company's requirements to provide them with the services of a clergyman. He accordingly fitted out a ship, which arrived here in August of that year, bringing Rev. Dr. Megapolensis, and in his most worthy company Surgeon Abraham Staats. Whether he was employed, as was the minister, to serve the colony in his professional capacity, is not recorded. Nor are we told what were his professional attainments. His *clientele* at first was not large, for Albany consisted at this time of a hamlet of twenty-five or thirty houses, built along the river as each found it convenient, in proximity to the wretched little log fort, the population being about one hundred. A burial ground had been found necessary, however, and was laid out on our present Church street. Whatever his skill may have been, oversight of which by the diarist of the day is not to be wondered at, Dr. Staats was an enterprising citizen and filled his abundant professional leisure with other work. He was the first presiding officer of the village council of Rensselaerwyck, and once assisted in making an important treaty with the Indians. On week days he was a captain, and on Sunday an elder. We are left to our unassisted inferences as to the perquisites of our primitive doctor, although the dominie's salary is matter of history. In 1642 his house, at Clavarack, was burned by the savages, who seem to have had a penchant for cremating doctors, and his wife, with others of his family, perished. He became the owner of Fort Orange, it is said, and the ground on which it stood has ever since remained in the possession of his descendants. A son studied medicine in Holland and rose to eminence in New York.

Johannes de la Montagne, a Huguenot gentleman, played a political part only in the history of Fort Orange. He came to New York in 1637, and was Vice-Director of Fort Orange from 1656 to 1664; he also held various other offices of trust in the colony. He is said to have been a skillful physician, but was not expert enough to distinguish between gold and pyrites in some war-paint of the

natives that was submitted to him for assay, and which excited much interest for a time. What is supposed to be the first enactment to regulate the practice of medicine at New Amsterdam was the following: "Ordered, that ship barbers shall not be allowed to dress wounds, nor administer any potion on shore, without the consent of the petitioners [the local chirurgeons], or at least of Dr. La Montagne."

Surgeon De Hinse, a Frenchman, was resident physician at the Fort in 1666. While he was here a body of French soldiers in pursuit of the Indians from Quebec found their way to Fort Albany, as it then chanced to be called, having been surrendered to the English two years before by La Montagne, and De Hinse is on record as having received official thanks for professional services to them. Surgeons on duty at the Fort served, at that time, at the pay of 2s. 6d. per diem.

In 1689 a Scotch physician, Lockhart by name, practiced in Albany, and was surgeon to the Fort. Albany was at this time a large stockaded village.

At a later date, a son of Dr. Megapolensis was a chirurgeon of this colony; but both he and his brother Samuel, both graduates of Leyden, spent most of their lives in New York.

It is probable that there were other practitioners of medicine during the first hundred years of our history; but these are all that appear, after considerable research, until we pass well on into the eighteenth century. The names of less than forty physicians are known as coming to the entire province of New York in the course of the seventeenth century, and of most of these but little more is known than their names. The various lineage of these here mentioned, coming as they probably did chiefly from Holland, shows how that country was then the asylum for people of all nationalities.

The prominent events of the eighteenth century around which to cluster matters of medical interest are the French War and the War of the Revolution, in both of which Albany was at times an important center. The medical science of a country is always advanced by wars; they demand skilled medical officers, and so encourage the progress of medicine. Besides, they furnish a school for practice and observation. The French War especially gave an impetus to the profession, then entirely dependent on Europe for its education. The native had no means of acquiring knowledge at home except in a sort of apprenticeship way. The English army was accompanied by a highly respectable medical staff, who contributed much to the education of many young Americans through the military hospitals which were established.

Dr. Samuel Stringer, a native of Maryland, and educated in Virginia, where a medical school had just been started, was the most prominent physician in Albany during the eighteenth century, and was connected with both of the wars. In 1755 he was appointed by Gov. Shirley an officer in the medical department of the British army in this country. He accompanied Abercrombie, in 1758, and was present when Lord Howe fell in advancing to the siege of Ticonderoga. He served until the war ended, when he settled in Albany, married here, and remained here in practice until the outbreak of the Revolution, when he was appointed by Congress Director-General of Hospitals in the Northern Department. In this capacity he accompanied the troops on the invasion of Canada. He was a friend and probably the family physician of Gen. Schuyler, the ill-favor which befell whom, there seems reason to believe, he participated in. At any rate, he was removed from his position, an act which called forth a very angry remonstrance from the General to Congress. This was in 1777, and he then returned to Albany, where he spent the rest of a long life. It is said that he always adhered to the style of dress of the olden time—the cocked hat, tight breeches, and shoes with large buckles.

Dr. Nicholas Schuyler was another of the surgeons of this locality who was connected with the Federal army of the Revolution. He was an ardent patriot and an intelligent surgeon. After performing valuable service during the war he returned to Albany; he died in Troy in 1824.

Dr. J. Cochoran, of Pennsylvania, served as surgeon in the Revolutionary army and was high in position. He became Surgeon-General of the Middle Department, and in 1781 was made Director-General of the Hospitals of the United States. After the war was over he settled in Albany.

At one time the brothers Moses and Elias Willard were physicians of Albany. They were natives of New England, and, with their father, had a hand in the bloody struggle at Lexington. Elias, before the war, had begun to study medicine, and after a brief service as a common soldier he entered a military hospital in Boston, which, under Dr. John Warren, brother of the hero of Bunker Hill, was made a training school for the much-needed medical men. Two years later he was appointed surgeon of a Maine regiment, and served till the close of the war. He came to Albany in 1801 and practiced here for twenty-five years. His brother

was younger and entered the service later; he resided here for several years.

Every one at all familiar with the medical men of Albany a hundred years ago knows the name of Hunloke Woodruff. He was a graduate of Princeton, and shortly before the commencement of hostilities between the colonies and the mother country had begun the study of medicine, had taken up his residence in Albany, but soon was appointed surgeon of one of the New York regiments, and served until peace was declared. He accompanied the northern army to Canada, and was with Col. Gansevoort during the siege of Fort Stanwix, and attended Gen. Sullivan in his expedition against the hostile Indians of Western New York. He settled here to practice after the war and spent the best of his life here, highly esteemed as a learned physician.

Several of these men, it is observed, were contributions of the army to Albany.

As an incident of the French War it is said, in the "Memoirs of an American Lady," that when the wounded troops poured into Albany from the Ticonderoga battle-field a hospital was established in a large barn belonging to Madame Schuyler, and was attended there by a band of ladies. Thacher, a considerable historian of medical events of that time and a surgeon of the Revolution attached to this northern division of the army, says that a hospital was erected here during the French War. He says of it, as he saw it in 1788: "It is situated on an eminence overlooking the city. It is two stories high, having a wing at each end and a piazza in front, above and below. It contains forty wards, capable of accommodating 500 patients, besides the rooms appropriated to the use of the surgeons and other officers." After Burgoyne's defeat at Saratoga, Albany was for several months filled with sick and wounded from the battle-field. There were not less than one thousand of these victims of war thrown into the city, filling the hospital, the Dutch Church and some private houses. Most of them remained till the following June, when the military hospital was removed to the Highlands of the Hudson. Dr. Thacher says: "We have thirty surgeons and mates, and all are constantly employed. The wounded of the British and Hessian troops are accommodated in the same hospital with our own and receive equal attention. The foreigners are under the care of their own surgeons. I have been present at several of their capital operations and remember that the English surgeons perform with skill and dexterity, but the Germans, with few exceptions, do no credit to their profession." He did not find the inhabitants of the city of a social disposition. They are chiefly Low Dutch, he says, and not inclined to associate with strangers. Nevertheless, Mars and Venus have in all ages been mutually attractive, and "a charming Miss M. H." was captivated by one of the surgeons. A surgeon's pay in our army was $33.33 a month, and of a mate or assistant surgeon $18, that of a colonel being $75. At a later date there was a military cantonment and hospital in Greenbush, which was maintained until 1822.

Medical history is not altogether biographical, and some notes may be made of other events of the earlier time before the present century began. Henry Hudson said, when he returned with the report of his discoveries: "It is as fair a land as can be trodden by the foot of man," and the graphic pen of Irving has been taxed to all its resources in delineating this lovely valley before it had been marred by the hand of civilization. It was not only fair, but by all testimony it was salubrious. As early as 1628 one writes in a letter home: "The climate is healthful, notwithstanding the sudden changes from heat to cold. Roots and herbs are found, good for eating and for medicinal uses, working wonderful cures too long to relate." The sudden and extreme variations in temperature appear to have been the principal complaint, and were certainly very marked to those who had been accustomed to the equable climate of Holland and England. Gov. Hunter wrote in 1710: "Here is the finest air to live upon in the universe." Many instances are related of cures of consumption among those coming to the new country. They were mainly due, no doubt, to the less sedentary life of necessity led here, and absence of the insanitary influences that accumulate with the passage of years of habitation.

In this province there were fewer serious epidemics than in the New England and Virginia Colonies, where they early prevailed extensively. Fevers of acclimation or of an indigenous source were rare. The colonists did not, however, escape some most severe and fatal epidemics of imported disease. Of these, small-pox made the most grievous ravages. In 1613 it broke out and spread with fearful rapidity, among Europeans and savages. Twelve of the slender population of Beverwyck died in one week and a thousand perished among the Iroquois tribes. For two months Connecticut maintained a quarantine against the New Netherlands. Another

equally severe epidemic broke out some years later. Prior to 1730 this outdid all other pestilences with its ravages, ceasing at one time, it is said, only for lack of material to work upon, every susceptible person having had it. Inoculation began to be practical about 1730, and became quite general, the mortality from it being reported as comparatively small. "In 1799," writes Dr. Thacher, "the glorious discovery of the vaccine disease, which renders the human system insusceptible to small-pox, was announced in our newspapers and in the *Medical Repository,* of New York," and the reign of what might well have been called the king of terrors came to an end.

In 1746 a malignant epidemic of what was called the Barbadoes distemper, and also various other names, reached Albany. It was imported from foreign ships, and, beginning in August, ended with frost. From the description it was clearly yellow fever. It carried off 45 victims, mostly robust men. Spotted fever is mentioned as occurring in 1752.

An interesting episode in connection with yellow fever, and a glimpse of affairs as they existed a century ago, is obtained from the following "Notes from the Newspapers," in Munsell's *Annals of Albany :*

"September 21, 1793.—The citizens were alarmed by a letter from Judge Lansing, informing them that a vessel had passed New York having two persons on board infected with yellow fever, which was then raging at Philadelphia. Meetings of the citizens and of the Common Council were held, and measures adopted to prevent the passing of any vessel above the Overslaugh without an examination, and the ferry-men were directed how to proceed on occasions when any suspicion attached to travelers presenting themselves to be ferried over. The Common Council recommended the observance of the first day of October as a day of fasting and prayer for the aversion of the dreaded contagion.

"September 23.—On Monday evening last arrived at Greenbush, opposite the city, from the seat of Government, Hon. Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, and his lady. As Col. Hamilton and lady were supposed to have been afflicted with the yellow fever, then prevalent at Philadelphia, the physicians of the city, by request, immediately visited them, and on their return published the following certificate: 'This is to certify that we have visited Col. Hamilton and his lady at Greenbush this evening and that they are apparently in perfect health, and from every circumstance we do not conceive there can be the least danger of their conveying the infection of the pestilential fever, at present prevalent in Philadelphia, to any of their fellow citizens.

" '(Signed) SAMUEL STRINGER,
" ' W. MANCIUS,
" ' H. WOODRUFF,
" ' W. MCCLELLAN,
" ' CORNELIUS ROOSA.'

"In consequence of which on Tuesday morning an order was granted by the Mayor that Col. Hamilton and lady be allowed to cross the ferry, but only after quite a spicy correspondence between the Mayor, physicians and Gen. Schuyler, whose daughter was Mrs. Hamilton."

Aside from these outbreaks, Albany maintained its repute for healthfulness throughout the eighteenth century. During the winter of 1785, it is said that but one burial took place for the space of three months, in the Dutch church-yard, and that was of a small child accidentally run over by a sleigh. This burial place has been recently brought to light again by excavations in State street, at the corner of Broadway, human bones being found, and bricks from the old church edifice. One writes of Albany in 1796 : "It enjoys a salubrious air, as is evidenced by the longevity of its inhabitants."

Concerning the now very fertile theme of the water supply of the city, a visitor to Albany, in 1785, wrote that "the well water in the city is very bad, being scarcely drinkable by those not accustomed to it, imbibing particles from the stiff clay through which it oozes ; indeed, all use the river water for cooking, and many families drink it. But water works are about to be constructed to bring good water to the city."

In the year 1800 Albany was already an old city. In some respects this was a turning point in its history. About this time it began to have additions to its population from New England and to become impressed with New England ideas. Previously it had been entirely Dutch ; its people, its habits, its physiognomy, its architecture were all Dutch ; it is said that even its horses and dogs were Dutch. It had many usages brought from the provincial towns of Holland. A graphic picture of it at that time may be found in *Random Recollections of Albany from 1800 to 1808,* by Gorham A. Worth. The placid Dutchman smoked his evening pipe on the settee of the stoop in front of his gable-ended house, undisturbed by a care for the outside world, perfectly content with himself and his surroundings, with no welcome for strangers and their innovations. In a population

of 5,000 there were not more than five New England families. The city had no pavements and no street lamps. It had little or no foreign commerce. It needed a new element to give it an impulse, without which the nineteenth century gave promise of leaving it in a Rip Van Winkle dream, or stranded where the eighteenth was hardly holding it afloat. A change, restless and iconoclastic, began to come over it about this time; the progressive spirit of this century began to disturb its quietude, and new blood was transfused into it. The Erie Canal began to be talked about; it became the capital city, and very soon after Fulton ran the *Clermont* up the river.

The general character of the medical profession began to improve. The means of education heretofore had been very limited, and the mass of practitioners throughout the country had been deplorably ignorant. In an address before the Regents, Dr. T. Romeyn Beck stated that, of the 700 physicians in the State at this time, not more than twenty held the degree of Doctor of Medicine. Indeed it was not sought for, save in the large cities. The education of physicians prior to 1750, unless obtained in Europe, was restricted to a sort of apprenticeship and personal instruction. In 1750 the first regular medical instruction was attempted, a course of lectures on anatomy being given in New York by a Dublin graduate, Samuel Clossy. During the remainder of the century four medical schools were established; in Philadelphia, New York, and at Harvard and Dartmouth Colleges. The difficulty of reaching these precluded most from attending them. Their influence was, however, being felt toward the close of the century.

Just what might have been considered a medical education at this time, even at its best, it would be hard to define. There was hardly any facility for acquiring a practical knowledge of anatomy by dissection, so that a student could have no adequate idea of the vital organs in health or as changed by the processes of disease. When Dr. March, twenty years latter, began to give instruction here in anatomy, by lectures and dissections, he for a long time encountered much opposition in his good work. Surgery was rude and simple, as viewed from the light of to-day. Diseases could not be distinguished by our present knowledge, as, for instance, that of auscultation and percussion of the chest, and all our instruments of research were unknown. Pharmacy was as rude as the means of diagnosis, but faith in it was vastly more profound than now. The physician became skillful and renowned, as many of them did, only as he became shrewd in observation and experienced by years; gray hairs were the only passport to popular confidence. Oliver Wendell Holmes pictures him, from vivid recollections of his early life, as "he would look at the tongue, feel of the pulse, and shake from his vials a horrible mound of ipecac, or a revolting heap of rhubarb—good, stirring remedies that meant business, but left a flavor behind them that embitters the recollections of childhood." Little of our present knowlege of the control of epidemics was possessed; small-pox, often devastating as a tornado, was just then about to be robbed of its terrors, and the preventable diseases generally, to which so much attention is now given, and which if completely held in check would infinitely lessen the rate of mortality, were neither studied as a class nor controlled by organized boards of health. No better contrast can be shown between then and now than is seen in the statement that by data, gathered from all sources, it is found that the sum total of human life has been lengthened in civilized countries 25 per cent. since the beginning of the century. Dr. Holmes says: "It is but a fractional power that the physician has over disease, and a comparatively small fraction over the issues of life and death." But what he lacks in his control of the individual is well complemented by the general work, as is proven by this general result.

Besides the men already mentioned, there are a few others then practicing here who should be spoken of. The oldest physician in Albany was Dr. Wilhelmus Mancius, the son of the Dutch dominie, who practiced medicine as well as theology in the early history of the colony. He was now past sixty years of age, over six feet in height, and a man of great popularity. He received his education from his father, and probably had more skill than learning. In his arguments with his younger and more liberally educated partner, Dr. Woodruff, he saved himself from being worsted by "Ah, de cure, Hunloke; de cure is de great ting. I cure." Dr. William McClelland was a Scotchman, an Edinburgh graduate, and for the times an educated man. He was the first president both of the County and the State Medical Societies. His partner for a time was Dr. Wm. Bay, whose long life extended to the easy recollection of many of the present citizens of this vicinity. Dr. Knauff, then advanced in years, was more an apothecary than physician. Dr. Gauff, also an old man, had been for many years a practitioner of Bethlehem, and Dr. Oliver Lathrop was a physician of Watervliet, then in middle life. Younger than any of these was

Dr. Jonathan Eights, a most exact and methodical man, who through the first half of this century was held in high esteem as a family physician, and made many contributions to medical literature. Dr. John Stearns, a Massachusetts man and a Yale graduate, then thirty years old, was for a number of years a practitioner here, and deserves especial honor from the profession, as to his efforts were due the existing law, enacted in 1806, under which our State and County medical societies have been incorporated.

The notable event in medicine at the beginning of this century was the establishment of the County Medical Society. This is undoubtedly the oldest medical society in the State, having been established in July, 1806, immediately after the passage of the incorporating law. The reason urged for the passage of this act was the abundance of charlatanry and the necessity for combining the legitimate members of the profession to control it. The universal testimony is that at this time the country was overrun with empyrics. Dr. R. M. Wyckoff, to whose paper on *Early Medicine in New York* I am indebted for much information, says that medical practice in early times was pure, but that about the middle of the eighteenth century the charlatanry of the Old World, which was quackish to the core, began to find a field in the New. For its own respectability and the people's good the time had come for the profession to assert itself; it did so by bringing the reputable physicians together and separating them from the disreputable. In this way the society has done more to suppress quackery (which the people should know is vastly more an evil to them than to the profession) than all the restrictive legislation that was enacted year after year for the next forty years. Dr. Thomas Hun wrote in 1844, what is always pertinent and true: "Quackery must be suppressed, not by legislation, but by enlightened public opinion of its dangers. The respectability of our profession is to be promoted, not by asking for legal privileges, but by an increase of individual zeal and co-operation." In this State no one is entitled to professional consideration unless he is a member of his County Medical Society.

From the beginning the society has maintained regular meetings for mutual improvement. It has always been a means of co-operating against local epidemics and bad sanitary conditions. Its opinion and advice has often been asked by the Mayor and Common Council. It has kept up the social relations of its members, and perpetuated their memory by printed biographies and portraits, of which it has a considerable collection. It has explicit laws for disciplining unprofessional members, but has very seldom made use of them. It has been of a liberal spirit, and was one of the first societies to admit women to membership. The entire number of its members from first to last has been about 425. The following list includes all of the members of the Society since the organization, and nearly all the physicians of this county during the present century.

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST

OF THE

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE COUNTY OF ALBANY FROM ITS ORGANIZATION, WITH YEAR OF ADMISSION AND PLACE OF GRADUATION. THE LIVING RESIDENT MEMBERS ARE INDICATED BY A *.

1806, HUNLOKE WOODRUFF, New York City; died 1811, aged 56. WILLIAM MCCLELLAND, Edinburgh; died 1812, aged 43. CHARLES D. TOWNSEND, Columbia College, Medical Department, 1802; died 1847, aged 70. JOHN G. KNAUFF, probably in Germany; died 1810. ELIAS WILLARD, Boston; died 1827, aged 71. WILHEMUS MANCIUS, studied medicine with his father, Rev. G. W. Mancius, 1758; died 1808, aged 70. WILLIAM ANDERSON, University of Pennsylvania; died 1811, aged 40. JOSEPH W. HEGEMAN, Princeton; died 1837, aged 65. CORNELIUS VROOMAN, Jr., University of Pennsylvania; died 1811, aged 30. ALEXANDER G. FONDA, licensed 1806; died 1869, aged 84. CALEB GAUFF; Bethlehem. AUGUSTUS HARRIS, licensed by Supreme Court, 1800; died 1857, aged 81. AUGUSTUS F. R. TAYLOR, University of Pennsylvania, 1804; died 1841, aged 58.

1807, PETER WENDELL, University of Pennsylvania, 1807; died 1849, aged 64. JACOB L. VAN DEUSEN, Regent's degree, 1806; resigned 1825.

1808, ARCHIBALD H. ADAMS, University of Edinburgh; died 1811, aged 42. CHARLES D. COOPER, New York; died 1831, aged 63. ISAAC HYDE, probably licensed; died 1833, aged 61. JAMES LOW, University of Edinburgh, 1807; died 1822, aged 40.

1809, SIMON VEEDER, licentiate of this society, 1807; died 1860, aged 72.

1810, WILLIAM BAY, Columbia College, Medical Department, 1797; died 1865, aged 93. JONATHAN EIGHTS, certificate of two physicians; died 1848, aged 75. JOHN STERNS, University of Pennsylvania; died 1848, aged 65.

1811, T. ROMEYN BECK, College of Physicians and Surgeons, 1811; died 1855, aged 64.

1812, JONATHAN JOHNSON, licentiate of this society, 1812; died 1860, aged 75. ERASTUS WILLIAMS, licentiate Vermont State Society, 1800; died 1842, aged 69. PETER DE LAMATER, studied medicine 1794; died 1849, aged 77.

1813, ENOCH CHENEY. OLIVER LATHROP, studied with Dr. White, of Cherry Valley; died 1824, aged 57.

1816, MOSES BROWNELL; died March 12, 1879, aged 90. RICHMOND BROWNELL, filed diploma with County Clerk, 1816; removed to Rhode Island. SAMUEL FREEMAN, Dartmouth; removed to Saratoga; died 1862. GEORGE UPFOLD, Jr., College Physicians and Surgeons, 1816; died 1872, aged 76 PLATT WILLIAMS, Columbia College, Medical Department, 1810; died 1870, aged 86. JOEL A. WING, licentiate Montgomery County Society, 1811; died 1852, aged 65.

1817, THOMAS J. GIBBONS, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1817; died 1819, aged 22.

1819, WILLIAM HUMPFREYS, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1819; died 1826, aged 31. CHARLES MARTIN, licentiate of this society, 1818. ASHBEL S. WEBSTER, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1819; died 1840, aged 44. CALEB WOODWARD; soon left the city.

1820, JOHN JAMES, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1819; died 1859, aged 70. ROGER VIETS, died 1853.

1821, MOSES CLEMENT, licentiate of New Hampshire State Society, 1807; died 1831, aged 51. HENRY B. HALLENBECK, licentiate of this society; died 1825, aged 29. LYMAN SPALDING, died 1841, aged 46. BARENT P. STAATS, licentiate New York State Medical Society, 1817; died 1871, aged 74. SAMUEL S. TREAT, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1821; died 1832, aged 33. PETER VAN O'LINDA, licentiate New York State Medical Society, 1820; died 1872, aged 75. CHRISTOPHER C. YATES, licensed by Supreme Court, 1802; died 1848, aged 70.

1822, VALENTINE DENNICK, licentiate of this society, 1822; date of birth and death not known.

1823, JOHN W. BAY, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1823; died 1877, aged 76. LEWIS C. BECK, licentiate of this society, 1818; died 1853, aged 55. ALDEN MARCH, Brown University, 1820; died 1869, aged 73.

1824, MICHAEL FRELIGH, licensed by civil process; died 1853, aged 83.

1825, RENSSELAER GANSEVOORT, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1824; died 1838, aged 35. JOHN W. HINCKLEY, licentiate of this society, 1825; died 1860, aged 57.

1826, CHARLES E. BURROWS. DAVID W. HOUGHTALING, licensed 1822; died 1829, aged 33.

1827, HAZAEL KANE, licentiate of this society, 1822; died at Nassau. HENRY VAN O'LINDA, licentiate of Montgomery County Society, 1826; died 1846, aged 41.

1828, JAMES P. BOYD, University of Pennsylvania, 1825; died May 10, 1881, aged 77. JAMES M. BROWN, licentiate of this society, 1825; died 1854, aged 50. ELISHA S. BURTON, Berkshire Medical College, 1827; died 1873. *BENJ. B. FREDENBURG, licentiate Columbia County Society, 1819. SAMUEL HUMPFREYS, licentiate State Society, 1821; died in Liberia, 1832, aged 30. EDWARD A. LEONARD, Yale College, Medical Department, 1827; died 1837, aged 31. MICHAEL MALONE, licentiate State Society, 1826; died 1844, aged 46. JAMES MCNAUGHTON, University of Edinburgh, 1816; died 1874, aged 78. PETER MCNAUGHTON, University of Edinburgh, 1825; died 1875, aged 75. WILLIAM NOBLE; removed to Albion, Orleans County. PETER B. NOXON, licentiate of this society, 1824; died April, 1882, aged 86. PETER P. STAATS, licentiate State Society, 1825; died 1874, aged 71. WILLIAM TULLEY, licentiate Connecticut State Society, 1810; died 1859, aged 74. HENRY VAN ANTWERP, licentiate State Society, 1825; died 1859, aged 57. LUKE WELLINGTON, Berkshire Medical College, 1825; removed. ASA BURBANK, Berkshire Medical College, 1823 died 1832.

1829, EBRAM T. BIGELOW, Fairfield Medical College; died about 1868. HENRY GREEN, Fairfield Medical College, 1814; died 1844, aged 54. ISAAC HEMPSTEAD, licentiate of this society, 1827; died 1852, aged 48. AUGUSTUS F. LAWYER, Fairfield Medical College; died March 27, 1883, aged 75. SOLOMON LINCOLN, licentiate State Society, 1829; removed. NICHOLAS MARKAY; died. FRANCIS N. SELKIRK, licentiate of this society, 1829; died 1849, aged 40. JOHN STYLES; removed to New York City. BENJAMIN VAN ZANDT; died. JAMES WADE, licentiate Schenectady County Society, 1812; died 1867, aged 78. NANNING V. WINNE, Yale Medical School, 1828; died 1858, aged 51.

1830, HENRY BRONSON; removed to New Haven, Conn. JONATHAN H. CASE, Fairfield Medical College, 1828; died 1865, aged 58. OBADIAH CROSBY, in New York, 1828; died 1838, aged 38. VERNOR CUYLER, licentiate State Society, 1822; removed. —— DAVIDSON. *THOMAS HUN, University of Pennsylvania, 1830; Albany. JAMES S. LOW; died. DAVID MCLACHLAN, University of Glasgow, 1829; died 1858, aged 55. RICHARD MURPHY, licentiate State Society, 1830. WILLIAM O'DONNELL; removed to New York City. WILLIAM PEARCE. ALVA W. ROCKWELL, Berkshire Medical College, 1820; died 1837, aged 41. NELSON RUSK, licentiate Chautauqua County Society; at Stuyvesant, N. Y. SAMUEL SHAW, removed to Massachusetts. GUY SPALDING, died 1854, aged 75. JOHN F. TOWNSEND, University of Pennsylvania, 1830; died 1874, aged 65.

1831, DAVID R. BURRUS, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1833; removed to Saratoga County, 1859. HIRAM CHRISTIE. LANSING CORY. DARIUS COY; removed to Cobleskill. PALMER C. DORR, licentiate of this society, 1824; died 1840, aged 43. RICHARD J. DUSENBURY; removed to Chicago. EDWARD W. FORD, University of Pennsylvania, 1831; died 1855, aged 45. TEN EYCK GANSEVOORT, University of Pennsylvania, 1825; died 1843, aged 40. LEWIS B. GREGORY, Fairfield Medical College, 1830; died 1838, aged 30. ABRAHAM GROESBECK; removed to Chicago, Illinois. AMMOND HAMMOND, Vermont Academy of Medicine; died 1849, aged 46. ALSON J. HALLENBAKE, licentiate State Society, 1831; died 1846, aged 38. CARROLL HUMPHREY, University of Pennsylvania; died at Calcutta, 1834, aged 29. E. A. LACEY. DAVID SPRINGSTEED, licentiate of this society, 1830. LUTHER M. TRACEY. JOHN T. VAN ALSTYNE, Fairfield Medical College, 1823; died 1876, aged 76. LEONARD G. WARREN, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1826, died 1866, aged 63.

1832, JARVIS BARNEY, died 1838, aged 33. STEPHEN D. HAND, Berkshire Medical College, 1831. JOSIAH W. LAY, licentiate Green County Medical Society, 1816; died 1862, aged 71. PLATT WICKES, removed.

1833, LEVARETTE MOORE, Berkshire Medical College, 1829; removed to Ballston. —— VAN DENMARK.

1834, JAMES H. ARMSBY, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1833; died 1875, aged 66. FREDERICK CROUNSE, Albany County. SAMUEL DICKSON, licentiate State Society, 1829; died 1858, aged 51. N. L. HUNGERFORD, licensed 1830; died 1839, aged 34. WESTLEY NEWCOMB, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1832; removed to Ithaca. WILLIAM G. RADCLIFF, removed to Philadelphia. BERNHARD SABALIS, returned to Holland. SIDNEY SAWYER, removed to Chicago, Illinois. HERMAN WENDELL, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1832; died 1881, aged 72.

1837, WILLIAM F. CARTER, Dartmouth Medical College, 1834; died 1866, aged 54. H. A. GRANT, removed to Connecticut. FRANCIS W. PRIEST, left city after short residence. J. B. ROSSMAN, Fairfield Medical College, 1829; died December 23, 1883, aged 77. EDWARD Q. SEWALL, removed to Canada. JOHN H. TROTTER, licensed to practice; died 1861, aged 48. JOHN VAN BUREN, University of the City of New York; died 1856, aged 48. ALEXANDER VAN RENSSELAER, removed to New York City.

1839, JOHN BABCOCK, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1838; died March 13, 1879, aged 65. JOHN VAN ALSTYNE, died at sea, 1844. PETER VAN BUREN, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1823; died 1873, aged 71. JOHN WILSON, Fairfield Medical College (?); died 1877.

1840, MASON F. COGSWELL, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1833; died 1864, aged 54. OTIS JENKS, licensed by State Society, 1840; died 1854, aged 55.

1841, JOHN O. FLAGLER, died December 17, 1882. E. B. O'CALLAGHAN, licentiate State Society, 1841; died 1880, aged 80. CHARLES H. PAYNE, removed to Saratoga. U. H. WHEELER, died in Brooklyn.

1842, SELAH B. FISH, Berkshire Medical College, 1841; removed from the county.

1844, JOHN CAMPBELL, Albany Medical College, 1843; entered United States Army in 1847. C. E. DAYTON. PATRICK GANNON, in New York; died 1854, aged 74. DAVID MARTIN, Fairfield Medical College, 1828; died 1853, aged 53. WILLIAM J. YOUNG, removed.

1845, URIAH G. BIGELOW, Albany Medical College, 1843; died 1873, aged 52. CHRISTOPHER C. GRIFFIN, licentiate of this society, 1843; died 1856, aged 41. EDWARD PERRY, University of New York; died at the age of 43. J. V. P. QUACKENBUSH, Albany Medical College, 1842; died in 1876, aged 57. RICHARD H. THOMPSON, Albany Medical College, 1842; died 1864.

1846, ISAIAH BREAKEY, Royal College of Surgeons, Dublin, 1816; died 1848, aged 59. *SAMUEL H. FREEMAN, Albany Medical College, 1846; Albany.

1847, HENRY B. MCHARG, Albany Medical College, 1847; died 1848, aged 22. BENJAMIN A. SHELDON, Albany Medical College, 1847, died September 10, 1864, aged 39. *JOHN SWINBURNE, Albany Medical College, 1846; Albany. C. C. WALLER, left the city, 1855.

1848, EDWARD H. CLARKE, Albany Medical College, 1848; removed to Buffalo. HENRY B. FAY, Albany Medical College, 1843; removed to New York City. WILLIAM GEOGHEGAN, Royal College Surgeons, Dublin, 1837; died 1877, aged 62. ALEXANDER W. MCNAUGHTON, Albany Medical College, 1848; died January 7, 1865, aged 36. PAUL TODD TABER, Albany Medical College, 1848; died 1851, aged 25. HOWARD TOWNSEND, Albany Medical College, 1846; died January 15, 1867, aged 44. SYLVESTER

D. WILLARD, Albany Medical College, 1848; died April 2, 1865, aged 40.

1849, DAVID WILTSIE, Albany Medical College, 1847; died 1875, aged 55.

1850, ABRAM H. MCKOWN, Albany Medical College, 1845; died 1853, aged 33. THOMAS H. NEELEY, Albany Medical College, 1850; died 1851, aged 25. JACOB REINHART, Heidelburg and Gottingen, 1847; died 1860, aged 35. JAMES H. SALLISBURY, Albany Medical College, 1850; removed to New York City. AUGUSTUS VIELE, Fairfield Medical College, 1837; died February 12, 1882. ALONZO G. WESTERVELT, Albany Medical College, 1850; removed to Durham, Green County.

1851, JAMES L. BABCOCK, Albany Medical College, 1850; died February 13, 1881, aged 58. J. R. BULLOCK, Fairfield Medical College, 1836; Albany County. IRA M. DE LAMATER, Albany Medical College, 1850; died September, 1864, aged 45. DAVID E. FONDA, Fairfield Medical College, 1838; died January 12, 1883, aged 66. WILLIAM A. HAWLEY, Albany Medical College, 1851; removed to Syracuse. CHARLES D. MARSH, Albany Medical College, 1850; removed from the city. WILLIAM B. SIMS, Albany Medical College, 1850; died October 18, 1881. S. O. VAN DER POEL, Jefferson Medical College, 1845; removed to New York, 1881. I. N. WYCKOFF, Albany Medical College, 1852; never practiced medicine; died.

1852, F. L. R. CHAPIN, Albany Medical College, 1851; removed to Glen's Falls. SAMUEL INGRAHAM, Albany Medical College, 1849; removed to Palmyra. *JOSEPH LEWI, University of Vienna, 1847; Albany. LEVI MOORE, Albany Medical College, 1851; died June 30, 1880, aged 53. HENRY F. SPENCER, Albany Medical College, 1852; died at sea, 1862, aged 36.

1853, HIRAM A. EDMONDS, Albany Medical College, 1853; died 1857, aged 29. *HENRY MARCH, Albany Medical College, 1853; Albany. J. H. SCOON, Albany Medical College, 1849; died July 22, 1880, aged 54. JOHN P. WITBECK, Albany Medical College, 1852; died 1873, aged 44. HARVEY B. WILBUR, Berkshire Medical College, 1842; removed to Syracuse.

1854, *WILLIAM H. BAILEY, Albany Medical College, 1853; Albany. *WILLIAM H. CRAIG, Albany Medical College, 1852; Albany. *CHARLES DEVOL, Fairfield Medical College, 1831; Albany. ALEXANDER H. HOFF, Jefferson Medical College, 1843; died 1876, aged 55. S. P. ULINE, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1852; removed to Lowville.

1855, STEPHEN J. W. TABOR, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1841; removed to Iowa. DANIEL WASSERBACH, University of Hague, 1843; died September 11, 1880, aged 66.

1856, FREDERICK C. ADAMS, Albany Medical College, 1847; died 1862, aged 40. *AMOS FOWLER, University of New York, 1846; Albany. *HENRY G. MCNAUGHTON, Albany Medical College, 1856; Albany. STAATS WINNE, Albany Medical College, 1851; died May 30, 1880, aged 53.

1857, O. C. ALEXANDER, Albany Medical College, 1854; Albany. *HIRAM CROUNSE, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1847; Albany. *GEORGE H. NEWCOMB, Albany Medical College, 1855; Albany. WILLIAM C. RODGERS, Albany Medical College, 1854; died 1860, aged 30. *A. SHILAND, Albany Medical College, 1853; West Troy. JOHN I. SWART, Albany Medical College, 1853; died Nov. 24, 1878, at Schoharie, aged 47. ALFRED WANDS, Albany Medical College, 1845; died 1870, aged 48.

1858, JOHN H. BECKER, Albany Medical College, 1853; died 1873, aged 45. *H. S. CASE, Albany Medical College, 1853; Albany. ALEX. A. EDMESTON, Albany Medical College, 1853; died 1871, aged 42. *THOMAS HELME, Albany Medical College, 1854; McKownsville, Albany Co. MILTON M. LAMB, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1856; removed to Lansingburgh, 1873. J. J. MYERS, Albany Medical College, 1857; Albany. JAMES E. POMFRET, Albany Medical College, 1858; died Feb. 22, 1869, aged 43. LEROY MCLEAN, Albany Medical College, 1855; removed to Troy. GEORGE STEINART, University of New York, 1855; removed to New York City. ANDREW WILSON, licentiate Columbia County Society; died 1871, aged 56.

1859, *CHARLES H. PORTER, Albany Medical College, 1859; Albany. R. S. MCMURDY, Albany Medical College, 1847; removed to Minneapolis, 1873. *R. H. SABIN, Albany Medical College, 1856; West Troy. *CHARLES H. SMITH, Albany Medical College, 1859; Albany. THOMAS SMITH, Albany Medical College, 1845; died 1862. CHARLES P. STAATS, Albany Medical College, 1853; died April 16, 1884, aged 53. OSCAR H. YOUNG, Albany Medical College, 1858; removed to Michigan.

1860, JOSEPH ATHERLEY; died 1864. *J. R. BOULWARE, Albany Medical College, 1859; Albany. WILLIAM B. CHAMBERS, Albany Medical College, 1858; removed to Fulton County. A. S. HARLOW, Albany Medical College, 1859; removed from the county. WASHINGTON KILMER, Albany Medical College, 1860; removed to Florida. JOHN V. LANSING, New York Medical College, 1854; died May 9, 1880, aged 56. MARTIN L. MEAD, Albany Medical College, 1859; removed to Ohio, 1871. *J. W. MOORE, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1859; Cohoes. *CORNELIUS D. MOSHER, Albany Medical College, 1859; Albany. JOSEPH N. NORTHROP, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1839; died Sept. 17, 1878, aged 61. JOHN SHERIFF, Albany Medical College, 1859; removed. J. L. WELCH, Albany Medical College, 1859; died June 23, 1878, aged 54.

1861, WESLEY BLAISDELL, Castleton, Vt.; died 1864, aged 49. *FRANK G. MOSHER, Albany Medical College, 1848; Coeymans.

1862, *THOMAS BECKETT, Albany Medical College, 1861; Albany. ASAHEL BURT, Jr., Albany Medical College, 1861; removed. HENRY R. HASKINS, Albany Medical College, 1861; died March 31, 1883, aged 48. J. D. HAVENS, Albany Medical College, 1861; died Feb. 12, 1875, aged 40. FRANK J. MATTIMORE, Albany Medical College, 1860; died 1863, aged 29. F. B. PARMELE, Albany Medical College, 1842; died Jan., 1882, aged 68.

1863, JOHN F. CROUNSE, Albany Medical College, 1868; died 1872.

1864, STEPHEN JOHNSON, Albany Medical College, 1849; resigned 1875. JACOB S. MOSHER, Albany Medical College, 1863; Albany; died August 13, 1883, aged 49. C. B. O'LEARY, Albany Medical College, 1860; died 1877, aged 38. *H. W. STEENBERG, Fairfield Medical College, 1837; Green Island. SILAS P. WRIGHT, Albany Medical College, 1862; removed.

1865, GIDEON H. ARMSBY, Albany Medical College, 1864; died Nov. 20, 1881, aged 39. MYRON KNOWLTON, Castleton, Vt., 1837; removed to Rochester. P. L. F. REYNOLDS, Albany Medical College, 1861; Albany. CHARLES A. ROBERTSON, Jefferson Medical College, 1853; died April 1, 1880, aged 51. WILLIAM SIGSBEE, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1852; removed to Illinois. *EZEKIEL MULFORD WADE, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1839; Watervliet.

1866, CHARLES S. ALLEN, Albany Medical College, 1864; Rensselaer Co. *HERMAN BENDELL, Albany Medical College, 1862; Albany. JOHN FERGUSON, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1836; died 1874, aged 62. MICHAEL GILLIGAN; removed. GEORGE T. STEVENS, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1857; removed to New York City. GUSTAVUS TRESKATIS, Albany Medical College, 1865; removed to New York City. *ALBERT VAN DER VEER, National Medical College (Med. Dep. Columbia Col., Washington), 1862; Albany. WARNER VAN STEENBERG, University of Vermont (Med. Dep.), 1856; died at Cohoes, May 3, 1880, aged 48.

1867, JAMES S. BAILEY, Albany Medical College, 1853; died July 1, 1883, aged 53. *A. DE GRAFF, Albany Medical College, 1858; Guilderland. *ALFRED B. HUESTED, Albany Medical College, 1863; Albany. JOHN R. GREGORY, Albany Medical College, 1858; removed to Trumansburg. EDWARD R. HUN, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1866; died March 14, 1880, aged 38. JAMES F. MCKOWN, Albany Medical College, 1866; Albany. *P. M. MURPHY, Albany Medical College, 1863; Albany. *D. V. O'LEARY, Albany Medical College, 1866; Albany.

1868, L. M. DUNKELMEYER; removed to Cincinnati, O. ALEXANDER MCDONALD; died 1877, aged 33. *JOHN THOMPSON, University of New York, 1868; Albany. RICHARD D. TRAVER, St. Louis Medical College, 1869; removed to Troy, N. Y. *C. E. WITBECK, Albany Medical College, 1866; Cohoes.

1869, *HIRAM BECKER, Albany Medical College, 1864; New Salem. DANIEL M. STIMSON, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1868; removed to New York City, 1871.

1870, *JOHN M. BIGELOW, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1870; Albany. J. MYERS BRIGGS, Albany Medical College, 1869; died 1874, aged 29. THOMAS D. CROTHERS, Albany Medical College, 1865; removed to Hartford, Conn. *J. R. DAVIDSON, Albany Medical College, 1869; South Bethlehem. EUSTIS H. DAVIS, Albany Medical College, 1854; removed to Watkins. *J. D. FEATHERSTONHAUGH, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1870; Cohoes. H. D. LOSEE, Albany Medical College, 1868; died 1874, aged 25. WILLIAM MORGAN, Albany Medical College, 1869; Albany; resigned 1883. *WM. H. T. REYNOLDS, College of Physicians and Surgeons, 1870; Albany. *CHARLES F. SCATTERGOOD, Albany Medical College, 1868; Albany. *A. P. TEN EYCK, Albany Medical College, 1866; Rensselaer County.

1871, L. R. BOYCE, licentiate Otsego Co. Society, 1862; resigned 1877. ORSON F. COBB, Albany Medical College, 1868; West Troy; suspended 1876. P. J. C. GOLDING; removed to Massachusetts. *L. C. B. GRAVELINE, Albany Medical College, 1862; Albany. *LORENZO HALE, Albany Medical College, 1868; Albany. K. V. R. LANSINGH, Jr., Albany Medical College, 1870; died April 13, 1879. *WILLIAM H. MURRAY, Albany Medical College, 1869; Albany. E. B. TEFFT, Buffalo Medical College, 1864; removed. BARNABAS WOOD, University of Nashville, 1852; died 1875, aged 56.

1872, *FREDERIC C. CURTIS, College of Physicians and Surgeons, 1870; Albany. ISAAC DE ZOUCHE, Albany Medical College, 1869; removed to Gloversville, 1875. *WILLIAM HAILES, Albany Medical College, 1870; Albany. S. A. INGHAM, Albany Medical College, 1871; removed to Little Falls. J. H. LAGRANGE, Albany Medical College, 1871; removed to Columbia County. J. H. LASHER, Albany Medical College, 1871; died 1873, aged 25. CALEB LYON, Albany Medical College, 1871; removed to New York City. PHILIP J. MAGUIRE, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1871; removed to Brooklyn. *B. U. STEENBERG, Albany Medical College, 1870; Albany. *JOHN BEN STONEHOUSE, Albany Medical College, 1871; Albany. *WILLIS G. TUCKER, Albany Medical College, 1870; Albany. *EUGENE VAN SLYKE, Albany Medical College, 1871; Albany. *R. H. STARKWEATHER, Albany Medical College, 1871; Albany. *G. L. ULLMAN, Albany Medical College, 1871; Albany.

1873, ALMON S. ALLEN, Albany Medical College, 1872; removed to Pittsfield, Mass. *JOHN U. HAYNES, Albany Medical College, 1872; Cohoes. *JOSEPH H. BLATNER, Albany Medical College, 1872; Albany. GEORGE A. JONES, Albany Medical College, 1869; died 1875. JAMES C. HANNAN, University of New York, 1873; removed to Hoosick Falls, 1881. *JAMES P. BOYD, Jr., College of Physicians and Surgeons, 1871; Albany. FRANK GARBUTT, Albany Medical College, 1872; removed to Mechanicsville. *C. E. SEGER, Albany Medical College, 1863; Adams Station. *PATRICK E. FENNELLY, Albany Medical College, 1869; West Troy. *OCTAVIUS H. E. CLARKE, McGill University, Montreal, 1870; Cohoes. ALFRED L. WANDS, Albany Medical College, 1869; removed.

1874, *J. L. ARCHAMBEAULT, Laval University, Quebec, 1870; Cohoes. *LEWIS BALCH, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1870; Albany. *O. D. BALL, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1867; Albany. GEORGE H. BENJAMIN, Albany Medical College, 1872; removed. *L. BOUDRIAS (DEMORAT), Victoria University, Montreal, 1870; Cohoes. C. E. BUFFINTON, Albany Medical College, 1874; West Troy. *DANIEL H. COOK, Albany Medical College, 1873; Albany. HERMAN C. EVARTS, Albany Medical College, 1873; removed to Carthage, N. Y. JAMES A. HART, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1873; removed to Colorado about 1877. WILLIAM W. MACGREGOR, Albany Medical College, 1873; removed to Glen's Falls. *CYRUS S. MERRILL, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1871; Albany. LINZEE T. MORRILL, Albany Medical College, 1873; removed. *NELSON MONROE, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1840; Green Island. *GEORGE W. PAPEN, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1874; Albany. *A. T. VAN VRANKEN, Albany Medical College, 1873; West Troy. *FELIX WEIDMAN, Albany Medical College, 1847; Westerlo.

1875, *HARVEY W. BELL, Albany Medical College, 1866; removed to East Albany. *MARY DU BOIS, Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, 1871; Albany. HARRIS I. FELLOWS, Albany Medical College, 1874; died August 29, 1881, aged 44. HIRAM T. HERRINGTON, Albany Medical College, 1873; removed to Rensselaer County. HENRY V. HULL, Albany Medical College, 1874; removed to Schenectady, 1880. *HENRY E. MERENESS, Albany Medical College, 1874; Albany. JOHN E. METCALF, Albany Medical College, 1874; removed to Ketchum's Corners, N. Y. FRANKLIN A. MUNSON, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1873; died December 8, 1878, aged 26. *NORMAN L. SNOW, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1861; Albany. *T. M. TREGO, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1874; Albany. THOMAS WILSON, Albany Medical College, 1874; removed to Claverack, 1876. EDWARD YATES, Jefferson Medical College, 1869; died 1876, aged 29.

1876, *R. D. CLARK, Long Island Medical College; Albany. WILLIAM A. HALL, Albany Medical College, 1875; removed to Fulton, Oswego Co. *J. M. HASKELL, University of Michigan; Bath-on-the-Hudson. *P. J. KEEGAN, University of New York; Albany. *T. K. PERRY, Albany Medical College, 1875; Albany. *W. L. PURPLE, Albany Medical College, 1875; Albany. ELBERT T. RULISON, Albany Medical College, 1875; removed to Amsterdam. *SETH G. SHANKS, Albany Medical College, 1875; Albany. A. H. V. SMYTH, Albany Medical College, 1875; removed to Minaville. *SAMUEL B. WARD, Georgetown Medical College, 1864; Albany. *HARRIET A. WOODWARD, Syracuse University, 1875; Albany.

1877, *JAMES F. BARKER, Albany Medical College, 1877; Albany. *WILLIAM N. HAYS, Albany Medical College, 1875; Albany.

1878, *JESSE CROUNSE, Albany Medical College, 1877; Knowersville. *W. O. STILLMAN, Albany Medical College, 1878; Albany.

1879, *E. A. BARTLETT, Albany Medical College, 1879; Albany, *G. UPTON PELTIER, Bishop's College, Quebec, 1873; Cohoes. *JAMES C. HEALEY, Albany Medical College, 1877; Albany. *A. W. KILBOURNE, University of the City of New York, 1874; Albany. *LANSING B. WINNE, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1878; Albany. *FRANKLIN TOWNSEND, Jr., College Physicians and Surgeons, 1876; Albany. *OTTO RITZMANN, Albany Medical College, 1879; Albany. *JOHN C. SHILAND, Albany Medical College, 1878; West Troy. *URIAH B. LAMOURE, Albany Medical College, 1878; Albany. WM. J. LEWIS, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1878; removed to Hartford, Conn. *MAURICE J. LEWI, Albany Medical College, 1877; Albany. THOMAS B. VAN ALSTYNE, Albany Medical College, 1879; removed to Richmondville, N.Y., 1880. P. B. COLLIER, Long Island College Hospital, 1866; Albany. *EDWARD E. BROWN, Albany Medical College, 1879; Albany. M. W. BROOKS, University of Vermont, 1879; removed to New York City, 1880. *J. E. HALL, Albany Medical College, 1877; Green Island. S. O. VAN DER POEL, Jr., College Physicians and Surgeons, 1876; removed to New York WILLIAM GEOGHAN, Albany Medical College, 1874; removed to New York. *JOHN D. R. MCALLISTER, Albany Medical College, 1879; Albany. THOMAS FEATHERSTONHAUGH, Albany Medical College, 1877; 1882, removed to New York. SHELDON VOORHEES, Albany Medical College, 1879; removed to Auburn, 1881. .

1880, *DANIEL C. CASE, Albany Medical College, 1870; Slingerlands. *THEO. P. BAILEY, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1880; Albany. A. P. CASLER, Albany Medical College, 1880. *FRANK J. MERRINGTON, Albany Medical College, 1880; Albany. *SAM'L R. MORROW, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1878; Albany. JOHN W. GOULD, Albany Medical College, 1880; removed. JOHN J. WHITE, Albany Medical College, 1879; removed to New York. *GEORGE E. ELMENDORF, Albany Medical College, 1875; Coeymans Hollow. M. R. C. PECK, College Physicians and Surgeons, 1876. THOMAS D. WORDEN, Albany Medical College, 1880; removed. LEHMAN B. HOIT, Albany Medical College, 1880; removed. JOHN THOMAS KEAY, Albany Medical College, 1879; died January 4, 1881, aged 28. DANIEL FEGAN, Queen's University, Dublin, Ireland; removed to Ireland.

1881, *GEORGE S. MUNSON, Albany Medical College, 1880; Albany. JOHN F. LOCKWOOD, Albany Medical College, 1881; removed to Wisconsin. S. EDWARD ULLMAN, Albany Medical College, 1880; Albany. *T. W. NELLIS, Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany. *W. J. NELLIS, Albany Medical College, 1879; Albany. *F. L. CLASSEN,

Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany. *HOWARD MILLER, Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany. *HOWARD S. PAINE, Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany. *LAURENTINE ROUCHEL, Buffalo Medical College; Albany. THOMAS G. HYLAND, Bellevue Medical College; removed. CARROL H. PHILLIPS, Albany Medical College, Watervliet; died February 14, 1883. C. W. GREEN, Albany Medical College; removed. CHARLES F. HUDDLESTON, Albany Medical College; removed.

1882, *W. B. SABIN, Albany Medical College, 1882; West Troy. *SAMUEL PETERS, Vermont Academy of Medicine, 1846; West Troy. FRANK S. PETERS, Albany Medical College, 1874; died 1883. *HENRY HUN, Harvard Medical School, 1879; Albany. *GEORGE E. LYON, Albany Medical College, 1882; West Troy. *W. H. FOWLER, Jefferson Medical College, 1879; Albany. *DAVID FLEISCHMAN, Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany.

1883, *WILLIAM L. SCHUTTER, Albany Medical College, 1883; Albany. *FRANK H. FISK, Albany Medical College, 1883; Albany. *CHARLES K. CRAWFORD, Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany. *J. W. RILEY, Albany Medical College, 1882; Albany. WALTER W. SCHOFIELD, Albany Medical College, 1882; removed to Massachusetts. *C. M. CULVER, Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany. J. W. MANN, Albany Medical College, 1882; died 1884.

1884, *J. H. MITCHELL, Albany Medical College, 1882; Cohoes. *R. J. BROWN, Albany Medical College, 1882; Albany. *T. F. C. VAN ALLEN, Albany Medical College, 1882; Albany. *JOSEPH D. CRAIG, Albany Medical College, 1884; Albany. *EDGAR C. HALLENBECK, Bellevue Medical College, 1881; Bethlehem. G. S. KNICKERBOCKER, College Physicians and Surgeons; removed. C. C. SCHUYLER, Albany Medical College; Troy (non-resident).

1885. *SELWIN A. RUSSELL, Albany Medical College, 1877; Albany. *FREDERICK D. MORRILL, Albany Medical College, 1881; Albany. *JOHN H. SKILLICORN, Albany Medical College, 1883; Albany.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY FROM ITS ORGANIZATION.

YEAR.	PRESIDENT.	VICE-PRESIDENT.	SECRETARY.	TREASURER.
1806	Hunloke Woodruff	Wm. McClelland	Charles D. Townsend	John G. Knauff.
1807	"	"	"	"
1808	"	"	"	"
1809	"	"	"	"
1810	"	"	"	Peter Wendell.
1811	"	"	"	"
1812	Wm. McClelland	Charles D. Townsend	J. L. Van Deusen	"
1813	Jonathan Eights	Isaac Hyde	T. Romeyn Beck	"
1814	"	Erastus Williams	"	"
1815	"	"	"	"
1816	"	John Stearns	Peter Wendell	Joel A. Wing.
1817	John Stearns	James Low	"	"
1818	"	"	"	"
1819	"	"	"	"
1820	James Low	William Bay	"	"
1821	Jonathan Eights	"	"	"
1822	C. C. Yates	"	William Humpfrey	"
1823	William Bay	Jonathan Eights	"	"
1824	"	"	"	Barent P. Staats.
1825	"	"	"	Peter Van O'Linda.
1826	Joel A. Wing	Peter Williams	"	John W. Hinckley.
1827	"	"	Peter Van O'Linda	"
1828	Platt Williams	Charles D. Townsend	James P. Boyd	Roger Viets.
1829	"	Barent P. Staats	"	Edward A. Leonard.
1830	Charles D. Townsend	"	Luke Wellington	Isaac Hempstead.
1831	"	"	"	"
1832	Alden March	Guy Spalding	Elisha S. Burton	Carroll Humpfrey.
1833	"	"	"	"
1834	Barent P. Staats	B. B. Fredenburgh	Herman Wendell	Jarvis Barney.
1835	"	Peter B. Noxon	"	"
1836	"	Alva W. Rockwell	"	"
1837	John W. Bay	L. G. Warren	Abraham Groesbeck	John F. Townsend.
1838	James P. Boyd	Peter McNaughton	"	Henry Greene.
1839	"	"	"	Henry Van O'Linda.
1840	Jonathan Eights	"	Peter Van Buren	"
1841	Peter Van Buren	John S. Van Alstyne	Henry Greene	"
1842	"	"	"	"
1843	"	"	Jonathan Case	E. B. O'Callighan.
1844	Thomas Hun	Henry Van O'Linda	John Campbell	"
1845	"	Mason F. Cogswell	"	"
1846	Mason F. Cogswell	R. H. Thompson	"	"
1847	"	"	J. V. P. Quackenbush	C. C. Waller.
1848	James McNaughton	John Swinburne	Benjamin A. Sheldon	"
1849	"	"	"	J. B. Rossman.
1850	James H. Armsby	Wm. F. Carter	"	"
1851	"	"	"	"
1852	J. V. P. Quackenbush	U. G. Bigelow	Sylvester D. Willard	C. C. Waller.
1853	"	"	"	"
1854	Uriah G. Bigelow	Samuel H. Freeman	"	"
1855	"	"	"	"
1856	Samuel H. Freeman	Sylvester D. Willard	Levi Moore	William H. Bailey.
1857	"	"	"	"
1858	Sylvester D. Willard	S. O. Vanderpoel	"	"

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.—CONTINUED.

YEAR.	PRESIDENT.	VICE-PRESIDENT.	SECRETARY.	TREASURER.
1859	William F. Carter	S. O. Vanderpoel	Levi Moore	William H. Bailey.
1860	S. O. Vanderpoel	Leonard G. Warren	Oscar H. Young	George H. Newcomb.
1861	"	"	"	"
1862	Howard Townsend	Joseph Lewi	"	Henry March.
1863	Peter McNaughton	Levi Moore	J. R. Boulware	"
1864	Peter P. Staats	Frank G. Mosher	"	H. R. Haskins.
1865	Levi Moore	R. H. Sabin	Martin L. Mead	F. L. R. Chapin.
1866	James E. Pomfret	"	"	Thomas Beckett.
1867	R. H. Sabin	James L. Babcock	George T. Stevens	"
1868	James L. Babcock	J. W. Moore	Charles H. Porter	Andrew Wilson.
1869	William H. Craig	C. D. Mosher	"	"
1870	William H. Bailey	Andrew Wilson	"	D. V. O'Leary.
1871	Joseph Lewi	Amos Fowler	John M. Bigelow	"
† 1872	Albert Van Derveer	A. Shiland	Frederic C. Curtis	William H. Murray.
1873	John Swinburne	H. W. Steenberg	"	W. H. T. Reynolds.
1874	James S. Bailey	C. E. Witbeck	Joseph H. Blatner	"
1875	Henry March	J. D. Featherstonhaugh	Lewis Balch	D. H. Cook.
1876	Joseph N. Northrop	William H. Murray	B. U. Steenberg	A. T. Van Vranken.
1877	Charles A. Robertson	Louis Boudrias	Eugene Van Slyke	H. E. Mereness.
1878	Frederic C. Curtis	A. T. Van Vranken	T. Kirk Perry	"
1879	John M. Bigelow	B. U. Steenberg	Lorenzo Hale	G. L. Ullman.
1880	A. Shiland	William Hailes	"	"
1881	Jacob S. Mosher	John U. Haynes	T. Featherstonhaugh	M. J. Lewi.
1882	Norman L. Snow	D. C. Case	M. J. Lewi	
1883	Herman Bendell	J. L. Archambeault	E. A. Bartlett	
1884	J. D. Featherstonhaugh	T. Kirk Perry	Jno. Ben. Stonehouse	Uriah B. La Moure.

The publications of the society have been quite remarkable. The entire Transactions of the society have been printed in three volumes of 400 or 500 pages. The first was prepared by Dr. S. D. Willard, and extends to 1850; the second, chiefly by Dr. J. S. Bailey, covers the next twenty years, and the third, chiefly by Dr. F. C. Curtis, recently printed, is filled by the ten years following, down to 1880. These volumes contain biographies of nearly two hundred members, and a number of portraits of deceased and prominent members. The society also has maintained for five years a monthly journal, the *Albany Medical Annals*. Dr. March, in 1830, wrote "A Plea for Establishing a Medical Journal in Albany." Our periodical, which is largely made up of material presented at the monthly meetings of the society, has a considerable circulation outside of the society's territory, and extracts from it frequently appear in other journals. The Editorial Committee are Drs. F. C. Curtis, A. Van der Veer, Lorenzo Hale, J. B. Stonehouse and Willis G. Tucker. Probably no other society in the country has done so much in the matter of publication.

The cholera epidemic of 1832 was an important epoch in the annals of medicine. This disease, which in its European and American history belongs to this century, made its first appearance on this continent at Quebec in 1832, and a fortnight later broke out in Albany. It justly created great alarm. At the request of the Mayor, a meeting of the Medical Society was called to devise means to arrest its progress, and a staff was organized, consisting of Drs. Eights, Wing, Greene, Boyd, Townsend, Wendell, James, McNaughton and March. The physicians of the city met every evening at the City Hall, where an album was kept in which to enter the names of the deceased. The number of reported cases was 1,147, of which 422 were fatal. Two years later, on a fresh outbreak, there were 124 cases, with 78 deaths. No such fatal disease had prevailed since the small-pox epidemics of early history.

Conspicuous among the younger men then was Dr. James P. Boyd. His faithful work at that time gave him an impetus, and he secured a position which made him for very many years one of the first physicians in the city. The brothers James and Peter McNaughton were older by several years. The former had been a professor in a medical school then for twelve years, and at the time of his death, in 1874, he was the senior teacher of medicine, probably, in the world. He was made at this time President of the Board of Health, and wrote a paper on the disease, which was in much demand. His brother, in a less public way, was, perhaps, even more active as a practicing physician. Both of them, in civil as well as medical relations, were for half a century among the first citizens of Albany. The brothers Staats, of the same name as our earliest historical physician, were well known men here for many years. The elder, Dr. Barent, was prominent in politics, and was also a trustee of

numerous mercantile concerns. He was at this time Health Officer of the port. Dr. Alden March was a well-established physician, having come here from New England in 1820. In the fifty years that he practiced he made a world-wide reputation as a surgeon and teacher. The Doctors Beck were, in some respects, the most remarkable men in our history. One of them was sent at this time by the Governor to visit the northern frontier for the purpose of procuring information and organizing boards of health. Dr. T. Romeyn Beck is known over the civilized world as the author of "Medical Jurisprudence." Both of the brothers devoted most of their lives to teaching and scientific literature. Younger than any of them was Dr. Thomas Hun, just entering practice then, and the only one of that time now living, having, however, well earned retirement from active work by over fifty years of service, which brought him a reputation second to none in the country. This strong body of men, most of them of thorough literary and medical education, formed the body of the profession through the two middle quarters of this century, and all of them lived so nearly up to the present time that there are few Albanians to whom they are not perfectly familiar. They had a hand in every important event, professional or civic, that transpired through the long period that they worked together, during which the city doubled its population two or three times.

As in the last century the wars were important periods in our medical history, so in this. In the war of 1812, which was partly at our door, a few of the local physicians were engaged. Most prominently was Dr. Platt Williams, a graduate of Williams College, and prepared by a long course of professional study. The war broke out soon after he began to practice, and he immediately received from Gov. Tompkins the appointment of surgeon to the Second Regiment of Riflemen. He served through the war on the Niagara frontiers. Two years later, having returned to Albany, he was appointed post surgeon of the cantonment at Greenbush, and retained the position till its abandonment in 1822.

Dr. Henry Greene, a native of Rhode Island, immediately after his graduation in 1814, was made assistant surgeon of the Twenty-fifth Regulars, and saw hard service in Canada, remaining in the army till peace was declared. He came to Albany in 1828, was prominent here in the cholera epidemic, and was one of the first faculty of the Medical College.

Dr. Joel A. Wing was for thirty-eight years a physician of Albany. Almost as soon as he graduated he was, without his knowledge, appointed surgeon in the army, which he did not accept, so that his connection with the war was but nominal. He, however, was made post surgeon of the Greenbush barracks in 1844. On his first visit to the barracks, being young, undersized and unimpressive, he was treated with some insolence by the orderly, or nurse. He knocked the man down, and it took all the money he had to pay the fine imposed by the justice; but he secured wholesome respect afterward. Dr. Wing worked very hard in the cholera epidemic and was himself taken with the disease, his recovery speaking well for his associates. In the course of his life he held various important civil positions.

The Mexican war was enacted at a remote point, and none of the profession of this county appears to have served in it.

The late Civil war furnishes a point around which to group a very considerable number of the men and events of our peaceful profession. The men who participated in it were for the most part those of to-day. Its outbreak found Dr. S. O. Vanderpoel, then one of the most active physicians in the city, in the office of Surgeon-General of the State, which place he filled from 1859 to 1863, under Gov. Morgan. It gave him the medical direction in the formation of all regiments sent from this State, the examination of all applicants for and filling of all vacancies in the medical staff of each regiment. He had at the end of his term of service over 600 surgeons in the field. He established promotion by grade in medical corps instead of regimental. During a portion of McClellan's advance in the Peninsula, and in the first battle of the Wilderness, he went as volunteer surgeon. Subsequently he was inspector of hospitals for the Sanitary Commission. After the war Dr. Vanderpoel was for eight years Health Officer of the Port of New York. He was also for many years on the Medical College faculty and physician to the hospitals. In 1881 he removed to New York City.

Dr. J. V. P. Quackenbush was Surgeon-General from '63 to '65, under Gov. Seymour, and carried out its arduous duties almost to the end of the war He spent his entire professional life in Albany, one of its prominent physicians, a leading citizen and a most popular lecturer at the Medical College and hospitals.

Dr. S. D. Willard succeeded him in official position, but died during the same year. He had pre-

viously seen considerable service at the front as volunteer surgeon, especially in 1862, after the battles of the Peninsula, to look after New York soldiers. The profession, of Albany especially, is indebted to him for much laborious work on medical and historical literature, and Willard Asylum was justly named after him for his efforts toward its establishment.

Dr. James D. Pomfret was Surgeon-General from '65 to '69, under Gov. Fenton. In '62 he was appointed surgeon of the 113th Regiment, which was raised entirely in this county; it was changed to the 7th Heavy Artillery, and till May, '64, was placed in the defenses of Washington, during which time he acted as Brigade Surgeon. It then being sent to the front, he was made Division Surgeon, and later Surgeon-in-Chief of the 2d Army Corps. After his return home he had charge of the Soldiers' Home here and was connected with the college and hospitals.

Dr. Jacob S. Mosher was the last of the Albany physicians to hold the office of Surgeon-General, from '69 to '73, under Gov. Hoffman. He served as volunteer surgeon from his graduation in '63 to the close of the war in the hospitals of the Army of the Potomac and at Washington. While there he was appointed Asst. State Medical Director at Washington, holding the position till '67. From '70 till '76 he was Deputy Health Officer of the Port of New York, was on the Yellow Fever Commission appointed by Congress, and till his death, in 1883, was prominent in various departments of medicine and in civil life, being one of the most variously gifted men Albany has ever had.

Dr. J. W. Moore entered the navy in '61 as Asst. Surgeon, and served in the Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River for fourteen months as Surgeon of the Flotilla, participating in many battles, beginning with that of Sewall's Point, the first naval battle of the war. He was in the same fleet with the *Monitor* during its fight with the *Merrimac*. He also served in the North Atlantic Squadron and was Fleet Surgeon of the St. John's River Flotilla. For six months he was with the frigate *Florida*, which was fitted out to cruise for the *Alabama*. After serving for a year in the U. S. A. General Hospital he returned home to Cohoes, where he has since been actively engaged in private practice.

Dr. J. Savage Delavan was appointed Asst. Surgeon, 169th Infantry, in '63, but not being mustered, owing to lack of numbers in the regiment, entered hospital service at Washington. After a time he was commissioned by Gov. Buckingham 1st. Asst. Surgeon, 1st Connecticut Artillery, and remained with that regiment through the war, declining the surgeoncy of 1st N. Y. Cavalry, offered him by Gov. Seymour. He was in all the artillery battles before Petersburg down to the repulse of the Confederates at Fort Steadman, and was at the "mine" and the taking of Fort Fisher. Before the war he was for some time Pension Examining Surgeon, and was again appointed after the war. He was Vice-Consul at Geneva, Switzerland, for two years. Having resumed practice in Albany, he is one of the physicians to the Homœopathic Hospital, and has been one of the three State Commissioners of Health of the State Board of Health since it was first organized.

Dr. Herman Bendell served in the Army of the Potomac and of the Shenandoah from '62 to the close of the war. He was first appointed Asst. Surgeon, 6th N. Y. Artillery; in December, '64, he became surgeon of the 86th N. Y. Vet. Vols. During the final campaign to Richmond he was surgeon in charge of the Depot Field Hospital. He was discharged as Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, N. Y. V. After the war he was Superintendent of Indian Affairs in Arizona Territory, and has now for several years been engaged in private practice here. He now holds the office of Pension Examining Surgeon.

Dr. Samuel B. Ward during a part of 1862 was in the service of the Sanitary Commission on transports of sick to northern ports. In September of that year he became, by contract with the Medical Director of the Department of Washington, acting Medical Cadet, and afterward acting Assistant Surgeon. Having obtained his degree in medicine, he was appointed, after examination, Assistant Surgeon, New York Volunteers, by President Lincoln, and served till the close of the war. He has been connected with the National Guard since 1872, being now surgeon of the Ninth Brigade. He came to Albany in 1876, and has since been one of the faculty of the Medical College and connected with the hospitals.

Dr. Charles A. Robertson was commissioned Surgeon of the 159th New York Volunteers in 1862. He was at Irish Bend, the siege of Port Hudson, Donaldsonville and Vermillion Bayou. Before Port Hudson, he was acting Division Surgeon of Field Hospitals. He was on special service through the Têche country. Prior to the war he had practiced ophthalmology in Boston, and after his service he came to Albany and was the first specialist in this branch of practice, in which he was remarkably skillful. He was attached to several hospitals and had a large practice till his death in 1880.

Dr. Thomas Helme, of McKownsville, was commissioned Assistant Surgeon, 148th New York Volunteers, in November, 1863. His grandfather was a revolutionary soldier and a prominent man in Rhode Island; his father was in the war of 1812 in some military capacity. In 1865 Dr. Helme was promoted to Surgeon of the 85th Regiment. He saw service in the Carolinas and Virginia, was in all the battles before Petersburg, and at the taking of Fort Harrison was wounded while on a charge, so that he was laid up for several weeks. Otherwise he was on active service to the close of the war, when he returned to this county, where he is still in active practice.

Dr. Charles H. Porter was made Assistant Surgeon, 40th New York Volunteers, in November, 1862, but was not mustered. In January, 1863, he was commissioned Surgeon of the Sixth Artillery, to which regiment Dr. Bendell was attached, serving with it to the close of the war, being mustered out with the rank of Brevet Colonel, New York Volunteers. He has since practiced in Albany and for several years has been one of the pension examining surgeons.

Dr. Alexander H. Hoff came to Albany in 1853, and was Surgeon-General from 1854 to 1856. For several years he was examining surgeon at the United States rendezvous here. He entered the army as Surgeon of the Third New York Volunteers, becoming the same year Medical Director under Gen. Fremont, and Chief of Hospital Supplies. In 1864 and till the close of the war he was Medical Director of Transportation. In 1867 he entered the regular army as Surgeon and Brevet Colonel, United States Volunteers, and remained in the service till his death in 1876. His son is now Assistant Surgeon, United States Army.

Dr. N. L. Snow entered the service as Assistant Surgeon, 153d New York Volunteers, in August, 1862, was promoted Surgeon, February, 1864, and was discharged October, 1865. He was in the defense of Washington, was with Sheridan in the Shenandoah, and with Banks on his Red River campaign. During the summer of 1865 he was Health Officer of the District of Savannah. He practiced a number of years at Canajoharie, and about 1875 came to Albany. He has hospital and college connection, and is now President of the Board of Aldermen.

Dr. Albert Van Der Veer was appointed Medical Cadet at the Ira Harris Hospital in June, 1861. The following year he was made Medical Cadet in the army, being one of the original one hundred. He served in this capacity at Columbia College Hospital, Washington, until December, 1862, when he was appointed Assistant Surgeon, 66th New York Volunteers, joining his regiment at Falmouth, Va. In August, 1864, he was promoted surgeon of the same regiment. For over two years he was surgeon in charge of one of the operating tables of the First Division Hospital, Second Army Corps, during the time also having charge of locating the hospital supplies, building winter quarters, etc. He was mustered out with his regiment, which had participated in many of the battles of the Army of the Potomac, August, 1865, and returned to Albany, where he has since been engaged in active practice. Since 1876 he has been a member of the Medical College Faculty as Professor of Surgery, in which department he is pre-eminent in the annals of Albany, besides having a very extensive general and consulting practice in a large region about this city. He is a frequent contributor to medical literature, and is a member of many home and foreign societies, being at this time President of the State Medical Society.

Dr. A. B. Huested served as Hospital Steward of the 113th New York Volunteers (Seventh Heavy Artillery) from 1862 to 1864, the regiment being on garrison duty near Washington. March, 1864, he became Assistant Surgeon, 21st New York Cavalry, and served as such till July, 1866, seeing very active service in the Shenandoah and on the overland stage route north of Denver, along which the regiment was distributed after the war. He has since resided in Albany, and is now one of the faculty of the College of Pharmacy.

Dr. George H. Newcomb was commissioned, August 1862, Assistant Surgeon, 113th New York Volunteers (Seventh Heavy Artillery) and served with it till May, 1865, being promoted Surgeon, February, 1865. This regiment, which was raised in this county, was on garrison duty at Washington, and saw service, in all of which he participated, from Spottsylvania to Petersburg.

Dr. George T. Stevens was Surgeon 77th New York Volunteers from October, 1861, to December, 1865, and was present at nearly all the battles of the Army of the Potomac after the first Bull Run, and of the Shenandoah under Sheridan. In 1862 he was appointed Operating Surgeon of the Third Brigade, and during periods was in charge of the division hospital. After the battles of the Wilderness, he had charge of wounded officers of the Sixth Corps, who were taken to Fredericksburg. He has contributed largely to the surgical history of the war and is author of "Three Years with the Sixth Corps." He practiced in Albany for

several years after the war, and for a time was connected with the Medical College; he now resides in New York.

Dr. P. M. Murphy entered the service as Assistant Surgeon, 134th N. Y. V., March, '64, and was mustered out with his regiment, June, '65. He was in the Army of the Cumberland, in the Southeast, with Sherman, and in the March to the Sea; he participated in all the engagements of the 20th Corps—about twenty-seven in all. He was commissioned Surgeon of the 89th Regiment, but not mustered. Since the war he has resided in this city.

Dr. A. A. Edmeston entered service as Assistant Surgeon, 18th N. Y. V., in '61, and was soon after promoted surgeon of the 92d Regiment, and served through the war. He participated in many of the battles, whose names are familiar, in Virginia and North Carolina. Once he voluntarily accompanied a body of sick and wounded men to Libby Prison and remained there several weeks. While in the army he contracted chronic diarrhœa, from which he never recovered; he died in 1871.

Dr. Frank J. Mattimore was appointed Assistant Surgeon, 18th N. Y. V., in 1862. He saw arduous service at Antietam and the disaster of Fredericksburg. He was mustered out with his regiment in 1863 and returned home, where he died a few months later from the effects of swamp fever which he had contracted in the service.

Dr. Wesley Blaisdell was also a martyr to the war. He was a practitioner of Coeymans, and in August, '62, enlisted as Assistant Surgeon, 113th N. Y. V., being transferred a few months later to the 75th Regiment. In July following, having served at the siege of Port Hudson, he resigned. After a short time he went back to the army and was sent to Newburn, where he contracted yellow fever, which terminated fatally.

Dr. C. B. O'Leary was professionally connected with the army almost throughout the war, with intervals, and with various regiments. He was Assistant Surgeon of the 25th and 145th Regiments, and Surgeon of the 175th, serving with the Army of the Potomac and at Port Hudson. He returned to Albany, and died here in 1877. His brother, Dr. D. V. O'Leary, was recently health officer and is now postmaster of the city, being also on the medical staff of St. Peter's Hospital.

Dr. Warner Van Steenberg entered the army in '61, as Assistant Surgeon, 1st N. Y. Inf.; a year after was promoted Surgeon of the 55th, and afterward was transferred to the 120th. He was mustered out with his regiment, with the rank of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel. He settled to practice in Cohoes, where he remained until his death in 1880.

Dr. P. L. F. Reynolds was commissioned Assistant Surgeon, 169th N. Y. V., September, '62; he resigned December, '63. The regiment saw service in Virginia and the Carolinas. In March, '65, he received a commission as Assistant Surgeon, 94th N. Y. V., but was not mustered. He is now practicing in Albany.

Dr. William H. Craig, then a practitioner for eight years in this city, was commissioned, October, '62, Surgeon 177th N. Y. V., a regiment which was raised in Albany, to serve nine months, and seeing service at Ponchatoula, Scivique's Ferry and Port Hudson. He remained with his regiment until the expiration of its service. Since the war he has resided in Albany, and has for several years held the office of postmaster.

Dr. Jephtha R. Boulware served as Assistant Surgeon of the same regiment with which Dr. Craig was connected, the 177th, as did also Dr. Oscar Young, who resided here for several years. Dr. Boulware has been a prominent practitioner in Albany since his war service, and for a time was Surgeon of St. Peter's Hospital.

Dr. Henry R. Haskins was commissioned Surgeon of the 192d N. Y. V., which was partly raised in this county, in February, '65, and was mustered out in the August following. He practiced in Albany till his death in 1884; was for several years Professor of Anatomy at the Medical College, and was prominent especially as a surgeon.

Dr. Thomas Beckett was made Assistant Surgeon, 25th N. Y. Nat. Guard, April, '61, and served with it for five months in Virginia. October, '62, was again mustered as First Assistant Surgeon 4th Regiment (Corcoran's Brigade), consolidated with the 175th N. Y. V., and sent to Louisiana. For a time he was detached and placed in charge of the sick of General Emory's Division. He accompanied his regiment on the expedition to Plaquemine and the Tèche raid, and at the battle of Brisland was three days and nights on the field; at Port Hudson he had become so reduced in health that he was discharged, June, '63, with the rank of Brevet Major, N. Y. V. In '65 he was placed on duty as Acting Assistant Surgeon at the Ira Harris Hospital here, and served to the end of the war.

Dr. Charles P. Staats was made Assistant Surgeon, 67th New York Infantry, in 1863, seeing service for a year and a half with the Army of the Potomac. After being mustered out with his regiment he returned to Albany, where he died in 1884.

Dr. John H. Wilbur, now a practitioner of Cohoes, enlisted in the 44th New York Volunteers in 1861, and after two years' service was discharged on account of physical disabilities. In September, 1866, he was commissioned by Gov. Fenton Surgeon of the 108th Infantry, and served till the regiment disbanded.

Dr. R. H. Sabin, of West Troy, received a commission as Assistant Surgeon, Seventh New York Artillery, but was prevented by domestic affairs from serving.

Besides these there were a number of Albany physicians who, while having no regular regimental attachment, saw considerable service in army hospitals and at the front after severe battles. Dr. Mason F. Coggswell, a practitioner here since 1833, and having held various offices of responsibility, was at the outbreak of the war appointed Examining Surgeon. He was surgeon of a post hospital in 1862, and served as volunteer surgeon after the battles of the Wilderness. In 1863 he visited hospitals in the West with Dr. Thomas Hun, for the Christian Commission. His death in 1865 was attributed partly to his hard work in Virginia. Dr. J. V. Lansing was examiner of recruits here, where a large number of regiments were organized. He also served as contract surgeon, or acting assistant. For many years he was connected with the college and hospital here; he died in 1880, while surgeon to Dannemora prison. Dr. Henry March was assistant volunteer surgeon, sent by the State in 1861–2; he was on hospital service at Fortress Monroe and at Fredericksburg. Dr. Wm. H. Bailey, for many years a leading physician of Albany, was sent to Washington and the army to look after the welfare of New York troops, several times by the Governor and the Christian Commission. He is now connected with the Albany Hospital; is one of the pension examining surgeons, and a late president of the State Medical Society. Similar special service was rendered by Dr. John Swinburne, a sketch of whose life may be found on another page, Dr. Levi Moore, Dr. J. L. Babcock, and probably others. Dr. Alden March gave his valuable services to the inmates of the Soldiers' Home located here. Dr. James. H. Armsby rendered the same patriotic service. Dr. Ira M. Delamater, Dr. S. H. Freeman and Dr. A. P. Ten Eyck were likewise connected with the work in this home for disabled soldiers.

Besides those who have served in a professional capacity, there are a few among the physicians here who may be mentioned for other service during the war.

Dr. O. D. Ball enlisted, November, 1861, in the Third New York Light Artillery as Quartermaster-Sergeant; in 1864 he was commissioned Second Lieutenant, and a few months later was promoted to First Lieutenant and assigned to duty as regimental quartermaster, and for a time was acting Assistant Adjutant-General. He went up the James River with the army under General Butler as ordnance officer, and was engaged in the preliminary battles and siege of Petersburg, the battles of James River and Wilson's Landing. He served through the war and came to Albany in 1874, after several years' practice in Otsego County.

Dr. Edward E. Brown entered the service in September, 1862, as First Lieutenant Fifth New York Heavy Artillery, and was promoted Captain, serving through the war. He saw service principally in the defenses of Washington; was engaged in the taking of Harper's Ferry. Since graduating at the Albany Medical College he has practiced in Bethlehem, and now is settled in Albany.

Dr. E. A. Bartlett, a descendant of the Dr. Josiah Bartlett, signer of the Declaration of Independence, enlisted as private in the Fourth United States Artillery in 1863, for five years, and participated in twelve engagements of the Department of the Cumberland and Tennessee. He was wounded at Pulaski in January, 1865. In 1866, the war having ended, he was, through Senator Harris, discharged, in order to complete his collegiate education. His professional life he has spent in Albany. He is a contributor to literature, general and medical, his latest work being a popular brochure on cholera.

Dr. F. C. Curtis enlisted in the spring of 1864, with a large part of his college class, as private in the 40th Wisconsin hundred days' regiment, and saw service during the summer chiefly in the defenses of Memphis.

Dr. Lewis Balch, although not in the army during the war, may be mentioned as a prominent medical officer of the National Guard, in which he is a senior surgeon, 10th battalion, with rank of major. He is connected with the college and the hospitals here, and is now health officer of the city.

As completely as possible the military history of medical men in this county has been presented in recognition of the important relation that exists between war and the science of medicine.

During this century the city and county have maintained the early repute for healthfulness, the cholera epidemics already referred to being the most notable inroad upon it. The topography, soil and

drainage are favorable to salubrity. The city especially is admirably situated, with its succession of slopes and valleys draining rapidly into the all-absorbing river, and it needs but a decent attention to artificial aids for removing waste and moisture, with an abundance of pure water, to keep it the healthiest city in the world.

The various medical institutions which have been brought into existence during the century are important features of our medical history. The Albany Medical College was organized in 1838, and is one of the oldest schools of medicine in this country. As early as 1821 Dr. Alden March began to give a course of instruction in anatomy by lectures and dissections, and continued it until the organization of the College; for ten years of the time also holding the chair of anatomy and physiology in the Vermont Academy of Medicine. He began in 1830 to agitate the propriety of establishing a college and hospital here. Soon after this Dr. James H. Armsby became associated with Dr. March in his private school, at the same time also lecturing at the Vermont institution. He delivered several courses of public lectures on anatomy, and did much thereby to awaken the interest of prominent citizens in the subject. This resulted in a meeting of citizens in 1838, at which the preliminary steps were taken toward its organization, some of the best men in the city co-operating for the purpose. Funds were subscribed, a faculty and board of trustees selected, and the Lancaster school building leased, rent free, of the Common Council. The first course of lectures began in January, 1839, to a class of fifty-seven students, and an extensive museum, chiefly contributed by Drs. March and Armsby, was displayed to the public. This museum has received further contributions from Drs. March, Armsby, McNaughton, Van Der Veer and others, until now it is one of the largest in the country, and is still, on stated days, open to the public. During the first few years Dr. Armsby and Mr. Amos Dean, who was professor of medical jurisprudence, delivered public lectures in the evening, which added much to the interest in the institution. In 1841 the Legislature made an appropriation of $15,000 to it, and subsequently $6,000, and the citizens of Albany contributed $10,000 for its establishment. The first class that graduated numbered thirteen. Since then the college has contributed 2,000 men to the medical force of the country, all over which they are scattered, and many of them the leading men of their localities. The college has had on its board of trustees the first citizens of Albany, and the leading physicians have been on its faculty or board of curators. Within a few years the demand for higher education has been met by the requirement of a preliminary examination of all applicants for admission, by the establishment of a three years' graded course of study, and by monthly written examinations. But very few medical schools in this country are thus exacting; this one, consequently, stands high. The final examination by the faculty is a written one, and after it the graduate has still to pass another by the board of curators. The course is not only scientific but practical, by the exhibition of cases, operations and laboratory work, and a number of prizes stimulate the students to their best efforts.

The following is a historical list of the college faculty from its beginning until now, in the order of their appointment: Drs. Ebenezer Emmons, James H. Armsby, David M. Reese, Alden March, Henry Greene, David M. McLachlan, Amos Dean, Esq.; Drs. Thomas Hun, Gunning S. Bedford, James McNaughton, Lewis C. Beck, T. Romeyn Beck, Howard Townsend, Ezra S. Carr, J. V. P. Quackenbush, Charles H. Porter, G. F. Barker, Jacob S. Mosher, S. O. Vanderpoel, James E. Pomfret, John V. Lansing, H. R. Haskins, Albert Van Der Veer, E. R. Peaslee, Meredyth Clymer, W. P. Seymour, George T. Stevens, John M. Bigelow, Maurice Perkins, Ira Harris, Esq., LL.D.; Drs. Willis G. Tucker, William Hailes, H. E. Webster, M. A., Drs. John Swinburne, Lewis Balch, Samuel B. Ward, John P. Gray, Edward R. Hun, James P. Boyd, Jr., C. S. Merrill, S. O. Vanderpoel, Jr., Franklin Townsend, Jr., Frederic C. Curtis and Henry Hun. Of these a few had but a short connection with the institution, and a few were non-residents of this city.

On the present faculty are: Dr. Thomas Hun, LL.D., Dean, and Dr. S. O. Vanderpoel, LL.D., both Emeritus Professors; Dr. Albert Van Der Veer, *Surgery;* Dr. Maurice Perkins, *Chemistry;* Dr. John M. Bigelow, *Materia Medica;* Dr. Lewis Balch, *Anatomy;* Dr. Samuel B. Ward, *Practice of Medicine;* Dr. John P. Gray, *Psychological Medicine;* Dr. James P. Boyd, *Obstetrics and Gynecology;* Dr. Willis G. Tucker, *Chemistry;* Dr. William Hailes, *Histology;* Dr. C. S. Merrill, *Diseases of the Eye and Ear;* Dr. Franklin Townsend, *Physiology;* Dr. Frederic C. Curtis, *Diseases of the Skin,* and Dr. Henry Hun, *Nervous Diseases.* Dr. Henry March is Curator of the Museum, Dr. E. Van Slyke, Demonstrator of Anatomy, and Dr.

S. R. Morrow, Lecturer on Surgery. Dr. A. L. Carroll, Secretary of the State Board of Health, has also delivered a course of lectures on Hygiene. Most of the faculty are connected with one or more of the hospitals of the city. In years past summer courses of lectures have been given, at which many of the physicians of the city have assisted the regular faculty. These are now suspended, and the regular course of six months lasts from early in September till March. The Curators of the College are: Drs. Samuel H. Freeman, William H. Craig and Norman L. Snow, of Albany, Dr. James D. Featherstonhaugh, of Cohoes, and Dr. Barent A. Mynderse, of Schenectady.

The college owns a valuable library, particularly rich in rare old works, much of which was selected by Dr. T. Romeyn Beck. It has laboratories that are extensive and complete, having been recently rebuilt. Alumni Hall, a wing of the college, is a gathering place for all medical organizations, its walls being covered with portraits of members of the County Medical Society. There is a large Alumni Association, holding annual meetings on commencement days, through whose members the college gets much of its patronage.

The Albany College of Pharmacy is another medical institution that deserves mention. Like the Medical College, it is a department of Union University by the Board of Governors of which it was created in 1881. Its course extends over two years, lectures being given in the evening. It is required of the students to spend four years with a reputable pharmacist. The faculty consists of Dr. Willis G. Tucker, Dr. A. B. Huested and Mr. G. Michaelis. The late Dr. Mosher was connected with it up to the time of his death.

Albany is fortunate in the possession of several hospitals, a fact which speaks well for its benevolent spirit. Reference has already been made to the military hospitals. The Albany Hospital was founded in 1849. For the first few years it occupied buildings on the corner of Madison avenue and Dove street. In 1854 the present fine building on Eagle street near the Medical College was secured for it, having been used as a county jail till then, and remodeled at a cost of over twenty thousand dollars. This was largely due to the unremitting efforts of Dr. James H. Armsby, to whom more than any other citizen Albany is indebted for its educational and benevolent institutions. He gave his professional services to the hospital during his life, and raised over one hundred thousand dollars for it by personal application. In 1872 a large addition was built, and with numerous and costly improvements since it has been made one of the most perfect hospitals possible, with accommodation for about 150 patients. It has as an especial feature a large number of private rooms, respectively fitted up by and named after the various Protestant churches in the city, and no hospital in the country is so homelike to those so unfortunate as to need its care. Patients taking private rooms may be attended there by their own physicians. It is under the care of a board of fifteen governors, who are elected annually by the members of the corporation, a gift of fifty dollars entitling the donor to a vote for life. It is supported by private contributions, by the income of an endowment fund and from the rent of private rooms, and by the payment from the city and county towns for the care of the sick. The present staff of the hospital consists of Dr. Thomas Hun, consulting physician; Drs. Samuel H. Freeman, Joseph Lewi, John M. Bigelow and Samuel B. Ward, attending physicians; Drs. Albert Van Der Veer, William Hailes and Normon L. Snow, attending surgeons; Drs. Cyrus S. Merrill and Herman Bendell, eye and ear surgeons; Dr. William H. Bailey, obstretrician; Dr. James P. Boyd, gynecologist, and Dr. Frederic C. Curtis, diseases of the skin. The hospital has a dispensary for the care of outpatients, to whom advice and medicines are furnished gratuitously. It is open daily. Several thousands are thus treated yearly.

St. Peter's Hospital was opened in 1869, in the building on the corner of Broadway and North Ferry street, which was for many years occupied by Stephen Van Rensselaer, son of the late Patroon This building has been much enlarged by more recent additions. It is in charge of the Sisters of Mercy, with the co-operation of an advisory board of forty gentlemen. Being near the railroads, it receives a great many cases of accident. It has also a dispensary for out patients to which many, not only from the city but from neighboring counties, come for treatment, not less than twenty-five thousand persons having been treated gratuitously there since it was opened. The staff of physicians consists of Dr. Thomas Hun, Samuel B. Ward and Daniel V. O'Leary, consulting physicians; Drs. A. Van Der Veer and Lewis Balch, consulting surgeons; Drs. Henry Hun, Selwyn A. Russell and T. Kirk Perry, attending physicians; Drs. S. R. Morrow, P. J. Keegan and William Hailes, attending surgeons; Dr. J. M. Bigelow, laryngoscopy and throat diseases; Drs. C. S. Merrill, G. A. Munson and T. F. C. Van Allen, ophthalmic

and aural surgeons; Drs. James P. Boyd and Franklin Townsend, obstetric surgeons; and Dr. F. C. Curtis, physician for diseases of the skin.

The Child's Hospital, one of the most effective institutions in the city, was organized in 1875. It is under the charge of the Sisters of the Order of the Holy Child Jesus. A board of lady managers has the care of its financial management. The total number of beds is 75, three of which are endowed. It is mainly supported by voluntary contributions. On its medical staff are Drs. Thomas Hun and John Swinburne, consulting, and Dr. Lewis Balch, Henry Hun and T. M. Trego, attending physicians, Dr. C. S. Merrill having charge of diseases of the eye and ear, and Dr. J. W. Cox of the homœopathic ward.

The Albany City Homœopathic Hospital was chartered in 1872, and in 1875 was consolidated with the dispensary, which was incorporated in 1868. It is under the charge of a board of managers, and its staff includes most of the homœopathic physicians of the city. The institution furnishes accommodation for 30 patients, a large part of whom are charity cases, although it has several private rooms for paying patients. Its support comes from voluntary contributions and a yearly appropriation from the city. The part that homœopathic physicians have had in our medical history will form a separate chapter.

The Alms House Hospital and Insane Asylum has capacity for the sick poor and insane of the county. It is situated at the outskirts of the city, on the grounds and under the management of the Alms House officials, Dr. R. H. Starkweather having its professional charge as city physician.

The work of the hospitals is very well supplemented by the Open Door Mission and the Hospital for Incurables, the youngest of the benevolent institutions. Their purpose is to care for the indigent sick and crippled who, being incurable, cannot be provided for by the hospitals. Besides these there are a considerable number of asylums and homes in the city which need and receive medical care.

During the century Albany has grown nearly twenty times in population, Cohoes has become a considerable city, and West Troy a large village of thirteen thousand inhabitants. Instead of a dozen physicians, mostly dwelling near the site of Old Fort Orange, there are now not less than one hundred and seventy-five throughout the county. There is hardly a specialty in medicine which is not ably and abundantly represented here. These, with the hospitals, the medical school, the medical journal, the exceptionally central and accessible location of the city, and a body of general practitioners of as high character and capability as any in the country, have made Albany the metropolis and center for an extensive territory. No locality is more free from empyrics than is this city and county of Albany; there is none in which the *esprit du corps* of the profession is better, and none in whose history and development more able and forceful medical men have borne an active part. It is an honor to be the chronicler of so good representatives of a profession which is one of the most useful in the elements of human weal and advancement. Lack of space has prevented the mention of many who should be spoken of and of the high offices that have been held; but enough has been detailed to show the very considerable part the profession has taken in bringing this old place to its good position in history. However rapidly Albany may grow in the future, its past and present gives evidence that the medical profession will keep pace with it in strength, energy and capacity.

HISTORY OF THE INTRODUCTION AND PROGRESS OF HOMŒOPATHY IN ALBANY COUNTY.

BY H. M. PAINE, M. D., OF ALBANY, N. Y.

This historical sketch embraces:

I. History prior to the organization of the County Homœopathic Medical Society.

II. History subsequent to the organization of the Albany County Homœopathic Medical Society.

III. Abstracts of the Proceedings of the Society, showing titles of papers and contributions to medical science; also the position of the society regarding the polemics of homœopathy.

IV. History of the Albany City Homœopathic Hospital and Dispensary.

I.—HISTORY PRIOR TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ALBANY COUNTY HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The homœopathic system of medical practice was first introduced into the City of Albany by Dr. Augustus P. Biegler, in the autumn of 1837.

At that early period only a few persons had heard of the new system, and a still smaller number of its adherents were willing to trust it in severe forms of disease. There were a few, how-

ever, who were thorough converts to the new method. Their confidence in the efficacy of homœopathic treatment was such that they adhered to it alone, even in the most rapid and dangerous diseases.

Among this class of firm believers in the new system, the name of Rev. Dr. Myers, pastor of the First Lutheran Church, deserves special mention. The reverend doctor, at that early day, had procured from Leipsig a number of homœopathic remedies and a small book, printed in the German language, giving directions for the proper administration of the medicines.

By these firm believers in homœopathy Dr. Biegler was cordially welcomed and zealously supported, and the system he represented, by turn earnestly advocated and fearlessly defended.

Dr. Biegler was born in Prussia; he resided, at the time of graduation from the University of Berlin, at St. Wendel; his diploma is dated March 29, 1832, and bears the signature, among others, of Christian G. Hufeland. He received letters of recommendation from Dr. Hufeland and others to professors in another German university, in which also he pursued medical studies subsequent to his graduation at Berlin.

He began the practice of homœopathy at Albany in November, 1837. In the next year (1838) he passed the requisite examination, and was admitted to membership in the Medical Society of the City and County of New York.

Dr. Biegler remained in Albany until the spring of 1840, when he removed to Schenectady, and in the autumn of that year became a permanent resident of Rochester, Monroe County, N. Y.

During this journey westward, which occupied several months, Dr. Biegler delivered lectures on homœopathy in the principal cities along the route. These lectures awakened great interest in the new system, and resulted in the addition of many converts to the homœopathic method of medical treatment.

Late in the autumn of 1840 Dr. Biegler left Rochester for the purpose of visiting Hahnemann, at Paris. He remained at that city about one year. As a testimonial of esteem, Hahnemann presented him with a beautiful carnelian stone ring, on which a profile of the head of Hahnemann was engraved; also a lock of his own hair, with a note from Madame Hahnemann.

After his return to this country Dr. Biegler resumed practice at Rochester, where he remained until his death, which occurred in 1849, at the age of 59 years. Dr. Biegler enjoyed the rare opportunity of a long personal acquaintance with Hahnemann.

Soon after Dr. Biegler's advent Dr. Rosenstein established himself at Albany. The two physicians formed a partnership in business, which was terminated in a few months by the removal of Dr. Rosenstein from the city.

Dr. Biegler was succeeded; in the spring of 1840, by Dr. Charles Frederic Hoffendahl. Dr. Hoffendahl was born, June 28, 1799, at New Brandenburgh, in Mecklenburg-Strelitz. He began medical studies at the age of seventeen years, at the St. Joseph's Academy of Vienna, a training school for military surgeons.

In 1820, having passed his examination, he was attached to an Austrian infantry regiment (entitled Wurtemberg) and accompanied it during a campaign in Italy. He then, in 1828, finished his studies and obtained his degree at the Medical University of Berlin.

It is probable that he became a homœopathic practitioner soon after graduation, having previously acquired a knowledge of homœopathy while in the Austrian army, through the kindness of Regimental Surgeon Schmidt.

Dr. Hoffendahl came to this country in 1837, and settled at Philadelphia, where he remained until 1840, when he became a resident of Albany. He remained at Albany two years, and then, in 1842, removed to Boston, Mass., where he died, April 24, 1862, at the age of sixty-three years.

In 1841 Dr. Isaac M. Ward, of Newark, N. J., came to Albany. After a very successful and remunerative practice of seven years, he retired to New York in the autumn of 1847. Dr. Ward has long since retired from active practice. He resides (1885) at Elizabeth, N. J.

Dr. Charles H. Skiff came to Albany in 1842. Dr. Skiff was born at Spencertown, Columbia County, N. Y., May 12, 1808. The greater part of his boyhood was spent with his grandfather, Nathan Skiff, on Skiff Mountain, in the town of Kent, Litchfield County, Conn. He was graduated from the Berkshire Medical College, at Pittsfield, Mass., September 5, 1832.

After the death of a dearly beloved daughter and a severe illness of his own, during which he obtained evidences of the practical superiority of the new over the old method, he fully adopted the homœopathic system.

He remained at Albany less than one year, and thence, in the fall of 1843, removed to New Haven, Conn., where he resided, with the exception of two years spent at Brooklyn, N. Y., to

the time of his death, in 1875, at the age of sixty-seven years.

He was the first physician to practice homœopathically at New Haven; he was one of the founders of the Connecticut State Homœopathic Medical Society, and also one of the original members of the American Institute of Homœopathy.

Dr. Henry D. Paine came from Newburgh, Orange County, to Albany in 1845. He formed a partnership in business with Dr. I. M. Ward. The partnership continued two years, and was terminated by the removal of Dr. Ward to New York. Dr. Paine removed from Albany to New York in the spring of 1865, where he is still (1885) participating in professional duties.

Dr. E. Darwin Jones began the practice of homœopathy at Albany in the spring of 1846. He had been an old-school practitioner several years. On a careful and thorough investigation of the homœopathic system, he became convinced of its superiority, and immediately adopted it in practice. At the present time (1885) Dr. Jones is still engaged in active practice at Albany.

Dr. David Springsteed had also been an old-school physician several years. He was induced to read homœopathic publications, and to test the utility of homœopathic remedies in certain diseases. After a prolonged examination, involving many practical experiments, in the spring of 1846, he openly announced himself a convert to the new system. Dr. Springsteed then resided in the town of Bethlehem, Albany County. He removed to the city of Albany in 1861.

By reason of advanced age, in 1880, he retired from active practice and removed to Saugerties, Ulster County, and subsequently, in 1882, to Brooklyn, N. Y., where at the present time (1885), although feeble in bodily strength, he is enjoying the evening of life in the possession of all his mental faculties.

Dr. John Alsop Paine began practice at Albany in January, 1847. Dr. Paine was born at Whitestown, Oneida County, N. Y., July 10, 1795. He received an academical education at Clinton, Oneida County, N. Y., and was graduated from the Medical Department of Yale College in the spring of 1825.

In the course of his long and eventful career he engaged successfully in practice in Volney, Oswego County; Paris, New Hartford and Utica, in Oneida County, N. Y., and Newark, N. J., from which place he removed to Albany. He remained six years in Albany, and died at Lake Forest, Ill., June 16, 1871, in the 76th year of his age.

He practiced the old-school system prior to the year 1844, at which time, being detained several weeks at Albany for the purpose of giving evidence in a suit to recover damages for injuries received in this city by a patient who had been a long time under his care, he availed himself of the opportunity thus afforded for witnessing the application of the new system, as illustrated by the practice of Dr. I. M. Ward, at that time a resident of Albany.

On returning to his home at New Hartford, he at once instituted a series of trials, at first in cases in which the usual old-school remedies had failed. These tests resulted in demonstrating to his entire satisfaction the availability of a method having a far wider range of application—one opening up a greater wealth of resources in its applicability in the treatment of even the most dangerous and rapidly fatal diseases—than any he had hitherto witnessed. These advantages he quickly perceived and speedily availed himself of in daily practice, and held to them during the remaining years of his professional life with singular tenacity, seldom, except under the most urgent necessity, ever resorting to old school palliative or alterative treatment.

Dr. Paine was elected to a number of official positions in connection with the medical associations, old-school and new, in which he held membership.

He was a skillful and successful physician; he was genial in disposition, judicious and exemplary in his daily life. His influence over his patients was marked by characteristic cheerfulness, hopefulness and unusual urbanity of manners. His presence in the sick room was often an inspiration, prompting a faithful co-operation in the use of the remedial measures suggested.

He manifested decided originality in determining the active as well as the predisposing causes of disease; hence his opinion regarding the diagnosis of difficult and obscure cases was frequently desired by his professional associates.

Dr. Henry Adams, son of Dr. Peter C. Adams, was born at Coxsackie, N. Y., July 6, 1787. He pursued the study of medicine under the supervision of his father, and was admitted to practice in the twenty-first year of his age.

During the war of 1812 he was appointed surgeon in the American army, and was stationed at Sackett's Harbor, N. Y. At the close of the war he returned to Coxsackie and resumed practice.

About the year 1846 he was persuaded to investigate the claims of homœopathy, and was not slow to accept its principles as an improvement upon the old method. His confidence in the new system never wavered.

He came to Albany in 1848, remaining two years. He removed to Cohoes in 1850, where he resided to the time of his death, which occurred July 6, 1857, on his seventieth birthday.

He possessed great individuality and originality of method. He was firm and positive in his convictions, and pursued a course, once decided on after mature deliberation, with untiring perseverance. He was a man of few words. His thoughts and opinions were expressed in strong, terse language and laconic sentences.

Dr. Horace M. Paine, son of Dr. John A. Paine, was graduated from the Medical Department of the University of the City of New York, in March, 1849. He at once began practice in Albany, remaining until 1855, when he removed to Clinton, Oneida County, N. Y., where he resided until 1865, returning that year to Albany.

Prior to the year 1849 the accessions to the ranks of homœopathic practitioners were from among those who had been previously engaged for several years in old-school practice. Dr. Paine was the first young physician who began the practice of homœopathy immediately after graduation.

Dr. Paine at the present time (1885) is a resident of Albany, and is engaged in active practice.

In 1851 a physician by the name of Brooks came to Albany. He had been an old-school practitioner fifteen or sixteen years, and had recently become a convert to the new system. He remained at Albany two or three years, and then removed elsewhere.

Dr. William H. Randel was graduated, in the spring of 1851, from the Medical Department of the University of the City of New York, and immediately thereafter began the practice of homœopathy in Albany.

Dr. Randel visited Europe in 1867, and spent a greater part of a year in observing the results of treatment adopted in the principal hospitals in England and on the Continent. He is still (1885) a resident of Albany, and is engaged in active professional duties.

Dr. James W. Cox was graduated, in the spring of 1852, from the Albany Medical College, and at once began the practice of homœopathy in Albany. He entered into partnership in business with his former preceptor, Dr. Henry D. Paine. The partnership continued seven years, and was then dissolved by mutual consent. Dr. Cox subsequently formed a partnership with Dr. John S. Delavan. Dr. Cox is, at the present time (1885), engaged in practice in Albany.

Dr. C. G. Bryant was graduated, in the spring of 1852, from the Albany Medical College. He associated himself in business with his former preceptor, Dr. D. Springsteed. He remained one year in Albany, and then removed to San Francisco, where he died in 1866.

Dr. Lester M. Pratt, of Fulton, Oswego County, N. Y., came to Albany in August, 1854. He was graduated in the spring of that year from the Homœopathic Medical College of Philadelphia. He formed a partnership in business with Dr. H. M. Paine, which continued one year, and was terminated by the removal of Dr. Paine to Clinton, Oneida County, N. Y. Dr. Pratt has, on two occasions, entered into partnership with Dr. John S. Delavan. Dr. Pratt, at the present time (1885), is engaged in active practice at Albany.

Dr. George H. Billings was graduated from Castleton Medical College in 1857, and the same year began the practice of homœopathy at Cohoes. He remained at Cohoes seven years, and then removed to Brooklyn. He returned to Cohoes in 1870, where he is now, in 1885, engaged in active professional duties.

These seventeen physicians, the pioneers of our school in Albany County, espoused the homœopathic system when its very name was, in the estimation of the dominant school, a synonym of reproach, and, as indicative on the part of the homœopathist, of a deficiency of sound judgment. Homœopathists were regarded as visionary in their conceptions and superficial in their attainments. Many of the pioneers of homœopathy, however, were men of profound learning; they were ripe scholars, and were in full possession of all those mental qualities required for originality of thought and independence of action.

At that early day the opposition to homœopathy was intense. The intimation of the slightest predilection toward the new system was sure to cover the offender with obloquy, and ultimately result in almost complete professional ostracism. The homœopathist was speedily expelled from the medical organizations to which he belonged, and was henceforth debarred all professional fellowship with his former medical associates. Hence, to break away from esteemed friends, and to exclude one's self from the fellowship of those whose aid would be frequently extremely desirable, was a test of courage and self-reliance to which few were willing to subject themselves.

It has been repeatedly asserted that the early homœopathists renounced the old-school system of practice on account of the probable pecuniary ad

vantages to be gained thereby. The pioneers themselves, however, are conscious of being uninfluenced by mercenary motives. They adopted the homœopathic system only after repeated trials had proved its superior curative advantages, and they adhered to it in the confident expectation that these points of intrinsic excellence would ultimately establish its claims for public recognition and general adoption.

They broke away from—nay, rather were driven out of—the old-school because they believed that they could more effectively serve the public; they were confident of accomplishing better results in practice; of saving a larger proportion of human life, and of contributing to the diminution of the duration and intensity of diseases which afflict mankind. Whether their reward would come during their life time they could not foretell; but of its coming at some future day they had no reason to doubt.

And when they relinquished the old method it was a radical and entire separation. Indeed, the completeness of the renunciation of old-school methods is a marked characteristic of many of the earlier converts to homœopathy. They appeared to have a morbid dread of even an occasional resort to the milder cathartics and narcotics, which the younger homœopathists—those who have had a shorter practical knowledge of the old methods—have never experienced.

When they gave up the old system, they renounced it wholly; when they adopted the new, there was no reservation at any point in favor of the old. There was no blending of the two opposite systems. The new method, to them, seemed to act more in harmony with natural conservative forces, hence was considered preferable in all curable diseases.

A review of the work accomplished by these pioneers of our school in Albany County, even at this early period, shows that their confidence in the new system was well founded, and that we are, at the present day, measurably enjoying the fruition of their self-sacrificing labor.

Nine of the seventeen are still living, and with one or two exceptions all are engaged in the active duties of professional life.

II.—HISTORY SUBSEQUENT TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ALBANY COUNTY HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The development and progress of the homœopathic school is indicated, approximately at least, by the growth and influence of the number and standing of its public and private institutions. The history of the society and cognate organizations, therefore, marks the advances and resources of the school and measures the degree of public approval and adoption of its system of therapeutics.

The Albany County Homœopathic Medical Society was organized at Albany, January 24, 1861, twenty-four years ago. It was organized under the provisions of a general law authorizing the formation of county homœopathic medical societies, passed in 1857.

The names of the members of the society are as follows:

1861. Dr. David Springsteed, Albany, 1861, 1862.
1861. Dr. Henry D. Paine, Albany,
1861. Dr. E. Darwin Jones, Albany, 1863.
1861. Dr. Lester M. Pratt, Albany, 1864, 1878, 1884.
1861. Dr. James W. Cox, Albany, 1867, 1882, 1883.
1861. Dr. William H. Randel, Albany, 1865.
1862. Dr. J. Savage Delavan, Albany, 1866.
1864. Dr. William S. Baker, Cohoes, 1868.
1866. Dr. Horace M. Paine, Albany, 1874.
1867. Dr. Harman Swits, Schenectady, 1870.
1867. Dr. Joseph C. Butler, Albany.
1867. Dr. J. H. A. Graham, Berne.
1867. Dr. Heman B. Horton, Albany.
1867. Dr. Joseph N. White, Amsterdam, 1869.
1868. Dr. James F. McKown, Albany, 1877.
1869. Dr. George A. Cox, Albany.
1869. Dr. P. L. F. Reynolds, Albany, 1873.
1869. Dr. Nelson Hunting, Albany, 1876.
1870. Dr. Edward A. Carpenter, Albany.
1870. Dr. John Smithwick, Albany.
1870. Dr. Stephen H. Carroll, Albany, 1871.
1871. Dr. Henry G. Preston, Albany, 1872.
1871. Dr. Phillip I. Cromwell, Albany.
1871. Dr. Edward C. Howe, New Baltimore.
1871. Dr. John H. Fitch, Gallupville.
1871. Dr. Frederick W. Thomas, Albany.
1871. Dr. George H. Billings, Cohoes, 1879, 1880, 1881.
1872. Dr. D. A. Cookingham, West Troy.
1873. Dr. Charles E. Jones, Albany, 1875.
1873. Dr. Townsend Bowne, Albany.
1873. Dr. William E. Milbank, Albany.
1874. Dr. Rufus Reed, Cohoes.
1874. Dr. Catharine E. Goewey, Albany.
1876. Dr. Howard L. Waldo, West Troy.
1876. Dr. R. B. Sullivan, Albany.
1876. Dr. James J. Wallace, Albany.
1876. Dr. John J. Peckham, Albany.

1876. Dr. William H. Van Derzee, Albany.
1877. Dr. Edwin B. Graham, Albany.
1877. Dr. George H. Benjamin, Albany.
1877. Dr. John N. Bradley, Adamsville.
1877. Dr. G. P. H. Taylor, Stillwater.
1878. Dr. William H. Griffith, Albany.
1878. Dr. Gertrude A. Goewey, Albany.
1879. Dr. Mary G. Pomeroy, Albany.
1879. Dr. George E. Gorham, Albany.
1882. Dr. Edward L. Crandall, Albany.
1882. Dr. Robert Kennedy, Green Island.
1884. Dr. Walter F. Robinson, Albany.

The first seven names are those of the original members and founders of the society, those who were present at its first meeting or united with it during the first year of its existence; the figures at the right indicate the date of election to the presidency; those at the left, the date of election to membership in the society.

Of the founders of the society, all are still living, and, with one exception, all are engaged in practice. Of the remaining forty-three, all, except four or five, are living, and are at the present time (1885) participating in the duties and bearing the responsibilities of professional life. Of the whole number, nineteen are residents of and active practitioners in Albany County.

III.—ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY, SHOWING TITLES OF PAPERS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEDICAL SCIENCE; ALSO THE POSITION OF THE SOCIETY REGARDING THE POLEMICS OF HOMŒOPATHY.

Abstract of Titles of Papers Presented at Meetings of the Society.—A large proportion of the reports of scientific work accomplished by resident homœopathists has been published in books or widely separated medical journals, hence no list showing, even approximately, the number and quality of these papers is obtainable. Neither do the records of the society furnish evidence of a tithe of the contributions to current medical literature. Reference to the more prominent, however, of the papers and reports presented from time to time and read at its meetings show a wide range of investigation, and results extracted from rich mines of practical clinical experience. They are as follows:

Diseases of the Throat and Air Passages.—Carbolic acid in the treatment of chronic laryngitis, April, 1867; nasal catarrh treated by inhalations, August, 1870; hay fever, September, 1871; chronic catarrh of the air passages, January, 1872; pneumonia, October, 1874; croup and diphtheria differentially considered, December, 1876; malignant diphtheria, July, 1883; chronic tonsilitis, April, 1884.

Diseases of the Pelvic Organs.—Improved form of speculum, January, 1867; carbolic acid in the treatment of ulceration of the os uteri; for the relief of leucorrhœal discharges, and for chronic cystitis, April, 1867; fissure of the rectum, January, 1870; intra-uterine treatment by means of medicated suppositories, August, 1871; spermatorrhœa, three papers, September, 1871; difficult, tedious and instrumental labors, September, 1871; puerperal convulsions, September, 1871; enuresis nocturna, December, 1871; methods of intra-uterine treatment, May, 1872; infiltration of urine into cellular tissue, May, 1873; degeneration of the placenta, July, 1882; congenital phimosis in an adult, July, 1882; hygiene and therapeutics of uterine and ovarian diseases, January, 1883; cases of spasmodic dysmenorrhœa, January, 1883; apparatus for conveniently applying the hot water douche, April, 1884.

Cerebral and Nervous Diseases.—Causes of insanity, September, 1871; paralysis following diphtheria, August, 1877; apoplexy, August, 1877; tinnitus aurium, July, 1882; cerebral congestion, simulating yellow atrophy of the liver, April, 1884; nervous and lung diseases, utility of erythroxylon cocoa in the treatment of, October, 1868.

Diseases of the Skin.—Carbolic acid applied externally for the cure of scabies, April, 1867; tænia capitis, April, 1869; varicella, April, 1878.

General Diseases.—Sporadic cholera, July, 1866; dropsy, cases of, July, 1867; intermittent fever, August, 1871; spinal meningitis, August, 1871; lead colic, August, 1871; osteo-sarcoma of the superior maxillary, September, 1871; local cellulitis, September, 1871; fungoid tumor, September, 1871; records of two post mortems, September, 1871; biliary calculi, September, 1871; typhoid fever, December, 1871; tumor in the region of the subclavian triangle, December, 1871; abdominal tumor, January, 1872; cerebro-spinal meningitis, April, 1872; constitutional predisposition to certain diseases, April, 1874; dysentery, April, 1874; spinal meningitis, April, 1874; record of prevailing diseases for six months, in connection with meteorological observations for the same period, January, 1877; iris versicola, for the relief of sick headache, November, 1876; iodia in the treatment of syphilis and scrofula, June, 1877; cancer of the stomach, July, 1878; traumatic peritonitis, April, 1879; the utility of lycopus in the treatment of diabetes, April, 1879; the importance of having all plumbing work done under competent supervision,

July, 1879; the applicability of massage in the treatment of certain diseases, April, 1879; record of a post mortem, July, 1882; the use and abuse of tonics, July, 1882; the deleterious effects of feeding swine slaughter-house offal, October, 1882; typhoid fever, October, 1882; urinary analysis and Bright's disease, January, 1883; diabetes insipidus, July, 1883; typhoid fever, April, 1884; therapeutical indications for the administration of pilocarpine, June, 1877.

The Polemics of Homœopathy.—The contest between the old school and the homœopathic has been a long and bitter one. Homœopathists justify themselves in maintaining adherence to the tenets of their system on the ground of its superior qualities when subjected to practical tests in the treatment of disease. The old school, on the other hand, justify their hostility to homœopathy on the ground of the alleged absurdities of its principles.

Homœopathists admit that the theoretical formulas promulgated by Hahnemann, regarding the smallness of the dose and the methods by which the medicines are prepared, are strangely absurd and unreasonable; at the same time they hold that these absurdities do not in any manner represent the principles on which the homœopathic system of therapeuties is constructed. They also hold that the essential elements of homœopathy are reasonable, sound, and an exemplification of a natural law of cure.

Hence they further hold, that the measure of liberality within the old school ought to have been sufficiently broad to have afforded all the freedom required by homœopathists in the exercise of a right which every educated physician should be permitted to enjoy, to the unrestricted employment of any and all therapeutic methods extant. In short, they hold that educational qualifications alone should regulate membership and standing in medical as in other scientific associations.

Happily time has softened the asperities of the old school. Indeed, many of the objectionable features of old-school practice, which mainly, on account of their repulsiveness, forced the homœopathic system into existence, have long since been discarded, and many of the essential elements of the new system have been substituted. All are now willing to admit that the harshness of the old-school method has been greatly modified since the introduction of the homœopathic.

The history of the Homœopathic Medical Society of Albany County embraces the second quarter centennial covered by the great medico-ethical controversy of this century. Its records show that the members of the society have been active participants in the work of securing for themselves and their system a legal status equal in every respect to that of their old-school rivals. The following extracts, selected from many of similar import, set forth the animus and purposes which have successfully controlled the active participants in the polemics of homeopathy.

The first extract is taken from a report of the proceedings of a meeting held December 9, 1873. It has reference to the refusal of the American Public Health Association to admit to its membership Dr. T. S. Verdi, a homœopathic physician, residing at Washington, D. C.

Resolutions Protesting Against the Illiberality of the American Public Health Association.—However undesirable it may be, we are very frequently reminded of the dissensions among medical men. The origin and progress of the contest between the two principal rival schools demonstrate the fact that all overt acts of intolerance have been perpetrated by our opponents. Homœopathists, in every instance, have acted on the defensive.

It would appear that our old-school opponents intend to continue this internecine strife until compelled, by force of public sentiment, to recognize homœopathic physicians as equals, and entitled to all the amenities of professional intercourse.

The only question at issue between the representatives of the two rival schools is simply one involving a difference of opinion regarding the application of remedies in the treatment of disease. The old-school, according to the recent testimony of professors in the medical department of the University of Michigan, has "no general law" on which to base appropriate treatment. The homœopathic school, on the other hand, founds its system of practice on a well-defined and philosophical principle, which is applicable in a large per centage of curable cases; hence its superior success. * * *

Homœopathists are clearly entitled to membership in the National Association. They and their friends in all parts of the country will, if necessary, throw their whole influence into this contest, and will continue to do so while necessity calls for action. The old-school fraternity may as well conclude, without unnecessary delay, that, in all public affairs, they must consider homœopathists equal with themselves in every respect, and entitled to the full enjoyment of all the rights, privileges and immunities accorded any portion of the regular medical profession.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Dr. T. S. Verdi, a graduate in medicine, holding diplomas from various medical colleges, and a practitioner in good and regular standing, has been duly appointed a member of the Board of Health of the District of Columbia by the President, which appointment has been confirmed by the Senate of the United States; and

WHEREAS, The zeal, energy and success manifested by Dr. Verdi, in the discharge of his duties as a member of the Board of Health, has received the merited respect and confidence of the people of Washington; and

WHEREAS, His Excellency, the Governor of the District of Columbia, duly appreciating the services and integrity of character of Dr. T. S. Verdi, appointed him a special sanitary commissioner to visit European cities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Verdi, in the performance of said official functions, has exhibited in his recent mission to European cities unusual ability; and

WHEREAS, Dr. C. C. Cox, President of the Board of Health of Washington, being an active member of the American Sanitary Association, has proposed the name of Dr. Verdi for membership in the same; and

WHEREAS, Said association, at its annual convention, held in New York, November 12 to 15, 1873, declined to elect Dr. Verdi a member, for no cause except adherence to homœopathy in his private medical practice; and

WHEREAS, Such a course must be considered arbitrary and mischievous; therefore,

Resolved, That any association, the object of which is the advancement of general public interests, sanitary or otherwise, which circumscribes its boundaries of membership within the narrow limits of sects, either religious, medical or political, fails in its mission, and subverts the very principles of its existence; is contrary to the genius of American institutions, being a direct violation of the great principles which involve the very foundation of free government, and is guilty of a course of action as pernicious in principle as it is unwise and impolitic in practice.

Resolved, That the American Health Association, in refusing membership to two officers of the Board of Health of the District of Columbia, appointed thereto by the President and confirmed by the Senate of the United States, as proposed by Dr. Cox, President of said Board of Health, has, by that act, subverted the advancement of sanitary reform for the benefit of the people.

Resolved, That Drs. T. S. Verdi and D. W. Bliss, being both federal officers, exercising their prerogatives of office for the people of the District of Columbia, their proscription from the Public Health Association is an insult to the President and people of the District of Columbia.

Resolved, That the unanimity of public approval in the removal of Dr. Van Aernam, late Commissioner of Pensions, for having attempted to raise the issue that adherence to a particular creed or belief should constitute a qualification for official position, clearly demonstrated the opposition of the American people to similar acts of proscription.

Resolved, That the American Health Association will not be entitled to receive the respect and moral support of the people of this country, until it shall have removed the present sectarian barrier to membership.

Resolved, That this society, as a representative of a large and respectable class of scientific medical practitioners, repels the insult offered to the school of medicine to which it adheres, and calls upon all just and fair men to condemn the illiberal course of the American Health Association.

Resolved, That the Homœopathic Medical Society of Albany County tenders thanks to Dr. C. C. Cox for his manly defense of the rights of men before the American Public health Association, and for his scathing denunciation of partisanship and sectarianism.

Resolved, That we respectfully request the members of Congress from this State to approve the legal recognition of the American Health Association, only when convinced that the articles of incorporation embrace a provision prohibiting the exclusion of members on account of adhesion to any preferred theory of medical treatment.

Resolutions Advocating Equal Representation of Old-School and Homœopathic Physicians in a State Board of Health.

WHEREAS, Strenuous efforts have been made during the past few years to enact a law creating a State Board of Health, so constructed as to provide for the appointment in said board of old-school physicians only; and

WHEREAS, No good reason exists why the control of all the sanitary affairs of the State should be intrusted to one school of physicians, to the exclusion and detriment of another; and

WHEREAS, Such exclusive control would indirectly establish a sectarian medical monopoly; therefore,

Resolved, That while we earnestly advocate the enactment of such sanitary measures as have for their end the prevention of diseases and lengthening of human life, we earnestly protest against the passage of any health bill, providing for the appointment of medical men, which does not recognize an equal numerical representation by name of the two dominant systems of medical practice.

Resolved, That we cordially assent to, and respectfully request the passage, by the next State Legislature, of a law securing equal representation from both the old-school and homœopathic schools of medicine.

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be forwarded to State officers, members of the legislature, officers of State and County medical societies and their legislative committees; also, to the committee on Legislation of the American Institute of Homœopathy.

IV.—HISTORY OF THE ALBANY CITY HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.

Two public charitable institutions, a hospital and a dispensary, now united and maintained as a single organization, have been opened and successfully conducted by the homœopathic profession of Albany.

A proposition to open a public homœopathic free dispensary was first made at a meeting of the Albany County Homœopathic Medical Society, held early in the year 1865. During the following two years various plans were offered and an interest in the subject was sustained, which culminated, in the fall of 1867, in the establishment of a free dispensary, at that time the only public institution in Albany for furnishing gratuitous medical service and medicines to those who choose to avail themselves of its advantages.

Since the organization of the dispensary, seventeen years ago, it has gratuitously afforded medical and surgical aid to more than sixty thousand applicants. It is, at the present time (1885), in as flourishing a condition as at any period since its establishment, the number of prescriptions ranging from three to five hundred per month.

The dispensary service soon revealed the fact that many of the applicants required hospital accommodations. With a view, therefore, of enlarging its usefulness, and placing its work and operations upon a permanent foundation, a building was purchased in the summer of 1872, and supplied with the requisites for both dispensary and hospital uses. The building at first selected having been found undesirable, in 1875 a larger and more suitable one was provided.

The present hospital and dispensary building is centrally and conveniently located at 123 North Pearl street; is large and complete in its appointments, and is provided with all suitable appliances for accommodating upward of fifty patients.

There are enrolled upon its staff the names of all the resident homœopathic physicians in Albany, and in addition thereto, two of Albany's ablest old-school surgeons; a fact which clearly indicates the obliteration of sectarian barriers to unrestricted professional fellowship.

The resources of both the hospital and dispensary are derived from sums appropriated by the city goverment and from private sources. Although these institutions are incumbered with a debt of several thousand dollars, the income has been hitherto sufficient to meet all claims for current expenses.

ALBANY CO. ECLECTIC MEDICAL SOCIETY.

In compliance with the act for the incorporation of the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of New York, which was incorporated April 24, 1865, and by the written advice of the honorable secretary of that body, under date of May 19, 1874, and in pursuance of a cordial invitation, the friends of medical reform assembled at the office of Dr. Robert Liston, in the City of Albany, June 1, 1874, to organize a County Eclectic Medical Society, auxiliary to the Eclectic Medical Society of the State of New York. Dr. R. Liston was appointed to the chair, and Dr. John Wilson, secretary. The constitution of the State Eclectic Medical Society was read and approved, and a constitution and by-laws were presented and adopted. After signing these papers, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year :

President, R. Liston, M. D.; Vice-President, J. T. Johnson, M. D.; Secretary, N. S. Dean; Treasurer, Dr. W. S. Filkins. The secretary was ordered to file in the County Clerk's office a copy of these proceedings, with a list of the 17 corporate members.

The County Society presented a petition to the State Society at its meeting, October 22, 1874, for recognition as an Auxiliary Society, signed by R. Liston, M. D., S. J. Birch, M. D., J. F. Neef, M. D., which was granted on the same day.

The regular meetings now are four in each year, on the first Thursdays in January, April, July, October. Membership now is 23. Of these, the following practice and reside in Albany County :

A. Cullen, West Troy.
James Douglass, West Troy.
Morgan L. Filkins, Albany.
Welcome L. Filkins, Albany.
Isaac Finch, Rensselaerville.
Jacob F. Neef, Albany.
Gustave B. Schill, Albany.
John H. Wilbur, Cohoes.
John Wilson, Albany.

FEMALE PHYSICIANS.

The practice of medicine in Albany by females properly educated dates in 1873, only 12 years ago. Up to about that time, the prejudice, not only of most male physicians, but of the people generally, was very strong against them. But the few who have settled in practice have come so well prepared, and have pursued their work so courageously, and yet so modestly and skillfully, that they have disarmed prejudice and taken respectable rank in the profession and in society.

Dr. Mary DuBois was born in the State of New York. She was reared in affluence and in the enjoyment of educational advantages of the highest order. In 1870, she received her degree of M. D. at the Woman's College in Philadelphia. The two years following she spent in a Boston hospital as house physician. She came to this city in 1873, where she has ever since been actively engaged in an extensive practice.

Dr. Catherine E. Goewey came soon after, and has secured a valuable practice in the homeopathic school by her skill and energy. She is a native of this State, and graduated from the Woman's Homœopathic College in New York City.

JEPTHA R. BOULWARE, M.D.

Dr. Harriet A. Woodward is of English descent, sprung, as it were, from a family of doctors, her grandfather and three uncles having been educated in medicine at Oxford University, Old England. The doctor was born in 1840, in Hector, N. Y., and early received a thorough training in the usual English branches and some of the higher branches, with Latin. She has always cultivated a fondness for history and natural science. In 1868 she began the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. A. B. Smith, of the Hygienic Institute, Geneva, N. Y. In 1872 she entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons at the Syracuse University, where she graduated in 1875, with honors. She came to Albany the same year; was admitted to membership in the County Medical Society; also to the Academy of Medicine, where she held office for two terms, first as secretary, then as treasurer; was also one of the Board of Censors in the County Society, and delegate to the American Medical Association. She stills holds her membership in the society, and is in active and successful practice in her chosen profession.

Dr. Laurentine Rouchel was born in France, in 1846; came to the United States with her parents when very young; received her early education in the district schools and in the Lowville Academy. Tuition in the French and German she received from private native teachers, and speaks both languages fluently. She began the study of pharmacy and medicine in 1879, in St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Utica, N. Y., under the direction of Dr. Edwin Hutchinson, surgeon in charge of the institution; continued her studies under the direction of Dr. John F. Oakes, of Rochester; then graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Buffalo. She began the practice of medicine in Croghan, Lewis County, and has continued the same in this city since 1881.

Dr. Anna Goewey practiced here some five years ago; then went to New York. Mrs. Carr is now in practice here as a homœopathist.

JEPTHA RICHARD BOULWARE.

Jeptha Richard Boulware, a distinguished physician and surgeon of Albany, was born in Franklin County, Kentucky. His parents, whose ancestors came from Scotland, were both natives of Virginia. His father, the Rev. Theodrick Boulware, was a Baptist clergyman, well known in the churches of his denomination in Kentucky, Illinois and Missouri. He was an earnest and consistant Christian and a devoted pastor, appreciating fully the dignity of his office, and causing it to be respected by those with whom he associated. He was for a time the settled pastor of a church, and for many years a circuit preacher in the three States mentioned above, performing the varied duties of a clergyman with a hearty willingness and an intelligent discretion that savored rather of the apostolic age than of the nineteenth century. During these years of earnest work, he never received—it being inconsistent with his principles to receive—a single cent for his clerical labors. He was a man of strong and original mind and an earnest character, forcible in the expression of his ideas and fond of theological controversy. He led a life of almost puritanic simplicity, combining religious fervor with practical sagacity, having a wise care for the things of this world, as well as of the next. He accumulated a handsome property, and died at the advanced age of eighty-seven years, loved and respected by all who knew him.

Of his three daughters, the eldest married Joseph Hansbrough, a bold and successful merchant of Independence, Missouri. The second daughter was not married; she died soon after arriving at the age of womanhood. The youngest daughter married Joseph S. Rogers, a wealthy and enterprising farmer and stock-breeder in the "blue-grass region" of Kentucky.

Of his six sons, three were enthusiastic farmers who earnestly devoted themselves to agricultural pursuits and stock raising.

The second son became a physician, practicing his profession in New Orleans, La. He soon acquired a lucrative practice, but died while a comparatively young man. The sixth and youngest son is a distinguished lawyer, still living in Missouri, noted for his eloquence and persuasive power with a jury.

The fourth son was Jeptha R. Boulware, the subject of this sketch, who, with the restless spirit of many young men, left his comfortable home and the easy life of a school boy, and wandered forth without any very definite aim, excepting to see the world and make a place for himself in it. He had received a liberal education so far as the schools of his neighborhood afforded, besides careful instruction from his father. For a boy of his years he was intelligent and well informed, but he soon found a marked difference between a life in a home of plenty and an existence dependent for its continuance upon his own labor. Young in years and slight in form, without a trade, unused to severe labor, he had to accept such various employments as he chanced to find and was capable of performing.

For a short time he worked as a farm laborer, but ultimately attended the Rock Spring Seminary, in Illinois, and soon taught school, in which pursuit he was so successful that in four years after leaving his father's house he returned to it in a reasonably prosperous condition.

After remaining home a year, devoting his time to study, he again went forth and resumed the occupation of a school teacher. While teaching, he became interested in phrenology, and carefully

perused the works of Combe, Spurzheim and other writers upon that subject. His interest in this science led him to a thorough study of the anatomical structure of the human brain, and eventually led to his becoming a physician. Though successful as a teacher, he again returned home, at the solicitation of his father, who gave him "a farm and hands," letting him take his choice out of half a dozen farms. He then married and settled down, applying himself to agricultural pursuits for a few years. He married Miss Sarah J. Kidd, the eldest daughter of Mrs. Hannah Kidd, at Nashville, Washington County, Illinois. Seldom has wedded life proved more satisfactory than in this instance. Dr. Boulware has often said that the success, both professional and financial, which he attained in after life, was due to the patient, inspiring and cheerful influence which he received from his wife. She was his support and helpmeet in adversity and a patient, loyal companion in prosperity. Their union was blessed with two children, Theodrick K. Boulware and Hannah J. Boulware. Theodrick, on completing his general education, began the study of law in the office of Rufus W. Peckham and Lyman Tremain, both eminent lawyers of Albany. The former was for many years one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, and afterward a Judge of the Court of Appeals. The latter declining judicial honors, was Attorney-General of the State, and among the most distinguished advocates of the country. Theodrick also, studied in the Albany Law School, and was admitted to practice on graduation, after examination by the professors in that institution; but, declining to enter the profession in that way only, he presented himself before the committee appointed by the Supreme Court of the State, and after examination was admitted to practice. He was a young man of sterling character, modest and unassuming. His mental characteristics, his good habits and earnest application, made it apparent that he would distinguish himself in his chosen profession. But soon declining health made it evident that his own and his parents' hopes were to be blighted. He accepted the inevitable with characteristic calmness, and after lingering a few years, died, respected and beloved by all.

Hannah married John A. Richardson, a manufacturer. Her husband's health gradually became impaired, a result of his exposure as a Union soldier in the war of the Rebellion, as well as by his persistent devotion to business. After a few years he retired from business, and has since resided most of the time at the South, seeking to regain his health.

Dr. Boulware, a few years after his marriage, removed to Albany, N. Y., which place has since been his home, and where he now stands in the front rank of the medical profession, both as a physician and a surgeon. By teaching school and by working at various mechanical employments, in which he was successful, although he never served any apprenticeship, he secured sufficient funds to support his family and to systematically pursue the study of medicine.

He was graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1859. His earnest and intelligent interest in medicine secured for him, early in his student life, a warm friend in Professor Howard Townsend, M. D., who encouraged him by personal attention and advice, and gave him free access to his large professional library, of which great use was made by him to his manifest profit, at a time when his pecuniary circumstances did not allow him to purchase the rarer and more expensive medical works. During two winters he also pursued the practical study of analytical chemistry in the laboratory, under the instruction of Professor Charles H. Porter, M. D. The late Hon. William Cassidy, LL. D., was another distinguished and influential friend who took an active interest in the young physician's success, and, upon his recommendation, Dr. Boulware was appointed to several medico-political offices, that not only supplied him with some money, but also gave him, what he regarded as more important, opportunities for increasing his professional knowledge.

For several years in his student and early professional life Dr. Boulware was in charge of the Albany County Hospital for the Sick and Insane. He made its great clinical resources yield him a rich harvest of positive knowledge by the thorough system of careful observation which he at once adopted and diligently pursued.

It was his custom in each case under his care to write down the diagnosis, with a minute record of all the symptoms observed, and when a death occurred he made a careful autopsy, comparing the pathological conditions with his previous notes. In this institution, and during his earlier professional life, he made for himself and others, and for legal purposes, over four hundred elaborate *post-mortem* examinations, and carefully dissected several hundred human brains. His unwearied attention to his business, his sagacity and common sense, and his thorough theoretical and practical knowledge of his profession, early gained him, not only a large and lucrative practice, but also the sincere respect and esteem of his fellow practitioners. He soon became prominent as a surgeon as well as a physician. For many years he was the surgeon of the principal hospitals in Albany, and was called to fill other positions of trust and honor. He successfully performed many capital operations, such as excision of the hip joint, lithotomy and the operation for strangulated hernia. He successfully treated several cases of femoral and popliteal aneurism by compression, using for the purpose an ingenious instrument of his own construction. Dr. Boulware has very frequently been called upon as an expert in medico-legal cases. His sound surgical and medical knowledge, and his practical sagacity and tact, have always secured from the most unwilling counsel a fair presentation of his views, and very frequently the public commendation of the presiding judge, for the clearness, learning and skill displayed in his testimony. He has long been a prominent member of the Medical Society of the County of Albany, and has held most of the responsible offices of that organization, rep-

Chester A. Arthur

resenting it for several years as a delegate to the Medical Society of the State of New York, of which latter society he has also been a permanent member since 1868. Dr. Boulware has presented numerous reports of cases and pathological specimens occurring in his practice to the County Medical Society, and a number of papers on medical and surgical subjects to the State Medical Society, which have been published in their Transactions.

In the war of the Rebellion Dr. Boulware served as assistant surgeon in the 177th Regiment of the New York Volunteers during its continuance in the field. He was universally respected by the soldiers for his attention and kindness to them during the war, and to this day the same respect is shown him by soldiers who were in the field.

He was afterward Surgeon of the Tenth Regiment, National Guard of the State of New York, and for a long period was Brigade Surgeon of the Ninth Brigade of the National Guard of the State of New York.

He is unusually liberal in his views of medicine, and kindly charitable to all practitioners, as the records of the Medical Society of the County of Albany abundantly show.

At the annual meeting of the Medical Society of the County of Albany, held at Albany, November 14, 1876, Dr. J. R. Boulware offered the following:

Whereas, There is a decided difference of opinion among members of this society regarding certain points relating to Medical Ethics, and in order that the society may definitely express itself upon them, for the guidance of its members, the following resolutions are offered for its consideration:

Resolved, That it shall not be deemed improper by this society for "regular" and "Allopathic" Medical Colleges to educate and graduate Homœopathic students.

Resolved, That it shall not be deemed improper by this society for any of its members to consult professionally with any physicians recognized by the laws of this State as legal practitioners.

Resolved, That it shall not be deemed improper by this society for any one of its members, or any association of two or more of them, to advertise in medical journals, or in the local or other newspapers, their names and addresses, together with any specialty they may assume to practice or teach.

Whereas, The "regular Allopathic" hospitals of this city are supported by the taxpayers of this county; and

Whereas, The "medical staffs" of these hospitals refuse to allow other physicians than themselves to send and treat pay patients in the said hospitals; and

Whereas, Such action prevents materially the increase of the indigent fund in charitable hospitals; therefore,

Resolved, That it shall not be deemed improper by this society for any of its members to professionally treat their pay patients in the Albany City Homœopathic Hospital.

While these resolutions were not adopted by the County Society, they excited comment and inquiry. A few years later they were embodied in the New Code adopted by the Medical Society of the State of New York. Among those most earnest in the advocacy of the New Code were a large number who worked and voted against Dr. Boulware's resolutions. In this case, as in others, Dr. Boulware's views were in advance of the times, but happily, in this instance, only a few years in advance, and his medical brothers have now caught up with him.

Having acquired an abundant competence, and still being in good health, though advancing in years, Dr. Boulware has been for some time gradually withdrawing from practice, believing it wiser to gracefully leave the field to younger men before feebleness and old age should compel him to retire; but, honored and esteemed by his professional brethren, and looked up to with confidence, affection and respect by a host of families whose trusted physician he has been for many years, he is often called in consultation, and so long as he lives he will never be able to entirely abandon the functions of a medical adviser.

His genial temperament, his unselfish devotion to medical science, his benevolence to the poor, and his kindly sympathy with the suffering, have endeared him to his fellow citizens.

He has often been solicited to accept nominations to office, for which his unbounded popularity makes him peculiarly eligible; but the modesty of his character makes him averse to political life. Yet while he has always declined political honors, and has held but two offices, and those of a medical character, he has always, as a good citizen, been interested in politics. He has had for many years a quiet but decided political influence, much greater than that of most men, and it has always been exerted in the interest of good government and for the substantial good of the community. He is one of those of whom the poet says: They "do good by stealth and blush to find it fame."

AMOS FOWLER, M. D.

Mark Fowler, uncle of Gen. Amos Fowler and Rev. and Hon. Orin Fowler, removed at an early day from Lebanon, Conn., to Herkimer County, N. Y. He and his numerous family of sons were pioneers in clearing away the forests and laying the foundations of some of the thriving cities of central New York. He died in Jefferson County, April 27, 1813. His wife was Miriam Sterling, widow of Reuben Warner. Of their nine children, Alvin, the father of Amos Fowler, M. D., of Albany, was the youngest son. When Alvin Fowler was about two years old he met with an adventure so singular and so perilous as to render it unique in the annals of border life. He had only recently learned to walk, and, one day, as he was enjoying the freedom of the cleared space about his father's house, he was seized by a bear, which had been caught and chained near the door, and hugged gently in her embrace all day, despite the frantic efforts of his mother to induce the bear to give up the child. No pen could do justice to the mother's agony, her awful suspense, while making her futile attempts to rescue her baby, and watching it through the long day, expecting at any moment to see its life crushed out before her eyes. It was not until nightfall, when the father came

home, that the bear was compelled to relinquish the child. At that time the family lived at Frankfort, near the present site of Utica. Bears, wolves and other wild animals were plenty, and wolves howled around the doors of the settler's cabin till driven away with firebrands. Alvin Fowler pursued the trades of clothier and stone mason. His wife was Miss Olive Lord, whom he married in 1819, she having emigrated from Saybrook, Conn., with her father's family, two or three years earlier. Of their four children, Dr. Amos Fowler was the eldest. He was born in the town of Cohocton, Steuben County, N. Y., July 5, 1820. His father removed to Evans' Mills, Jefferson County, while Amos was yet an infant, and thence to Fayetteville, Onondaga County, when the lad was seven years old; there he owned and operated some mills, and a factory for the manufacture of woolen cloths, till 1836, when he again removed to a farm in the town of Victory, Cayuga County. Young Fowler was educated mainly in the public schools, but was also a student at the academies in Fayetteville and Victory, working on the farm summers and attending school winters. Leaving school, he became a teacher, teaching two winters in Wayne and one in Cayuga County. While thus engaged he began reading medicine in the office of Dr. Blanchard, of Victory. Later he was a student and assistant of Dr. Root's, at Memphis, Onondaga County. He entered the Geneva Medical College, and finished his prescribed course at the University of the City of New York, graduating in 1846.

Dr. Root died just before Dr. Fowler's graduation. Already well established in the confidence of Dr. Root's patrons, he returned to Memphis and took up the Doctor's practice. In 1850 he removed to Sand Lake, Rensselaer County, and from thence, in 1854, to Albany, locating on Second street, nearly opposite his present residence and office. Since coming to Albany, as before, Dr. Fowler has enjoyed an extensive practice. His standing in his profession is high, and he has served the Medical Society of Albany County as its vice-president and its delegate to the State Medical Society. Dr. Fowler was married, August 30, 1850, to Miss Caroline M. Harris, daughter of Nicholas Brown Harris, M. D., of Sand Lake, Rensselaer County, who bore him four children, two of whom died in infancy. She died, April 3, 1880, at Savannah, Ga., while returning with her husband from a journey in the South. Their son, Warren Hamilton Fowler, studied medicine at the University of the City of New York, graduated from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, and is now practicing his profession in Albany.

Their daughter, Caroline I. Fowler, is a member of her father's household. July 25, 1882, Dr. Fowler married his present wife, Mrs. Mary Poole, a native, and, for most of her life, a resident of Albany. Though not active in politics, the Doctor has pronounced views on public questions and is an adherent of the Republican party. He was reared within the pale of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but for some years has been a member of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Albany.

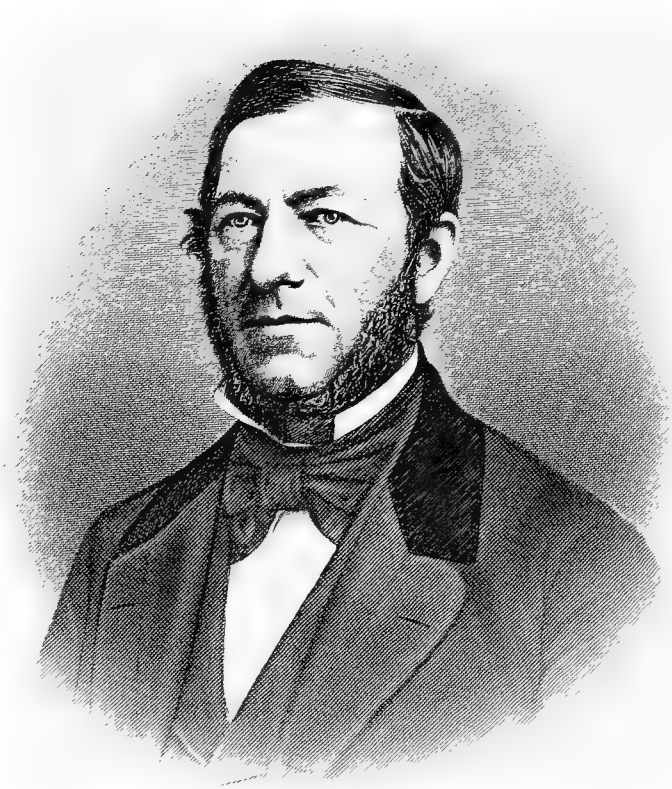
JOSEPH N. NORTHROP, M. D.

Dr. Joseph Norman Northrop was born at Decatur, Otsego County, New York, in 1817, and was in the sixty-first year of his age at the time of his death, which occurred September 17, 1878. He was a son of Abner Northrop and Jerusha Gibbs, both of whom were natives of Connecticut. He had two brothers and two sisters, only one of whom, the youngest brother, survives him. His father was a farmer, and the early part of the life of Dr. Northrop was spent at home upon the farm. The foundation of his education was obtained in the common school. At the age of thirteen he went to the Oneida Institute, a manual labor school, where he spent three years. Leaving school, he came to Albany, where, after passing a year as a clerk in a drug store, he entered the office and family of Dr. Samuel Shaw, and began the study of medicine. When about eighteen years of age he entered the Vermont Academy of Medicine, graduating in 1839. His diploma was signed by Dr. William Tully, Professor of Theory and Practice and Materia Medica; Theodore Woodward, Professor of Surgery and Obstetrics; James H. Armsby, Professor of Anatomy and Physiology; and John De Wolf, Professor of Chemistry and Natural History. He had a great admiration for Dr. Tully, whose name and sayings were frequently on his lips in later years. After graduating, he attended a course of medical lectures at the Transylvania University, at Louisville, Ky., defraying his expenses by conducting a writing school and by a little practice among Northern people residents there.

He began his professional work as a salaried physician upon a plantation of about six hundred negroes, in Mississippi, being the only medical man within twenty miles. He staid there a year and a half, taking the yellow fever, from which he narrowly escaped with his life. This necessitated his removal north. After spending a year in Albany, he returned to his native place, where he practiced his profession for twenty years. In 1840 he married Miss Mary Jane Lansing, the only daughter of Col. Robert C. Lansing, of Decatur. His practice there was large, embracing long rides into the adjoining counties of Delaware and Schoharie. He held for some time the office of division Surgeon of Militia, Gen. Burnside being division General. The only civil office that he filled outside of his profession was that of supervisor, which he held for two years. He was elected delegate to the State Medical Society from Otsego County, and became a permanent member of the society in 1861. In 1859 he returned to Albany and entered upon a general practice there, which became extensive and lucrative. He joined the Albany County Medical Society in 1860, and held for several terms the office of censor, and was elected president in 1876.

His death, which occurred nearly twenty years after he came to Albany to reside, was startlingly sudden in its circumstances, taking place upon the anniversary of his wedding-day. Preparations having been made for the customary celebration of this anniversary, he went early in the evening to

J. N. Northrop



make a professional call a few blocks away. Instead of sending for his carriage, as he usually did, even when going but a short distance, he walked. He was troubled with dyspnœa on exertion, due to an affection of the heart. He saw his patient, and, while preparing medicine in an adjoining room, he suddenly gasped for breath, fell from his chair, and in a few minutes died.

This is a brief sketch of the life of Dr. Northrop, which covered forty years of professional work, and ended in the midst of his greatest usefulness, while he was fully entering into all that went to make up life for him. He passed away at the full tide; he had not started on the down-hill side of life. There are not many lives that are marked with great incidents; nevertheless, this outline of his career brings out a fact which has in it much to admire, that, starting in the world with nothing, he gained, by his own unaided efforts, education, a worthy place in an honorable profession, a competence, and the high esteem of his associates and fellow citizens. In character, he was a genial, open-hearted man, whom many knew well and whose loss is sincerely lamented. While his life was unmarked by great events, it was always attended with devotion to duty, to his profession and to his fellow men. His grave does not inclose the memory of these virtues, nor limit the worthiness of his example. Two years before his death he became a member of the First Reformed Church of Albany.

JOHN B. ROSSMAN, M. D.

Dr. John Buskirk Rossman was born, September 27, 1806, in Johnstown, Columbia County, N. Y. He was the seventh child of a family of sixteen children. Fourteen grew to maturity. Four of the sons were physicians. His father, John J. Rossman, was a worthy man, much respected in the community in which he lived. He was elected sheriff of Columbia County for two or three consecutive terms. With a family so large and facilities for education so limited, Mr. Rossman was not able to give his children a liberal education, yet he gave them the best that could be obtained in the schools in his vicinity. John not only attended the district school, but was sent to a neighboring academy, where he made proficiency in the higher English branches. He is represented as having been a lad of excellent morals and of studious habits. In order to be able to continue his studies and to fix more permanently his elementary education, he taught a district school several winters. He commenced the study of medicine with Dr. T. Broadhead, of Clermont. We next hear of him in the law office of Mr. Killian Miller, of Hudson. He remained there only a short time, the law not being congenial with his tastes. He then resumed the study of medicine with Dr. McClelland. From this office he went to Hudson, in the office of Dr. Samuel White. He attended medical lectures at Fairfield, Herkimer County, N. Y., and received his degree there in 1829. After graduation he returned to Johnstown, his native town, and commenced the practice of his profession. Although young, he was earnest, and attended closely to business. His genial manner and sympathetic nature soon made him popular. His reputation increased, and the young physician was called to longer distances and to families of greater intelligence. Previous to this Mr. John Richmond, an English gentleman, had purchased from Mr. Livingston, while in London, the tract of land called Livingston Manor. Mr. Richmond had taken possession of his purchased property, and to his house Dr. Rossman was called. Here it was that the Doctor first met his future wife, Miss Elizabeth Mary Fairbank, the granddaughter of Mr. Richmond, and the great-granddaughter of the Earl of Preston. About two years after his marriage Dr. Rossman moved to Richmondville, Schoharie County. He remained there about eight years, when he came to Albany. City life is always attractive to a country practitioner, and almost as often as the change is made there is serious disappointment. But with Dr. Rossman it was different. Practice came slowly, but patient waiting and prompt attention to every call secured business. A few years found him in the midst of a lucrative practice. In 1827 he was made a member of the Medical Society of the County of Albany, of which he was treasurer in 1849 and 1850.

He enjoyed a reunion with Dr. Thomas Hun and Dr. Charles Devol to celebrate their semi-centennial in practice, given by the County Medical Society. He was elected alderman from his ward about 1856, which office he filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constitutents. Dr. Rossman was a kind and affectionate husband, an indulgent and attentive father, and a true and steadfast friend. His peculiarities were the eccentricities of his head, and not of his heart. His wife, Elizabeth Mary Fairbank, died July 27, 1868. She had eight children—four sons and four daughters. Three sons and two daughters are still living. In 1869 he married Miss Rebecca P. McCarthy. By this union he had one son and two daughters, all of whom are living. Soon after he located in Albany Dr. Rossman united with the Middle Dutch Church, and led the life of a consistent and devoted Christian. His last few years gave decided evidence of increasing age. He continued to grow more and more feeble until December 23, 1883, when he peacefully and hopefully passed away to receive the rewards of a life well spent.

HON. JOHN SWINBURNE, M. D.

John Swinburne was born to Peter and Artemesia Swinburne, at their homestead on the Black River, Lewis County, May 30, 1820. His father, a native of Ireland, was a farmer and also largely engaged in business. He died while Dr. Swinburne was a mere child, and the latter's early years were spent under the care of his mother, a native of Connecticut, and a woman of rare mental activity and great force of character, who, after the death of her husband, took entire charge of the family; and to her careful training the doctor ascribes much of his success in

life. His early education was gained in the common schools of the neighborhood and in the academies of Lowville and Denmark, in Lewis County, and that of Fairfield, in Herkimer County. Having passed his early years at his birthplace, at times teaching school, at the age of twenty-one he determined upon the study of medicine for his profession, and began reading at twenty-three, when he entered the Albany Medical College, registering as a student in the office of the late Dr. James H. Armsby, of Albany. Graduating in 1846 with the degree of Doctor in Medicine, Dr. Swinburne determined to make Albany his home, and opened an office for the practice of his profession. In 1847 he was appointed Demonstrator of Anatomy in the Albany Medical College, and continued to teach that branch of medicine for several years. In 1851 he received his first public appointment, being made an almshouse physician at a time when what was known as "ship fever" was raging as an epidemic, treating during his term of office over eight hundred cases, and finally falling a victim to the disease himself.

From this time up to the breaking out of the Rebellion the Doctor devoted his time to his private practice, which was constantly enlarging. In 1861 he was again called upon to give his services to the public, and was put in charge of the sick at the recruiting depot in Albany, serving as chief medical officer on the staff of Gen. John F. Rathbone. Until the spring of 1862 he remained at this post, 1,470 sick passing under his care, out of which large number only twelve died. April 7, 1862, Dr. Swinburne was appointed one of the auxiliary corps of volunteer surgeons who went from the State of New York to the war, serving without pay. He proceeded to Fortress Monroe, and shortly after his arrival received orders to report for duty to Dr. Tripler, Medical Director of the Army of the Potomac. In company with Drs. Willard, Coggswell and Lansing, of Albany, he set out for the White House, the head of navigation on the Pamunkey River, where Dr. Tripler had his headquarters, reaching there May 18. The establishment of a hospital at this place, to which the wounded could be sent from the front, being decided upon, Dr. Swinburne and his companions were requested to found the same. After rendering valuable services at this station, the Doctor, early in June, returned to Albany, and on the 12th of that month (1862) received a commission from Gov. Morgan, as Medical Superintendent of the New York State wounded soldiers, and was sent to Washington with a letter from the Governor to the Secretary of War. Upon the Secretary's indorsement, Surgeon-General Hammond entered into a contract with Dr. Swinburne for "medical and surgical services to be rendered with the Army of the Potomac," and the Doctor accordingly again reported to Medical Director Tripler. In section 9, *Special Orders of the War Department*, appears the following:

"Acting Assistant Surgeon John Swinburne will report to Surgeon J. J. Milhau, U. S. A., Medical Director, Third Army Corps, for special duty at Savage's Station.

"By command, MAJOR-GEN. MCCLELLAN."

With this order the Doctor immediately complied, receiving further orders to establish a general hospital at Savage's Station, Virginia, of which he was to take charge, with instructions to make requisitions for the necessary materials and stores. With his accustomed energy, the Doctor set about the work given him to do, but unforeseen difficulties arose, greatly delaying the construction of the hospital. On the 26th of June, when the hospital was not more than half prepared, owing to the nonfulfillment of his requisitions, wounded men began to be brought in in large numbers, and the Doctor's surgical labors began. On the 28th he was informed by Dr. Tripler that it would be necessary for him to remain at the hospital, the army being about to change its base of operations, which would put the enemy in possession of Savage's Station in a few hours, at the same time giving him a letter from Gen. McClellan to the Commander of the Confederate forces explaining his (the Doctor's) position. After the action of Sunday evening, the 29th, the hospital, with all it contained, was in the hands of the Confederates. From this time up to the 26th of July Dr. Swinburne remained with his charge, struggling with his assistants through increasing hardships and privations, day by day having less of the necessaries for the proper management of the sick and wounded, buying food for the hospital with his own funds, until at last, after repeated communications with the authorities in Richmond, on the 26th of July orders came allowing the removal of the sick and wounded, with their attendants, to City Point. Reaching the latter place on the 27th, the Doctor turned over his command to the proper officers and returned to Albany on sick leave, suffering from a chronic dysentery brought on by exposure and improper food.

In the winter of 1862–63 he and Dr. Willard were appointed by the State Medical Society a committee to confer with the Legislature upon the subject of the further relief of the wounded, the result of such conference being the unanimous passage of a bill granting $200,000, to be applied to the care of the sick and wounded of the State of New York, and the Doctor was once more sent to the front. Returning again in 1864, he was appointed by Gov. Seymour (Democrat) Health Officer of the Port of New York, and had the satisfaction of having his nomination unanimously confirmed by a Republican Senate. At that time the provisions for a quarantine station were very inadequate, and the Legislature, acting upon the suggestions of the Doctor, began the construction of the two artificial islands in the lower bay now used for that purpose. The idea of building an island in fifteen feet of water, exposed to the force of storms and tides from 3,000 miles of the Atlantic Ocean beating against it, was deemed almost impossible, but the Doctor demonstrated it could be done, and to his energy and perseverance New York is indebted for one of the best planned quarantine stations in the world.

In recognition of this distinguished service, the Legislature, by an act, named the first of the two islands thus constructed "Swinburne Island

John Swinburne

Hospital." Up to 1870 Dr. Swinburne remained at quarantine; he then went abroad with his family, being desirous of rest and recreation. But he was not a man who could "take his ease at his inn." The Franco-Prussian war having broken out, Dr. Swinburne, being in London, on September 4, 1870, received an earnest request from Minister Washburne and the American Sanitary Commission to come to Paris and take charge of the American Ambulance in that city. Laying aside his personal comfort, he acceded to the request, and lost no time in reaching Paris. There he remained as Surgeon-in-Chief of the American Ambulance until March, 1871, leaving as the Commune was coming into power. How highly his labors were appreciated by the American International Sanitary Committee we will leave Dr. Thomas Evans, President of the Committee, to state. In his report of the doings of the American Ambulance, the distinguished physician says:

"In securing the services of Dr. John Swinburne as Surgeon-in-Chief of the Ambulance, the committee was particularly fortunate. Dr. Swinburne was a surgeon *par excellence*. He had had an extensive professional experience, and had obtained a justly acquired and widely-known home reputation. Thoroughly acquainted with military medicine and the constitution and management of army hospitals, an earnest advocate of conservative surgery, an enthusiast even as regards the conservative treatment of compound-fractures, a skillful operator whenever operations were required, he possessed a rare and highly valuable quality—a knowledge of the way how to deal with men; in a word, he knew how to manage both his patients and his assistants; and not infrequently was he called upon to exercise this special knowledge. Associated, as he was constantly, with a body of forty or fifty persons, all volunteers, holding a certain social position, uncontrolled by the restraints of a military discipline, all naturally ambitious to excel, and perhaps occasionally even over-jealous of the success of their fellows, Doctor Swinburne knew how to direct these energetic elements, obtain from them the largest amount of labor, and maintain in every department of his service his own personal ascendancy."—(See "*Sanitary Associations During the Franco-German War*," Vol. I, 1870-71.)

In recognition of his services, Dr. Swinburne had the rare distinction conferred upon him by the French Government of being made a Knight of the Legion of Honor, also receiving the Red Cross of Geneva. Having finished his labors in the Ambulance, he resumed his travels, spending his time in different parts of Europe until the fall of 1871, when he returned to his home in Albany.

A predominant feature of Dr. Swinburne's practice has been conservative surgery, especially in the treatment of fractures. Shortly after graduating in medicine he directed his attention to treating fractures upon other principles than those in vogue at that date, and in 1848 he discarded the use of such splints, bandages and apparatus as were generally employed, relying upon extension alone to accomplish the sought-for result. Such a departure was a bold procedure, and after having fully tested and proved his method of treatment, in both private and hospital practice, in 1859 he published in the Transactions Medical Society of the State New York of that year an article on the treatment of these injuries by extension. During this year he also reported a case of death by the entrance of air into the uterine sinuses (caused by an abortionist), at which time it was said and believed to be almost the only case of the kind on record.—(*Philadelphia Medical and Surgical Reporter, 1859.*) In 1861 appeared another paper on the treatment of fractures by simple extension and counter-extension.—(*Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of New York, 1861.*) In the next year a review of the case of the People against Rev. Henry Budge, indicted for the murder of his wife, tried at Oneida, N. Y., in August and September, 1861, in which Dr. Swinburne forcibly criticised the medical testimony of the defense, and combatted the ground assumed by them by numerous experiments.—(*Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of New York, 1862.*) In the same year he also published in the *Medical and Surgical Reporter* of Philadelphia a synopsis of the trial of Hendrickson, who poisoned his wife by the administration of aconite. This trial also caused much discussion in the medical world, and although the Doctor was severely handled by other professional men for his views as expressed when on the witness stand, he proved his position to have been perfectly correct. In 1863 he published his report to Surgeon-General Hammond, with his experiences in the Peninsular campaign, "Resection of Joints and Conservative Surgery."—(*Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of New York, 1863.*) In 1864 two more papers in the same journal, one upon "Compound Comminuted Gunshot Fractures of the Thigh; the Means for their Transportation and Treatment;" and the other the "Report of the Committees appointed by the Society to Confer with the Governor and Legislature relative to the Additional Relief of the Sick and Wounded Soldiers from the State of New York." The Doctor also proposed and advocated for the transportation of those suffering from fractures of the leg or thigh a stretcher so arranged that extension and counter-extension could be maintained without pain or discomfort to the patient, or any material alteration of the stretcher.—(Lessons in Hygiene and Surgery, by Dr. Gorden, C. B.; *Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of New York, 1864.*) He also strongly advocated the resection of shoulder joints instead of amputation, and many are the grateful letters he has since received from those whose limbs he saved to them.

In 1863 Dr. Swinburne was elected a permanent member of the Medical Society of the State of New York. In November, 1872, he was chosen president of the Medical Society of Albany County. In 1876 he was chosen Professor of Fractures and Dislocations and Clinical Surgery in the Albany Medical College. He was one of the four surgeons to the Albany Hospital from its foundation up to 1864; also consulting surgeon to St. Peter's Hospital, and for a number of years has been surgeon-in-chief of the Homœopathic and Child's Hospitals. In 1879 he established in the City of Albany a Dispensary for the treatment of all manner of diseases and fractures. This Dispensary was established on a humanitarian basis, where the sick, maimed and lame were invited to come and be made whole, without money and without price. From its foundation the Doctor has himself had a

general supervision of all that was going on, and had as assistants a corps of surgeons trained under his own tuition in conservative surgery. In addition to his large private practice nearly 60,000 people have been treated at the dispensary up to the close of last year, at least 25,000 of these being surgical cases. For the year 1884 the register gives the number of new cases treated as 7,502, of which 4,340 were medical cases and the remaining 3,156 surgical. During the year 250 fractures were treated, 178 of which were of the upper extremities and the remainder of the lower limbs. In the treatment there has not occurred one poor result, a record unequaled by any institution in the annals of surgery. During this period not an amputation of any nature has been performed, the Doctor maintaining that the too frequently indulged in use of the amputating knife is barbarism. His conservative doctrine is to save the limb and help nature in the work of curing. He has paid out of his private funds upward of $5,000 per annum to carry on his dispensary since its foundation, and now proposes, if the State will not do so, to found a dispensary in addition to the one he now runs for the care and treatment exclusively of injured railroad men.

His career in public life has been almost as marked as that of his professional.

In 1882, the citizens of Albany, irrespective of party, organized to effect a reform in the municipal affairs of the city, and after much persuasion induced the Doctor to run as the People's candidate for the mayoralty. The election was a bitterly contested one on the part of the ring, who desired to retain power, and on the part of the citizens, who demanded a reform. By a manipulation of ballots the voice of the people was frustrated and his opponent inducted into the office. The frauds, however, were too glaring, and at a public meeting the evening after the results were announced the people there convened decided to commence legal action to set aside the declaration and award the office to Dr. Swinburne. After nearly a year and a half of maneuvering in court by the incumbent's counsel, in taking advantage of the law's delays, the case was finally set for a definite day for trial. As soon as this judicial order was made, the incumbent, Michael N. Nolan, resigned the office, and Dr. Swinburne, by order of the court, took possession. In the spring of 1884, he was again nominated by the citizens and indorsed by the Republicans, but was again counted out by a small majority. Suffering at the time from blood-poisoning, having been infected while performing an operation, he could not and would not consent to a contest for the office in the courts, although his friends were satisfied they could prove a large majority in his favor, and went west for his health. Returning home with his powers recuperated and his vigor restored, he was greeted with a reception unequaled in previous days, the streets being figuratively a mass of blocked humanity. The citizens again assembled, and knowing there was more protection at the ballot box in national than civic elections, and appreciating the worth and ability of the Doctor, nominated him for Congress. The nomination was indorsed by the Republicans, and when the ballot was counted it was found that he had a majority of 2,504 over the then sitting member, T. J. Van Alstyne, recognized as one of the very strongest men in the district. By this election the political complexion of Albany County was changed over 7,000 votes.

Dr. Swinburne was married in 1847 to Miss Harriet Judson, of Albany, by whom he has had four children, one of whom is living.

SAMUEL BALDWIN WARD.

The ancestry of an eminent physician is always important to those who would intelligently study his career and character. The study will explain what debt he owes to the past and to circumstances, and to what measure he has been the architect of his own fortune. We are all of us sensible enough to know that good birth, in the American significance of the word, is a valuable fact in the same sense in which good health is, and that creditable as unaided effort or the overcoming of difficulties is, they whose equipment for the labor of life has been insured by nurture, counsel and culture are most apt to prove themselves completely competent for the manifold duties of professional work in the world. The pride of "self-made" men, who are as a rule half-made men, and who invariably worship their creator, is in the fact of their having attained to such a position of strength as will enable them to give to their children the initial advantages which were denied to themselves. No "self-made" man expects his sons to be "self-made" men. He wants them to escape the hardships of their father. He desires to make the beginnings of life easier for them than they were for himself. The conquest of early obstacles is laudable. The necessity to encounter them is regretable. They consume time and effort which must be subtracted from the act of starting.

Both the fact of a sturdy ancestry of achieving freemen and the fact of careful preparation for his profession must be predicated of the cultivated physician and surgeon of whom we write. Lebbeus Baldwin Ward, the father of our subject, who was born in New Jersey, April 7, 1800, and who died in New York City, June 15, 1885, was directly descended through his father from revolutionary soldiery, and though his mother from the celebrated Dod family of Newark and Princeton, renowned as teachers and exponents of natural forces, and conspicuously identified with the institutions and literature of science. The mother of Dr. Ward, *nee* Miss Abby Dwight Pratt, of Hatfield, Massachusetts, was descended through both parents from the best Old England and New England stock, and was the daughter of a clergyman of marked strength of intellect and character. The father of Dr. Ward, whose recent death became the occasion of marked tribute to his worth and deeds by the press of the State, was first an engine builder and then a maker of wrought-iron

Samuel B. Ward.

forgings, being the founder of the Hammersley Forge Works, at the foot of Fifty-ninth street, New York, on the North River. He was an occupant of many business, judiciary and religious trusts, a member of the State Assembly when the position was honorable in fact as well as in designation, and a Commissioner of the Metropolitan Board of Police, in the first years of its establishment.

Of Revolutionary and Puritan forces the representative, Samuel B. Ward was born in New York City on June 8, 1842, in the large stone house which his father had built in the English style, near the forge works, as a homestead. Early in life he put forth the evidences of the qualities which have since conspicuously marked him. He was studious, practical, a lover of nature, fond of physical sports and accomplishments. He was generous, unsuspicious and winningly frank. He had the ability to inspire confidence among those with whom he contended for the prizes of youth in manly emulation. The society of an ideal home made his progress in the studies of boyhood easy, inciting and rewarding, and at the age of 16 he entered Columbia College in his native city, well prepared for the course of training to which he was subjected in that institution. He graduated with honors in 1861. Not only did he stand among its first in academic honors, but he was chosen by his classmates to the highest positions within the gift of their friendly suffrages. His scholarship and his popularity were thus attested on the threshold of his active life. After a year of as much study as slower or duller men diffuse into three years, young Ward was appointed a medical cadet in the United States Army. The position enabled him to combine with the continued study of medicine and surgery such clinical instruction and such administrative experience as were extremely valuable. In 1863 he was commissioned by President Lincoln an Acting Assistant Surgeon of the United States Army, and in 1864 an Assistant Surgeon of the United States Volunteers, a little in advance of the completion of his medical studies, which he successfully pursued in the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, and in the medical department of Georgetown University, in the District of Columbia. He was matriculated from the latter school. The army medical experience of Dr. Ward was mainly that comprised by hospital service in Washington, Alexandria and the vicinity. It was such as brought him into contact with a great variety of complaints and injuries. It enabled him to work with and under the ablest minds in his profession. It familiarized him with the relations of government service to great sanitary undertakings. It devolved large responsibilities on him, and he showed coolness, readiness and resource in meeting them.

At the close of the war, though accorded the opportunity of remaining in the service of the government in the line of his profession, Dr. Ward began the practice of it in his native city. He was made Professor of Anatomy and then of Surgery in the Women's Medical College. He met with decided success in the practice of his profession. His class lectures at the first showed that crispness, aptness and directness, the ability to enlighten and to incite students, which they possess in marked degree. He was chosen a member of the Northwestern Medical and Surgical Society of the metropolis and was made its secretary. He began and has since continued the contribution of accounts of cases to the *Medical Record* and to the *New York Medical Journal.* He became and has remained an active companion of the first class of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion. In 1871, he married the late Nina N. Wheeler, daughter of William A. Wheeler, Esq., of New York City, of whom death bereaved him in October, 1883. During his residence in New York Dr. Ward was elected Assistant Surgeon of the famous Seventh Regiment, with the rank of captain, on June 1, 1872, a position he held until June 12, 1876, the year in which he removed to Albany.

The activities and honors of his profession have crowded on this gentleman at the State capital. His position as the Professor of Pathology, Practice, Clinical Medicine and Hygiene in the Medical College of Albany has made him widely known throughout the profession. He has long been the surgeon of the Fifth Brigade, formerly the Ninth Brigade of the State National Guard. He has, since September, 1883, been a member of the Board of Health of the city, and since January, 1885, one of the Civil Service Examiners for State officers. A member of the New York County and Albany County Medical Societies, Dr. Ward has several times been elected a delegate to the American Medical Association, and he is a permanent member of the State Medical Society. In all the movements of his profession, within the capital or the State, he has been required to become meritedly prominent on the demand of his brethren, while the State and municipal authorities have availed themselves of his knowledge and skill in the counsel they have taken touching large sanitary subjects. He became A. M. by the act of Columbia College, his *alma mater*, in 1864, and he received the degree of Ph. D. from Union University on June 28, 1882. In 1885 he was confirmed by the Board of Regents of the University of the State as a member of the executive committee of the State Normal School, at Albany, in place of the Hon. St. Clair McKelway, resigned.

The citation of the proofs of professional and public preferment could be continued. But enough has been given to serve the purpose of showing that Dr. Ward has won a distinguished position in his profession alike by the concession of its members and in the opinion of the public. The enumeration of the dignities and trusts he has received does not touch the question of his personality; neither can the essentially narrative nature of an outline biography do so. Those who stand to him in the relation of personal friends or professional colleagues know that there are few men in the world of so attractive and worthy personal parts, and that his culture, knowledge and judgment, developed by study and labor in his own

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land and by study and travel in many foreign countries, are as distinctive and pronounced as are his qualities of fellowship. As the physician and the friend, the best record he has made is in the hearts of those with whose sorrows and joys his own life has been blended. That record is unreportable and sacredly privileged from the public gaze.

SYLVESTER D. WILLARD, M. D.

Dr. Sylvester David Willard was born in Wilton, Conn., June 19, 1825, and died in Albany, April 2, 1865. He came of the same family as those eminent divines, the Rev. Samuel Willard and the Rev. Dr. Joseph Willard, the former of whom was a Vice-President and the latter President of Harvard College. His father was a highly respectable physician and an honored citizen; his mother, who was of a much esteemed family of Albany, was a lady of great moral and Christian worth. Young Willard received his literary training at an academy in his native place. In the fall of 1845 he came to Albany, upon invitation of his relative, Dr. Wing, with whom he became a student. He entered the Albany Medical College, graduating therefrom in the winter of 1848.

After serving for some time as an assistant to Dr. Wing, he began practice on his own responsibility, and very early attracted the attention and the confidence of that eminent citizen, the late Dr. T. Romeyn Beck, to whom, perhaps, more than to any other individual, he was indebted for the earliest expressions of public respect and confidence that were awarded to him. Shortly after he began practice he became connected with the Albany County Medical Society, and served successively as its secretary, vice-president and president. In 1858 he was a delegate to the State Medical Society, and was appointed its permanent secretary, an office which he signally honored, especially by preparing each successive year, with great ability, a volume of the Society's transactions.

From the opening of the Rebellion, in 1861, his whole heart went into every movement connected therewith; and, in the spring of 1862, he went, with two other prominent physicians of Albany, to act as a volunteer surgeon to the Army of the Potomac. From Fortress Monroe he proceeded to White House, where he was invested with an important agency in establishing a large field hospital, which brought immediate relief to many hundreds of our wounded soldiers. During a brief sojourn there, he suffered the severest hardships of labor and exposure, and contracted a disease which developed itself more fully after his return, and which there is some reason to believe was never entirely dislodged from his constitution. He made one or two attempts afterward to return to this field of labor, but was obliged to abandon his object.

But the most important public enterprise in which Dr. Willard engaged was the establishment

of an institution for the relief of the chronic insane. His mind had been directed to this subject for a considerable time, and he had collected a vast amount of information bearing upon it, which he had embodied in a luminous and elaborate report. That report had met with a most respectful attention from the Legislature, and everything indicated the speedy carrying out of the plan which he had proposed, when Dr. Willard found that his days of activity on earth were numbered. The Willard Asylum for the Insane, so named as a memorial of him, has been established since his decease. At the time of his death he was holding the positions of Secretary of the State Medical Society, Examining Surgeon for the Pension Office, and Surgeon-General of the State, all of which were to him posts of arduous labor and unceasing fidelity. But the duties of these offices, in addition to his more private professional engagements and other diversified claims upon his time, imposed upon him a burden greater than his physical constitution was able to bear. A sudden attack of disease, superinduced by excessive exertion, accomplished its fatal work within a very few days. The solemnities of his funeral, as well as the warm memorial tributes of different bodies, including the Legislature of the State, furnished the most unquestionable evidence that his death was regarded as a public calamity.

Dr. Willard's intellectual character was marked by quick perception, sound judgment, retentive memory, and much more than the ordinary power of analysis and investigation. A diligent student of books and a close observer of men and things, he acquired a very large amount of general as well as professional knowledge, and he devoted much time to the local history and biography of the medical profession, the results of which appear in "Albany Medical Annals," Vol. 1. He possessed large executive ability, and power of readily bringing other minds into harmony with his own. He had, moreover, an exquisite taste, an eye to discern whatever is beautiful in nature or art, and the delicacy of his perceptions, especially in regard to architectural proportions, was well-nigh unrivaled. His moral qualities were akin to his intellectual ones. He had great simplicity and directness of character. With him the question, "what is right?" was all absorbing, and he sought to settle it by light from above and from within, without listening to the pleas of expediency or of imagined self-interest. His spirit was eminently genial and cheerful, and, with his fine intellectual qualities and more than ordinarily attractive manners, rendered him a most agreeable companion. He was, withal, a man of great benevolence. There was a chord strung in his heart that vibrated quickly to every form of human suffering.

But the intellectual and moral qualities with which Dr. Willard was originally endowed were essentially modified in their action by the influences of Christianity. When about sixteen years old, during an extensive revival of religion in his native place, he entered upon the Christian life, and shortly after he joined the Congregational Church at Wilton, and on his becoming a resident of Albany transferred his membership to the Second Presbyterian Church of this city, which was unbroken during the remainder of his life. For several years he superintended the mission school in Lydius street with great fidelity and success, though it must have been at no small inconvenience, in view of his daily professional engagements. In his medical practice he often prescribed for the spiritual as well as the physical man. The grand enterprise for the relief of one of the most terrible forms of human woe, which he had so much at heart in his last days, was evidently prosecuted not merely from considerations of public expediency, nor yet merely or chiefly from the influences of a naturally benevolent spirit, but from those higher principles and feelings which it is the province of Christianity alone to inspire.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES OF SOME PHYSICIANS.

William Howard Bailey was born in Bethlehem, Albany County, December 28, 1825. He was the seventh child of Dr. Solomon Bailey. When about five years of age his father discontinued the active practice of his profession and retired to a farm. His father had always manifested a great interest in the education of the young, and was for years the active school officer of the town. His family received his first and continued attention, and to him more than to the schools in the neighborhood were they indebted for their educational foundation upon which to build in after life. After the death of his father, which occurred when he was thirteen years of age, he continued his studies at Albany Academy, the Academy at Utica, the State Normal School at Albany, and the Seminary at Cazenovia. Five years he devoted to teaching. While having the charge of the Union school in Trumansburg, he commenced the study of medicine. He continued it all spare hours during the two years that he had charge of male academy in Cassetor, Alabama. He returned to his native county, attended lectures at the Albany Medical College, from which he graduated in 1853. His mother, living in Utica, induced him to commence the practice of his profession there, but in September, 1854, he removed to Albany, where he has been in practice since. He was made member of the Albany County Medical Society in 1854; was four years its treasurer, delegate to the Medical Society of the State of New York, and President of the County Society; was made a permanent member of the Medical Society of the State of New York in 1864, and was Secretary of the same from 1865 to 1875. He was elected President in 1880. He received the honorary degree of M. D. from Soule University, Texas, in 1871, and the degree of LL. D., in 1877, from the Washington and Jefferson College, Penn. He was elected Alderman of Albany in 1874. In 1882 he was appointed one of the consulting board of the Hudson River State Hospital for the Insane at Poughkeepsie, a

position he continues to hold. He was Obstetrician several years at Albany Hospital; also U. S. Examining Surgeon for Pensions.

O. D. BALL was born, 1840, in Otsego County; educated at Hartwick Seminary; received his A. M. degree at Union College; entered the army in 1861; served as Regimental Quartermaster, Third New York Artillery; as Ordnance Officer, Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, and Assistant Adjutant-General, Department N. C. Graduated in medicine from New York College of Physicians and Surgeons, 1867; practiced medicine in Otsego County until 1874; then removed to Albany, and continued the practice ever since. Was Coroner of Otsego County three years; President of Otsego County Medical Society, and for three years Demonstrator of Anatomy in Albany Medical College.

JAMES F. BARKER was born in Schenectady in 1851. He is of New England ancestry. He graduated from Union College in 1874. He studied under Dr. James H. Armsby, of Albany, and graduated from the Medical College in that city in 1877. In the same year he began practicing with Dr. Gideon H. Armsby. He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society. Among the papers written by him is a biographical sketch of Dr. Gideon H. Armsby, who died in 1882.

EZRA ALBERT BARTLETT comes of a historic family, his great-grandfather, Josiah Bartlett, M. D., being one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Dr. Bartlett served three years in Battery "M," Fourth U. S. Artillery, during the war of the Rebellion. He received the degree of A. B. from Rochester University in 1870, and that of M. D. from Albany Medical College in 1879, since which he has practiced in Albany. He was married in 1871 to Miss Jennie Sargent, of Rochester, N. Y. The name of Bartlett abounds in every department of literary and professional life in this country, especially in New England.

HERMAN BENDELL began practicing in Albany in 1876. He has met with success, and while he is well versed as a general physician, he has made his specialty diseases of the eye and ear. In this difficult branch he has acquired high reputation. He is a member of the Board of Public Instruction, and has been its President for one term.

JOHN MILTON BIGELOW was born in Albany, August 22, 1846. He graduated from Albany Academy in 1863, from Williams College in 1866, from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City, in 1869, and received the degree of M. D. from the Albany Medical College in 1870. He began practice in Albany. His specialty is diseases of the throat, air passages and heart. He is a member of the County Medical Society, and the State Society. He was County Physician for 1876 and 1877. In 1870 he was appointed Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics and Attending Physician to the Albany Hospital, and in 1876 to St. Peter's Hospital. He has written papers on "Idiopathic Peritonitis," "Croup," "Hyperidrosis," "Tobacco Poisoning," and other subjects.

JOSEPH H. BLATNER, of German descent, was born in Albany, August 20, 1848. He attended private schools, the Albany Academy, Amherst and Williams Colleges, and graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1872. He studied abroad for two and one-half years, entering at Leipsic, Prague and Vienna, and visiting the large hospitals of Germany, England and France. While at Prague he received the degree of M. A. O. During the first two years of his practice he was in partnership with Dr. A. Vanderveer. He was a member of the Albany Dispensary Staff, and is a member of the Albany County Medical Society. His specialties are obstetrics and diseases of women and children.

RICHARD J. BROWN was born in 1849, in Lanark, Perth County, Canada. He attended school there until 17 years of age, when he entered the printing office of the Perth *Standard*. He was a reporter for one year; then went on the *Toronto Globe*. He left this business and entered St. Michael's College, Toronto. After meeting with many reverses he removed to Albany in 1870, making it his home ever since. He entered the office of Swinburne & Balch, graduated from the Albany Medical College, and, in 1881, began the practice of his profession.

FREDERICK LUKE CLASSEN was born in Albany, July 7, 1857. He was educated in the public schools, graduating from the High School; graduated from Albany Medical College in 1881, and at once began practice. He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society, and has been one of its Censors. He has held, since 1883, the position of Coroner's Physician. His specialty is diseases of the throat and lungs. He is author of "Aneurism of the Aorta," "Water as a Surgical Dressing," and "Hydro Nephrosis."

JOHN BLISS CONKLIN was born in Sand Lake, Rensselaer County, in 1832. His family moved to Illinois in 1884. He graduated at Chicago Medical College in 1852. He read homœopathy and graduated in that school in Detroit in 1854. He practiced in Bennington, Vt., one year. Made cancers a specialty, and practiced in Buffalo, N. Y., six months; in San Francisco, Cal., eighteen months; and in Mexico, six months. Returning, he settled in Albany in 1862, where he has since continued practicing his profession.

CHARLES M. CULVER was born at West Troy, September 28, 1856. He graduated from Union College in 1878, and from Albany Medical College in 1881. He attended at the University of Berlin for eight months, going thence to Paris, where his studies were pursued for ten months; thence to London, returning to Albany in 1883, where he began practice as an oculist and aurist. He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society. During the present year, his translation from the French of Dr. Landolt's (Paris) work on "Refraction and Accommodation of the Eye" will be published.

FREDERIC C. CURTIS, though of New England parentage, was born in South Carolina. He graduated from Beloit College in 1866, and received his M. D. from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, in 1870, after which he took a year of travel in Europe. He was established here in 1871. He is an ex-President of the County Medical Society, permanent member of the State Society, and member of American Public Health Association and American Dermatological Association, editor of "Albany Medical Annals," and of Vol. III of "County Society Transactions." He is Professor of Skin Diseases in the Albany Medical College, and physician in the same department in Albany and St. Peter's Hospitals. He is also a member of the State Board of Health.

JOHN SAVAGE DELAVAN was born in Ballston, Saratoga County, October 18, 1840. He was a student at Military Institutes and at Union College. He graduated from Albany Medical College in 1861, practicing in Albany for one year. During the Civil War he served as surgeon in various positions. At the close of the war he returned to Albany, and was appointed Pension Examining Surgeon, which he held, with the exception of about one year passed in Europe on account of poor health, until 1875. Under the administration of Mr. Hayes he was Vice-Consul at Geneva, returning to Albany in 1879. He was appointed, in 1880, one of the Commissioners of the State Board of Health. His specialty is diseases of women. He is author of many papers, among which are "Vital Registration," "Use of Alcohol in Health," and a series of articles entitled "Obstetric Hints for Young Practitioners."

FRANK H. FISK was born, August 6, 1853, in Salisbury, Ct. He attended the public schools of Bridgeport, Ct.; studied medicine in Springfield, Mass.; graduated from Albany Medical College in 1882, and at once began his practice in Albany. His specialty is surgery, and he has performed many capital operations. He is a member of the County Medical Society.

DAVID FLEISCHMAN was born in Albany, March 12, 1859. He graduated from Albany High School in 1875, Yale College in 1879, and Albany Medical College in 1881. He began practice in Albany in November, 1882, making throat diseases his specialty. He is the author of "Nasal Polypus;" is a member of the County Society, and physician for throat diseases in the Albany Hospital.

SAMUEL HUNTINGTON FREEMAN is a lineal descendant of Edward Freeman, who came from England in 1635, and was one of the first settlers of Plymouth. He is a grandson of Hon. Jonathan Freeman, one of the founders of the township of Hanover, N. H., and of Dartmouth College, of which he was trustee and treasurer for forty years, and a member of the United States Congress when Washington was President, a member of the Committee of Safety during the Revolutionary War, and filled many other important trusts in the history of the State and Nation. Jonathan Freeman, Esq., the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Hanover, N. H., where he was greatly esteemed for his unostentatious charities and probity of character. Besides filling other important offices of trust, he was Justice of the Peace and Quorum for more than forty years. Dr. Freeman was born in Hanover, N. H., August 24, 1821, and was graduated at Dartmouth College in 1843. He studied medicine at Dartmouth Medical College, and graduated at the Albany Medical College in 1846. He afterward became associated with his former preceptor, Dr. James H. Armsby, as partner in professional business, which continued for twelve years. He has been an active member of the Albany County Medical Society, and has contributed monographs on various subjects of professional interest. He was twice elected President of this Society. His address on "Human Longevity and Hygiene" was published in the Transactions of the State Medical Society, of which he was elected a permanent member in 1862. He married, in 1851, Sarah Elizabeth, daughter of Hon. Gideon Hawley, of Albany. He is President of the Board of Curators of the Albany Medical College, and a member of the Medical Staff of the Albany Hospital, which positions he has filled for many years.

GEORGE E. GORHAM was born at Le Raysville, Bradford County, Pa., November 8, 1850; attended Le Raysville Academy and Waverly High School, and graduated from Hahnemann College, Chicago, Ill., in 1874. He located in Athens, Pa., remaining there until 1878, when he removed to Albany. He is a member of the American Institute of Homœopathy, the New York State Society, the Albany County Society, and the Society of Northern New York. He was Secretary and Treasurer of the County Society, is now its Vice-President, and Secretary and Treasurer of Society for Northern New York. He is the author of "Treatment of Croup by Inhalation of Bromine," "Common Sense Therapeutics," and "Acute Yellow Atrophy of the Liver," with cases.

WILLIAM HAILES, JR., was born in Albany, October 14, 1849. He was educated in the public schools and at the Albany Classical Institute under Prof. C. H. Anthony. During 1868 and 1869 he studied under the late Dr. Alden March, and classified his notes, which had been accumulating for fifty years. During this time he articulated a skeleton, which is yet in the College Museum. He graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1870, being class valedictorian, receiving a competitive prize. In 1872 he established himself in practice in Albany, which has been interrupted only by two trips abroad—one taken in 1875 to Germany and Italy; the other, three years later, to Paris and London, where he attended lectures. During 1869-71 he was resident physician in the Albany Hospital, and is now attending surgeon to the same, and to St. Peter's Hospital. In 1872 he was Demonstrator of Anatomy; in 1873, Lecturer on Surgical Dressings and

Appliances; and since 1874 has been Professor of Histology and Pathological Anatomy in the Albany Medical College. He has daily classes in practical microscopy, held in Alumni Hall of the college. He frequently lectures before medical and other societies upon technical, scientific and popular subjects. He has performed many capital operations, his specialties being surgery, cathology and microscopy. He is Vice-President of the County Medical Society, and delegate to the British Medical and New York State societies.

WILLIAM N. HAYS was born in New Scotland, Albany County, in 1850. He studied higher mathematics, natural sciences and classics at Falley and Whitestown seminaries until 1872. He then began the study of medicine with Prof. James H. Armsby, and graduated with honors from the Albany Medical College, in 1875. He has been resident physician at the Albany Hospital.

NELSON HUNTING was born in Wrights, Schoharie County, November 21, 1837; attended the Academy in Gallupville, the State Normal School, Albany, and graduated from New York Homœopathic Medical College in 1869. He practiced for three years in Gallupville, removing to Albany in 1872. He is a member of the American Institute of Homœopathy, the New York State Society and the Albany County Society.

ALFRED B. HUESTED received his diploma from the Albany Medical College in 1863, and in 1868 opened a retail drug store on the corner of Eagle and Daniel streets. Dr. Huested, in September, 1883, was appointed Professor of Botany and Materia Medica in the Albany College of Pharmacy, of which he was one of the founders; and in July, 1884, a member of the State Board of Pharmacy.

P. J. KEEGAN is a well-known physician and surgeon of Albany. Formerly he was house physician at Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, and is now visiting surgeon to St. Peter's Hospital, Home for the Aged, and of the Little Sisters of the Poor at Albany.

URIAH B. LAMOURE was born, March 4, 1844, in Albany; attended the Albany Academy; graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1878, and began practice. He is member of Albany County Medical Society, and is now its treasurer. He received the appointment of County Physician four years ago, which he still holds. His specialty is diseases arising from the abuse of stimulants.

MAURICE J. LEWI was born in Albany on the 1st day of December, 1857. After graduating from the Albany Free Academy (High School) he took a private Cornell course with Prof. Altmeyer, at the same time taking up the study of medicine. He graduated in January, 1877, and acted as class orator. Was appointed to the house staff of the Albany Hospital, serving for one and one-half years. He continued his studies in 1878, at the University of Heidelberg, and in 1879 at the Vienna University, where he became one of the assistants in the Children's Hospital under Prof. Widerhofer. On his return from Europe he commenced the active practice of medicine, devoting himself more particularly to diseases of women and children, on which subjects he has delivered several courses of lectures in the Albany Medical College. He is an ex-President of the Academy of Medicine, has been Secretary of the Albany County Medical Society, member of the Executive Committee of the Alumni Association, and is connected with the Dispensary Staff of the Albany Hospital. He has contributed variously to the literature of medicine, more particularly in his special branches of practice. He is a member of various fraternal bodies, and at present senior deacon of Wadsworth Lodge, No. 417, of Free Masons.

JOHN MCALLISTER was born in Brooklyn, March 5, 1858, and attended the Catholic Brothers' College, Chicago, Ill., and the public schools of Albany; graduated from Albany Medical College in 1879, and at once began practice. His specialty is insanity and diseases of the nervous system; often called to testify as an expert. He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society.

HENRY MARCH, son of Dr. Alden March, was born at Albany, N. Y., December 13, 1827. He was educated in New Haven and Fairfield, Conn., and in Albany, graduating from Albany Medical College in 1853. He is a member of Albany County Medical Society, of the New York State Medical Society, of the American Medical Association, and Curator of the Albany Medical College. He was president of the County Society in 1876, and its treasurer in 1863. He is the author of papers, read before the County Society, on "Anesthetic Agents," "Polypus of Uterus," "Paracentesis-Thoracis," etc.; and "A Biographical Sketch of Jeremiah O. Havens, M. D." During the civil war he served for a brief period as volunteer surgeon. In 1862 he married a daughter of Walter R. Bush, Esq., of Troy, N. Y. Dr. March is a director of the Y. M. C. A., and manager of the City Tract and Missionary Society.

HENRY E. MERENESS was born at Sharon Center, Schoharie County, March 19, 1849. He was educated at the public schools, Fort Plain Seminary, Knoxville Academy, and the State Normal School at Albany, where he graduated in 1869. He studied medicine with Dr. James H. Armsby, and graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1874, and began practice in Albany. His specialty is obstetrics. He was valedictorian of his class, and was for some time Treasurer of the Albany County Medical Society. Since 1879 has been Acting Assistant Surgeon of the Marine Hospital service for the Port of Albany. He is Surgeon on the staff of Albany Burgesses Corps, and Treasurer of the same.

CYRUS S. MERRILL was born in Vermont. He graduated from Amherst College in 1867, and from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, in 1870, and settled in Albany, making a specialty of Ophthalmology and Otology. He is a member of the American Ophthalmology Society, of the American Otology Society, and of the Albany

County Medical Society. He has received appointments as Professor of Ophthalmology in the Albany Medical College, Ophthmalic and Aural Surgeon to St. Peter's Hospital, the Albany City Hospital, to the Child's Hospital in Albany, and to the Troy Hospital. He is the author of many papers upon his specialty.

WILLIAM E. MILBANK was born in Coeymans, Albany County, March 8, 1841. He graduated from the Albany Academy in 1859, and from the Albany Medical College in 1872. He is a member of the Albany County Homœopathic Society, of the New York State Society, and the American Institute of Homœopathy, being for several years Secretary of the County Society. His specialty is Surgery.

EDWARD MOORE, M. R. C. V. S., located in Albany in 1872. He went abroad and matriculated at the Royal Veterinary College, London, receiving honors. He was there offered, by the Privy Council, the position of Inspector under the provisions of "The Contagious Diseases Act." In 1877 Dr. Moore returned to Albany. He has been veterinary editor of the *Cultivator and Country Gentleman* for seven years, and is a Fellow of the Veterinary Medical Association of London, England. His reputation as a cattle pathologist is well established, and his practice extends throughout the United States and Canada.

FREDERICK D. MORRILL was born in Wakefield, Mass., August 3, 1855. He attended the grammar schools of Boston and the public schools of Albany, N. Y.; graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1880, beginning practice the same year. During 1879, '80, '81 he was resident physician of the alms-house, and is now City District Physician. His specialty is diseases of women and children; is author of "Injections and their Uses in the Practice of Medicine." He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society.

GEORGE S. MUNSON was born in Waterford, Saratoga County, April 4, 1856. He was educated by private tutors, at Anthony's Classical Institute and Princeton College, and graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1880. The two years following were passed in New York under the teachings of Drs. Knapp, Noyes and Agnew, and while there he was First Assistant to the New York Ophthalmic and Aural Institute, Dr. Knapp, Surgeon-in-Chief. He began practice in Albany in 1882, and was married in 1884 to Miss May S. Downing, of the city. He has been for two years Ophthalmic and Aural Surgeon to St. Peter's Hospital, and is a member of the Albany County Medical Society.

WM. H. MURRAY was born in Pound Ridge, Westchester County, December, 1845; graduated at Union College, 1867, and Albany Medical College, 1868; settled in Albany, 1870; was Supervisor of Sixteenth Ward, 1877, and held the position four years. He was elected Alderman, 1882, and President of the Common Council. By virtue of that office, was sworn in as Mayor when Mayor Nolan resigned, and held the office till the Courts gave it to Dr. John Swinburne. Has held the offices of Police Surgeon, District Physician, Coroner's Physician, and now holds the office of Physician to Penitentiary. Has held the office of Vice-President and Treasurer of Albany County Medical Society.

THEODORE W. NELLIS was born at Schoharie Court House. He graduated from the Schoharie Academy in 1869, and the Albany Medical College in 1881. His specialty is the treatment of hernia and kindred diseases; he is the manufacturer of trusses and other surgical appliances, and conducts the business of druggist and apothecary. He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society, treasurer of the Alumni Association of the College, and a member of its executive committee.

WILLIAM J. NELLIS was born at Schoharie Court House, September 3, 1855. He graduated from the Schoharie Academy in 1872, and from the Albany Medical College in 1879, and at once began practicing in Albany. He is a member of the Albany County Society, and for two years, 1883 to '85, served as Censor.

GEORGE W. PAPEN was born in Albany in 1854; graduated at the Columbia Medical College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City, in 1874. He has practiced his profession in Albany for the last eleven years.

T. KIRKLAND PERRY was born in Dublin, Cheshire County, N. H., June 16, 1852. He attended the public schools of Albany, graduating in 1866, and received a classical education through private tutors. He served several years with Messrs. Clement & Rice, as their prescription clerk; studied under Dr A. Vanderveer, and graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1875. He was essayist of his class, and received a prize for his thesis. He at once began practice. He is a member of the County Society; was its secretary in 1878, and is now its vice-president. He is author of papers upon "Clinical Thermometry," "History of Anencephalic Monsters," "Scarlatina, with Unusual Complications," and an address, entitled "Obstetric Memoranda," delivered as Vice-President of the County Society, in 1884. He has been, since 1876, member of the dispensary staff of the City Hospital, and is attending Physician at St. Peter's Hospital. He was married, in 1878, to Grace Crosby Moore, who died in April, 1885, leaving two children.

CHARLES H. PORTER, of Dutch and New England ancestry, was born in Ghent, Columbia County, November 11, 1834. He was educated in Hudson, N. Y., Philadelphia, Pa., and at Yale College, where he was made A. M. in 1857. His medical studies were pursued in the Albany Medical College, whence he graduated in 1861. He settled in this city, making a specialty of medical jurisprudence. He is a member of the New York State Medical Society, and of the Connecticut Academy of Science. He has been a frequent contributor to professional journals; for two years he was Professor of Chemistry in the Vermont Medical College, and from 1855 to 1862 Professor of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence in the Albany

Medical College; from 1872 to 1874 he was attending Surgeon to St. Peter's Hospital, Albany. In the late war he was Assistant Surgeon, Fortieth Regiment, New York Volunteers; and, from 1862 to 1865, Surgeon Sixth Regiment, New York Heavy Artillery. He has been United States Examining Surgeon since 1871.

PORTER LA FAYETTE REYNOLDS was born in Cabot, Washington County, Vermont, in 1823. He graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1861; he practiced for six months in Troy, N. Y.; then became Assistant Surgeon to the One Hundred and Sixty-ninth New York Volunteers, removing to Albany in December, 1863. He is a member of the Albany County Homœopathic Society, and of the American Institute of Homœopathy.

JOSEPH WARREN RILEY was born in West Troy, Albany County; attended the public schools of Troy and graduated from the Troy Academy. Began the study of Medicine, 1878; graduated from Albany Medical College, 1882. Served two years as resident physician of the Albany alms-house, and one year as city physician; has been practicing since 1882 in the city of Albany,

OTTO RITZMAN was born in Albany, April 7, 1857, and received a common school education; graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1879, and at once began practice. He was appointed District Physician in 1879, which he still holds. He is a member of the County Society. In 1884, in partnership with W. H. Murray, M. D., he established a drug store.

DENNIS P. SHEVLIN was born, August 3, 1858, in Albany. He graduated from the Christian Brothers' Academy in 1876, and from Albany Medical College in 1880; practiced at Saratoga Springs for three years; located in Albany in 1883; was coroner's physician, 1883, '84. His specialty is diseases of the throat and lungs. He is member of the Albany County Medical Society, Union Medical Association, Saratoga County Medical Society, and is Physician to the Catholic Benevolent Society of Albany.

JOHN HENRY SKILLICORN was born in Albany, Dec. 25, 1860, and educated at Albany High School, Cornell University, and Albany Medical College, from which he graduated in 1883. He was prosector of anatomy in the Medical College, for the years 1882, '83, '84, and was the first to successfully carry an independent quiz class through the year. He is a member of the County Society and author of "How to Study Anatomy Scientifically," "Reports of Complicated Cases of Typhoid Fever" and contributor of various articles upon popular medicine. His specialty is surgery, particularly fractures.

NORMAN L. SNOW was born in Root, Montgomery County, April 7, 1839. He graduated from Union College, 1859, and from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York City in March, 1861. From 1862 to 1865 he served in the United States army; then practiced at Canajoharie, N. Y., removing in 1875 to Albany. He was a member of the Montgomery County Medical Society, and is a member of the Albany Medical Society, the New York State Medical Society, and of the American Medical Association. From August 23, 1862, to February 18, 1864, he was Assistant Surgeon in the United States army, and Surgeon from February 18, 1864, to October 18, 1865. During the summer of 1865 he was health officer of the district of Savannah, Ga. He was President of the Albany County Society in 1882. He has served as Alderman-at-large, and is now President of the Albany Common Council. Dr. Snow's literary contributions are many, among which are: "Syphilitic Degeneration of Arteries as a Cause of Aneurism," "Strangulated Hernia, with Result of Nine Operations," and "Some Practical Facts in Fractures of the Thigh," verified by the treatment of twenty-five cases occurring in private practice.

H. R. STARKWEATHER was born in Montgomery County, June 11, 1850. Graduated at the Albany Medical College in 1871. Since that time has been engaged in the practice of medicine in the city of Albany. Was elected Supervisor in 1878, and continued in the board three terms. Served five years as coroner's physician and is now city physician.

B. U. STEENBERG, born in Malta, Saratoga County, April 18, 1839; graduated from Albany Medical College, 1870; was Secretary of the Albany County Medical Society in 1876, and Vice-President, 1879.

JOHN BENJAMIN STONEHOUSE was born in Albany, June 4, 1852. He graduated from the Albany Academy in 1869, and from the Medical College in 1871, from which time until November, 1874, he was Assistant Surgeon in "Sanford Hall," a private insane asylum at Flushing, L. I.; he then came to Albany, remaining until 1876, when he became Resident Physician, one year, at "Brigham Hall," Canandaigua, N. Y. His specialties are nervous and mental diseases. He is Secretary of the County Medical Society. For three years he served as Lecturer on Nervous and Mental Diseases in the Albany Medical College, and now has charge of that department in the Hospital Dispensary. He is one of the editors of the *Albany Medical Annals*. Among works by him are: "General Paresis of the Insane," "Syphilitic Nervous Diseases," "Delirium Tremens." In May, 1882, he published the result of "Niter of Amyl in Opium Poisoning," which he claims was the first case ever so treated. As President of the Union Medical Association he read, in 1883, a paper entitled "Historical Retrospect of the Care of the Insane."

JOHN THOMPSON was born at Athboy, County of Meath, Ireland, December 10, 1837, and emigrated to this country in 1847. He was educated in the public schools at Binghamton, and graduated from the Medical Department of the University of the State of New York in 1868, and at once began practice in Albany. He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society.

FRANKLIN TOWNSEND, Jr., was born in Albany, November 4, 1854. His education was pursued at the Albany State Normal School, the Albany Academy, and Williams College, where he graduated in 1873; three years later he graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York; and during 1876–7 was House Surgeon in Charity Hospital, New York. He then pursued his studies at Vienna, Strasburg and London, returning in 1878, and commencing practice in Albany. He is attending Physician at St. Peter's Hospital, and to the Protestant and the Catholic Orphan Asylums; he is a member of the Albany County Medical Society, of which he has been Censor. His specialty is Diseases of Women and Children. Among papers of which he is the author are: "Ovulation and Menstruation, considered in their Physiological Relations," "Treatment of the Parturient Breast," "Some Considerations on Uterine Congestions," and "Parturient Hæmophilia."

THOMAS M. TREGO was born in New York City, August 30, 1847. He graduated from Rutgers College, N. J., in 1870; he studied medicine under Drs. S. O. Vanderpoel, Thomas, and Edward R. Hun, of Albany, and Thomas M. Markoe, of New York City, and graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, in 1874. He returned to Albany, where he held the position of Resident Physician to St. Peter's Hospital, which he soon resigned and began practice. He was shortly appointed attending Physician at the Child's Hospital and St. Agnes' School. In 1878 he visited England, Ireland, Scotland, Germany and France, resuming, upon his return, his practice.

WILLIS G. TUCKER, Ph. G., Ph. D., was born, Albany, October 31, 1849. He was educated at the Albany Academy and the Albany Medical College, receiving his degree of M. D. in 1870. Dr. Tucker's professional life has been a successful and busy one. The offices held by him are: Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Albany Medical College, 1871–4; Lecturer on Materia Medica and Assistant Professor of Chemistry, 1874–5; Adjunct Professor of Materia Medica and Chemistry, 1875–6; Professor of Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry, 1876–1882, to which has been added Professor of Medical Jurisprudence and Registrar of the Albany Medical College, since 1882; Professor of Natural Science, St. Agnes' School, since 1873; Instructor in Chemistry, Albany Academy, 1874, etc., etc. He was one of the founders of the Albany College of Pharmacy, and is a member of the leading American medical and scientific societies. During 1881–84 he was analyst to the State Board of Health. Dr. Tucker, in addition to his professional work, has been a contributor to various scientific periodicals.

ALBERT VANDER VEER was born, July 10, 1841, in Root, Montgomery County. He attended lectures at the Albany Medical College, the National Medical College and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York, graduating in December, 1862, from the National Medical College (Medical Department of the Columbia College, Washington, D. C.). He received the degree of M. D. from the Albany Medical College in 1869, and settled in Albany. In 1874–75 he spent six months in the hospitals of London and Paris. He is a member of the Albany County Medical Society, of which he was president in 1873; the New York State Medical Society, of which he was elected president in February, 1885; the American Medical Association, and of the British Medical Association. He was appointed Medical Cadet in the United States army in June, 1862; Assistant Surgeon of the 66th New York Volunteers in December, 1862, and Surgeon in the same regiment in June, 1864; in 1869 he was made attending Surgeon of the Albany Hospital, and in 1874 of St. Peter's Hospital. He was elected, in 1869, Professor of General and Special Anatomy in the Albany Medical College, and, in 1876, Professor of the Principles and Practice of Surgery in that institution. His specialty is surgery, in which he has performed, successfully, many major operations. He is also the writer of many valuable contributions to medical literature.

JOHN WILSON was born in Ireland in 1812, emigrating to this country twenty-one years later. He received a theological education in a school founded by the Government, and taught one of the first public schools ever established in Ireland. He lived in Albany from 1833 to 1843, when he went to Syracuse, graduating from the Syracuse Eclectic Medical College in 1847; he received a diploma from the New York Eclectic College some years later. From 1853 to 1861 he lectured upon medical subjects throughout central New York, and returned to Albany in 1862. He is a member of the Albany District Eclectic Medical Society, and has served as its secretary and treasurer. He also belongs to the State Eclectic Society.

HISTORY OF EDUCATION.

By Prof. JONATHAN TENNEY, Ph. D.

OF all the colonies only Massachusetts and Connecticut made early provision for a common school education for the whole people. The other New England colonies made similar provision as soon as their numbers and organization made it expedient. With these colonies it was, from the first, an established principle that all government must proceed from the people, be formed by the people and for the people. Intelligence and virtue were regarded as its only safeguards. All children should early be instructed in lessons of obedience to wholesome law, in virtue as its foundation, and in knowledge enough to make them understand their rights as citizens and how to defend them, and their duties to each other and how to discharge them. It was established that self-preservation demanded that the state should insist that the money of the state, duly raised by taxation and fairly apportioned, should educate the children of the state. To this principle there was rare dissent. The crowning glory of New England, giving its sons everywhere prosperity, influence and power, comes from its free schools.

Tyranny was afraid of intelligence among the people. In some colonies, as in Virginia, free schools and a consequent free press were openly opposed. In New York, governors seldom dared open opposition; but the schools were degraded by indifference and neglect.

DUTCH COLONIAL PERIOD.

The men who held public trusts during the Dutch colonial period, such as Directors, Vice-Directors, and officers under the Patroons, received their education in Holland. This was true, also, of the few clergy and other men of the literary professions of law, medicine and teaching. During the English colonial period, at first the same class of men came over, educated in the English schools. They belonged to the aristocratic or wealthy classes. As a rule, they all regarded the laboring classes as born to toil and servitude, having little time for anything but drudgery, and little need of knowing anything else. One of the governors boldly declared that all the common people needed to know was how to earn money to pay their taxes.

In the Charter of Freedoms and Exemptions granted by the West India Company to all patroons, masters, or private persons who "will plant colonies in New Netherlands," under date of June 7, 1629, occurs the following:

"XXVII.—The Patroons and Colonists in particular, and in the speediest manner, must endeavor to find out ways and means whereby they may supply a minister and schoolmaster, that thus the service of God and zeal for religion may not grow cool and be neglected among them, and they shall, for the first, procure a comforter of the sick there."

In the new project of freedoms and exemptions made in 1630, the same condition was re-enacted in terms as follows:

"The patroons shall, also, particularly exert themselves to find speedy means to maintain a clergyman and schoolmaster, in order that Divine Service and zeal for religion may be planted in that country, and send, at first, a comforter of the sick thither."

In the articles and conditions drawn up and published by the Chamber of Amsterdam, in 1638, for the colonization and trade of New Netherlands, under the West India Company, appears the following: "Each householder and inhabitant shall bear such tax and public charge as shall hereafter be considered proper for the maintenance of clergymen and comforters of the sick, schoolmasters, and such like necessary officers; and the Director and Council there shall be written to touching the form hereof, in order, on receiving further information thereupon, it be rendered the least onerous and vexatious."

It is here to be noted that the comforter of the sick and the schoolmaster were usually united in the same person; that he was first to wait on the sick and render other service as helper to the clergyman; and that care of the boys and teaching them was only occasional, and directed mostly to religious catechisms and a little reading and spelling, with much moral and physical discipline.

A recent intelligent writer observes: "Religion was the leading idea in Dutch teaching. I have seen a Dutch Primer, or A B C Book, as it is called (Amsterdam), similar to our *New England Primer*. It has a large rooster on one page, and a picture of a Dutch school on the other. The master has a cap on his head and a bunch of twigs in his hand. The class stands before him and other boys are seated at their desks. After a very little spelling, succeeds the Lord's Prayer, Creed, Decalogue, Morning and Evening Prayer, Grace before and after meat. The instruction is altogether religious, which feature (I suppose) is retained in our Catholic schools to this day. The English Episcopalians also had their Primer, corresponding to the Dutch and New England Primers."

Adam Roelantsen, previously a schoolmaster in New Amsterdam, came to Rensselaerwyck as a settler in 1639. From all that has been learned, he appears to have been the first schoolmaster at New Amsterdam from 1638 to 1639. He appears in several law suits from 1638 to 1653. We hear of him last in Manhattan.

We are sorry to find that his character was one of great rashness and imprudence; that he was easily provoked and frequently engaged in quarrels and lawsuits with his neighbors. In one of these he was found guilty of adultery and sentenced to be publicly flogged. Indeed, the character of the early clergy and schoolmasters was often such as to be a scandal to "the Divine Service" and to the service of educating the children.

Dr. O'Callaghan well says: The state of morals in New Amsterdam was, at this period (1638), by no means healthy, owing as well to the description of persons which trade brought thither, as to the absence, in a great part, of an agricultural population. This remark applies as well to Beverwyck, and to other years than 1638.

The mass of the people who came to New Netherlands were unable to read or write. Most of them were indifferent to the matter. Hence, schools, when opened, were kept irregularly, by ill-qualified and unprincipled men, and as a temporary service.

The better educated and more prosperous spoke and wrote of the importance of good schoolmasters. But the money and effort necessary to secure them were seldom given. These were needed in the interests of trade.

That a school was needed and in contemplation in Beverwyck as early as 1643, is made manifest by a letter of the worthy Arendt Van Curler to the patroon. But we find no evidence that this "contemplation" resulted in action. Indeed, very little is said about schoolmasters or schools in Rensselaerwyck or Beverwyck during the whole Dutch period.

A schoolmaster, in 1644, was estimated at one-fourth the value of a clergyman, or thirty florins per month, finding his own rations. In 1661, his pay had advanced to eighteen guilders per month and board-wages. It may have been all he was worth.

The commonalty were required to have the youth instructed by good schoolmasters. But the requirement was seldom enforced. The common people were poor; the government had matters to see to of more personal interest. It will be noticed that the schools were not free so long as the patroons were required to pay for them.

The schoolmaster of that early day "acted many parts." He was expected to be especially helpful to the minister and the church out of school as well as in. It was his duty to "promote religious worship," to "read the word of God" at the opening of service, and sometimes to "exhort the people." He was a "consoler of the sick." He attended the consistory. He was church clerk, sexton, bell-ringer and grave-digger, and usually served as foresinger, precentor or chorister. A very useful man he might be; but how much of a teacher could he be!

"A comforter of the sick who could also act as schoolmaster." "A precentor who could also act as schoolmaster." Old documents often use these expressions.

The historian of the town of Flatbush writes:

"From the records of the town, it appears that the schoolmaster acted as town clerk, and as the rates of tuition were low, previously to the American revolution, the offices of sexton and "foresinger," or chorister of the church, were conferred upon him, with a view to increase his emoluments. He received all interment fees for infants and adults, according to a scale of established prices, and for his services as chorister he was paid an annual salary by the consistory of the church. The chorister, in addition to his duty of taking the lead in setting and singing the Psalms and Hymns, was also required to ring the bell for all public services, to read the commandments at the commencement of the morning worship, and the Apostles' Creed in the afternoon. These latter services were all performed in the Dutch language, and uniformly continued so until about the year 1790, at the time when Mr. Gabriel Ellison, the first English schoolmaster, left the village."

Flatbush did not differ much from other settlements of those days.

It is deemed worthy of note by an observer in 1647, that a college had been founded in Massachu-

setts some ten years before; but little or no efforts had been made by the authorities of New Netherlands to establish even a primary school in any part of the country. It was asserted that "the youth is spoiled," and needed a school that they might be "kept out of the street" and "under strict subordination." Grog-shops and houses where tobacco and beer could be had were plenty. They were sometimes kept by discouraged schoolmasters.

In the remonstrance against the management of the West India Company, made by Adrien Vander Donck and others, claiming to represent the people of New Netherlands, and addressed to the Lords States General, in 1649, occurs the following: "There ought to be, also, a public school, provided with two good teachers, so that the youth in so wild a country, where there are so many dissolute people, may, first of all, be instructed and indoctrinated, not only in reading and writing, but also in the fear of the Lord. Now the school is kept very irregularly, by this one or that, according to his fancy, as long as he thinks proper."

In his reply to this remonstrance, in the same year, Secretary Van Tienhoven, in behalf of the Director-General, admits that the new school-house has not been built, and that "there is no Latin school or Academy;" but claims that a place has been selected for the school of Jan Cornelissen, while other schools, enough for "the circumstances of the country," are kept by "other teachers" in "hired houses." But little credit can be given to any statements made by this corrupt man and servile tool of the West India Company. His history shows him to have been most corrupt in morals and false to every trust.

Later, the remonstrants, complaining of the neglect of the interests of New Amsterdam by "the Company" and its Director, say: "The plate has been for a long time passed around for a common school, which has been built with words; for as yet the first stone is not laid. Some materials only have been provided. However, the money given for the purpose hath all disappeared and is mostly spent, so that it falls somewhat short; and nothing permanent has, as yet, been effected for this purpose." This complaint was made in 1650. Its statements, no doubt, represent the true state of matters in regard to educating the common people of New Netherlands during the Dutch colonial period. It is true that the "Dutch," as Broadhead tells us, "were eminently a charitable, well-educated, moral people." Holland had eminent scholars and educated and pious ministers; but they did not often come to New Netherlands in the seventeenth century, with the West India Company traders or the patroons. That the traders of "the Company" or the merchants of Amsterdam gave themselves much trouble, beyond a few words, about the schooling of their countrymen and their children in the Valley of the Hudson, does not appear in history. In the inflated speeches and writings of some ill-advised orators and writers of more recent times only, do we read erroneous statements on this subject. History should be true, to be valuable. The best principles of Holland patriots, scholars and Christians did not shine forth in the representatives of the West India Company who came to early New Netherlands as agents and traders. It is false to history to color them as scholars, philanthropists and saints.

The local authorities were sometimes earnestly besought to provide the inhabitants with a proper schoolmaster. "Perceiving how necessary such a person was to the establishment of a well-constituted republic," a committee was appointed to build a school-house and to collect funds for defraying whatever expenses might be incurred. Andries Janse was appointed to take charge of this institution in the course of the following year, and received a present, on entering upon the discharge of his duties, of $20. This was at Beverwyck in 1650; but his services appear to have been of short duration.

Rev. Gideon Schaets, who was "called as minister to Rensselaerwyck" in 1652, and was afterward, at the request of the inhabitants of Fort Orange and Beverwyck, minister of the latter place, was directed to teach, also, the Catechism there, and instruct the people in the Holy Scriptures, and to pay attention to the office of schoolmaster for the old and young." History is silent in regard to his service as a schoolmaster. His ministerial service was a turbulent one enough.

About 1656, the Holland City of Amsterdam offered certain conditions to emigrants to New Netherlands, which were submitted to the Directors of the West India Company, and received their approval. These are found among them:

"7. Said city shall cause to be erected about the market, or in a more convenient place, a public building for Divine Service: *item*, also, a house for a school, which can likewise be occupied by the person who will hereafter be sexton, psalmsetter and schoolmaster; the city shall, besides, have a house built for the minister.

"8. The city aforesaid shall provisionally provide and pay the salary of a minister and schoolmaster,

unless their High Mightinesses or the Company think otherwise."

The cities did not like to pay taxes; and "the Company" and "their High Mightinesses" usually thought "otherwise." These inducements to emigration remained on paper.

After giving an extended account of the wretched condition of the churches throughout the colony in 1656, Dr. O'Callaghan truly remarks: "Bad as it was with the churches, it was worse as regards schools; not one of all these places, whether Dutch or English, had a schoolmaster, except the Manhattans, Beverwyck and Fort Cassimer."

We can produce no stronger testimony in regard to the state of popular education in the colony of New Netherlands, even toward the latter part of its existence, than what follows. These clergymen had spent some years in the colony, the former as the first spiritual guide sent out to Rensselaerwyck by the patroon, and the latter as the minister of New Amsterdam.

Revs. John Megapolensis and Samuel Drisius write, in 1657, after making some statements in regard to the churches in the province, that "It is to be added that (to our knowledge) not one in all these places, whether Dutch or English Villages, hath a schoolmaster, except Manhattans, Beverwyck, and now one, also, at Fort Cassimer on South River; and though some parents would give their children some instruction, yet they experience much difficulty, and nothing else can be expected than a ruined youth and a bewilderment of men's minds. Scarcely any means can be seen to remedy this evil: First, because some villages are only in their first establishments, and whilst people come naked and poor from Holland, they have not means to provide a minister and schoolmaster; Second, because there are few qualified persons in this country who can or will teach."

However much Stuyvesant may have valued learning, and seen the need of it among the common people, and made promises, he subordinated everything to the immediate interests of the West India Company, whose servant he was; and spent revenues and time freely for garrisons and for military excursions to extend and preserve their territorial and mercantile advantage against the Swedes, the English, the French and the Indians. He had no money for schools. He got up collections which were never used for the purpose; he suggested the outhouses of the government buildings as good enough places for common schools; and suffered intemperate, illiterate and vicious schoolmasters to have charge of them. Schools on paper were often referred to by the public officials; and school-rooms in out-of-the-way places, with lack of proper provisions for seating, light and warmth, were rented when not needed for any other purpose, so long as the schoolmaster saw fit to occupy the gloomy places. The clergy were poorly enough paid, unless they became favorites of the government or entered into land speculations; but public schoolmasters, as well as official "dog-whippers," often failed to receive for their menial service even the salary or tuition promised. They usually secured some more desirable place as soon as possible. Some turned to trade, others to tavern-keeping, and not a few became servitors in some capacity under the government.

Whatever the schools were during the latter part of the Dutch colonial period was largely due to the clergy of the villages, most of whom seem to have been educated in Holland, England, or New England before they came here. They and the leading officers of the government and some of their agents were usually men of diligence and observation, and learned for those times. Gov. Stuyvesant employed a private tutor, thus showing his esteem for learning and his lack of confidence in the other schools of New Amsterdam.

The first Latin high school of the province, taught by one Dr. Curtius, was established in 1659, in New Amsterdam, and patronized chiefly by the aristocratic classes. It soon came into trouble on account of the peculiar notions of some of the parents and the lack of firm and independent government on the part of the learned schoolmaster. His pupils "beat each other and tore the clothes from each other's backs," while "some of the parents forbade him punishing their children." Dr. C. returned to Holland in disgust, and Rev. Mr. Luyck, private tutor to the sons of Mr. Stuyvesant, succeeded him. Students came to him from other villages, and even from the colonies of Delaware and Virginia, to acquire a classical education. In 1663, there were two pupils from Fort Orange, and we may believe there were others from its vicinity. Previous to this, the nearest Latin school was in Boston. We hear no more of Dr. Luyck and his school after 1664.

Such was the condition of public education in New Amsterdam, in Beverwyck, and places adjacent, down to the close of the administration of Peter Stuyvesant, in 1664, as shown by the best documentary and other evidence that has come down to us.

EDUCATION IN ENGLISH COLONIAL NEW YORK.

In the office of the Secretary of State is found the following license:

WHEREAS, the teaching of the English tongue is necessary in this government; I have, therefore, thought fitt to give License to John Shutte to bee the English Schoolmaster at Albany; And, upon condition that the said John Shutte shall not demand any more wages from each Schollar than is given by the Dutch to their Dutch Schoolmasters, I have further granted to the said John Shutte that hee shall bee the onely English Schoolmaster at Albany.

Given under my hand, at Fort James, in New York, the 12th day of October, 1665.

RICH'D NICOLLS.

An order for Jan Jeurians Bleecker [Beecker, or Becker] to be schoolmaster at Albany, granted by Gov. Lovelace, reads:

WHEREAS, Jan Jeurians Beecker had a Graunt to keep ye Dutch school at Albany for ye teaching of youth to read & to wryte ye which was allowed of and confirmed to him by my predecessor Coll. Richard Nicolls. Notwithstanding which severall others not so capable do undertake ye like some perticular tymes & seasons of ye yeare when they have no other Imployment, where by ye Schollars removing from one Schoole to another do not onely give a great discouragement to ye maister who makes it his businesse all ye yeare but also are hindred & become ye more backwards in there learning ffor ye reasons aforesaid I have thought fitt that ye said Jan Jeurians Beecker who is esteemed very capable that way shall be ye allowed schoolmaster for ye instructing of ye youth at Albany & partes adjacent he following ye said Imployment Constantly & diligently & that no other be admitted to interrupt him. It being to be presumed that ye said Beecker for ye youth & Jacob Joosten who is allowed of for ye teaching of ye younger children are sufficient for that place.

Given under my hand at ffort James in New Yorke this 16th day of May, 1670.

FRANCIS LOVELACE.

Prof. Jonathan Pearson is authority for the item following: "On the 4th of April, 1676, Gerrit Swartt, Jan Becker and Arien Appel were chosen schoolmasters of Albany. They were then to be the sole schoolmasters of the village; but shortly after, the same year, Luykas Gerritse [Wyngaard] was also appointed schoolmaster, because he was impotent in his hand."

Gerrit Swartt had held the office of Sheriff of Rensselaerwyck from 1668 to 1673. Out of politics, he took up teaching. Becker was an inhabitant of Fort Cassimer, on the Delaware River, in 1656, and church clerk there; in 1660 he read sermons on Sunday at Altoona, and was keeping tavern. He was soon after convicted of selling liquor to the Indians, in violation of law, and fined 500 guilders for the offense. For this he was pardoned, because he was no worse than many others. We next find him petitioning for a clerkship under "the Company," at Esopus, or anywhere else, because he had lost in keeping tavern, and became poor and needy, and finally begged that he might "be permitted to keep school to instruct the youth in reading and writing," if he could get no other position. It seems that he got a school at Beverwyck, and was confirmed "to keep ye Dutch School at Albany" by Gov. Nicolls, and afterward by Gov. Lovelace. In 1663 he had his home at Greenbush, and was notary public as well as schoolmaster at Beverwyck, and was esteemed "very capable that way, whilst Jacob Jooste Covelens was allowed for teaching the younger children." He finally removed to Albany; was alderman, 1690–92, and died about 1697. Appel came from Leyden; had a lot at Beverwyck in 1654, conditioned that he build a house to be used as an inn for travelers and not an ordinary tippling house. Two years later he sued his truckman for the loss of an anker of brandy; and after residing awhile at New Amsterdam, became one of the four schoolmasters of Albany, from 1676 to 1686. Wyngaard became a baker and occupied the south corner of Broadway and State street as a shop in 1715. Such were some of the early schoolmasters of Albany County. As the teacher, so is the school. As the school, so are the people who sustain it. No further comment is necessary.

It is to be regretted that so few authentic records are in existence touching the educational efforts made by the body of the learned clergy of Reformed Dutch Church in America. That they were earnest and as effective as the times allowed is undoubted.

We give the following Articles of Agreement made between the consistory of the church and magistrates of Flatbush, on the one side, and Johannes Van Eckkelen, accepted schoolmaster and chorister, on the other, in October, 1682, as a sample of what was expected of the schoolmasters of 200 years ago in provincial New York. Eckkelen was a young man from New Albany:

SCHOOL SERVICE.—I. The school shall begin at eight o'clock, and go out at eleven; and, in the afternoon shall begin at one o'clock, and end at four. The bell shall be rung when the school commences.

II. When the school begins, one of the children shall read the morning prayer, as it stands in the catechism, and close with the prayer before dinner; in the afternoon it shall begin with the prayer after dinner, and end with the evening prayer. The evening school shall begin with the Lord's prayer, and close by singing a psalm.

III. He shall instruct the children on every Wednesday and Saturday in the common prayers, and the questions and answers in the catechism, to enable them to repeat them the better on Sunday before the afternoon service, or on Monday, when they shall be catechised before the congregation.

Upon all such occasions, the schoolmaster shall be present, and shall require the children to be friendly in their appearance, and encourage them to answer freely and distinctly.

IV. He shall be required to keep his school nine months in succession, from September to June, in each year, in case it should be concluded upon to retain his services for a year or more, or without limitation; and he shall be required to be regulated by these articles, and to perform the same duties which his predecessor, Jan Thibaud, above named, was required to perform. In every particular, therefore, he shall be required to keep school, according to this seven months agreement, and shall always be present himself.

CHURCH SERVICE.—I. He shall keep the church clean, and ring the bell three times before the people assemble to attend the preaching and catechism. Also before the sermon is commenced, he shall read a chapter out of the Holy Scriptures, and that between the second and third ringing of the bell. After the third ringing he shall read the ten commandments, and the twelve articles of our faith, and then take the lead in singing. In the afternoon after the third ringing of the bell, he shall read a short chapter, or one of the Psalms of David, as the congregation are assembling, and before divine service commences, shall introduce it, by the singing of a Psalm or Hylmn.

II. When the minister shall preach out of town, he shall be required to read twice before the congregation, from the book commonly used for that purpose. In the afternoon he shall also read a sermon on the explanation of the catechism, according to the usage and practice approved by the minister. The children, as usual, shall recite their questions and answers out of the catechism, on Sunday, and he shall instruct them therein. He, as chorister, shall not be required to perform these duties, whenever divine service shall be performed in Flatlands, as it would be unsuitable, and prevent many from attending there.

III. For the administration of Holy Baptism, he shall provide a basin with water, for which he shall be entitled to receive from the parents, or witnesses, twelve styvers. He shall, at the expense of the church, provide bread and wine, for the celebration of the Holy Supper. He shall be in duty bound promptly to furnish the minister with the name of the child to be baptised, and with the names of the parents and witnesses. And he shall also serve as messenger for the consistory.

IV. He shall give the funeral invitations, dig the grave, and toll the bell, for which service he shall receive for a person of fifteen years and upwards, twelve guilders, and for one under that age, eight guilders. If he should be required to give invitations beyond the limits of the town, he shall be entitled to three additional guilders, for the invitation of every other town, and if he should be required to cross the river, and go to New York, he shall receive four guilders.

SCHOOL MONEY.—He shall receive from those who attend the day-school, for a speller or reader, three guilders a quarter, and for a writer, four guilders. From those who attend evening school, for a speller or reader, four guilders, and for a writer, six guilders shall be given.

SALARY.—In addition to the above, his salary shall consist of four hundred guilders, in grain, valued in Seewant, to be delivered at Brooklyn Ferry, and for his services from October to May, as above stated, a sum of two hundred and thirty-four guilders, in the same kind, with the dwelling house, barn, pasture lot and meadows, to the school appertaining. The same to take effect from the first day of October, instant.

Done and agreed upon in Consistory, under the inspection of the Honorable Constable and Overseers, the 8th of October, 1682.

I agree to the above articles, and promise to perform them according to the best of my ability.

JOHANNES VAN ECKKELEN.

In the Dutch period all private schoolmasters were required to be duly licensed by the civil and ecclesiastical authorities. This requirement, in substance, was continued and enforced by the English. We quote as follows:

INSTRUCTIONS TO GOVERNOR DONGAN, GIVEN AT WINDSOR, MAY 29TH, 1686.

38. And wee doe further direct that noe Schoolmaster bee henceforth permitted to come from England & to keep school within Our Province of New York without the license of the said Archbishop of Canterbury; and that noe other person now there or that shall come from other parts, bee admitted to keep school without your license first had.

Similar instructions were given to Gov. Sloughter, January 31, 1689; Gov. Fletcher, in 1691; to the Earl of Bellomont, August 31, 1697, and to Gov. Hunter, December 27, 1709, except that the Bishop of London, instead of the Archbishop of Canterbury, was named in each of these cases. Soundness in the beliefs and practices of the English Church was especially required.

The licenses to teach school have generally been issued by the authority of the Colonial officers; but we now find one granted by municipal authority as early as January, 1700:

Att a meeting of ye Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council held in ye Citty Hall of Albany, ye 23d of January $1\frac{6}{7}\frac{9}{0}\frac{9}{0}$.

The request of Cornelis Bogardus by ye mouth of Mr. Willm de Meyer to be admitted a schoolmaster for ye Citty is taken into consideration and unanimously doe graunt ye same, as also a freeman of this Citty upon his arrivall.

On the 27th of November, 1702, "An act for the encouragement of a Grammar Free School in the City of New York," was passed by the General Assembly of the province. This is believed to be the first legislative act for the encouragement of public education passed within the colony. "One able, skilfull and orthodox person" was to be the schoolmaster; "youth and male children of French and Dutch extraction, as well as of English," were to receive instruction "in the languages or other learning usually taught in Grammar schools," and £50 annually were to be paid the said schoolmaster, who was to be licensed by the Bishop of London or the Governor of the province, upon the recommendation of the Com-

mon Council of New York City. Lord Cornbury gave his official approval to the act, but it is not in evidence that he took any interest in the school. Under date of April 25, 1704, he licensed George Muirson to teach English, Latin, Greek, writing and arithmetic, and gave an order for the payment of his half-yearly salary, October 20, 1704. Soon after the schoolmaster left for England, and Andrew Clarke was licensed as his successor several months later. But that he ever taught does not appear. The act limited the school to seven years, and we hear no more of it. It seems to have failed of success. Nor is it worthy of mention, except as one step, however faltering, on the part of the people, to secure benefits for themselves and their children. It is, also, an interesting fact in our history to put on record that John Abeel, member of the General Assembly from Albany County (1702–04), was one of the committee that reported the bill to the House.

Cornbury was ever ready to sign his name to licenses, accompanied by feathery displays of titles, because the times seemed to call for schoolmasters. Several licenses were granted to candidates for teaching in towns on Long Island, in Westchester, in Kingston and New York cities during the administrations of Cornbury and Hunter. But we find but little said of the schools. Some of the teachers are found, soon after the date of their licenses, in speculative trade, in subordinate public office, in brawls and lawsuits, either as plaintiffs or defendants, or in taking clerical orders in the church. It is evident that families of wealth and political position took but little interest in public schools; their taxes went to support them, and the children of the poor attended them. The poor then had no votes; yet they had a strength to which some respect must be paid. That respect was paid mostly in promises.

A Dutch schoolmaster seems to have been employed at Kinderhook as early as 1702, as appears from the following certificate in favor of Mr. Van Kleck:

KINDERHOOK the 30th Novemb., Anno Domine 1702.

In the first year of the Reign of her Majesty ANNE, Queen of England, Scotland, Ireland and France, Defender of the Faith, We the undersigned inhabitants of Kinderhook patent acknowledge and Declare that Paulus van Vleg during the whole of the time that he hath resided here and since he was accepted as Precentor and schoolmaster of our Church hath truly comported himself to the Great content of our congregation.

YOHANNES VAN ALEN,
COENRAST BORGHGHARDT,
ABRAM VAN ALSTYN,
ZAMMERT VAN YANSAN.

An early Albany schoolmaster has, perhaps, no other memorial of service in this capacity than the following:

At a Common Councill held in ye Citty Hall of Albany this first of May, 1703.

Evert Ridder of the Citty of Albany makes his humble application to the Mayor, Aldermen and Assistance to be permitted to teach schoole in the Citty aforesaid, which request is taken into consideration, and granted accordingly.

Nearly twenty years later we find the following:

Att a Common Council held in the City Hall of Albany, the 8th day of April, 1721.

Whereas it is very requisite and necessary that a fitt and able Schoolmaster settle in this city for teaching and instructing of the youth in speling, reading, writeing and cyffering, and Mr. Johannis Glandorf having offered his service to settle here and keep a school if reasonably encouraged by the corporation, It is therefore Resolved by this Commonalty, and they do hereby oblidge themselves and their successors to give and procure unto the said Johan's Glandorf free house rent for the term seaven years next ensueing for keeping a good and commendable school as becomes a diligent Schoolmaster.

That a "diligent schoolmaster" was "very requisite and necessary" at that time is made patent by this very document of the City Fathers.

It afterward appears that Mr. Glandorf complained that the house assigned him was too small, and, on his petition, the Common Council, on the 21st of July, 1721, resolved to hire for him a larger house at £10 per annum, to commence in the next November. After this, we hear no more of Glandorf or his school.

Passing over all these feeble efforts in the cause of public education, it is proper for us here to say that no effort seems to have been made to revive this free school act of 1702, nor to make like provisions by law for the encouragement of schools of any kind, for a period of more than 30 years afterward. Nor do we find any record whatever of legislation in the interests of primary education during the colonial history of the State, nor until after the State became one of the United States of America.

The common schools, as intimated previously, gave little attention to any except the most common branches, such as spelling, reading, writing and the fundamental rules of arithmetic in their simplest applications to accounts. Much attention was given to the catechisms and formulas of religion as taught in the dominant church. The Ten Commandments, Lord's Prayer and other portions of the Bible were taught. The Apostles' Creed was sometimes included.

The study of the mathematical sciences was generally regarded as more important than the studies of nature, belles-lettres and language. The private schools of the highest order were expected to teach arithmetic, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, surveying, gauging and navigation. Very little attention was given to geography and the natural sciences. Little was known of them.

In the cities, some French, fancy work, dancing, formal religion and social formulas, with a little English language and literature, were taught in one class of private schools. In another class, boys were taught something of Latin, Greek and practical mathematics, with grammar rules and reading, spelling and writing. The student of ancient documents and records must see, in the bad penmanship, miserable spelling and imperfect or barren sentences, how little was acquired in these schools.

But the people of that day had much physical activity and energy, with much keenness and acute observation. They were fully alive to the opportunities in their way, and had about all the learning that their times and situation demanded. Schools and books and teachers and a broader and deeper mind culture were sleeping in a future, in the dawning only of which, we may hope, we are now living. The world moves slowly ; but it moves. We must speak charitably as well as truly of the past, modestly of the present, and hopefully of the future.

The venerable "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," incorporated in the year 1701, sent many missionaries to this province until nearly the period of the Revolution ; and, at the suggestion of Col. Caleb Heathcote, furnished a number of schoolmasters for various settlements of the province, during a period of more than fifty years. The following extracts from the official history and reports of the society more fully exhibit the facts on this subject.

One of the first acts of the society was to send to the English colonies on this continent, a missionary to make personal examination. The person selected was the Rev. George Keith, whose journal relative to this tour is contained in the "Collections of the Protestant Episcopal Society."

After Mr. Keith came over and had made a survey of the field before him, he, in conjunction with the few clergymen then in the northern part of the colony, made the following statement in November, 1702 :

NEW YORK.—There are some counties, five of which are inhabited by Dutch and those of Dutch extraction, viz.: Albany, Ulster, Dutchess, Orange and King's County, in which the Church and Church of England Schools have not yet been settled, but the Presence of the present Governor of that Province, his Excellency the Lord Cornbury, has mightily influenced many of the people of the said counties to desire that Church of England Ministers and schoolmasters may be sent amongst them; particularly Albany representatives have desired his Lordship that an English Schoolmaster might be established in that county. * * * This Province, though it hath a great number of inhabitants, could never yet obtain a public legally Established School.

A provision is made by law for six ministers. There is yet no provision for Schoolmasters made by law, though by the zealous recommendation of the Lord Cornbury to the general Assembly, a legal maintenance is undoubtedly expected, and till then the Church of England Schoolmaster in the county of New York, as heretofore, will be supported by the voluntary contributions of those whose children are instructed by him; notwithstanding it is humbly conceived that an annual Pension for the support and further encouragement of some Ministers and Schoolmasters in poor Towns will be of great use and service to the Church.

No School house yet erected in this Province.

In all these Counties where the Church is established by the law of this Province, the People generally are in a readiness to embrace the Doctrines and Worship of the Church, and to Encourage Free Schools.

Col. Heathcote seems to have conceived a plan for the establishment of schools throughout the province, having written to the Secretary of the "Venerable Society," under date of April 10, 1704, as follows :

I had once formed a projection for fixing schools in this country for the benefit of all the youths therein, in order to their being trained up, not only in learning but in their tender years to ingraft them in the Church, but the storm which was lately raised upon me concerning church affairs, made me lay the thought of it aside for a while. However, if God is pleased to spare my life a little longer, I will, with His assistance, set it on foot, and hope it will be blessed with its desired effect.

This society was very active, not only in educating the youth of the Church, but in furnishing opportunity everywhere in the province to people of every kind, even negroes and Indians, for acquiring the elements of temporal knowledge and lessons in religion as taught in catechisms, horn-books and primers. Efforts were made to teach the Mohawks and other Iroquois tribes for many years, but with little success. Their wild and perverse nature, their roving, restless life, were all against the missionary and the schoolmaster. They, after several years of faithful trial, "abandoned this miserable race of men." This was in 1718. Some fifteen years later, further efforts to instruct the Indians were made, with better success.

The following specimen quotations from the society's annual "Abstracts of Proceedings" are of interest in this connection :

Besides the Missionaries, there has been a great Demand upon them for Catechists and School-Masters to Instruct not only the Servants and Slaves (who have heretofore lived as without God in the World) but also the Children of the Planters, especially the poorer sort, in Reading, Writing, and the Principles of the Christian Religion, as Taught and Professed in the Church of *England;* but the Narrowness of their fund having obliged the Society to send but few of these, a worthy member of their body, Colonel *Heathcote* of *New York*, has suggested an expedient of maintaining a great many more School-Masters, at the easy rate of Five or Six Pounds *per annum*, which the Society has most readily embraced, and referred it to the Governor himself, and the Missionaries of that Province, to put the proposal into practice.

Mr. *Hudlestone*, Schoolmaster at *New York*, teaches fifty poor children on the Society's Bounty to read and write, and instructs them in the Church Catechism, many of which are now fit for any Trade; and as they go off, his number is always kept up, poor People daily coming to see if there is any vacancy to admit their Children, being not able themselves to pay for their Learning.

The Society also have received an Account from Mr. *Peasly*, in 1731–33, Schoolmaster at *Albany*, in the Province of *New York*, That he hath lately instructed 8 negroes, *viz.:* 6 Adults and 2 Children, who have been baptized by the Reverend Mr. *Miln*, the Society's Missionary at *Albany*.

Mr. *Noxon*, the Schoolmaster, writes from *New York*, *August* 6, 1738, That he hath upwards of fifty poor Children, whom he teaches to read, write and cypher upon the Society's Charity; and brings to *Trinity Church*, on *Wednesdays*, *Fridays* and Holy Days, to be catechised. He adds, there is great want of Common Prayer-Books and Psalters.

And as the maintenance of a learned and orthodox Clergy abroad, though the principal, is not the only Intent of this Corporation, but they are also *to make such other Provision as shall be found necessary for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts:* The Society have done all in their power to encourage the setting up of Schools, that the rising Generation may be *brought up in the Nurture and Fear of the Lord*, and they give Salaries to *three Catechists* and *twelve Schoolmasters* for this purpose.

We give a few extracts from the standing orders of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts relating to the schoolmasters:

I. That no person be admitted a Schoolmaster, till he bring Certificates, with respect to the Particulars following:

1. The Age of the Person.
2. His Condition of Life, whether Single or Married.
3. His Temper.
4. His Prudence.
5. His Learning.
6. His sober and pious Conversation.
7. His Zeal for the Christian Religion and Diligence in his Calling.
8. His Affection to the present Government.
9. His Conformity to the Doctrine and Discipline of the Church of *England*.

II. That no Person be sent, as a Schoolmaster by the Society, till he has been try'd and approv'd by Three Members, appointed by the Society or Committee, who shall testify, by Word or Writing, his Ability to teach Reading, Writing, and the Catechism of the Church of *England*, and such Exposition thereof, as the Society shall order.

Instructions for schoolmasters employed by the Society:

I. That they well consider the End for which they are employed by the Society, *viz.:* The instructing and disposing Children to believe and live as Christians.

II. In order to this End, that they teach them to read truly and distinctly, that they may be capable of reading the Holy Scriptures, and other pious and useful Books, for informing their Understandings and regulating their Manners.

III. That they instruct them thoroughly in the Church-Catechism; teach them first to read it distinctly and exactly, then to learn it perfectly by Heart; endeavoring to make them understand the Sense and Meaning of it, by the Help of such Expositions, as the Society shall send over.

IV. That they teach them to Write a plain and legible Hand, in order to the fitting them for useful Employments; with as much Arithmetick, as shall be necessary to the same Purpose.

V. That they be industrious, and give constant Attendance at proper School-Hours.

VI. That they daily use, Morning and Evening, the Prayers composed for their Use in this Collection with their Scholars in the School, and teach them the Prayers and Graces composed for their Use at Home.

VII. That they oblige their Scholars to be constant at Church on the Lords-Day Morning and Afternoon, and at all other Times of Publick Worship; that they cause them to carry their Bibles and Prayer Books with them, instructing them how to use them there, and how to demean themselves in the several Parts of Worship; that they be there present with them, taking Care of their reverent and decent Behaviour, and examine them afterwards, as to what they have heard and learned.

VII. That when any of their Scholars are fit for it, they recommend them to the Minister of the Parish, to be publickly Catechized in the Church.

IX. That they take especial Care of their Manners, both in their Schools, and out of them; warning them seriously of those Vices to which Children are most liable; teaching them to abhor Lying and Falsehood, and to avoid all Sorts of Evil-speaking; to love Truth and Honesty; to be Modest, Gentle, Well-behav'd, Just and Affable, and Courteous to all their Companions; respectful to their Superiors, particularly toward all that minister in holy Things, and especially to the Minister of their Parish; and all this from a Sense and Fear of Almighty God; endeavoring to bring them in their tender Years to that Sense of Religion, which may render it the constant Principle of their Lives and Actions.

X. That they use all kind and gentle Methods in the Government of their Scholars, that they may be lov'd, as well as fear'd by them; and that when Correction is necessary, they make the Children to understand, that it is given them out of kindness, for their Good, bringing them to a Sense of their Fault, as well as of their Punishment.

XI. That they frequently consult with the Minister of the Parish, in which they dwell, about the Methods of managing their Schools, and be ready to be advised by him.

XII. That they do, in their whole Conversation, shew themselves Examples of Piety and Virtue to their Scholars, and to all, with whom they shall converse.

The labors of these schoolmasters and catechists seem to have been very self-denying, devoted and useful. They continued from about 1702 to 1776. The annual salaries paid varied between £7 and £50, the clergy receiving the highest salary.

Says Rev. Dr. Berrian, speaking especially of Trinity Church :

There is nothing with which I have been so much struck and impressed, in the investigation of the early history of this Parish, as the zeal, the earnestness, and devotedness of the schoolmasters and catechists of that day. The former appear to have been selected from among the laity with great caution and care, and to have been persons of respectability and worth. The latter were occasionally laymen, but more commonly such as were preparing for holy orders, or who had actually received them. Some of these were men of liberal education, who in the commencement of their professional life were full of promise, and who ended it with respect and honor. But they all seem to have entered with the same spirit upon their humble labors, and to have prosecuted them with a patience, an interest and a blessed result, which put ours to shame at the present day. Intellectual was not then, to the extent that it is now, separated from religious improvement, but both went hand in hand throughout the week. The whole of early life was, in a certain measure, devoted to Christian instruction, and not merely reserved for the scanty intervals between the hours of worship on the Lord's Day.

It is delightful to observe, in the annual reports of the schoolmasters and catechists to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, with what cheerfulness and industry they appear to have labored in their useful but lowly employment.

We have given enough to show that, however lowly and incomplete were the labors of the schools of this society for the education of the children of the humbler classes in this State for the first three-quarters of the last century, the work was a noble one, and is specially deserving as it was about the only work of the kind that was pursued with zeal and patience during this long period of general disturbance in public affairs. The instruction was purely elementary. John Adams, who visited Rye in 1774, where this society supported a school from 1707 to the period of the Revolution, says: "They have a school for writing and cyphering, but no Grammar School." Rye belonged to Connecticut until 1683, and its schools in its early history, we infer, were not inferior to those of any other settlement in the province of New York.

The establishment, in 1773, of "a public school to teach Latin, Greek and Mathematics, in the City of New York," under authority of an act of the General Assembly of the province, may be regarded as an event of considerable interest in the history of public education in this colony; though, like the Grammar Free School of 1702–1709, it seems to have flourished during a period of only about seven years. Both the schools referred to may have been vitally, if not formally, connected with the repeated proposals and attempts, beginning as early as 1703, to found a college in this province; though of this there seems to be no official evidence.

This latter school was incorporated, October 14, 1732, with Alexander Malcolm as schoolmaster. He was required to admit and teach gratis as many as twenty youths, apportioned among the ten counties, of which Albany County had two assigned. Candidates were not to be under 14 years of age, to have been "well instructed in reading and writing of English," and to be recommended by the Justice of Sessions, or by Mayor, Recorder and Alderman in cities.

This act was renewed for one year, amid much opposition, December 1, 1737. The members for Albany County, Col. Rensselaer and Col. Schuyler, favored the bill. Its conditions were not essentially changed.

Female teachers were not plenty, as nearly as we can learn, in the early history of New York; not one do we find in New Netherlands. Some appear in the schools of Long Island and Westchester, where were many settlers from New England, in the latter part of the seventeenth century. They were, no doubt, importations from Connecticut, where females were early employed, especially in the summer schools. One writer thinks that Rachel Spencer, who taught school in Hempstead, and died in 1687, was the first schoolmistress on record in the provinces; and that the nameless "traveling woman who came out of ye Jerseys, and kept school at several places in Rye Parish," about 1716, was second schoolmistress in the provinces, of whom we have any record. In this, however, we think, he errs; as, in an old account book noticed by Mr. H. Onderdonk, in Flushing, the bookkeeper, in 1681, reckoned with Elizabeth Cowperthwaite, about "schooling and diet for children," and in 1683, with Martha Johanna "upon an agreement for thirty weeks schooling, paid for by a red petticoat." In 1685 Goody Davis keeps schools at Jamaica in "a little house," soon after used "as a shoppe."

At a much later period, the girls in Mr. Hildreth's school, at New York City, "in the afternoon learned to write, being the rest of the day under the care of a schoolmistress employed by the Vestry," by whom they were "taught needlework."

Who was the first schoolmistress in Albany County? We have, thus far, asked in vain.

Some are and must be brighter and greater than the rest. While wealth is no measure of wit or learning, it affords larger opportunities for the culture of whatever tact or talent may be native. And as long as learning adds grace to riches and respect to public and social position, it will be sought by families who have money to aid in its attainment.

Hence, the children, especially the sons, of the wealthy families of the colonial period in this State were often placed under a private tutor, who, sometimes, was the parish clergyman. Tuition schools, usually of only temporary duration, were established in the larger towns, especially in New Amsterdam, to which the favored children of fortune resorted.

Under the English Government, private or subscription schools were to be found all over the country. In some neighborhoods Dutch was taught.

Before the Revolution, if but little attention was given to the mental culture of young men in the schools, there was still less given to the young women. Most in the humbler walks of life regarded themselves as born to household drudgery. Beyond this few attained. In the realm of letters they were usually ambitionless. Many bright daughters, who married worthy men and became excellent wives and mothers, could read only simple reading and rarely write at all, or, if at all, only their names.

Those who attained more than this were usually daughters of men of fortune and unusual intelligence, who early manifested marked fondness for knowledge and tact in acquiring. They learned of parents or older brothers at home, or of private tutors. Observation, books and conversation did much for girls of active minds who had access to these great educators.

As a remarkable illustration of a woman of those days educated without the "advantages" of schools, we quote what Mrs. Grant tells us, in her "Memories of an American Lady," of Miss Margaretta Schuyler, who afterward became the wife of her cousin, Col. Philip Schuyler, and the honored Madame Schuyler. Her mind from her earliest years was distinguished for maturity and remarkable aptness. Its culture came about by the keen appreciation of her talents and the wise direction of her mental training by her uncle, Col. Peter Schuyler, after the early death of her father, Col. John Schuyler. "He was at the pains to cultivate her taste for reading which soon discovered itself, by procuring for her the best authors in history, divinity and belles-lettres. The few books of this kind that she possessed were very well chosen; and she was early and intimately familiar with them. Whatever she knew she knew to the bottom; and the reflections which were thus suggested to her strong, discerning mind were digested by means of easy and instructive conversation." Col. Schuyler was acquainted with the families of rank in New York, where he had many relatives. Spending a portion of every winter there, "he often took his favorite niece along with him," who soon attracted attention by her personal graces as well as by the charms of her conversation." Here she was much admired, because such "cultivation and refinement were rare"—out of the routine common to young women of her time—and she had a mind strong enough to bear the admiration bestowed upon her without the conceit and pedantry of weaker minds. She was never taught that the great motive to excelling was to "dazzle or outshine others; she never thought of despising her less fortunate companions, or of assuming superiority over them. Her acquisitions were never shaded by affectation."

Such was "Aunt Schuyler" of Albany in her early womanhood, according to one who wrote of her, long years after, as the model "American lady." She was a queen all her life in the wide circle that knew her. The women she lived among "were all natives of the county, and few had more than a domestic education." But men who possessed the advantages of early culture and usage of the world daily arrived in New York and Albany. "Female elegance" in the colony was not common. Says Mrs. Grant: "The supply was not equal to the demand." Mrs. Schuyler received due attention. "She was respected for the strength of her character, the dignity and composure of her manners," her unusual mental culture and her practical common sense.

"The Mohawk language was early familiar to her. She spoke Dutch and English with equal ease and purity; was no stranger to the French tongue, and could read German." And yet we do not find that she ever attended a fashionable ladies' school.

"Books are, no doubt, the granaries of knowledge; but a diligent, inquiring mind, in the active morning of life, will find it strewed with manna over the face of the earth, and need not, in all cases, rest satisfied with intelligence accumulated by others, and tinctured with their passions and prejudices. Whoever reads Homer and Shake-

speare may daily discover that they both describe nature and art from their own observation.

"The enlarged mind of 'Madame Schuyler' and her simple yet dignified manners made her readily adapt herself to those with whom she conversed, and everywhere command respect and kindness, and, on a nearer acquaintance, affection followed. But she had too much sedateness and independence to adopt those caressing and insinuating manners by which the vain and artful soon find their way into shallow minds. Her character did not captivate at once, but gradually unfolded itself. You always had something new to discover. Her style was * * * without the least embellishment, and at the same time so pure that everything she said might be printed without correction, and so plain that the most ignorant and most inferior persons were never at a loss to comprehend it. It possessed, too, a wonderful flexibility; it seemed to rise and fall with the subject. I have not met with a style which to a noble and uniform simplicity united such variety of expression. Whoever drinks knowledge pure at its sources, solely from the delight in filling the capacities of a large mind, without the desire of dazzling or outshining others; whoever speaks for the sole purpose of conveying to other minds those ideas from which he himself has received pleasure and advantage, may possess this chaste and natural style. But it is not to be acquired by art or study."

We have given this example of Miss Schuyler, afterward known as Madame Schuyler, as an exhibition of the best type of an educated woman in the New York colonial period, before the formation of our government, when female education was generally little thought of, when scarcely any public provision for it was made. She was an Albany lady. She lived in the days of our grandmothers. The methods of her education, the use she made of it, and its reflex influence on her character, are deserving the careful consideration of the girls of this generation, when the avenues to knowledge are as plenty and free as water.

Lossing, in his Life and Times of Gen. Philip Schuyler, tells us that young Schuyler (born in 1733), when a little more than 14 years of age, "had studied the ordinary branches of a plain education under the instruction of his mother, for the schools of Albany were very indifferent. He also had the advantages of listening to the conversation, and perhaps actually receiving instruction from educated French Protestants, who had ever been welcome visitors to the mansion of Gen. Schuyler at the Flats. He received some instruction in the science of mathematics from one of those Huguenots who may have been employed as a private tutor in some wealthy families at Albany."

Young Schuyler's education was directed toward a mercantile life. He was sent to school, when 15 years of age, to New Rochelle, in Westchester County, among the sons of French Huguenots and New York merchants. At that time, no class of people in the province was more thrifty and progressive; none had superior culture in good manners and the learning of the day. They were religionists of the John Calvin school, and were matched only by the Puritans in their zeal for mental and spiritual progress, and for the rights of conscience and popular government. This school, kept among those French refugees of the latter part of the seventeenth century and their descendants, was the only one in New York, at that time, where was taught the French language, and few, if any, taught so well other subjects needed by an intelligent merchant. Its principal, Rev. Mr. Stouppe, was a Swiss, and pastor of the French Protestant Church of the settlement. Three years later, Schuyler was spending his summers among the hunters and trappers of the upper Hudson. He became influential among the Indians. He spent several weeks every autumn and winter with his relatives and friends in the City of New York, where he found congenial society. Large landed estates soon demanded his care, and the affairs of his country demanded his influence, his wealth, his talents and his acquirements of head and heart. He is given here as one of the best examples of the methods and influence of the education of his times among the young men of good family and ample means, and who were not aiming at law, medicine or divinity.

Schools in New York were of a very low order as late as 1760. Said a writer of that time: "The instructors want instruction, and through a long, shameful neglect of all the arts and sciences our common speech is extremely corrupt, and the evidences of bad taste as to both thought and language are visible in all our proceedings, public and private." Reading was neglected by all classes; education was regarded as an affectation of learning, and a student was rarely found outside the professions of law, medicine and divinity.

Some few of the young men were sent over to Europe for education. They belonged to families of wealth or social and political influence. There were no higher schools for the people—for the poor and toiling classes. If they obtained rank by

learning, wealth and title, it was the expression of an irrepressible energy that nothing human could resist. Such expression has become common all over our country now.

Commerce engrossed the energies of the principal families of New York, in provincial times, as we have often had occasion to say. It was the surest avenue to wealth and social distinction. The young men destined to these pursuits attended schools for teaching writing and accounts; went thence to the counting room; and, in due time, were sent on some short trading trip, usually to the West Indies. Affairs, society and the activities of the day did the rest.

The leading hindrances to the promotion of learning, especially of the masses, during the whole English colonial period, may be summed up as follows:

1. The helplessness of the working classes. A large portion regarded themselves as born to ignorance and servitude, as powerless of influence, and destined to nothing but lives of drudgery. Such were most of the tenants, farm laborers and ordinary mechanics and traders in Albany County.

2. The general indifference of the officers and friends of royalty to anything that could elevate the masses. Education set people to reading and thinking, as it did in New England. It led them to know their rights, and knowing, to dare resist tyranny and assert popular sovereignty. Royal governors were afraid of schools for the common people.

3. The aristocratic class, which possessed wealth and some learning, were fond of association with men of royal rank, fond of having dependants, eager for increase of wealth and power. They were quite willing to keep the poor in blissful ignorance and poverty. They disliked paying taxes for schools, and despised labor.

4. Wars, and rumors of war, characterized all this period. These called for forts and munitions of war, for training for war, and for active service against the enemy. The arts of peace were neglected or perverted. Schools were hindered when contemplated, and interrupted when in operation. So things continued until the close of the Revolutionary war. Then men began to think and read and talk of rights and duties.

HIGHER AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION.

There were no schools of medicine, law or divinity; no normal schools for teachers. The young disciples of Esculapius used "to ride" with "the old doctor," and visit with him his bedside clinics, and witness his office consultations and treatment. Coke and Blackstone were read in the office of some eminent knight of the green bag; and young aspirants sat at the feet of some learned Gamaliel and listened to his wisdom, took in his advice, and saw how he managed causes in the courts. But it is said that Albany had no professional lawyer for over 100 years. Students who contemplated the ministry read courses in theology in "the study" of some leading clergyman, and prepared sermons subject to his criticism. The clergy often gave academic instruction to those who came to them, especially to young persons of their parochial charge.

Gov. Montgomerie had the largest private library in the province of New York previous to the Revolution. It numbered 1,341 volumes. Judge Smith, the historian, had a library of about 1,000 volumes, including his law books. The first law library we hear of was that of Broughton, Attorney-General, 1701 to 1705, which contained only 36 volumes. In 1730, Dr. Millington, of England, bequeathed a thousand volumes to the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," which was sent to New York City, and kept in the old City Hall, for the use of the clergy and gentlemen of New York, and the neighboring governments of Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, upon giving security to return them. In 1754, 700 volumes of well-selected books were purchased by subscription, for the commencement of a public library, which was the origin of the New York Society Library. The libraries of our own city and county, and of more recent times, will receive attention later.

According to Judge Campbell, in his Annals of Tryon County, Rev. Samuel Dunlop, of the Scotch-Irish race, educated at Edinburgh, came to Cherry Valley, as pastor of the Presbyterian Church there, in 1741. He opened a school for the instruction of boys in the classical and other branches of higher education, which continued for many years. It was the first school of this grade west of Albany. His boys were received into his house and made a part of his family. They came from Albany, Schenectady and other towns along the Mohawk and Hudson. Some of them became conspicuous during the trying times of the Revolution.

There were but few academies in this State where higher and classical studies were pursued before the nineteenth century dawned. The boys went to the New Rochelle School for French and business training. In Kingston, Kinderhook and Schenectady they pursued studies preparatory to college.

Academies were established in various parts of the State soon after the Revolution, among which were Dutchess County, Canandaigua, Erasmus Hall, East Hampton, Farmer's Hall, Jownstown, Lansingburg, Montgomery, Oxford, Union Hall and Washington, furnishing increased facilities for higher instruction.

Albany Academy, for boys, was incorporated in 1813, and has always held a high rank and been a great force in the educational movements in this county. A more detailed history will appear in the City of Albany.

Rensselaerville Academy, now taught by Prof. B. F. Eaton and wife, has long been in operation, has taught a teachers' class for many years, and has been well attended and done good work in the southwest part of our county, reflecting the intelligence and good sense of its Yankee founders.

Knoxville Academy has done much to promote intelligence in the Town of Knox and vicinity. During the late war of rebellion eleven had entered, from among its students, into the military service for the Union.

Coeymans Academy, established in 1858, prospered under the Misses Brace and Thomas McKee. There has been, during these last eighty years, select schools and various institutions for educating the young in New Scotland, Watervliet and other towns in the county, useful, no doubt, but brief in duration.

After the conquest of New Netherlands by the English, no encouragement was given to the subject of education by the Colonial Government. For almost a century "there was no institution in the province where an academic education could be acquired."

The historian, Chief-Justice Smith, referring to this matter, while making allusion to the action of the Legislature of the State in 1746, authorizing the raising of £2,250, by lottery, for founding a college, says: "To the disgrace of our first planters, who beyond comparison surpassed their eastern neighbors in opulence, Mr. DeLancey, a graduate of the University of Cambridge, England, and Mr. Smith were for many years the only academics in this province except such as were in holy orders." Although about one hundred and twenty years had passed since the Dutch had commenced the settlement of New Amsterdam, and about eighty years since it came under the English Crown, the above lottery law was the first legislative movement toward founding a college in the present territory of New York State.

Harvard, Yale, William and Mary and other early American colleges became the first nursing mothers of some of the boys of the province of New York. A careful examination of general catalogues gives us the names of those who were graduates of American colleges, natives or residents of New York, prior to the year 1800. We may have omitted some few; but the list at best indicates the great difference in favor of New England in the zeal for higher education in those years. Some of these graduates were New Englanders, who came to New York after graduation; some less known to fame are, no doubt, omitted.

The graduates from Harvard were Benjamin Pratt, 1737; Samuel Auchmuty, 1742; John Van Horne, 1744; Daniel Treadwell, 1754; Philip Livingston, 1755; Peter Livingston, 1757; Rufus King, 1777; John Jeremiah Van Rensselaer and Stephen Van Rensselaer, 1782; Ambrose Spencer, 1783; John Thornton Kirkland, 1789.

From Yale, Samuel Johnson, 1714; William Smith, 1719; Peter Van Brugh Livingston, 1731; John Livingston, 1733; Henry Barclay, 1734; Benjamin Nicoll and William Nicoll, 1734; Jacob Cuyler and Philip Livingston, 1737; William Livingston, 1741; Samuel Buel, 1741; Hendrick Hans Hansen and William Peartree Smith, 1742; William S. Johnson, Caleb Smith and Benjamin Woolsey, 1744; John Morin Scott, 1746; Richard Morris, 1748; Gideon Hawley, 1749; Thomas Jones, 1750; Ezra L'Hommedieu, 1754; John Sloss Hobart, 1757; John H. Livingston, 1762; Stephen Van Rensselaer, 1760; John De Peyster Douw, 1777; James Kent, 1781; Francis Bloodgood, 1787; John Woodworth, 1788; Samuel A. Foot, 1797.

From Princeton, John McKesson, 1753; Peter R. Livingston, Philip P. Livingston and Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, 1758; Peter V. B. Livingston, 1756; Samuel Kirkland, 1765; Aaron Burr, William Linn and William S. Livingston, 1772; Morgan Lewis and John Blair Smith, 1773; Henry B. Livingston, 1774; Henry P. Livingston, 1776; Edward Livingston, 1781; Derrick Ten Eyck, 1782; Nathaniel Lawrence and Jacob Radcliff, 1783; Abraham Ten Broeck and Peter R. Livingston, 1784; John V. Henry, 1785; Maturin Livingston and Peter William Livingston, 1786; Smith Thompson, 1788; Jacob Ten Eyck, 1792; John H. Hobart, 1793; Abraham Ten Eyck, 1795.

From Rutgers, Simeon DeWitt, 1776; Pierre Van Cortlandt, 1783.

From Kings, now Columbia, Philip Van Cortlandt, 1758; Philip Livingston, 1760; John Jay, 1764; Eg-

bert Benson and Robert R. Livingston, 1765; Henry Rutgers and John Watts, 1767; Benjamin Moore, Gouverneur Morris, John Stevens, Gulian Verplanck and Peter Van Schaick, 1768; Alexander Hamilton, 1774; DeWitt Clinton, 1786; John W. Yates, 1787; Samuel Jones, 1790; Alexander Proudfit, 1792; John Forbes, 1794; Daniel D. Tompkins, John B. Romeyn, Rensselaer Westerlo, 1795, and others less known to the public. Taken all in all, the early sons of these early colleges were a Titanian progeny; sons of thunder born in tempestuous times and for great emergencies.

The intelligent student of local history will notice that a good proportion of these graduates were natives of Albany County, or were identified with it as their home or by their distinguished public careers while residents.

The first graduating class of King's College was in 1758, and numbered seven. From 1776 to 1786 there were no graduates, the college buildings having been taken for military purposes. This institution, the first of the kind in the State, has produced many patriots, statesmen, divines and scholars who have reflected honor on the college and given useful lives to the State. Its first medical class graduated in 1769. In 1797, it gave Albany Dr. William Bay. It early contributed to rendering the science and practice of medicine more respectable than it had hitherto been.

But sectarian feeling, as well as the all-absorbing struggle for freedom at that period, did much to retard the early growth of the college. The Episcopal Church had the political power under the Royal Government; but the Dutch Reformed and Presbyterian Churches were a power among the masses, and had much wealth and influence. There was great jealousy of a church establishment, especially of a church that had a bishop at its head. William Livingston led the opposition, but not as against all religion. In that day, the divorce between learning and religion was not thought of. The State had authorized a lottery, in 1746, which realized about £3,500. This was to go for founding a college. The opposition to the charter was virulent, and based on the principle that it ought not to be controlled by any one sect, as its funds were raised under State law for a non-sectarian college.

Something of the character of the times is shown by the remark made by Rev. Dr. Johnson, President of the College, in 1762, that "it is a great pity, when patents are granted, as they often are, for large tracts of land, no provision is made for religion or schools."

King's College, now and since 1784 Columbia, was founded in 1754, after the long colonial days of popular ignorance and official tyranny. Harvard dates its beginning in 1638, and Yale in 1701. It was not lack of wealth or power that kept home facilities for a higher education from the sons of New York. New Jersey had its Presbyterian Princeton before the Episcopal King's of New York, and its Dutch Reformed Queen's, now Rutgers, soon after. And even Dartmouth, which came near raising its voice in Albany County, appeared among the rocky hills of New Hampshire, "*vox clamantis in deserto*," as early as 1769.

The Regents of the University came in 1784; reorganized in 1787; and have ever since been the active, discreet and earnest guardians of academic, collegiate and professional learning all over the State, granting charters to academies and other schools, providing funds, encouraging sound instruction, and diffusing in various ways that "intelligence" which, as Jefferson says, "is the life of liberty." Their office is kept in Albany and all their meetings are held here.

Union College has been an important educational factor in Albany County as well as in Schenectady, for about ninety years past. Its history appears in the latter county, because it is located there. It appears that a project giving it a start as Clinton College originated in 1779. One motive is declared to have been to educate "men of learning to fill the several offices of Church and State." Among these earliest and earnest movers to establish a college in what was then Albany County were Rev. Eilardus Westerlo, Gen. Philip Schuyler and other prominent citizens of Albany. When it went into operation in 1795, seven of its first trustees were Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jr., Abraham Ten Broeck, Goldsbrow Banyar, John V. Henry, George Merchant, Stephen Van Rensselaer and Joseph C. Yates, all of Albany.

Eliphalet Nott graduated at Brown in 1793, and William L. Marcy twelve years later. Dr. Nott came to Cherry Valley as teacher and preacher, and thence to Albany, in 1798, as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. From this church he went forth as President of Union College in 1804, and, for 62 years, was distinguished as a skillful manager of boys. The influence of this college upon the cause of learning in Albany County cannot be over-estimated. Some of its most talented and useful sons and citizens have been educated among its nearly 7,000 graduates. Albany Medical School, Albany Law School and Dudley Observatory, with Union College, now constitute Union University.

The law and medical schools of Albany, for many years important agencies in educating our sons, are specially mentioned in another part of our work. So, also, is the Lancasterian School, and other important schools, both public and private, that have existed in this century, or do now exist, in our capital city.

But not all the parents of Albany boys believed in a collegiate education. The following anecdote comes to us from an old Albany merchant, as illustrative of the feelings of a type of utilitarian men who are not all dead yet. Our Dutch citizen was a man of hoarded wealth, who had one only son, named Dirck. He was advised to give him an education. After some thinking, he gravely replied :

"If I educate Dirck in college, and he dies, the money I spend on him is lost."

Dirck did not go to college. He never earned any money, but was clothed and fed and sheltered by the savings of his ancestors. He was a wild boy; he drank freely and kept bad company. He died in the gutter one night, after a drunken carousal, without the expense of a college education.

It is evident, then, that previous to the Revolutionary war no general system of education was established. It was confined chiefly to the wealthy classes. The importance of schools for all the people had not been recognized in New York. All schools that were in operation were of a private character, or were incorporated by special legislation. Often favored children received instruction from the parish clergyman, or from some young student who became a sort of family tutor while pursuing his own studies. Rarely, some father, elder brother or other relative gave direction and stimulus to some bright mind which had the taste, strength of mind and energy to acquire valuable and systematic knowledge and discipline without school or schoolmasters.

In all its years of feudal power and inherited wealth, years of control by a rich company of merchants or by royal governors who grew rich by selfish rapacity, there were no free schools for the people, reckoning down to the close of the Revolutionary war, and all along the rich valley of the ever-trading Hudson from the sea to the Mohawk Flats.

Consequently, New York had no Benjamin Franklin, plebeian born and educated in the free schools of Boston.

No, nor any Samuel and John Adams, and many others of their spirit, whose first lessons were taken in the intelligent homes and free colleges of the common people.

But this spirit of liberty could not be confined. It came to New York, especially to the city, from New England, and inspired the Sons of Liberty to resist oppression and establish freedom.

AFTER THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

The manorial lands of this county, after the Revolution, were rapidly taken up by industrious farmers, and the shops in the villages and the mills along the streams were occupied by busy mechanics. No provision had been made by the patroon for the schooling of the children. Among the early settlers upon the farms all over the county were not only the frugal Hollander, but the peace-loving Huguenot, the hardy Scot and the earnest German. Nor was the New Englander absent. Indeed, he was "all about," and couldn't be content until his children could have a school.

The Yankee schoolmaster was on hand, and a spare room of the farm-house of some well-to-do farmer was fitted up for a school a part of the year. The school was started by a voluntary agreement to pay so much for each pupil's schooling. Fuel was cheap and readily contributed by the farmers ; the "master" or older pupils attended to building the fires and cleaning the school-room. The teacher "boarded around." The schools were modeled upon the plan of the country schools in the "Eastern States," from which most of the teachers and many of the patrons came.

So matters went on for many years. The boys and girls were taught spelling, reading and writing, some arithmetic, and many other useful things. Good manners were not left out. They were waked up ; they were inquisitive ; many of them read the weekly paper, the catechism, the New Testament, and various books that belonged in families, and were loaned to any one who would read them.

Schools of to-day, many of them, are imperfect enough in all conscience ; but just consider them as they were, with very few exceptions, at the beginning of the present century, and even later.

The school-houses, if any, were usually located in one of the most God-forsaken spots that could be found, where white beans and buckwheat would not grow ; on some bleak hill or on some arid or swampy place, surrounded by the drifting snows of winter or the sands and miasma of summer. If in a city, the location selected must be in some by-place, where the land was cheapest, where business was dullest and dirtiest, where the best families

would not be disturbed by the sight of the uncouth garb and uncultivated noise of free-school children. The rooms and surroundings were lacking in every element of health, comfort or decency. Temperature uneven, ventilation entirely disregarded, light bad for eyes, seats and desks bad for bones, muscles and lungs,—everything was provocative of weariness, disease, mischief, dullness and bad morals.

The schoolmasters were usually more noted for hate than love, for brutal severity and repulsive manners than for that magic, winning power that rules without ruining children. Few taught because they loved instruction or humanity. They stepped into some other vocation at any early opportunity. Money, learning, life, church and state have lost unmeasured values from such schoolhouses and school-keepers!

Later, when summer schools began to be taught by females, many might have said, as did one honest "schoolma'am," "'tis little they pays me, and little I teaches 'em." They were generally worthy dames, who taught their pupils good manners; to rise and stand when the minister and school officer visited the school; the girls to make a low courtesy, and the boys to take off their hats and make a bow to all strangers and others whom they met on the way to and from school, to perform the same reverential duty to the teacher as they entered the school-room door, and on making their exit. There was much of reading the stories of the Bible, and much of teaching maxims of piety and duty, with oral instruction in matters of simple, every-day knowledge.

Some of these worthy pioneers in the exercise of woman's rights and duties, were exceedingly lacking in scholastic knowledge. Some could write only their names, in ill-favored letters, and could teach only "easy reading," and in cyphering were limited to the simplest problems and tables in the fundamental rules. But they were women of common sense, good conscience and exemplary lives; and did much to help hard-working mothers to take care of their children, and teach them obedience, order, neatness, and respect for superiors. Knitting, sewing, patchwork and lettering samplers were usually taught the girls in these "woman schools;" sometimes painting in water colors and fancy needle-work, especially in the private schools. The use of the rod was not confined to the schoolmasters.

Such were most of the schools of the county in the fifty years after the close of the war of the revolution.

At the first meeting of the State Legislature, after the adoption of the constitution, George Clinton, then Governor, in his address, remarked that "neglect of the education of youth is one of the evils consequent upon war."

Gov. George Clinton was evidently a friend of public schools for all the people, and used his official influence in their favor. At the opening of the legislative session of 1795, he says: "While it is evident that the general establishment and liberal endowment of academies are highly to be commended, and are attended with the most beneficial consequences, yet it cannot be denied that they are principally confined to the children of the opulent, and that a great portion of the community is excluded from their immediate advantages. The establishment of common schools throughout the State is happily calculated to remedy this inconvenience, and will therefore engage your early and decided consideration."

April 7, 1795, the State Legislature appropriated the sum of £20,000 annually for the term of five years, for encouraging and maintaining schools in the State. Of this sum, £1,590, or $3,975, was allotted to Albany County. This was regarded as a long stride toward a general free school system.

In 1813, Mr. Spafford, of Albany, author of the Gazetteer, thus expresses himself in regard to the schools of our State and County: "At present the modes of common school instruction in this State are liable to many objections. In this respect, we are considerably behind the New England States, who have reduced this branch of education to a system. But their method is rapidly gaining ground, and common schools have considerably increased in number and respectability within a few years; and this amelioration is more perceptible in the country than in populous towns, where our schools for the elements of a common education are not so good as in the country.

"The wealthy spare no expense in the education of their sons, principally at academies and colleges, though some continue the practice of former times, having private tutors in their families.

"The yeomanry and the ranks of middling wealth resort to day and boarding schools; the most common kind being the former, supported through the year or only in the winter, and too little attention is paid to the qualifications of instructors.

"The recent introduction of schools on the plan of the benevolent Lancaster promises very beneficial results to the poor in populous towns; at present, these are confined to the cities of New York and Albany.

Of female education, he remarks: "The rich spare no expense, and much time is spent in the frivolous accomplishments of a genteel education, to little purpose. Music and drawing, except in cases of decided propensity, are of little ornament and less utility, though they may amuse the idle." He then admits that they "afford elegant and agreeable diversion when cultivated with taste," and may "expand the mind formed for expansion."

Better facilities for the higher education of girls began to engage the attention of intelligent parents in Albany, early in this century. Private schools were started with varied success. The most important enterprise of this kind was the Union School, so called, started by Ebenezer Foot, in Montgomery street, in 1814, from which grew the excellent and widely useful Albany Female Academy, a history of which will be given in the history of education in the city of Albany. We mention it here only to say that its doors have always been open to girls residing outside the city at reasonable rates of tuition; that it has usually had the best of instructors and a wise supervision; that its course of study has favored the liberal and practical branches, and that its influence upon female education in this county has been most beneficent.

In 1838, the distinguished English traveler, Buckingham, made a brief sojourn in Albany, and closely studied its institutions. In the Female Academy he says he found about 250 in attendance from the city and 140 from the country. The school instruction and management, then for about twenty years in charge of that eminent educator, Alonzo Crittenden, he found most admirable. He adds: "This experiment, which has now been continued for upward of twenty years, has proved abundantly what many have affected to disbelieve or doubt, that the female intellect is in no degree whatever inferior in its capacity to receive and retain instruction in the highest and most difficult branches of learning to the male; that their powers of application and their zeal for information are, also, quite equal to that of the other sex; and that such differences as have hitherto existed between the intellectual condition of male and female youths have been wholly owing to their being subjected to different modes of education."

These sentiments, regarded as questionable sixty years ago, have been so firmly established by the observation of teachers and school officers that "experiment" is no longer called for, and "disbelief and doubt" are no longer found, even among the oldest of the "old fogies" in education.

In Preston's Statistical Report of the county for the year 1820, we find enumerated in the county, 155 common schools, "exclusive of parts of schools adjoining other towns," to wit: in Albany, 25; Bethelehem, 25; Coeymans, 15; Westerlo, 16; Rensselaerville, 18; Berne, 30; Guilderland, 11; Watervliet, 12; also an academy of 150 students, Lancasterian school of 400 pupils, and a mechanic school, all in the city of Albany. The Albany Female Academy, although then in operation, is not named. The same writer, John Preston, an old teacher of his day, residing in Westerlo, says: "Our country schools, and many in cities, at present are too tedious and too expensive in teaching children the elementary parts of sciences." He places a high estimate upon the now exploded Lancasterian system of school management, as "surpassing anything of the kind heretofore discovered."

Henry R. Schoolcraft tells us that his great-grandsire was a schoolmaster, and taught the first English school in Schoharie County, in his old age, and was known as one of the very few prominent ones in the region of Albany County, at that early day.

Apollos Moore came from Berkshire County, Mass., and settled in Rensselaerville soon after the Revolution, where he was long and widely known as a successful schoolmaster. From 1812 to 1828, he was County Judge, and for many years a leading citizen of the county. Moses Patten, from New Hampshire, also resided in this town, and was a leading teacher of public schools for many years. He held the office of Surrogate from 1840 to 1844.

Hon. A. J. Colvin speaks of William Hicks as a leading schoolmaster in Coeymans in the early part of this century. He was a great speller, and teaching spelling was his hobby. Only the "common branches" were taught. The "criminal stick" recorded punishable crimes, and woe to the young culprit who earned the ferule or the birchen rod.

John Preston, of Westerlo, was one of the best Yankee schoolmasters that taught in the country towns of the county in the first part of this century.

We wish we could give a complete list of these pioneers, but it is not possible at this writing.

County Superintendents of Common Schools.—The legislature passed an act, drawn by Hon. John C. Spencer, May 26, 1841, requiring County Boards of Supervisors to appoint biennially a County Superintendent of Common Schools, charged with the general supervision of the public schools in his

jurisdiction. The office was abolished, November 13, 1847. The following gentlemen served in this office in Albany County: Royal Shaw, Francis Dwight, Rufus King, Horace K. Willard, Abraham Van Vechten, Henry S. McCall.

This office was abolished "without petitions from any considerable number of people and without proposing a substitute." It became unpopular because, in some cases, incompetent men, appointed as partisans, abused their trust; and the small salary was claimed by the niggardly as an added burden upon the taxpayer. It was a backward step, and so regarded by the best friends of education everywhere. It left all school supervision to Town Superintendents, who, with rare exceptions, neglected trusts for which they had no fitness. Such was the united testimony of Samuel Young, N. S. Benton, Christopher Morgan, Henry S. Randall, Samuel S. Randall, Victor M. Rice, and other prominent State officers and educators.

School Commissioners of counties are chosen for a term of three years by the electors of their commissioner district. There are now three districts in Albany County, exclusive of the cities of Albany and Cohoes, with the supervision of whose schools these officers have nothing to do. Local school boards are chosen by the cities to manage their own school affairs. These school boards usually elect an agent called Superintendent of Schools. The County Commissioners are required to examine and license local public school teachers, except such as hold State or Normal School diplomas; to visit their schools; to aid in organizing teachers' institutes; to do several other duties, and to report annually to the State Superintendent.

ALBANY COUNTY, FIRST DISTRICT.

1856, John B. Shear, Coeymans; 1858, John G. Vanderzee, Cedar Hill; 1861, L. Carter Tuttle, Cedar Hill; 1864, John C. Nott, Albany; 1867, William E Whitbeck, Bethlehem Center; 1870, Leonard A. Carhart, Coeymans; 1873, John F. Shafer, Cedar Hill; 1876, David D. L. McCulloch, New Salem; 1879, Alexander F. Baker, Cedar Hill; 1882, Samuel F. Powell, Coeymans; 1885, John J. Callanan, Callanan's Corners.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Peter Tinklepaugh; Edward V. Filkins, Berne; 1861, George L. Boughton, Rensselaerville; 1867, Zina W. Snyder, Potter's Hollow; 1870, Julius Thayer, South Westerlo; 1864 and 1873, Zebediah A. Dyer, East Berne; 1876, Sanford Sisson, Rensselaerville; 1879, Rufus T. Crippen, Rensselaerville; 1882, Elias Young, Reidsville; 1885, Charles De La Mater, Medusa.

THIRD DISTRICT.

1856, John H. Sand, Knox; 1858, William Arthur, Jr., West Troy; 1861, Thomas Helme, Guilderland; 1867, George H. Quay, Knox; 1864 and 1870, John P. Whitbeck, West Troy; 1873, Thomas Helme, McKownville; 1876, William J. McMillan, West Troy; 1879, Charles E. Sturges, Knox; 1882, Thomas P. Heenan, West Troy; 1885, George McDonald, West Troy.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

1856, John Muckle.

The Commissioners whose terms expired December 31, 1856, were four in number, one from each Assembly district. They were appointed by the Board of Supervisors about June 1, soon after the passage of the act constituting them. After this the county was divided into three School Commissioner Districts, not including the cities and villages having special school acts relating to supervision. Since November, 1857, the Commissioners have been elected at the annual State election, and commence their official term of three years on the 1st day of the January succeeding.

The first State Normal School was located in Albany by law, May 7, 1844, under the supervision of the State Superintendent and the Regents of the University. We give a more extended history of this institution in another place. We mention it here as one of the great events in the history of education, occurring in this county over forty years ago, and, ever since, shedding its benignant influence upon all the schools in the State, but especially upon those of Albany County. It was, with the characteristic conservatism of the educational legislation of the times, limited to an existence of only five years. DeWitt Clinton, in 1826, and other eminent statesmen of that day, who saw that poor teaching was the great obstacle to the progress of popular education, had spoken of the importance of such an institution. The best educators and school officers urged it. Its establishment as an experiment was a necessity. It was opened as a school, with twenty-nine pupils, December, 1844. It has never been closed. April 12, 1848, it was made a "permanent establishment" by law. July 31, 1849, it occupied its present building. This autumn it is to be removed to its new building on Washington Park, admirable for location, architecture, and all needful appointments for its appropriate work.

Its successive principals are thus named: David P. Page, George R. Perkins, Samuel B. Woolworth, David H. Cochrane, Oliver Arey, Joseph Alden, Edward P. Waterbury.

Teachers' Departments in academies were provided for by a legislative act of March 30, 1849, and kept up to this day by subsequent acts, by which, under certain conditions, in academies se-

lected by the Regents of the University, a class of pupils receive special instruction in the art of managing and teaching schools a portion of each year. Under this act I find that Rensselaerville Academy and Knoxville Academy have done some useful service in this way; but it has been very limited in quantity and variable in quality.

Teachers' Institutes have been a popular and powerful agency in the working educational forces of the State and County. The first in the State was opened at Ithaca, April 4, 1843, by Prof. John S. Denman, of Tompkins County, and held two weeks. Salem Town, James B. Thompson and David Powell were the assistants. Twenty-eight teachers attended. A law providing for holding them annually in each county was passed, November 13, 1847, appropriating sixty dollars to each county which should comply with its provisions.

We add as complete a list as we can now make out of those held in this county. We do not find that Albany County was among the earliest to comply with the terms of the act.

For some years they were not held regularly, and were thinly attended. Indeed, to this day, the attendance embraces but a small part of the teachers of the county, and but little popular or professional enthusiasm has ever been awakened in these State institutions in Albany County. The years and places of holding, and the number of members enrolled for twenty years past, are here given :

1865.—Clarksville, 118 ; East Berne, 106 ; Watervliet, 173.
1866.—Chesterville, 181 ; Watervliet, 110.
1867.—Cohoes, 93.
1868.—Chesterville, 110 ; Knowersville, 73.
1869.— ———
1870.—Chesterville, 140 ; Coeymans, 66.
1871.—Watervliet, 71.
1872.—Chesterville, 172.
1873.—East Berne, 167.
1874.—Knowersville, 131.
1875.—Clarksville, 144.
1876.—New Salem, 132.
1877.—Knowersville, 144.
1878.—New Salem, 163 ; New Salem, 89.
1879.—Clarksville, 102 ; Adamsville, 75.
1880.—Knowersville, 145 ; Berne, 157.
1881.—New Salem, 120 ; Coeymans, 78.
1882.—Chesterville, 146 ; Knowersville, 108.
1883.—New Salem, 62.
1884.—Coeymans, 121.
1885.—Knowersville, 97.

The State Geological Survey was authorized by law, April 15, 1836, and was carried on in four districts. Albany County was included in the first district. The following distinguished scientific men residing in Albany were engaged with others in that survey as principals or assistants : Prof. William G. Mather, in geology ; Prof. Ebenezer Emmons, in geology and agriculture ; Dr. James Eights, in geology ; Prof. James Hall, in geology and paleontology. The work commenced in 1836 and terminated with their first reports in 1841, except that of paleontology, which is still continued under Dr. James Hall, who has served in this department since 1843. Besides the five annual reports, twenty-one huge printed volumes, abounding in facts and illustrations, attest to the extent and thoroughness of the work done.

The State Museum of Natural History, recently placed in the State Hall, of which James Hall has been director since 1866, is a wonderful collection, a great and impressive teacher of science, an outgrowth of this survey, continually increasing under the fostering care of the Regents of the University, who are its legal trustees, and by the wise and devoted activity of its museum staff, consisting of Profs. James Hall, geologist ; Joseph A. Lintner, entomologist, and Charles H. Peck, botanist.

In 1820, sixteen years before the above State survey was commenced, a Geological and Agricultural Survey of Albany County was made by Prof. Theodoric Romeyn Beck. This was the first undertaking of the kind in the State.

Hon. Stephen Van Rensselaer, with characteristic public spirit and zeal for promoting valuable knowledge, employed Prof. Amos Eaton, then of Albany, to make a geological examination of the rocks along the line of the Erie Canal. His report was published in 1824, and was a work of decided merit, considering the state of science at that date.

REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY, except *ex officiis*, appointed since 1787, and having residence in Albany County, with year of appointment, have been as follows :

John Rodgers, 1787; Philip Schuyler, 1787; Dirck Romeyn, 1787; Eilardus Westerlo, 1787; John McDonald, 1787; Abraham Van Vechten, 1797; Thomas Ellison, 1797; Simeon De Witt, 1798; James Kent, 1800; John Tayler, 1802; Ambrose Spencer, 1805; Elisha Jenkins, 1807; De Witt Clinton, 1808; Peter Gansevoort, Jr., 1808; Joseph C. Yates, 1812; Solomon Southwick, 1812; Smith Thompson, 1813; John Woodworth, 1813; Martin Van Buren, 1816; John Lansing, Jr., 1817; John De Witt, 1817; Samuel Young, 1817; Stephen Van Rensselaer, 1819; William A. Duer, 1820; Harmanus Bleecker, 1822; Samuel A. Talcott, 1823; James King, 1823; Peter Wendell, 1823;

William L. Marcy, 1823; Jesse Buel, 1826; Benjamin F. Butler, 1829; Gerrit Y. Lansing, 1829; John Keyes Paige, 1829; John Tracy, 1830; John A. Dix, 1831; Erastus Corning, 1833; James McKown, 1834; Amasa J. Parker, 1835; Joseph Russell, 1839; John C. Spencer, 1840; Gideon Hawley, 1842; John V. L. Pruyn, 1844; Martin Van Buren, 1845; Jabez D. Hammond, 1845; Philip S. Van Rensselaer, 1849; John N. Campbell, 1851; George W. Clinton, 1856; George R. Perkins, 1862; Henry R. Pierson, 1872; Anson J. Upson, 1874; John A. Dix, 1876; Charles E. Smith, 1879; St. Clair McKelway, 1883; Hamilton Harris, 1885.

Standard historians have scarcely noticed the subject of education. We have had little help from them. They write of wars, and the strifes of kings and other men struggling for wealth and power. Theirs is a record of contending factions in Church and State. From them the student of history learns little of the homes of the people, of the training of the young, of the pursuits of the student of science and literature, or of the mighty influences that come from wise and godly men and women, working for humanity and country, in quiet places. And yet these are all of vital importance.

School statistics, as published in our school documents, possess little value previous to about 1857. Mr. Victor M. Rice is entitled to the credit of organizing a plan for them, but little improved since. He had able clerks in his department; and county school commissioners were trained by him to a habit of making intelligible and truthful reports. An examination of the State Annual School Reports for thirty years past will enlighten the student of education, as he can be enlightened in no other way, in regard to the progress of education in our State and County. We would be glad to collate facts and make comparisons from these tables, but space forbids.

The influences that have been working for a century past to advance the education of the masses in this State, have been many. Albany County, as embracing the State Capital, and the temporary homes, at least, of legislators, statemen, jurists, educators and philanthropists, from whom these influences have proceeded, has had great advantages. In the City of Albany these influences have been powerfully felt. They have led to the establishment of our many private schools, our excellent academies and public schools, our schools of law and medicine, our Dudley Observatory, our libraries and Cabinets, and all our facilities for advancement in knowledge.

It must be admitted that these influences have slowly entered into our country towns. We have no doubt that the manorial system, so long existing in these towns, has been the chief paralyzing cause. It made men groveling and ambitionless. A better day for these beautiful valleys and hills, these homes and villages, is lifting. Schools and schoolhouses are better, and men and women of intelligence and influence are multiplying.

No one can question that these good influences had their origin and stimulus from New England. The immigration from that land, which began immediately after the Revolution, and has continued ever since, has spread and intensified these influences.

Among the men whose exertions and influence have essentially contributed to the establishment of the schools referred to, and to the securing, finally, of a real, permanent school system, free for all the people, may be named the following who have had residence in this county, not to speak of Governors, Regents, and State Superintendents named elsewhere:

Gideon Hawley, Eliphalet Nott, Alexander G. Johnson, Henry B. Haswell, John O. Cole, Franklin Townsend, John V. L. Pruyn, Bradford R. Wood, Friend Humphrey, Henry Mandeville, Alonzo Potter, Jabez D. Hammond, John C. Spencer, Daniel D. Barnard, Ebenezer Foot, T. Romeyn Beck, Francis Dwight, Alonzo Crittenden, Benj. F. Butler, Thomas W. Valentine, John W. Bulkley, Samuel B. Woolworth, Alden March, James H. Armsby, Daniel J. Pratt, Henry S. McCall, Charles P. Easton, John E. Bradley, Merrill E. Gates and many others, including, of course, all competent and faithful educators, male and female. Of these twenty-nine, nineteen are natives of New England. They were acknowledged leaders. Others, "of every kindred, every tribe," have cheerfully co-operated or followed, and enjoyed the benefit of their labors.

After years of struggling in the dark, without system, Gideon Hawley, of Connecticut, was elected State Superintendent of Common Schools, in 1813, and held the office, with a salary of $300, for eight years. "To no individual in the State are the friends of Common School Education more indebted for the impetus given the cause of elementary instruction in its infancy than to Gideon Hawley." Organization, supervision, practical knowledge of minute details, patience, perseverance, honest work and sincere love for the cause were the requisites in one man. Mr. Hawley united all these. He settled in Albany, was long time Secretary of the Board of Regents, and lived to see the reward of his labors. Many followed him

most worthily. The work was carried on in the Secretary of State Department, with increased experience, by such men as Yates, Flagg, Dix, Spencer, Young, Benton, Morgan and the Randalls. In 1854 Superintendent Rice took the helm, followed by Weaver and others. But none after Hawley had a home in this county except during their official terms. Jonathan Tenney and Addison A. Keyes are the only Deputy State Superintendents of Public Instruction who were permanent residents in Albany County.

The Educational growth of our County has been very rapid during the last one hundred years, and especially so during the last fifty years. Its history, to which we have given a few pages only, could easily be expanded into a volume. In the special history of Albany City we shall give more attention to its local institutions of learning.

A LIST OF THE TOWNSHIPS (*t.*), CITIES (*c.*), INCORPORATED VILLAGES (*i. v.*), VILLAGES (*v.*), HAMLETS (*h.*) AND NEIGHBORHOODS (*n.*) IN ALBANY COUNTY,

WITH THEIR DISTANCES FROM ALBANY CITY IN MILES, THEIR POST-OFFICES, RAILWAY STATIONS, LOCATION IN TOWN, LOCAL NAMES, ETC., BY PROF. J. TENNEY.

Towns, Cities, Villages, etc.	Post-offices.	Railway Stations.	Distances in Miles from State Capitol.	Location in Town.	Local Names and Other Notes.	
ALBANY	P. O.	N. Y. C., B. & A., etc.	....	....	Fort Orange, The Fuyck, Beverwyck, Aurania, Orangienberg, Williamstadt, were early names.	*c.*
Arbor Hill	Albany P. O.	.....	¾	N.	.....	*n.*
Groesbeckville	" "	.....	1	S.	Annexed from Bethlehem.	*n.*
Martinsville	" "	.....	¾	S.	Named for George Martin.	*n.*
North Albany	" "	.....	1½	N.	Annexed from Watervliet.	*n.*
Tivoli Hollow	" "	.....	1	N.	.....	*n.*
Washington Park	" "	.....	1	W.	Public Park.	*n.*
West Albany	P. O.	N. Y. C.	2	N.	Mostly in Watervliet.	*v.*
BERNE	P. O.	.....	23	....	.....	*t.*
Berneville	Berne P. O.	.....	23	N.	Beaver Dam, Corporation.	*v.*
East Berne	P. O.	.....	19	N. E.	Philla, n. Warner's Lake.	*h.*
South Berne	P. O.	.....	21	S.	.....	*h.*
West Berne	P. O.	.....	27	N. W.	Mechanicsville, Peoria.	*h.*
Peoria	W. Berne P. O.	.....	27	N. W.	Named for Peoria, Ills.	*h.*
Reidsville	P. O.	.....	16	S. E.	Named for Sandy Reid.	*h.*
Thompson's Lake	.....	.....	17	N. E.	Summer Resort.	*h.*
BETHLEHEM	Bethlehem Center P. O.	.....	5	....	.....	*t.*
Adams' Station	P. O.	A. & S.	6	C.	Adamsville.	*v.*
Becker's Corners	P. O.	.....	8	S.	The Hook.	*h.*
Bethlehem Center	P. O.	.....	5	C.	Babcock's Corner.	*h.*
Cedar Hill	P. O.	.....	8	S. E.	Steamboat Landing.	*n.*
Hurstville	Albany P. O.	.....	3	N.	.....	*n.*
Kenwood	" "	W. S.	2	E.	Mouth of Normanskill.	*v.*
Normansville	Adamsville or Albany P. O.	.....	4	N. E.	Upper Hollow.	*h.*
Selkirk	P. O.	W. S.	10	E.	.....	*n.*
Slingerlands	P. O.	A. & S.	7	N. W.	.....	*v.*
So. Bethlehem	P. O.	W. S.	10	S.	Janes' Corners.	*v.*
Upper Hollow	Adamsville P. O.	.....	4	N. E.	Normansville.	*n.*
Van Wie's	P. O.	.....	5	E.	.....	*n.*
Wemple	Bethlehem Center P. O.	W. S.	3	E.	.....	*n.*
COEYMANS	P. O.	.....	13	....	.....	*t.*
Alcove	P. O.	.....	21	S. W.	Stephensville.	*v.*
Aquetuck	P. O.	.....	16	S. E.	Peacock's Corners.	*h.*
Coeymans Hollow	P. O.	.....	18	S. C.	.....	*v.*
Coeymans Junction	Coeymans P. O.	W. S.	13	E.	.....	*h.*
Coeymans Landing	Coeymans P. O.	.....	13	S. E.	.....	*v.*
Indian Fields	P. O.	.....	20	N.	.....	*h.*
Keefer's Corners	P. O.	.....	20	N. W.	Named for Balthus Keefer.	*n.*
Mossy Hill	.....	.....	22	S. W.	.....	*n.*
Stephensville	Alcove P. O.	.....	20	S. W.	.....	*v.*
COHOES	P. O.	R. & S. and T. & S.	9	....	.....	*c.*
COLONIE	.....	.....	....	....	A town from 1808–15, now a part of Albany.	
GUILDERLAND	P. O.	.....	9	E.	.....	*t.*
Dunnsville	P. O.	.....	15	N. W.	Named for Christopher Dunn.	*h.*
French's Mills	Fuller's Sta. P. O.	.....	13	E.	Named for Abel French.	*n.*
Fuller's Station	P. O.	W. S.	13	C.	Named for Maj. John Fuller.	*h.*
Guilderland Center	P. O.	.....	12	C.	Bangall.	*v.*

A LIST OF THE TOWNSHIPS, CITIES, INCORPORATED VILLAGES, ETC., ETC.

Towns, Cities, Villages, etc.	Post-offices.	Railway Stations.	Distances in Miles from State Capitol.	Location in Town.	Local Names and Other Notes.	
Guilderland Station	P. O.	A. & S.	14	S. W.	.....	*h.*
Hamiltonville	Guilderland P. O.	.....	8	E.	N'd for Hon. Alex. Hamilton.	*v.*
Knowersville	P. O.	A. & S.	17	W. C.	Named for Hon. Benj. Knower.	*v.*
McKownville	P. O.	.....	4	S. E.	Named for Hon. Jas. McKown.	*h.*
Sloans	Guilderland P. O.	.....	8	E.	Hamiltonville, Sloans.	*v.*
KNOX	P. O.	.....	21	....	.....	*t.*
Knoxville	Knox P. O.	.....	21	C.	The Street.	*h.*
Knox Station	Knox P. O.	A. & S.	22	N.	.....	*n.*
East Township	P. O.	.....	19	E.	.....	*v.*
West Township	P. O.	.....	23	W.	.....	*v.*
NEW SCOTLAND	P. O.	.....	8	E.	.....	*t.*
Callanan's Corners	P. O.	.....	12	S. E.	.....	*h.*
Clarksville	P. O.	.....	12	S. W.	.....	*v.*
Feura Bush	Jerusalem P. O.	W. S.	9	S. E.	Jerusalem.	*h.*
Helderberg	P. O.	.....	15	N. W.	.....	*n.*
Jerusalem	P. O.	W. S.	9	S. E.	Feura Bush.	*h.*
New Salem	P. O.	.....	12	N. W.	.....	*v.*
New Scotland	P. O.	.....	8	E.	.....	*h.*
New Scotland Station	Voorheesville P. O.	A. & S. and W. S.	11	N. E.	Voorheesville.	*v.*
Onesquethau	.....	.....	14	S.	Tarrytown.	*h.*
Union Church	P. O.	W. S.	9	E.	Unionville.	*h.*
Unionville	Union Church P. O.	W. S.	9	E.	.....	*h.*
Voorheesville	P. O.	A. & S. and W. S.	11	N.	Named for Hon. A. B. Voorhees.	*v.*
Wolf Hill	P. O.	.....	13	W.	.....	*n.*
RENSSELAERVILLE	Rensselaerville P. O.	.....	23	....	.....	*t.*
Cooksburg	P. O.	.....	32	S. W.	Named for Thomas Cook.	*v.*
Connersville	Rensselaerville P. O.	.....	....	S. W.	Williamsburg.	*h.*
Medusa	P. O.	.....	29	S. E.	Hall's Mills.	*v.*
Peckham Hollow	.....	.....	....	....	Obsolete; Willow Glen.	*h.*
Potter's Hollow	P. O.	.....	33	S. W.	Named for Samuel Potter.	*v.*
Preston Hollow	P. O.	.....	32	S. W.	Named for John Preston.	*v.*
Rensselaerville	P. O.	.....	23	N. E.	Named for Gen. S. Van Rensselaer.	*v.*
Smith's Corners	Medusa P. O.	.....	28	S. E.	Named for Moses Smith.	*h.*
Williamsburg	Rensselaerville P. O.	.....	28	N. W.	Connersville.	*h.*
WATERVLIET	.....	.....	....	....	.....	*t.*
Boght	Cohoes P. O.	.....	10	N.	Groesbeck's Corners.	*h.*
Cemetery	Albany P. O.	R. & S.	3	E.	Rural, St. Agnes and Anshe Emeth Cemeteries.	*h.*
Center	Karner P. O.	N. Y. C.	8	N.	Karner.	*h.*
Crescent	.....	T. & S.	12	W.	Railway Station.	*h.*
Gibbonsville	West Troy P. O.	R. & S.	6	E.	Named for James Gibbons.	*v.*
Green Island	P. O.	R. & S.	7	E.	Tibbitt's Island.	*i. v.*
Groesbeck's Corners	Cohoes P. O.	.....	10	N.	The Boght.	*h.*
Ireland's Corners	Loudonville P. O.	.....	3	C.	Named for Rev. Selah Ireland.	*v.*
Karner	P. O.	N. Y. C.	9	W.	Named for Theodore Karner.	*h.*
Latham's Corners	Cohoes P. O.	.....	6	C.	Town House and Van Vranken's Corners.	*h.*
Lisha's Kill	P. O.	.....	9	N. W.	.....	*h.*
Loudonville	P. O.	.....	3	S.	Named for Lord Loudon.	*v.*
Lower Aqueduct	.....	.....	12	N. E.	On the Mohawk.	*n.*
Menand's	Albany P. O.	A. & T.	3	E.	Named for Florist Menand.	*h.*
Newtonville	P. O.	.....	5	C.	Named for John M. Newton.	*v.*
Port Schuyler	.....	.....	....	....	Named for Peter Schuyler.	*n.*
Shakers	P. O.	.....	8	W.	Shaker Community since 1776.	*v.*
Spencerville	West Albany P. O.	N. Y. C.	2	S.	Named for Julius A. Spencer.	*v.*
Town House Corners	Cohoes P. O.	.....	6	C.	Van Vranken's.	*h.*
Van Vranken's Corners	Cohoes P. O.	.....	6	C.	Town House Corners.	*h.*
Washington	.....	.....	5	E.	Port Schuyler.	*h.*
Watervliet Center	P. O.	.....	9	N.	.....	*v.*
West Albany	P. O.	N. Y. C.	3	S.	Partly in Albany City.	*v.*
West Troy	P. O.	R. & S.	6	E.	Includes former Port Schuyler, Gibbonsville and Washington.	*i. v.*
WESTERLO	P. O.	.....	22	....	.....	*t.*
Chesterville	Westerlo P. O.	.....	22	C.	Named for Rev. John Chester.	*v.*
Dormansville	P. O.	.....	20	E.	Named for Daniel Dorman.	*h.*
Lamb's Corners	So. Westerlo P. O.	.....	26	S. W.	.....	*h.*
South Westerlo	P. O.	.....	24	S.	.....	*v.*
Van Leuven's Corners	Westerlo P. O.	.....	20	N.	Once Sackett's Corners and Preston's Corners; named for Isaac Van Leuven.	*n.*
Westerlo Center	" "	.....	22	C.	.....	*n.*

HISTORY OF POPULATION IN ALBANY COUNTY.

By Prof. J. TENNEY.

THE legitimate purpose of the Census seems to be to determine matters essential to an intelligent and equitable administration of public affairs. At first nothing was taken account of except the population classed by ages, sexes, and sometimes by races. In this way the strength of a people for the productive pursuits of peace or the destructive hazards of war, was measured. And when some respect began to be given to the popular demand for natural rights, it was important, to begin with, to have some scale of representation.

As imperfect as these census takings confessedly are, they are valuable as an approximate measure of the growth and prosperity of a people. To take them as they come to us is the best we can do, when we propose to show the historic movement of population and the great events and industries that accompany it or depend upon it. Hence, we have carefully collated, from every resource in our reach, this chapter as a valuable contribution to our history.

As will be seen, the statements of population during the Dutch Colonial period are but little better than estimates; and even when taken by direction of government officers, not only in the English Colonial times, but even in this day, by so many "enumerators," and from the mouths of so many dishonest, ignorant or timid people, the tabulated reports have never yet reached perfection.

Our facts and inferences in regard to the number and condition of the population of New Netherlands during the Dutch period, and of New York during the English period, are derived from the documents and other historic papers of those periods.

Wassenaer's *Historia Van Europa*, Amsterdam, 1621–1632, says: "There are now no families at Fort Orange. They are all brought down. They keep five or six and twenty persons, traders, there. Bastiaen Jansz Crol is Vice-Director there. He remained there since the year 1626, when the others came down."

This helps confirm our opinion that no permanent settlements in or near what is now Albany were made prior to 1630; perhaps we ought to say, prior to 1639.

The same writer, speaking of Fort Amsterdam, says: "The population consists of 270, including men, women and children." Fear of the savages, and the dreary state of things about frontier Fort Orange, thus early led the "families," "the women and children," to "come down" to a place of better security.

That the early population of both Manhattan and Beverwyck consisted of few persons, except the officers and servants of the West India Company, is well agreed. A little band of colonists came over in 1630 as farmers and farm servants under the patroon, and did service under leases or otherwise, on the manor lands of Rensselaerwyck. Few had families.

In 1638, most of the population was confined to New Amsterdam and Fort Orange.

Their "High Mightinesses" had information in April, 1638, that "the population in New Netherlands does not only not increase as it might, but even that it is decreasing," which they attribute to the neglect of the West India Company to properly encourage immigration and provide for the protection of the immigrants by proper "inducements and pre-eminences."

Free trade, in 1638, gave some impetus to immigration; but most who came over preferred trading with Indians to cultivating the soil. In 1646, as shown by the Van Rensselaer papers, only 216 colonists had been sent over to Rensselaerwyck in sixteen years, reckoning from the first arrival in 1630.

Governor Stuyvesant tells us that, in 1647, soon after he came in charge of New Netherlands, "The whole province could not muster 250 or, at most, 300 men capable of bearing arms." This includes, of course, all the settlements in and around New Amsterdam, Esopus and Beverwyck. This he attributes in part to the "exceedingly detrimental, land-destroying and people-expelling wars with the cruel barbarians" that were aroused and carried on under Kieft. In this connection he speaks of his "troublesome neighbors of New

England," whose population numbered "full fifty to our one." Not far from this time New England was dotted over with agricultural and commercial settlements, many of which had organized as independent towns; and its population was reckoned at 60,000.

Until 1656, the little church of nine benches satisfied the religious worshipers of Fort Orange and the Colony. The early population of Beverwyck was an unsettled one. Some few of the better class purchased lands beyond the limits of Fort Orange, and settled down as industrious farmers; some returned to Fatherland; and others retired to the more stirring town of New Amsterdam, down by the sea. Population increased slowly upon the frontiers up the Hudson and Mohawk. Many were vagabonds of the lowest character; most unfit as founders or builders of a permanent and prosperous society.

In 1673, nine years after the English came in possession, we are told: "They and as many of the Dutch nation as are yet residing under this government is calculated to amount, women and children included, to about six thousand."

In 1678, Gov. Andros writes: "Inhabitants and planters about 2,000 able to bear armes; old inhabitants of the place or of England, except in and neere New York, of Dutch extraction, and some few of all nations."

"The town itself is upon a barren spot of land, and the inhabitants live wholly upon trade with the Indians." Gov. Dongan in 1687, says this of Albany.

The first attempt at taking a census in the Province of New York, was made in 1686 by Gov. Dongan, by request of the Board of Trade and advice of Council. The Sheriff had the matter in charge, assisted by constables or other under-officers, and reported on or before the 1st of April to the Governor.

A LIST OF THE HEADS OF FAMILIES,

And the number of men, women and children in each household in the City and County of Albany, June 16, 1697:

	Men.	Women.	Children.
Joannis Harmense	1	1	1
Myndert Schuyler	1	1	1
Joannes Schuyler	1	1	11
Aryantie Wendels	0	1	3
Alida Schuyler	0	1	4
Pieter Van Brugh	1	1	1
Marities Lervens	0	1	3
Margaret Schuyler	0	1	0
Melgert Abrahamse	1	1	3
Wouter Van Derzee	1	1	0
Pieter Van Olinde	1	1	3
David Schuyler	1	1	2
Mrs. Bradshaw	0	1	1
William Ketelhyn	1	1	2
Lucas Lucase	1	1	3
Jan Bratts Widdow	0	1	5
Roelof Gerritse	1	1	6
Jan Rosie	1	1	0
Isaac Caeperse	1	1	3
Hendrick Masselis	1	0	0
Hendrick Hals	1	1	1
Joannis Becker, Jun'r	1	1	3
Jacob Staets	1	1	1
Dirk Van der Heyde	1	1	4
William Hogan (I.)	1	1	3
Joannis Teller	1	1	3
John Fyne	1	1	0
Hendrick Lansing	1	1	2
Woter Wan der Uythof	1	1	0
Paulus Martinse	1	1	1
John Carr (E.)	1	1	0
James Parker (F.)	1	0	0
Hendrick Oothout	1	1	5
Colo. Pieter Schuyler	1	1	4
Pieter Van Woglom	1	1	0
Jacob Winne	1	1	0
Teunis Dirkes	1	1	1
Abraham Staets	1	1	1
Benoni Van Corlaer	2	1	5
Jurian Van Hoese	1	1	1
Joseph Yeats (E.)	1	1	6
Joseph Janse (Sp.)	1	1	2
Jonathan Broadhurst (E)	1	1	4
Jan Verbeeck	1	0	0
Eghbert Teunisse	1	1	5
Leendert Phillipse	1	1	0
Albert Ryckman	4	1	5
Fredrick Harmense	1	1	2
Jacob Cornelisse Bogart	1	1	7
Omie Lagrange, Jun'r	1	1	0
William Holie	1	0	0
Harman Gansevoort	1	1	6
Jan Quackebosse	1	1	6
Jan Salomonse	1	1	9
Godefridus Dellius	1	1	0
Hendrick Hause	1	1	2
Catelyntie Schuyler	0	1	0
Jacobus Schuyler	1	0	0
Geart Hendrikse	1	1	4
Jacob Van Schoonhoven	1	0	0
Joannis Bratt	1	1	1
Wessel Ten Broeck	1	1	4
Frans Winne	1	1	3
Maria Lookerman	0	1	1
Gerrit Rycker	1	1	0
Ryer Gerritse	1	0	0
Jan Vonda	1	1	1
Harpert Jacobse	1	1	0
Willem Gysberse	2	1	5
Takel Dirckse	2	1	1
Jan Cornelisse Visclaer	1	0	0
Jacob Teunisse	1	1	6
Anna Ketelheyn	0	1	3
Johannis Thomasse	1	1	1
Effie Lause	0	1	1
Johannis Hause	1	0	0
Barent Albertse Brat	1	1	1
Cornelis Van Ness	1	1	1
Anna Vander Heyden	0	1	3
Volkert Van Loese	0	1	5
Tierck Harmense	1	1	4
Anthony Brat	1	1	4
Jacobus Van Vorst	2	0	0
Thomas Harmense	1	1	2
Joannes D'Wandelaer, Junior	1	0	0
Jan Van Ness	1	1	4
Gerret Van Ness	1	1	2
Willem Claesse	1	1	3
Myndert Fredrickse	4	1	0
Tryntie Carstens	0	1	2

	Men.	Women.	Children.
Sweer Marcelis	1	0	0
Pieter Bogardus	3	1	3
Hendrick Van Rensselaer	1	1	3
Abraham Wendel	1	0	0
Evert Wendel	2	1	2
Dirk Wessel	2	1	4
Anthony Coster	1	0	0
Isaac Ouderkerk	1	1	1
Bastiaen Harmenss	1	1	5
Thomas Williams	1	1	3
Anthony Van Schaick	1	1	4
Hendrick Roseboom	1	1	1
Jonathan Janse	1	1	0
Ryer Jacobse	1	1	4
Cornelis Schermerhoorn	1	1	2
Abraham Kip	1	1	3
Jacob Lookerman	1	1	0
Frans Pruyn	3	1	4
Anthony Bries	1	1	2
Catalyntie Jacobse	0	1	1
Gysbert Marcelis	1	1	3
Warnaer Carstense	1	1	0
Wouter Quackenboss, Junior	1	1	0
Claese Ryrse Van Dam	1	1	0
Abraham Lansing	1	0	0
Evert Wendel, Junior	1	1	6
Geertie Ten Eyck	0	1	4
Barent and Hendrick Ten Eyck	1	0	0
Abraham Cuyler	1	1	3
Steven Groesbeck	1	0	0
Martin Cregier	1	1	5
Jillis Vonda	1	1	0
Johannis Roseboom	1	1	4
John Gilbert (E.)	1	1	5
Daniel Brat	1	1	0
Abraham Schuyler	1	1	2
Esther Tiercks	0	1	1
Joannes Appel	1	1	0
Claes Jacobse	2	1	1
William Jacobse	1	1	2
Lucas Gerritse	3	1	1
Johannis Beekman	1	1	6
Isaac Verplanck	2	1	6
Robert Livingston (Sc.)	3	1	5
Phillip D'Foreest	1	1	5
Hendrick Van Dyck	1	1	4
Jacobus Turk	1	1	4
Harmanus Wendel	1	0	0
Phillip Wendel	1	1	3
Melgert Wendel	1	1	7
Joannes Lucase	1	1	1
Melgert Melgertse	1	1	1
Joannes Bleeker, Junior	1	1	2
Joannis Glenn	1	0	0
Jan Janse Bleeker	2	1	1
Hendrik Roseboom, Junior	1	1	2
Nanning Harmense	1	1	3
Abraham Tewisse	1	0	0
Pieter Mingael	1	1	0
Claes Rust	2	0	0
Jan Vinhagen	2	1	1
Gerrit Lansing	2	1	3
Jan Nack	3	1	1
Jan Lansing	2	1	4
Gerrit Roseboom	1	1	3
Cornelis Slingerland	1	1	3
Albert Slingerland	1	1	1
Gerret Lucasse	1	1	1
Cornelis Sherloyn	1	1	5
Myndert Roseboom	1	0	0
Dirck Brat	1	1	3
Joannes Outhout	1	1	4
David Ketelheyn	1	1	1
Maes Cornelisse	1	1	5
Hillegont Rykse	0	1	2
Maes Rykse	1	0	0
Wednwe Gerritze	0	1	1
Jan Gerritze	1	0	0
Daniel Retelheyn	1	1	1
Mees Hogeboom	2	1	1
Pieter Villeroy (F.)	1	1	7
Marcellis Ffranse	1	1	0
Rachel Ratcliffe	0	1	7

IN RENSSELAERWYCK, OR THE COLONIE.

	Men.	Women.	Children.
Kiliaen Van Rensselaer	1	0	0
Henrich Van Ness	3	1	6
Harman Janse	2	1	4
Andries Gardenier	1	1	6
Douwe Vonda	2	1	3
Wouter Quackenboss	1	1	4
Jan Dirckse	1	1	0
Evert Ridder	1	1	3
Cornelis Teunisse	3	1	4
Dorothe Douw	0	1	1
Andries Douw	3	0	0
Geestruy Janse	0	1	0
Thomas Janse	1	0	0
Lucas Janse	1	1	2
Marten Cornelisse	2	0	1
Gerrit Gysbertse	1	1	5
Claes Van Petten	2	1	5
Joannes Onderkerck	4	1	0
Joannes Onderkerck, Junior	1	1	4
Henrick Beekman	1	1	5
Barent Cocymans	4	0	3
Pieter Van Slyck	1	1	4
Teunis Van Slyck	1	1	1
Barent Gerritzey	2	1	4
Cornelis Hendrikse	2	0	0
Elizabeth Hendrikse	0	1	1
Gerretie Jacobse	0	1	6
Jan Spoor	1	1	6
Levinus Winne	1	0	2
Casper Leenderse	1	1	5
Daniel Winne	1	0	0
Gerit Van Wey	1	0	0
Ryk Michielse	1	0	0
Jan Huybertz and his mother	1	1	0
Claes Sewertse	1	0	0
Neeltie Van Bergen	0	1	5
Richard Janse	1	0	0
Matthys Hooftyling	2	1	3
Arent Slingerland	1	3	3
Solomon Van Vechten	1	0	0
Cornelis Tymese	3	1	0
Joannes Hanse	1	1	6
Cornelis Stevense	2	1	9
Cornelis Martense	1	1	4
Ty's Janse	1	1	3
Robert Tewise	1	1	4
Isaac Janse	1	0	2
Nicolaes Janse	1	1	4
Jan Tewise	1	1	1
Servis Abrahamse	1	1	3
Jacob Janse	1	1	7
Hans Jury's wife	0	1	4
Jan Salisbury	2	1	1
Joannis Visbeek	1	1	5
Ffranch Hardin	1	1	7
Jan Van Hoese	1	0	0
Carl Hanse	1	1	5
Jochim Lamberts	3	1	4
Isaac Vosburgh	1	1	4
Gerret Jacobse	1	1	2
Andries Heugh	3	1	5
Samuel Gardner	1	1	3
Lambert Jochimse	1	1	2
Edward Wheeler (E.)	1	1	3
Jacob Bastiaense	1	1	6
Pieter Vosburgh	1	1	3
Pieter Martense	1	1	3
Jan Tyse	3	1	1
Hendrik De Brouwer	2	1	1
Jan De Wever	1	0	2
Abraham Janse	1	1	2
Lambert Janse	1	1	4

	Men.	Women.	Children.
Adam Dingmans	1	1	3
Lawrence Van Aclen	5	0	2
Jannetie Bevers	6	1	2
Andries Lause	2	1	1
Frans Pieterse	1	1	1
Johannes Janse	1	1	6
Coenraedt Hooftylingh	1	1	[illegible]
Helmer Janse	1	1	0
Phillip Konnings	1	1	6
Jan Casperse	1	1	4
William Janse	1	1	0
Michiel Collier	1	1	3
Jan Alberse	1	1	4
Jacob Casperse	1	1	5
Andries Bratt	1	1	3
John Van Loon	1	1	6
Jan Brouck	3	1	6
Andries Janse	3	1	4
Gerrit Teunisse	3	1	0
Jonas Douwe	1	1	5
Jan Baptist	1	1	2
Dirck Teunissee	4	1	1
Gysbert Cornelisse	2	1	0
William Jan Shutt	3	1	2
Hillebrant	1	1	3

At this count Benjamin Fletcher was Governor, Simon Young, Sheriff of Albany County, and Dircke Wessels, Mayor of Albany. The "list" is specially interesting as containing the names and enumeration of the ancestors, nearly two hundred years ago, of many of the people of Holland blood now living in this county. The census aggregates 1,452, of which 379 are men, 270 women and 803 children. Of the letters in parentheses, E. denotes English; F., French; Sp., Spanish; Sc., Scotch; I., Indian. The others are supposed to be Dutch.

The population of the city and county of Albany, as taken by the order of Governor Bellomont, in 1698, at the close of King William's war, consisted of 382 men, 272 women, 805 children and 23 negroes. In 1689, at the beginning of this war, it had been 662 men, 340 women and 1,014 children. The decrease during the war was reported as follows:

	Men.	*Women.*	*Children.*
Departed	142	68	209
Taken prisoners	16	..	...
Killed by ye enemy	84	..	...
Dyed	38	..	...
Total	280	68	209

The effect of the war of 1689–98 on the Five Nations is reported as follows:

	1689.	1698.
The Mohoggs	270	110
The Onneydes	180	70
The Onnondages	500	250
The Cajouges	320	200
The Sennekes	1,300	600
Total	2,550	1,230

In 1703 the population of Albany city and county is reported to have been 2,273.

Rev. Thomas Barclay, in September, 1710, writes: "In the city and county of Albany, there are about 3,000 souls, besides the garrison. Most of the inhabitants are Dutch, the garrison excepted, which consists of three companies, each company one hundred men."

Governor Hunter writes to the Board of Trade, under date of June 23, 1712: "I have issued orders to the several counties and cities for an account of the numbers of their inhabitants and slaves, but have never been able to obtain it complete, the people being deterred by a simple superstition and observation that sickness followed upon the last numbering of the people." In 1715 he writes further that, "The superstition of this people is so insurmountable that I believe I shall never be able to obtain a complete list of the number of inhabitants of this province."

Governor Hunter, in April, 1716, writes to the Board of Trade: "The number of militia in this province, by my last account, is 5,060. I cannot say that the inhabitants increase in that proportion as they do in the neighboring provinces, where the purchases of land are easier."

In June, 1720, "A list of the Freeholders of the City and County of Albany" was taken, by order of the Court of Judicature, under direction of Garrett Van Schaick, High Sheriff. The county then included Kinderhook, Claverack, Schaghtioke, manor of Livingston, Niskayuna, Schenectady, Half Moon, Coxackie and Catskill. In the present territory of Albany County, 153 freeholders were reported for the city, and 81 for the manor of Rensselaerwyck.

In 1723, there were reported as whites, 1,512 men, 1,408 women, 1,404 male children, 1,369 female children—5,693; and "of negroes and other slaves," 307 men, 200 women, 146 male children, 155 female children—808. Total, 6,501.

Gosen Van Shaick, Sheriff in 1731, enumerates:

White males above 10 years old	2,481
" females " " " "	1,255
White males under 10	2,352
" females " "	1,212
Black males above 10	568
" females " "	185
" males under "	346
" females " "	174
Total	8,573

The remarkable excess of the male population at this time is worthy of notice. The population of New York City at this time was 8,622, with no remarkable difference in the sex population. Sheriff Van Schaick thus remarks upon the matter: "It is remarkable that in New York there are,

above ten years, 147 males and 995 females more than in Albany, and 1,029 males and 185 females (under ten) more than in New York; which is accounted for by this part being a trading place, and many of the males go abroad; of course, many females *lye fallor;* and perhaps in the county they are better breeders, I believe many younger."

In 1737 the Albany County population is stated as follows:

White males above 10 years	3,209
" females " " "	2,995
" males under " "	1,463
" females " " "	1,384
Black males above " "	714
" females " " "	496
" males under " "	223
" females " " "	197
	19,681

This is an increase of 2,108 since 1731, and exceeds that of New York County by 17.

An account of the number of inhabitants in the Province of New York was taken, June 4, 1746, by order of Gov. Clinton. Every county was taken except Albany. Upon this it was noted: "Not possible to be numbered on account of the enemy." This was during King George's war of 1744–48, called the war of the Austrian Succession;

At the enumeration taken by order of Gov. Clinton, May 10, 1749, after this war was over, Albany County contained:

Males under 16 years	2,249
" 16 and under 60	2,359
" above 60	322
Females under 16	2,137
" 16 and upward	2,087
Total whites	9,154
Male blacks under 16	309
" " 16 and under 60	424
" " 60 and upward	48
Female blacks under 16	334
" " 16 and upward	365
Total blacks	1,480

The whole province at this time contained 6,275 whites and 10,692 blacks.

The sheriffs of the several counties made another enumeration in 1756, during the French and Indian war. The returns of Albany County showed:

Males under 16	3,474
" above 16 and under 60	3,795
" 60 and upward	456
Females under 16	3,234
" above 16	3,846
Total whites	14,805
Black males under 16	658
" " over 16 and under 60	786
" " 60 and upward	76
" females under 16	496
" " above 16	403
Total blacks	2,619

In 1771 Gov. Tryon ordered a census, which resulted for Albany County as follows:

Males under 16	9,740
" above 16 and under 60	9,822
" 60 and upward	1,136
Females under 16	9,086
" above 16	9,045
Total whites	38,829
Black males under 16	876
" " above 16 and under 60	1,100
" " 60 and upward	250
" females under 16	671
" " above 16	980
Total blacks	3,877
Total population	42,706

This was the last counting of the people under the Colonial Government of New York. Less than four years later the war for independence had actually begun. The population during these troubled times made slow increase. It probably did not exceed 45,000 in Albany County during the Revolutionary war. But it must not be forgotten that Albany County then included what are now Columbia, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schoharie, Greene and Schenectady Counties. A part of Vermont was also claimed.

Gov. Tryon, in 1774, makes the following remarks concerning the population of the province, which includes Albany County: "The high price of labor and the plenty and cheapness of new land fit for cultivation, as they increase the means of subsistence, are strong additional incitements to marriage, and the people entering into that state more generally, and at an earlier period of life than in Europe, the proportion of marriages and births so far exceeds that of populous countries that it has been computed the colonies double their inhabitants by natural increase only in twenty years. The increase in this colony has been nearly in the same proportion." He adds: "The accession to our own numbers by emigrations from the neighboring colonies and from Europe has been considerable, though comparatively small to the number thus acquired by some of the southern colonies."

The necessities of the Revolution made a fair census desirable in all the thirteen colonies. Accordingly, one was ordered by the Continental Congress in 1775, to be taken by committees in each county. But the returns were imperfect, and only fragments are preserved.

Another census, for the purpose of assigning State quotas and means, was ordered in 1782.

A census was also taken in 1786 under the Confederation.

The first Federal census was taken in 1790, and has been repeated every tenth year since by United States marshals and their deputies, and has formed the basis of representation in Congress. Besides the enumeration of the people, classed in different ways, almost every conceivable subject connected with our nation's development has come to be included in our decennial census returns. But our purpose and space limits us chiefly to population. Some of the most valuable facts gathered for this county will appear in their appropriate places.

UNITED STATES CENSUS FOR ALBANY COUNTY.

Towns.	1790.	1800.	1810.	1820.	1830.	1840.	1850.	1860.	1870.	1880.	Incorporated.
Albany	3,506	5,289	9,356	12,630	24,209	33,762	50,763	62,367	69,422	90,758	1686
Berne	....	....	5,134	5,531	3,607	3,740	3,441	3,065	2,562	2,616	1795
Bethlehem	....	....	4,430	5,114	6,082	3,238	4,102	5,644	6,950	3,752	1793
Coeymans	....	....	3,574	2,872	2,723	3,107	3,050	3,116	3,077	2,912	1791
Cohoes	....	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15,357	19,416	1869
Colonie	....	....	1,406	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1808
Guilderland	....	....	2,476	2,270	2,742	2,790	3,279	3,246	3,132	3,459	1803
Knox	....	....	....	.....	2,189	2,143	2,021	2,025	1,656	1,694	1822
New Scotland	....	....	....	.....	.....	2,912	3,459	3,304	3,411	3,251	1832
Rensselaerville	2,777	....	5,928	3,435	3,685	3.705	3,629	3,008	2,492	2,488	1790
Watervliet	7,667	....	2,365	2,806	4,962	10,141	16,675	25,449	22,609	22,220	1788
Westerlo	....	....	....	3,458	3,321	3,096	2,860	2,692	2,384	2,324	1815

NOTES.—In 1790 our present county had only the City of Albany and the Towns of Watervliet and Rensselaerville. The column giving date of incorporation indicates when new towns have been made out of the same territory. These towns have made some changes by division. The varying influences of manufactures and trade, the facilities of modern commerce and travel, and the demands of modern life have made marked changes in their population.

The first State Constitution, adopted in 1777, provided that a septennial census of *electors* should be taken as a basis of representation in the Senate and Assembly of the State. Under this authority a census of this class was taken in 1790, 1795, 1801, 1807, 1814 and 1821, each provided for by special acts. The persons counted were divided into four classes, viz.:

1. Those allowed to vote for Senator, Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, and required to be worth $250 and over.

2. Those worth from $50 to $250.

3. Those not freeholders, but who rented estates for $5 annually.

4. Those with no property qualifications, but were freemen in New York City, October 14, 1775, or in Albany, April 20, 1777.

No returns beyond these inquiries were made before the fifth State census, made in 1814, when directions were given to ascertain the total population. The last census under the first Constitution was taken in 1821.

The revised Constitution of 1821 ordered a State census to be taken in 1825, and every tenth year thereafter, for the purpose of equalizing the r presentation. Changes have been made in the methods of enumeration and in the number of facts to be gathered.

NEW YORK STATE CENSUS, GIVING THE ENTIRE POPULATION OF THE COUNTY.

Towns.	1814.	1821.	1825.	1835.	1845.	1855.	1865.	1875.	1885.
1. Albany	10,083	.....	15,971	28,109	42,139	57,333	62,613	86,541	.....
2. Berne	4,447	.....	.....	3,956	3,667	3,206	2,851	2,565	.....
3. Bethlehem	4,325	.....	.....	3,303	3,315	5,151	5,928	3,746	.....
4. Coeymans	3,272	.....	.....	2,957	2,978	2,963	3,264	3,122	.....
5. Cohoes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17,943	.....
6. Colonie	1,657	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
7. Guilderland	2,264	.....	.....	2,803	2,995	3,188	3,207	3.502	.....
8. Knox	.....	.....	.....	2,262	2,161	1,888	1,809	1,641	.....
9. New Scotland	....	.....	.....	3,130	3,288	3,227	3,311	3,264	.....
10. Rensselaerville	5,333	.....	.....	3,597	3,589	3,088	2,745	2,579	.....
11. Watervliet	2,564	.....	.....	6,961	11,209	20,889	27,279	20,894	.....
12. Westerlo	.....	.....	.....	3,074	2,957	2,648	2,497	2,316	.....

We regret that all our researches have failed to give us the United States Census returns for the country towns in the county in 1800, and of the State census returns in 1821 and 1825.

The act passed by the Legislature of 1885, providing for taking the State decennial census of that year, was vetoed by Governor Hill, and no census has been taken.

ANTI-RENTISM IN ALBANY COUNTY.

ITS ORIGIN, RISE AND PROGRESS—ITS ADVENT AS A POLITICAL POWER, AND ITS DECLINE AS SUCH—REMARKABLE SHERIFF'S POSSE AND MILITARY DEMONSTRATIONS—THE LEGAL CONTROVERSY—THE QUARTER SALE AND ITS OVERTHROW—MANOR PROPRIETORS FINDING THAT THEY ARE NEITHER LORDS NOR PATROONS, NOR LANDLORDS, SELL THEIR DISPUTED INTEREST—FORFEITURE AND CONFISCATION OF LANDS, WITH THE BUILDINGS AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS ENFORCED BY SPECULATORS—PRESENT STATUS OF THE CONTROVERSY.

By Hon. ANDREW J. COLVIN.

ANTI-RENTISM had its origin in Albany County. It started into existence very soon after the death of Stephen Van Rensselaer, the last holder of the manor of Rensselaerwyck under the British crown. His death occurred on the 26th day of January, 1839. He was known to that generation as the patroon, sometimes the good patroon, and after his death as the old patroon. The manor was more than a principality in size, and comprised the greatest portion of the lands—cultivated and wooded—in the present counties of Albany and Rensselaer.

As primogeniture was the law of inheritance in England, so it was of the colonies, and this Stephen Van Rensselaer, therefore, as the eldest son, inherited this manor of Rensselaerwyck. The revolution, and the laws following, changed the rule of inheritance, and gave to all the children alike.

To break the force of this radical change, and to keep this vast landed interest in the hands of his two eldest sons that might be, and their descendants, if possible, this Stephen Van Rensselaer on arriving at his majority adopted the system of selling his lands in fee, reserving to himself in the conveyances, and to his heirs and assigns, all mines and minerals, all streams of water for mill purposes and the like; and then certain old-time feudal returns, denominated rents, payable annually, at the manor house in Watervliet, such as a specified number of bushels of good, clean, merchantable winter wheat, four fat fowls, and one day's service with carriage and horses; and, finally, the reservation or exaction of one-quarter of the purchase price on every vendition of the land.

This patroon was advised that he could do this, even on grants in fee; and it is reported that Alexander Hamilton framed the form of conveyance to be adopted.

There was at this time an English statute, known as the statute of *Quia Emptores*, which rendered it impossible for a subject, on a conveyance in fee of his land, to make, or if made to enforce by reentry or forfeiture, such feudal reservations. That was a right remaining in and belonging to the crown alone.

It was, probably, assumed by Mr. Hamilton that that statute was never in force in the colony, and that it, therefore, had no existence in the State, or any statute tantamount to it; or he may, perhaps, have had no knowledge of the English statute, as it was adopted so long ago as the reign of Edward I.

However that may have been, it is certain that this patroon, acting upon such advice from some quarter, sold in fee, with warranty of title, his farming lands in Albany and Rensselaer counties, the deeds containing the feudal reservations above mentioned. The system seemed to work smoothly enough during his life and the lives of the first purchasers; but, on his and their death, the successors of the latter, as owners, began to grow restive under the burdens imposed; and, on being urgently pressed after the death of the patroon by his sons Stephen and William to make payments of the rents in arrear as reserved in the deeds, they—the owners of the lands—began to question the legality of the reservations.

The patroon, by his will, devised all his interest in the lands thus sold by him in fee, with the reservations of rents, to his two oldest sons, Stephen and William P.; the scrivener who drew the will and himself undoubtedly supposing that he verily owned the escheat or reversion of such lands; in other words, and in more familiar language, that he still owned or retained the soil thereof. To the oldest son, Stephen, was given the rents in Albany

County; and to William P., the second son, the rents in Rensselaer County, as reserved in the conveyances.

Here, on the death of the father, commenced the first troubles of the landholders, or the tenantry, as they were called by the manor proprietors.

While the old patroon was one of the most gentle, kind-hearted and benevolent of men, and often generously reduced the rents, and by many sympathetic acts called forth the gratitude and love of the landholders, the young patroons,—proud, perhaps, of the great acquisitions, and it may be withal in need of money, as the rents, after the father's death, came in sparingly and reluctantly,—were sternly exacting, and they required full and prompt payments, and omission to pay was followed by prosecution and threatened eviction.

It was not long, under these circumstances, before strong hostility was exhibited to the fee-farm rent system in these two counties, soon extending into adjacent counties affected by the same system.

It is remarkable, on taking advice of counsel, as the landholders did, that no opinion was given or suggestion made that the deeds of the patroon being absolute conveyances of all his interest in the lands, the reservations were, for that reason, invalid as incumbrances, made so by the English statute before mentioned.

The counsel consulted were either ignorant of the existence of that statute or they dismissed the consideration of it on the assumption that it was never the law of the Colony or of the State. Had that statute, at the time of the anti-rent outbreak, been recognized as the law of the State, it is not too much, probably, to assert and believe that, before the distinguished judges who then adorned the bench, with the Senate composing the court of last resort—a popular as well as judicial body—the anti-rent controversy would have been spared more than a quarter of a century of political and legal conflict, and the feudal-burdened counties have become as enlightened, prosperous and free as their sister counties of the State.

The anti-renters, desirous of compromising the disputed matters on some equitable, even liberal basis, early in the spring of 1839 held a convention or meeting, numerously attended, on the Helderbergs, in the town of Berne, and appointed a committee to wait on Stephen Van Rensselaer, the eldest son of the old patroon, for the purpose of ascertaining if an amicable settlement of manor claims for rents in arrear could not be effected, and to learn, in the language of the day, upon what terms the soil could be bought, ignorant that they owned the soil already by their deeds of conveyance.

The committee, consisting of such sterling men as Lawrence Vandusen, of Berne, afterwards elected county clerk, who acted as chairman; Edgar Schoonmaker, Hugh Scott, Joseph Connor and John F. Shafer and others of that town, and Denison Fish, Lawrence Fenner, Isaac Hoag and others of Rensselaerville, and other representative men of the hill towns and towns below the hill, on the 22d of May, 1839, went to the manor office in Watervliet to see and converse with Mr. Van Rensselaer on the subject for which they were appointed; but he refused to speak to or recognize them even by a nod. Passing into the inner office occupied by his agent, Douw B. Lansing, he held a somewhat lengthened and confidential conversation with him, and the agent then came out and said that Mr. Van Rensselaer would communicate with them in writing. This excited great indignation, the committee feeling that they had been treated with lordly and haughty contempt.

Mr. Van Rensselaer did some time subsequently address a letter to Mr. Vandusen, the chairman of the committee, which was read at meetings of the anti-renters held at East Berne on the Helderbergs, and other places in the summer of 1839. In this communication Mr. Van Rensselaer declined to sell on any terms, saying, among other things, that he would be doing injustice to himself, to his family and to society at large should he consent to do so.

This determination of the manor claimant on the Albany side of the river led to the wildest excitement in the anti-rent towns of Albany County, and open resistance to the collection of rents was boldly urged and practiced. Rent agents were insulted, and were not safe among the excited people. Sheriffs were resisted in discharge of their duties, by men masked and dressed in calico and Indian costume; their horses were shorn of mane and tail; the wheels of their vehicles were removed and hidden; firearms were displayed; tar and feathers threatened, and strong demonstrations of force generally exhibited.

Such was the extent of the resistance that early in December, 1839, the Sheriff, Michael Artcher, called to his aid, in serving process, the *posse comitatus*, or power of the county. Among many prominent citizens summoned was ex-Gov. Marcy, who, amid much laughter, declared grimly and facetiously his readiness to go; and he did actually go with the *posse* on foot as far as Adamsville, where a gentleman friend found him and conducted him in his carriage as far as Clarksville, and there the

Governor remained until evening, when he returned with the *posse* to Albany.

The Sheriff, with his *posse*, consisting of six hundred citizens, started from Albany on the third day of December, 1839, for Reidsville, a hamlet on the Helderbergs, about sixteen or eighteen miles from Albany. On arriving within a few miles of the place, the Sheriff, selecting from the body of the *posse* a committee of seventy-five of the stoutest hearted, left with them for Reidsville, where it was understood the anti-renters were collected in force. Just before reaching Reidsville the Sheriff and his committee encountered a body of fifteen hundred mounted men posted across the public highway, barring and refusing their further progress, and ordering them to go back. Whereupon the Sheriff and the committee returned obediently as directed; and on making report to the main body of the *posse* of the formidable resistance encountered, the whole body gladly took the backward march to Albany, where they arrived in safety the same evening at 9 o'clock.

People generally at the time, in discussing this unheard of *posse* and its ridiculous termination, declared that a bold front on the part of the Sheriff, with twenty resolute men, would have enabled him to pass through the mounted horsemen without injury, and do what he desired to accomplish of a legal character.

On the morning after his return, the Sheriff gave the Governor—William H. Seward—an animated if not exaggerated account of the resistance he had met with.

The Governor deemed it his duty, under the circumstances detailed, to call out the military, and he did so promptly and efficiently, for he ordered out a force sufficient to capture every man, woman and child on the Helderbergs. It was composed of the Albany Burgesses Corps, Captain Bayeux; Albany Union Guards, Captain Brown; Albany Republican Artillery, Captain Strain; First Company Van Rensselaer Guards, Captain Kearney; Second Company Van Rensselaer Guards, Captain Berry; Troy Artillery, Captain Howe; Troy Citizens Corps, Captain Pierce; and Troy City Guards, Captain Wickes.

This formidable body of citizen-soldiery, in general command of Major William Bloodgood, headed by Sheriff Artcher, started for Reidsville, on the Helderbergs, December 9, 1839, to encounter and overcome the rent-resisters. With colors flying, drums beating, cannon rumbling, and bayonets gleaming in the wintry sun, its march from Albany was imposing.

It reached the Helderbergs without a shadow of resistance, and, encamping at Reidsville, found no enemy there to attack or oppose. It remained in camp and on duty at that point, and other places, for a week, and then returned to Albany, greatly chagrined and sadly bedraggled, amid the peltings of a pitiless rain storm of almost unexampled severity.

Similar but much smaller demonstrations, under proclamations of subsequent governors, set on foot by rent claimants and timid sheriffs, have occurred several times since. The object has always seemed to be, not to serve and enforce process, for that was never really impossible in the hands of a vigorous and courageous officer, with only a respectable *posse;* but by military exhibitions of display, accompanied by sheriffs' *posses* in force, to intimidate and drive the landholders into settlement and payment of iniquitous demands.

The resistance to the collection of rents and attempted enforcement of collections went on for some time in the tumultuous manner stated, without successful or encouraging results on either side. The landholders hoped the petty and threatened acts of resistance made by them might induce Mr. Van Rensselaer to offer some terms of compromise; but he refused all compromise unless his tenantry, as he called them, would cease all further opposition, acknowledge themselves in the wrong and pay up what they owed.

This obstinate state of the controversy led the landholders, under the advice of some antiquarian adepts in legal lore, to question the Van Rensselaer title to the manor. It was insisted that the letters patent were invalid on many grounds, not necessary now to be stated, as it would lead to fruitless discussion. It is enough to say of it that it soon brought the feudal rent conflict into the arena of politics.

Politicians, always keen to scent the advent of a new and potent power for votes, were quick in seizing this opportunity and putting the landholders in shape for political action. They must, it was urged, have a public press to make their cause and their grievances known to the people, and this was done with little delay.

The *Freeholder*, published in the City of Albany, became the organ of the embryo party. It was conducted for many years with great ability. Both of the old political parties, to a greater or less extent, entered into the controversy, although the National Republican or Whig party, then the opposition party to the Democratic, furnished, apparently, the largest number of anti-rent or land-

holders' advocates. The landholders now sought, through political agitation, the enactment and enforcement of laws to protect them against the feudal exactions. Their first object, therefore, was to secure the Governor and a controlling number of members of the Legislature; and at once, in the elections, they made their power felt. Rensselaer, Columbia, Dutchess, Sullivan, Ulster, Greene, Delaware, Otsego, Schoharie, Schenectady and Montgomery Counties promptly sent representatives of the landholders to the Legislature; and Albany County espoused their cause by overwhelming majorities. Ira Harris, as their especial representative, was elected to the Assembly in 1845 by a majority exceeding two thousand votes. In 1846 he was elected a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, and in the same year again to the Assembly, and subsequently to the Senate, and finally to a seat on the bench of the Supreme Court. Silas Wright, whose name was a tower of strength, and who, as the Democratic candidate for Governor, carried the State in 1844 for Polk as President against Henry Clay, was beaten for re-election by John Young in 1846, because his action as Governor with respect to the anti-rent outbreak in Delaware County, in which Steele, a deputy sheriff, was killed, had given offense to this new and potent organization. It would be out of place, in a history of Albany County, to detail the successes or the defeats of this organization in other counties or in the State, or its fate in the Legislature, or its decline as a political body. It is sufficient to say that the landholders' party, as a political organization, with its organ, the *Freeholder*, died out gradually, and that the contest subsequently became strictly legal in its character.

Among the conditions contained in the manorial grants in fee, as well in Albany as in other counties, was a provision that the grantee, his heirs or assigns, was to pay to the lord or proprietor of the manor, on every sale or vendition of the land *ad infinitum*, one-quarter of the purchase price; so that, if a given farm—worth, for instance, $2,000—with all its buildings and other improvements, put on it by the landholder himself, was sold four times, the manor proprietor would get the whole value of the farm, including the improvements; that is, $500 on each vendition, making the full sum of $2,000 on the fourth sale.

Litigation in the courts first assumed shape on this quarter-sale provision in 1848, and in 1852 the question was carried into the Court of Appeals for final adjudication. The ground taken there by the counsel for the landholders in opposition to the quarter-sale was, that the condition was void because it was a fine upon alienation, repugnant to the grant and against public policy; but Judge Ruggles, who delivered the opinion of the court, placed the decision in effect upon the statute of *quia emptores*, which, although he concluded was not in force within the colony, and, therefore, not in the State, yet, in his own words, "that our statutes of escheats and of tenures, the one passed in 1779 and the other in 1787, acting retrospectively, performed the same functions and wrought the same changes in the feudal tenures of this State as the statute of *quia emptores* did in England. They put an end to all feudal tenure between one citizen and another, and substituted in its place a tenure between each landholder and the people in their sovereign capacity; and, by taking away the grantor's reversion or escheat, they removed the entire foundation on which the power of the grantor to restrain alienation by his grantee formerly rested, and they placed the law of this State, in respect to the question in controversy, on the same footing on which the law of England now stands and has stood since the reign of Edward the First"—that is, since 1290, when the statute of *quia emptores* was passed.

Judge Ruggles also said: "The right of re-entry for non-payment of rent, or the non-performance of other covenants, is not such an interest in the estate as makes the condition in question valid. It is not a reversion, nor is it a possibility of reversion, nor is it any estate in the land." And again he said: "A rent is not a reversion or a possibility of reversion, and nothing but such a reversionary interest in the land has ever been held to authorize a condition against alienation."

And Judge Ruggles adds, in the same opinion, that, although the quarter-sale condition is valid in leases for lives and years, for there the lessor has a reversionary interest in the land, yet on conveyances in fee it is void, for he has no reversionary interest left. And such was the unanimous judgment of the Court of Appeals; and so ended all further enforcement of this hoary-headed exaction.

The life and soul of this decision is this: the manor proprietors by sale and conveyance of their lands in fee divested themselves of all estate in the lands, and no relationship whatever of a legal character thenceforth existed between them and their grantees. They were not landlords, and the grantees were not tenants; for it is idle to call him landlord who does not own the land, and him tenant who does own it. And so quarter-sale con-

dition died, and by parity of reasoning so died also all other attempted feudal restrictions, by way of covenants or conditions in deeds in fee, to free commerce in manor or other lands in the State of New York.

The Court of Appeals at the time of this decision was composed of the following Judges: Charles H. Ruggles, Chief Judge, and Addison Gardner, Freeborn G. Jewett, Alexander S. Johnson, John W. Edmonds, Malbone Watson, Philo Gridley and Henry Welles, Judges.

The Court of Appeals, in a subsequent decision, pronounced in 1859, by Judge Denio, dissented from the opinion of Judge Ruggles with respect to the existence of the statute of *quia emptores* here, and held that that statute was always the law of the colony, and that it was the law of the State as well before as after the passage of our act concerning tenures in 1787. "A contrary theory," said Judge Denio, "would lead to the most absurd conclusions. We should have to hold that the feudal system, during the whole colonial period, and for the first ten years of the State government, existed here in a condition of vigor, which had been unknown in England for more than three centuries before the first settlement of this country."

After the decision of the Court of Appeals in 1852, the Van Rensselaers and other manor proprietors were advised by their counsel to sell, as it was evident that the other feudal conditions, such as the payment of wheat in bushels, fat fowls, days' service with carriage and horses and the like, contained in the conveyances, and forfeiture of the land in case of non-payment, must rest and be rejected upon the same principle as the quarter-sale condition, to wit, want of relation of landlord and tenant between the parties; for if that relationship did not exist in the one case, it was obvious that it did not exist in the other, and could not, therefore, exist at all.

While the manor proprietors, tired of the long continued resistance and the failure to collect alleged rents, had, previously to 1852, in a few intances, sold to some submissive landholders the soil of their farms, as it was called, they now, under the adverse litigation attending the quarter sale, on the advice of counsel mentioned, expressed a willingness to sell at prices ridiculously small, if they really believed the rents claimed were legal and collectable; and speculators or adventurers in numbers, ever ready to take chances, however desperate, or, if possibly successful, however detrimental to the general welfare, pressed forward to buy; and they bought. The chief or principal purchaser was Walter S. Church, then of Allegany County, New York.

It must be here observed, once for all, that the term speculator or adventurer in this case is not made use of in an invidious or offensive sense, or even reproachfully, but by way of designation or discrimination. He is not an inheritor of manorial rights, and he does not take by devise. He simply comes in as a stranger on speculation, and buys casual or disputed claims, as he would buy lottery tickets or stocks in Wall street. He is, therefore, a speculator or adventurer in the contest, in which he purchases chances. If successful in the venture, his fortune is made, and he can take his ease, and live and spend and entertain freely and handsomely. If unsuccessful, he is no worse off than other speculators who spend on a hazard all, perhaps, they possess, and all they can borrow.

The last mentioned purchaser or speculator has, for more than thirty years, made a busy and troublous time of the venture for himself and for the landholders.

That he has been indefatigable in it, is saying little. His labors and his activity have been immense, and his presence, wherever or however required to promote or protect his interest, has been almost ubiquitous. Did the controversy drift into the Legislature, as it did from time to time, he confronted it there, at every step, with an energy untiring and sleepless, and open house and ample table as potent auxiliaries. When it went into the courts in the form of multiplied ejectment suits, prosecuted under his personal direction and in his interest, he was there alike active, untiring and vigilant; and it must be written, or this historical sketch will be imperfect, honored judges did not deem it improper, and have not considered it incompatible with their position, to accept the proffered hospitalities of his bachelor home, partake of his sumptuous repasts, sip his costly wines, and receive his courtly attentions; and distinguished lawyers, and lawyers engaged in the cases against the landholders, have participated in the entertainments; even Governors and Lieutenant-Governors have not refused to join in them.

It may be said that these social entertainments have exercised no control in the judgments pronounced by the courts. That may be so. But in cases involving civil rights, the forfeiture of real property and enormous pecuniary exactions besides, it cannot be expected that the landholders, victims in the actions, have regarded their possible influence with indifference. In a great controversy like this, in which judgments are given upon the

statutes of landlord and tenant—where such statutes cannot possibly apply—the rule of *stare decisis* should not be allowed to prevail; and therefore the judges should keep their minds open to further argument and decision, without possible bias in any way or from any direction; for it has been well said that a single decision has never, in any case, been allowed to stand if found opposed to principle, and in a conflict of decisions the doctrine of *stare decisis* does not hold.

It is familiar to every well-read lawyer that there are hundreds of cases in the books that have stood settled as law for centuries, which have been overturned by the broad, luminous and analytical mind of a Mansfield or a Marshall, a Spencer or a Kent—intellects which have elevated and ennobled the race, not debased and degraded it—and it will scarcely do to say that this generation of judges is infallible, or wiser and greater than those illustrious prototypes.

If it be asked how the controversy has progressed since the purchase by the adventurers, and how it stands to-day between them and the landholders, it may be summed up briefly.

In 1858, in the case of Van Rensselaer against Ball, first, among many cases, that went to the Court of Appeals after decision in the quarter-sale suit, the right of the manor proprietors, or the purchasers of their interest, to maintain actions of ejectment against the landholders, was put by that Court, in the opinion written by Judge Denio, before alluded to, upon a statute passed by the Legislature in 1805, authorizing grantors of lands to have the same remedies for the recovery of rents as if the reversion had remained in them.

Now, this statute was passed after the manor proprietors had sold their lands, with scarcely an exception, and could not, therefore, be legitimately employed in the office it was called on to perform; that is, it could not confer a right if none existed before. But this was not all; Judge Denio then proceeded to apply the statutes of landlord and tenant to the cases, after he had demonstrated beyond all contradiction that these statutes could not by any possibility be made to apply, in consequence of the prohibitory statute of *quia emptores*, and our statutes of tenures and escheats.

This decision so shocked the public conscience, that the Legislature in 1860 promptly repealed the statute of 1805, so far as conveyances executed before that time were concerned.

After that statute was repealed, the feudal rent litigation was renewed; and other cases, having gone through the lower courts, were carried to the Court of Appeals for renewed decision, where they were decided in 1863. That Court then took a new departure, and held that the statute of 1805 was not necessary to the maintenance of the actions, but that the provisions of a statute enacted in 1846, abolishing distress for rent, and for other purposes—a statute passed in the interest of the landholders, through the agency of their own representatives in the Legislature—supplied the place of the statute of 1805. The opinion in the case was written by Judge Henry R. Selden.

Judge Selden, after relying on the statute of 1846, as Judge Denio had done on the statute of 1805, to sustain the actions, undertakes to uphold them on the strength of an opinion expressed by Sugden in his work on "Vendors and Purchasers," and on two or three controverted English cases. But neither Sugden nor the disputed cases advance the idea, or even hint at it, that there can be any forfeiture of land for non-payment of rent, outside the relation of landlord and tenant; and it may be asserted, without fear of contradiction, that no case can be found, English or American, *where re-entry, or ejectment for default in the payment of rent, has been had or allowed, except where the relation of landlord and tenant existed, or was supposed to exist.*

It has been shown that the decision in the case of Ball, in 1859, in which Judge Denio wrote the opinion—is no exception to this rule—for the judgment in that case was expressly affirmed, by help of the statute of 1805, upon the statutes of landlord and tenant. And Judge Selden, in his opinion in the Reid case, written in 1863, is forced finally to admit and declare that the actions are not maintainable, except the relation of landlord and tenant exists between the parties. His very language is here copied, and is as follows: "*In many cases in our courts, between parties similarly situated, they have been spoken of and treated as landlords and tenants, and the decisions in the cases of Van Rensselaer v. Snyder (13 N. Y., 299) and Van Rensselaer v. Ball (19 N. Y., 100) can be sustained on no other ground, as they depended entirely upon a statute applicable only to parties holding that relation (2 R. S., p. 505, § 30).*"

Of the eight judges who composed the Court of Appeals in 1863, when Judge Selden wrote his opinion, it is notable that two of the most distinguished Judges of the Court, Wright and Rosekranz, who heard the arguments, refused to take part in the decision. They could not be brought to assent to the remarkable doctrines announced by Judge Selden.

Upon this indefensible assumption by Judge Selden of the relationship of landlord and tenant between the parties to this controversy (where such relationship does not exists), hangs the enormous exactions thereafter, and even now, bitterly wrung from the cultivators of lands absolutely owned by themselves.

The workings of the system, thus naugurated by the Court of Appeals, may be illustrated by a few out of many examples :

On the 17th day of February, 1860, one of the coldest days of the winter, the principal adventurer in the claims, accompanied by the Sheriff and his *posse*, some fourteen or fifteen in number, armed with pistols and clubs, and handcuffs to bind any that might be found to oppose, made a sudden descent upon the farm and premises of Peter Ball, situated on the Helderbergs, near the village of Berne. The farm had been his and his forefathers for generations, but then and there, in the midst of a furious mountain snow-storm, they cast him, with his family, consisting of his wife, a sick daughter and an aged colored servant, from the dwelling, out upon the public highway.

The value of this farm, within the very limits of the village, with its new, convenient and handsome dwelling-house, and other improvements, made by Peter Ball himself, was very considerable. It was one of the most desirable and picturesque places on the Helderbergs ; and as the poor old people, the sick daughter and the aged servant were forced to leave, their cries and their tears touched many a tender heart.

It may be truthfully asserted that when the Patroon sold his lands on the Helderbergs, there was not probably an acre that was worth more than twenty-five cents. The value was given afterward by the buildings and other improvements put upon the lands by the purchasers.

It was necessary, it was said, to make an example of Peter Ball, because he had been a leading and persistent anti-renter, for the influence it might exert at the time upon other anti-renters to come forward and settle exacted claims.

Martinus Lansing, whose extensive farm lay on the east or Greenbush side of the river, in view, probably, from the pinnacles of the Capitol, beneath which, in august dignity, now sits the Court of Appeals, is a more recent and flagrant case of dispossession. On this farm, worth not less than twenty-five thousand dollars, it has been estimated there was an unpaid rent claim of about eight hundred dollars. Mr. Lansing was required to pay six thousand dollars to be reinstated. He paid four thousand dollars, and because he did not promptly pay the other two thousand, although he subsequently offered to pay it, and the payment was refused, he and his family were removed from their dwelling-house by an armed body of officers and men. The great farm, with all its buildings and other improvements, put on it by Mr. Lansing's forefathers, with extensive additions and betterments by Mr. Lansing himself, was immediately taken possession of by the chief speculator ; and he is to-day occupying the fine dwellings and large barns, and planting and reaping the broad acres, and pocketing the fruits, rejoicing in the great acquisition, and making exhibitions of it to admiring friends.

The reader will not be surprised to learn that Mr. Lansing died of a broken heart, poor and penniless, and that his unmarried daughters, forced to support themselves as best they may, or dependent upon the liberality of relatives, have suffered a desolation, distress and mortification over which sympathetic neighbors and friends have dropped many a tear of charity.

Another case of dispossession was that of William Witbeck, of Greenbush, whose farm lay west of Mr. Lansing's, and nearer the river. The Olcott place, which occupies a site commanding a view of all Albany, forms in part its western boundary.

As a grass and stock farm, with its buildings and other improvements put on by the Witbeck family, it was very valuable—worth not less, probably, than fifteen thousand dollars.

Witbeck had paid all assumed rent claims against this farm, but there was yet unpaid, it seemed, the costs of the ejectment suit, amounting perhaps to one hundred and fifty dollars. These, by some oversight, had not been paid. They might have been collected at any moment upon execution, if Witbeck had refused to pay, as he had much cattle and other property on this and other farms in the same neighborhood. But this was not what the principal speculator in fee-farm rents was seeking. Witbeck, he insisted had been contumacious, and had forfeited his right to retain the farm, and he declared his intention, therefore, to take possession. For this purpose Hiram Griggs, a deputy of the Sheriff of Rensselaer County, with an armed posse, was dispatched to take possession. Witbeck, as he had given out he would do, resisted, and in the encounter which followed Griggs was shot, and subsequently died. Witbeck and his two sons were arrested and indicted for Griggs' murder. They were tried in Saratoga County, and were acquitted. In the meantime, secured against further resistance, the speculator obtained peaceable possession of the

farm, and he retains it to this day, with its bountiful ingathering of harvests and fruits.

Such are some of the results of landlord and tenant statutes, where such statutes do not apply. It is the merciless taking and appropriation of land (by judicial accomplishment), with all the buildings and other improvements, put on it by the owners themselves, which never belonged to the manor or proprietors nor to the purchasing speculators; here in the State of New York, near the close of the nineteenth century, in a manner equal to anything in atrocity that could have occurred in the barbarous ages of the ninth century, when feudalism was first forced on allodial soil and on free men.

The system of swooping in farms, with the buildings and other improvements, now practiced, under the same incongruous statutes, (made possible by the like judicial action) may be illustrated by the method in which it is done:

Ejectment suits are brought to recover one year's rent claimed to be due—generally the last year—and recovery of possession of the farm for non-payment. The landholder, on prosecution, goes to the office in Albany to pay the year's rent sued for, and the costs of the action. Payment will not be accepted unless he will also pay all rents claimed to be in arrear; it may be for fifteen or twenty, perhaps thirty years. The landholder remonstrates, on the ground, as often happens, that he has only owned the farm a few years, and should not be asked to pay longer than he has owned. He is told that that makes no difference; the farm is liable, whoever may have been the owner, and he must pay all rents claimed or lose the farm. On inquiry as to the amount claimed, he is startled to learn that it exceeds the value of the farm, perhaps, with all the buildings and other improvements. That result is brought about by charging the fullest prices for the wheat, the fat fowls and the days' service with carriage and horses, with annual accumulations of interest on each. It is the old story; the successors of the old Patroon chastised the landholders with whips; the adventurers chastise them with scorpions.

The distressed farmer, sued for one year's rent, goes home and communicates to his astonished family the ruin that impends over their peaceful habitation; and ruin promptly comes in the person of the speculator, with the sheriff and *posse* at his back, who speedily close the scene upon the wretched family by pitiless dispossession unless every claim be paid.

The prices of rents claimed have been greatly increased by the speculators since the days of the Patroons; then the fat fowls and the days' service with carriage and horses, etc., were put at uniform rates of moderate character; now they are advanced to the extremest tension. It is this feature of the fee-farm rent system, among others, which makes it so bitter, harsh and unendurable. In cases between landlord and tenant, where that relationship actually exists, the landlord must specify in his petition or complaint the exact amount of rent claimed to be due, so that the tenant may know what he has to pay, and he pays it, or leaves the premises at his option, to which premises the tenant makes no claim, for he never owned them. He has added nothing to their value by buildings or other improvements, and he leaves them without loss or distress.

Very different from this is it with the fee-farm rent system. Here the courts do not require the speculators, on prosecution, to fix the amount of rent claimed to be due. That is left to their tender mercy after they have got their ejectment judgment; and if the landholder don't then pay as required, he loses his farm, with all the buildings and other improvements put upon it by himself. These buildings and other improvements, even more valuable, perhaps, than the land itself, the Court of Appeals declared in 1852, in the opinion delivered by Judge Ruggles in the quarter-sale suit, never belonged to the manor proprietors, and certainly, therefore, never belonged to the speculators in the manor claims. Yet these speculators are now allowed, under the statutes of landlord and tenant (with assistance of the courts), to take the buildings and other improvements as well as the land itself, which the Court of Appeals, in 1852, as above declared never belonged to the manor proprietors.

This category of the fee-farm rent system places it in a light of terrific injustice.

It may be asserted, boldly and unflinchingly, that the declaration of the Court of Appeals, before mentioned and transcribed, *that because, in many cases, the parties to this controversy have been spoken of and treated as landlords and tenants, therefore,* their *status* as *such is forever fixed and cannot be changed, where that relationship does not exist, is judicial legislation and tyranny.**

* This language is used advisedly. Writers on social science concede that the courts in this country have assumed legislative power. Lester F. Ward, A.M., of the Smithsonian Institution, in a recent work on "Dynamic Sociology," says: "There are two classes of law-making bodies—courts and legislatures. The growth of law through the courts is almost unrecognized by the people at large; yet its development by this agency is, perhaps, more rapid than by legislation." The author is inclined to approve this usurpation, unmindful that judicial legislation is insidious despotism, paving the way for imperialism; destructive assuredly of our system of government described by President Lincoln as the "government of the people, by the people, for the people."

This judicial legislation on this rent question makes him who does not own the land, landlord, and him who does own it, tenant, and gives the former the latter's land, with all the buildings and other improvements, without compensation.

The question admits of no dispute, and is of ready solution: it is determined by inalienable law, and all the courts in the civilized world cannot controvert or change it.

Suppose a man, owning one of these manor farms, dies without will, and without heirs, lineal or collateral, to inherit, to whom does the farm escheat or revert, to the manor lord, or in this case to the speculator who has purchased his interest, or to the people of the State in their sovereign capacity? Every tyro in the law knows that it goes to the people. Why? Because the reversion or escheat of all lands held in fee is in the State.

This point may be further illustrated by the manner in which the taxes upon these "anti-rent" lands are assessed and paid; which is matter of interest to distressed taxpayers generally, and to opponents of non-taxable Government bonds. The speculators have never been assessed for or paid any taxes on these lands which they claim to own as landlords over a peasant tenantry. If it be said that the manor proprietors, or the speculators who have purchased from them, are not bound to pay the taxes because of the original indentures by which the farms were acquired, that does not obviate the difficulty of the assessment of the taxes. If the speculators were the owners of the lands, the assessment would be levied against them as the owners; whereas, it is a well-known fact that such taxes have always been assessed to and paid by the farmers, as the owners in fee of the lands, and not as tenants either of the manor proprietors or of the speculators. The speculators have not only paid no tax or assessment of any kind on these "anti-rent" farms, but they have successfully resisted the payment of any tax on the vast amounts of rents which they have collected from the owners of these lands, as the tax receivers in the towns will testify. Hence it has now come to be understood that the speculators have here, under the ægis of the courts, a bonanza; a property superior to any other in the country; far better than non-taxable United States bonds, for they have a limit of existence, while this rent exaction is claimed to be indestructible; assuming always that the decisions of the courts are never to be reversed on this question.

The people of the State, therefore, are landlords of all these manor lands, as well as of all other lands held in fee, and no individual grantor, be he whom he may, has the slightest interest or possibility of interest in any land after he has made a deed of conveyance thereof.

Servitude to the soil in perpetuity, or involuntary servitude (better known to early ages as feudal servitude, the lords in which were known as lords superior, and the cultivators of the land as vassals, feuds or bondsmen), was imposed upon France by despotic rulers in the ninth century. It was brought from Normandy and planted on the allodial soil of England in the eleventh century by William the Conqueror. It was extirpated thence, in 1290, by the statute of *quia emptores*.

That statute was the law of the colony of New York, and it and tantamount statutes have always been the law of the State. Yet the degrading system, attempted to be fastened upon the eastern counties of New York by pseudo-Patroons and manor lords, has been actually fastened upon them by judicial legislation, under anomolous statutes of landlord and tenant, where such statutes do not and cannot be made to apply, even by legislative enactment; for our Legislature is not omnipotent, like the British Parliament, but is controlled in its action by both national and State constitutions.

Whether the system is to be perpetuated for the benefit of the speculators and their assigns, or their posterity, by judicial fiat, remains to be seen.

However that may be, candid and generous men will acknowledge that to the derided "anti-renters" must be accorded the honor of arresting the progress over the continent of this revival of mediæval despotism; for there is no telling to what length it might have extended over land in vast tracts, comprising millions of acres, held by corporations and wealthy capitalists, had it not been for the determined and world-wide known resolute resistance to the enslaving system by anti-renters of the State of New York.

Through their sturdy resistance, the constitutional convention of 1846 put the system under ban for all future time throughout this commonwealth, whence it is not likely ever to have further resurrection.

THE MANOR AND THE VAN RENSSELAERS.

By Prof. J. TENNEY.

A HISTORY ought to be fair and unprejudiced; and on a question which has caused so much political and legal strife as was made by the contest between the opposing claimants upon the manorial estates in Albany County, under the Van Rensselaer leases or deeds, both sides should be permitted to make the amplest statements. With this view, I had early and frequent conversations with Mr. A. J. Colvin and Mr. C. M. Jenkins, lawyers upon opposite sides of the controversy when it was in the courts; both eminent for learning and ability; both natives of the county, and now among the few still living, at a venerable age, who knew the whole matter from their personal and local relations to it. I invited both to present, in writing, the historical and legal points in a controversy that, in its day, in this locality, was hardly excelled by that of anti-slavery in intensity of interest. Mr. Colvin only has responded to my request, giving, from his view-point, the only consecutive and detailed account of the contest in its historical and legal aspects, and in its progressive steps and present status, that has ever been given. The preceding article commends itself by its clear statements of both sides of the question, by its forcible arguments, and its evident desire to be fair to all parties and true to history.

The student of history will be interested in the facts which we give below, gathered as reminiscences from some of the oldest living lawyers, and from other reliable sources.

Alexander Hamilton, brother-in-law of Gen. Stephen Van Rensselaer, the "old Patroon," is said to have been his early legal counsel after he came in possession of the manor, in 1785. After the death of Hamilton, in 1804, if not before that event, John V. Henry, who died in 1829, and Abraham Van Vechten, who died in 1837, among the most eminent lawyers of their time, were employed as his counsel. It is said he paid them each a salary of $1,000 per annum. The following anecdote has been given: About 1815, Mr. Van Rensselaer notified Mr. Henry that he could no longer pay his salary. "Very well," replied Mr. H., "then I shall be at liberty to accept a retainer from your tenants, and I will then show you that they are no longer your tenants, but the owners of the lands." The stipend was continued to the close of Mr. Henry's life.

Teunis Van Vechten succeeded Abraham Van Vechten as the Patroon's counsel. Then Teunis Van Vechten formed a copartnership with Daniel Cady, the distinguished lawyer, and they became the counsel of the new manor proprietors on the Albany side of the river, and David Buel, of Troy, on the east side of the river. Jonathan Jenkins, of Rensselaerville, father of Charles M. Jenkins, acted as counsel for the "old Patroon," and later for the "young Patroon," in the country, while the Van Vechtens were acting as such in Albany.

After the decision in 1852, in the quarter-sale suit, it was David Buel, of Troy, one of the most able real estate lawyers in the State, who publicly declared that that decision put an end to the rent controversy, and he would never after that defend further any of the manor cases.

The lawyers that argued the quarter-sale case for the so-called tenants, were Henry Hogeboom, of Hudson, and Azor Taber, of Albany, a native of Knox. Josiah Sutherland, of New York, afterward a Supreme Court Judge, argued the case for the manor proprietors.

After the decision of this case, Andrew J. Colvin, of Albany, and Anson Bingham, of Nassau, Rensselaer County, were employed in a number of cases arising out of these claims for rents; Mr. Colvin taking the Albany County cases, and Mr. Bingham those of Rensselaer County. They took the position that, if the quarter sales were invalid, so were the rents in bushels of wheat, fat fowls, days' service, and such like, on the same grounds, viz.: that the manor proprietors had sold their lands, not leased them. This led to acquaintance between these gentlemen, and finally to a copartnership, with office in Albany. The first of their suits which went to the Court of Appeals were the Ball and Hayes cases, decided by that Court in 1859, Judge Denio writing the opinion. Associated as counsel with Colvin and Bingham, and present in

Court at the argument, were William M. Evarts, of New York, and Nicholas Hill and John H. Reynolds, of Albany; Mr. Bingham and Mr. Reynolds making the argument for the farmers, and Mr. Charles M. Jenkins, of Albany, of the firm of Jenkins & Cooper, for the rent claimants.

Some years afterward, Mr. Peter Cagger became the lawyer for the rent claimants; then Samuel Hand, with Mr. Cagger; then Hand & Hale and Schwartz; then Mr. Rufus W. Peckham; then Peckham & Rosendale; and finally Rosendale and Hessberg, who now act as attorneys for Walter S. Church.

THE LEGAL POINTS.

The historical sketch of anti-rentism by Mr. Colvin, and the novel legal questions growing out of it, have induced me, at the suggestion of some legal friends, to look over the briefs or points of the counsel on the argument of the Ball and Hayes cases and the decision of the Court of Appeals in those cases, made in 1859. On examining these points on both sides, I found them elaborated by extensive arguments and citation of authorities. Deprived of the prolixity of legal technicality, the pith of the points appears to be as follows :

Mr. Jenkins, who made the argument for the manor proprietors, or those who purchased their interest, presented, in substance, the following propositions : 1. That, while by the Van Rensselaer indentures, the grantees or purchasers took an estate in fee or of inheritance in the land conveyed, yet taken and held under agreement expressed in the conveyances, to yield and pay rent, the fee was conditional and defeasible and not absolute. 2. That reversion, or the relation of landlord and tenant, was not necessary to sustain the actions, because of the contract by which the grantees or purchasers agreed, for themselves and their assigns, to pay the rents, whereby such rents became annexed to the land and passed with it as part of the tenure by which it was held. 3. But if these positions were untenable, then Mr. Jenkins submitted that the relation of landlord and tenant existed between the manor proprietors and their grantees, and between the assigns of each, because the King, as lord paramount, had here erected and granted to the original proprietor or patentee under the British Crown, a lordship and manor to all intents and purposes; and thereby licensed the Patroon to be chief lord of the fee or manor, with power to make tenants in fee or perpetuity, holding of him; and, therefore, the statute of *quia emptores* never applied to this, the manor of Rensselaerwyck.

The answer of the opposing counsel in substance was, that the manor of Rensselaerwyck was not and never had been a lordship in fee, and was not excepted from the operation of the statute of *quia emptores ;* that Mr. Van Rensselaer was simply an individual and not a chief lord, and was, therefore, like other individuals, subject to the operations of the statute. That statute made it impossible for him on the sale of his lands, to make, or attach to the conveyances by agreement, conditions for the payment of rents of any description, and forfeiture of the lands for non-payment. It was out of his power on absolute sale to make a conditional or defeasible estate or fee for non-payment of rent, whatever the language of the conveyances. There was no escaping or avoiding the force of the statute by any contract contrived or entered into by the parties to overthrow its effect. Its essence was explicit and might be put in the following language : "Individuals may lease their lands for life or lives, or for years, and attach thereto covenants and conditions for payment of rent, but they shall not do it if they sell their lands." Covenants and conditions are allowable between landlord and tenant, but impossible between seller and purchaser of lands. So much, and just so much, was resolved and accomplished by the statute of *quia emptores*, in uprooting the feudal system ; and Mr. Van Rensselaer having sold, and not leased, his lands, was prohibited from burdening them with conditions for rent payments.

In deciding these cases, the Court of Appeals, as expressed in the opinion of Judge Denio, held that this statute—the statute of *quia emptores*—was always the law of the colony and that it had always been the law of the State; and as Mr. Van Rensselaer had sold his lands, and not leased them, he brought himself within the principles of its provisions. His grantees became owners of the lands, and not tenants, and the relation of landlord and tenant never subsisted between him and them; and, therefore, it was impossible to put on the lands, when sold, conditions for the payment of rents. Any mind can see that such is the inevitable corollary from this decision.

It would seem to the common-sense mind that this announcement put an end judicially, not only to the Ball and Hayes cases, but to the anti-rent controversy as well. Not so, however. Judge Denio announced the judgment of the Court against Ball and Hayes upon the condition contained in the conveyances, as though it had been made between parties occupying the relation of landlord and tenant; and as though Ball and Hayes

were tenants and the manor proprietors and the purchasers of their interest were landlords; for he applied to the cases the remedies for the recovery of rent provided by the Revised Statutes by a landlord against his tenant, on a term for years.

The state of the controversy now seems to be this: No landlord and tenant in law, but landlord and tenant to collect rents.

THE PATROONS.

I.—KILLIAN, son of Hendrick and Maria (Pafraats) Van Rensselaer, pearl and diamond merchant of Amsterdam, Holland, was a man of character and substance, of ancient family, descended in the thirteenth generation from Henry Wolters Van Rensselaer. He was a director in the Dutch West India Company, of the Amsterdam Chamber, established in 1621, and was one of the foremost in availing himself of the advantages of the "Charter of Privileges and Exemptions," passed by the States General in 1629, for the encouragement of Patroons to settle colonies in the New Netherlands. It does not appear that he ever saw the rich and extended territory, twenty-four miles up and down the Hudson and twenty-four miles on either side of that noble river, which came into his possession. But, by the aid of his co-directors and his agent, Wouter Van Twiller, and others, he gained lawful possession by extinguishing the Indian titles, securing patents and fulfilling, as nearly as could then be done, the conditions as to colonial settlements on his vast acres, within the limited time. His patents gave him feudal honors and powers. He freely assisted his immigrant farmers with stock, tools, clothing, provisions and even money, until they got a fair start. He leased his lands on certain stipulated conditions, which do not seem very hard, and we have no evidence that he was, in any way, disposed to be oppressive. His policy was not to sell his lands, but to allow them to pass, according to the laws of primogeniture of that day, to the eldest son or heir, with all their privileges and exemptions and increased values. At first he reserved all rights in trade, including the trade in furs with the Indians; but these were so modified about 1638, as to become open and free to all settlers. Many of them neglected farming and engaged in the more profitable fur trade. The Patroon also reserved all mines, which were never of value in this county; and all mill privileges, which he improved by erecting grain and lumber-mills, of great utility to himself and the settlers.

Killian married, first, Hillegonda Van Bylet, by whom he had one son, John or Johannes. For his second wife, he married Anna Van Wely, by whom he had eight children, viz.: 1, Maria; 2, Jeremias, who married Maria Van Cortlandt; 3, Hillegonda; 4, Jan or John Baptiste, who married Susan Van Wely; 5, Eleanora; 6, Susan, who married Jan de la Court; 7, Nicolaus or Nicholas, who married Alida Schuyler; 8, Ryckert or Richard, who married Anna Van Beaumont. Killian died in 1646, without sight of the promised land, and was succeeded by

II.—JOHN or JOHANNES, his eldest son, then a minor. We find some mention of him in certain official or business papers, but learn of nothing done by him, except that he married his cousin, Elizabeth Van Twiller, and had a son named Killian, who died early and without issue. He never came to Rensselaerwyck. The plucky Brant Van Schlechtenhorst had charge of his interests in the manor about six years, until 1652, when he was succeeded by Patroon John's brother, Jan Baptiste, as director.

In 1658, JEREMIAS succeeded his brother, Jan Baptiste, as director, and finally became proprietor. He held his position sixteen years, until his death, October 12, 1674. He is reported to have been a man of learning for his times, and much wisdom. He discharged his trust with great acceptance to all who were immediately interested. The contest for rights claimed by Governor Stuyvesant, the director of the West India Company, is discussed in the chapter entitled Rensselaerwyck and Beverwyck, pp. 49–67.

When, in almost the last extremity, under the Stuyvesant dynasty, a General Assembly of delegates from all the towns and colonies was called, to meet at New Amsterdam, in the City Hall, April 10, 1664, Rensselaerwyck was represented by Jeremias Van Rensselaer and Dirck Van Schelluyne, and Fort Orange by Jan Verbeeck and Gerrit Schlechtenhorst. Van Rensselaer was made president of this convention of twenty-two members. It adjourned without giving any support to Stuyvesant and the West India Company.

When Fort Orange surrendered to the English, on demand, September 24, 1664, and was named Fort Albany, Jeremias Van Rensselaer peaceably took the oath of allegiance to Charles II and James, Duke of York and Albany. No change was then made by the English proprietor James, as to the rights and privileges of the lord of the manor of Rensselaerwyck.

Jeremias, two years before this, July 12, 1662, had married Maria Van Cortlandt, who survived him fifteen years. She died January 29, 1689. They had two sons: Killian, born August 24, 1663, and Hendrick, born October 23, 1667. This family had its home in Greenbush. When Jeremias died, October 12, 1674, his eldest son was in his twelfth year, and as eldest surviving male descendant in the line of Patroons of his generation, was the heir apparent to the manor. Jan Baptiste, who returned to Holland and died in 1678, had released all his rights in the manor to this Killian. The heirs of the original co-directors of the first Patroon Killian, had sold their claims. Nicholas, the clergyman, who came over from Amsterdam in 1675, and Richard, who came soon after, succeeded their brothers, Jan Baptiste and Jeremias, as directors of the manor during the minority of their nephew, the heir to Rensselaerwyck. Madam Van Rensselaer acted as treasurer of this colonie, and her brother, Stephen Van Cortlandt, had charge of the books.

III.—KILLIAN, son of Jeremias, born August 24, 1663, was the first Patroon who resided in the manor. His house was probably situated near where the Patroons have ever since resided. He came to his trust in 1684, and held it during those troublous times, so far as we can learn, with much discretion and approbation. The patent was confirmed to him by the Duke of York, October 17, 1685, and reconfirmed by Queen Anne, May 20, 1704. Before this time, Jeremias had represented to the English government that the manor included Fort Orange and vicinity, territory which Stuyvesant had claimed as belonging to the Dutch West India Company, and had forcibly seized, set-off, and held by military possession. It was his request that the government look into the matter and restore to the Patroon his territorial rights. The decision of the English crown "upon a perusal of the Ranslaer's papers," was in favor of the claim of the Patroon, "that it did belong to them." The injustice and arrogance of Stuyvesant was discovered. Says Gov. Dongan, "The town of Albany lyes within the Ranslaer's colony." "They settled the place." Orders were issued to put the Patroon in possession of Albany, and conditions of rent were fixed "that every house should pay, some two beavers—some more, some less, according to their dimensions—per annum, for twenty years, and afterwards the Ranssalears to put what rent upon them they could agree for." These orders were placed in the hands of Gov. Andros, but not put in execution. When the honest Dongan became governor of the province the orders were brought to him. He frankly declined putting them in execution for this very sensible reason: "I thought it not convenient to execute, judging it not for his majesty's interest that the second town in the government, and which brings his majesty so great a revenue, should be in the hands of any particular men." But, wishing justice and peace, he adds: "By meanes of Mr. James Graham, Judge Palmer and Mr. Cortlandt, that have great influence on that people, I got the Ranslaers to release their pretense to the town and sixteen miles into the country for commons to the King, with the liberty to cut firewood within the colony for one and twenty years. After I had obtained this release of the Ranslaers I passed the patent for Albany." Albany received its charter July 22, 1686, and thus early was it done because of the magnanimous generosity of the Van Rensselaers and the sagacity of Gov. Thomas Dongan.

Killian II, probably, came in possession as sole proprietor and lord of the manor on attaining his majority in 1684. He conveyed to his brother Hendrick, June 1, 1704, a few days after his patent was fully confirmed by Queen Anne, all of Claverack or the lower manor, and 1,500 acres of the upper manor, including an island in the Hudson, and Greenbush running back one mile. He seems to have been a man of public trust and influence. In 1693 he was Captain of a troop of horse and Justice of the Peace. During the time of Leisler he was strenuously opposed to his government, and went as delegate to Connecticut to secure military aid in the troubles that threatened Albany. From 1691 to 1703 he represented Rensselaerwyck in the Provincial Assembly, and was a member of the Council from 1704 to 1719. The important office of Indian Commissioner was held by him from 1706 to 1720.

His will, made in 1718, was proved May 10, 1720, probably soon after the date of his decease, at the age of 57. He married Maria Van Cortlandt, October 15, 1701, by whom he had nine children, six of whom survived him. From him and his brother Hendrick, of Greenbush, who married Catharine Van Brugh, came all the blood of the Van Rensselaers in this country.

IV.—STEPHEN I, son of Killian and Maria (Van Cortlandt) Van Rensselaer, was born March 23, 1707. He became Patroon in 1728, eight years after the death of his father, and married Elizabeth Groesbeck, July 5, 1729. They had six children, besides others that died in early infancy. Among these were Elizabeth, born July 12, 1734, who became,

in 1753, the wife of that eminent man, Gen. Abraham Ten Broeck, and Stephen, who succeeded his father. Of Stephen I we find no record of public office, except that of Indian Commissioner in 1745. He was seemingly a modest, quiet man, faithfully devoted to the interests of his princely territory. He was buried at the Mills, July 1, 1747, at the age of 40. His wife, Elizabeth, was buried December 31, 1756.

V.—Stephen II, son of Stephen and Elizabeth, was born June 2, 1742, and came to his manorial trust in 1763. His health was feeble and his life was short. He died of pulmonary disease in 1769, at the age of 27. January 23, 1764, he married Catharine, daughter of Philip Livingston, the Albany signer of the Declaration of Independence. One daughter and two illustrious sons were the fruit of this marriage: Stephen, the sixth Patroon, and Philip Schuyler, born April 15, 1756. Philip S. held many important trusts, among which was that of Mayor of Albany for nineteen years, from 1799 to 1816, and 1819 to 1821. In 1765, that grand old structure, the present manor-house, so long the abode of plenty, refinement, intelligence and hospitality, was erected by Stephen II. It took the place of a building situated near by, which had, for many years, been the family home of the patroons, and was so arranged as to serve the Purpose of a fortress as well as of a dwelling. His widow, Catharine, married, in 1775, Rev. Dr. Eilardus Westerlo, for many years pastor of the First Dutch Reformed Church. He died in 1790.

VI.—Stephen III, son of Stephen and Catharine (Livingston) Van Rensselaer, was born November 1, 1764. At the age of five years he was an orphan. Gen. Ten Broeck, his uncle by marriage, was his guardian during his minority. During some of his early years he was under the supervision and direction of his talented and accomplished mother, whose influence did much to give bent to his life in those elements of religious faith and regard for holy things which always marked his character. His school-days were spent in the school of John Waters, near his home; afterward in Elizabethtown, N. J.; and then in Kingston Academy, where he made preparation for college. One year he spent at Princeton, and then entered Harvard College, where he graduated in 1782. In 1825, Yale conferred upon him the degree of LL. D. Before he was 20, he married Margaret, daughter of Gen. Philip Schuyler, who became the mother of three children, and died March 7, 1801. In May, 1802, he married Cornelia Patterson, of New Jersey, who died August 6, 1844, having given him nine children, four only of whom survived him. His death occurred January 26, 1839, at the age of 75 years. His life was truly full of years and honors, distinguished by usefulness, good examples, public confidence, and the affection of all that best knew him. From his earliest manhood he was a devout and consistent Christian, in the communion of the church of his fatherland and of his fathers. He was a sublime moralist; a patron of learning; a friend of the poor; a kind neighbor; a public-spirited citizen, and an unflinching patriot. He was born under a king; by inheritance a feudal lord of vast wealth; a pronounced advocate of the federal constitution that succeeded the war of revolution, and a zealous politician of the Washington, Adams, Jay and Hamilton school; which, with all its mistakes, was the purest and most intelligent party that ever had a name in our political history.

His policy as a land-holder was to dispose of his large landed estate to actual tillers of the soil. He adopted the plan of offering what were called leases in fee, and at what was considered moderate rent. In this way he succeeded in bringing most of his lands, situated in Albany and Rensselaer Counties, into cultivation. These brought him a good income.

"He had none of that morbid appetite for wealth which grows ravenous by what it feeds on." Nor could he "bring himself to feel and indulge that passion for profit and gain which consumed those around him." Hence, he was a kind, indulgent man with the farmers, whom he regarded as his tenants. He had no schemes for making larger profits, none for mere speculation. He made no change of policy for such purpose. He was always giving to the poor; always forgiving their dues to the unfortunate; always helpful in providing good schools and promoting religious instruction among the manorial farmers. The people all loved him, and often called him "the good Patroon," or "the good old Patroon," as he came to venerable age.

But our space will allow us to name the honorable positions of trust which he held, and scarcely more—positions held to adorn by his character and benefit by his influence. In military life, for which he had no special fondness, he was made a Major in 1786, a Colonel in 1788, and Major-General of cavalry in 1801. As is well known, he reluctantly took command of the militia, as Major-General in the northern department, in the war of 1812, from motives of patriotism and public policy. He was appointed by Governor Tompkins, and did heroic

service at Queenstown and elsewhere. In political life, he was Member of the Assembly in 1789, 1808, 1810 and 1818; of the Senate, from 1791 to 1795; of the Constitutional Convention of 1801 and 1821. He was Lieutenant-Governor, 1796 to 1802; Member of the Council of Appointment in 1792; and of the United States House of Representatives from 1823 to 1829. In 1801, he was the candidate of the Federalists against George Clinton for Governor of the State, and in 1813, against D. D. Tompkins, with a very strong vote. In literature, he was trustee and benefactor of local schools and academies; President of the Albany Institute from 1824 to 1839; a Regent of the University from 1819; and Chancellor from 1835 until his death in 1839. He was on the Erie Canal Commission from 1810, and President of the Canal Board fifteen years. He was one of the founders of the New York State Agricultural Society, and its first President. In Masonry he became Master of the Grand Lodge of the State. In the early banking and railroad movements, and other matters of public improvement, he was among the foremost. The Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, was founded by him; and he was a constant patron of literature and literary men.

When he died, none ever had a simpler funeral. It was his own request. His body was borne to the tomb of his fathers on men's shoulders. The family mourners and the citizens that knew him and loved him so well, followed from the North Dutch Church to his last resting place on foot. There was no parade, no ostentation of any kind. Albany never buried a man who was loved more sincerely or mourned more sorrowfully. In many ways he was a great man; in all ways he was, what is better, a good man.

His estate, under the United States Constitution and the laws of 1787, could not descend to the oldest son. The last Patroon died with him. His landed interests were divided between his sons Stephen and William Patterson, the Albany County lands going to the former; those of Rensselaer County to the latter.

VII.—Stephen IV, only son of Stephen and Margaret (Schuyler) Van Rensselaer, was born March 29, 1789. He had possession of the mansion, and was usually called, by courtesy or custom, "the young Patroon." He married Harriet E. Bayard, of New York, and had eight children, six of whom survived him. His death occurred May 25, 1868, in his eightieth year. He never sought official honors, but lived a quiet and unobtrusive life. He was interested in many charitable objects, and a liberal giver. In the church of his fathers, of which he was a prominent member and officer, he was always valued. He was called General, a title which belonged to him as an officer of that rank in the State militia. The anti-rent controversy, described by Mr. Colvin, broke out and raged in his time.

William Patterson, oldest son of Stephen and Cornelia (Patterson) Van Rensselaer, was born March 6, 1805, and occupied for a time, his lands in Rensselaer County. He built what is now called Forbes Manor for his residence; but never occupied it. He resided, for a while, in the building in Albany now converted into St. Peter's Hospital, and after his financial affairs became complicated, he made his residence in and near New York City, the rest of his life.

Thus closes our brief history of the Patroons—men who held that title for about 238 years, and whose relationship to the landed interests, to the business interests, and, indeed, to every interest in this county, was peculiar and lasting. Taking all in all, they and their descendants generally deserve to be spoken of with respectful consideration, some of them with distinguished gratitude and praise.

THE HENDRICK VAN RENSSELAER BRANCH.

Many of the descendants of Hendrick, the second son of Jeremias, and brother of Patroon Killian, deserve place in our history, as persons who have led lives of eminent usefulness and honor. We only wish we had space to render them the honor they deserve. Among them we may name, as especially eminent, Colonel Killian, son of Hendrick, who was once Chairman of the Committee of Safety. He had four distinguished sons, General Henry K., a brave revolutionary officer, who was crippled for life by wounds received in battle at Fort Ann, July 8, 1777; Col. Philip, who was for many years Commissary of Military Stores in the northern department, and who built the Cherry Hill Mansion, and died there in 1798; Colonel Nicholas, who was one of General Montgomery's aids at the storming of Quebec, December 31, 1775, and was afterwards aid to General Schuyler, and fought at Ticonderoga, Fort Miller, Fort Ann and Bemis Heights. He it was who bore the news of Burgoyne's defeat to Albany, October 17, 1777. Another son, Killian K., was an eminent lawyer in Albany, and represented the County in United States Congress, ten years, from 1801–1811. General Solomon, son of General Henry K., was one of the bravest of patri-

otic men, and an eminent civilian. He fought the Indians at Maumee with Wayne and Harrison in the Northwest, and was also at the battle of Queenstown as aid to General Stephen. In both battles he was seriously wounded. He was for sixteen years Adjutant-General of the State; four years in the United States Congress, and many years Postmaster of Albany. His brother, Killian H., was a Lieutenant in the United States Navy. Jeremiah, Hendrick and John B., represented Rensselaerwyck in the colonial assemblies, filling up the thirty-five years between 1726 and 1761. Another Jeremiah, son of John, was Lieutenant-Governor of the State from 1801 to 1810. John S. was a brave soldier in the war of 1812. Robert was a delegate to the Provincial Congress in 1775–77. Colonel James was one of Montgomery's aids at Quebec; and many others of this branch filled up the measure of good citizenship.

FEMALES OF THE FAMILY.—Three distinguished patriots of the revolution married Van Rensselaer daughters: General Philip Schuyler married Catrina, daughter of John; General Abraham Ten Broeck, Elizabeth, daughter of Stephen, the fourth Patroon; and General Leonard Gansevoort, Maria, daughter of Colonel Killian. Mrs. Catharine Visscher, youngest daughter of General Solomon, and widow of Rev. Samuel W. Bonney, author of "Legacy of Historical Gleanings," and now President of Claremont College, Catawba County, N. C., deserves special mention here, as a lady of exalted worth and fine accomplishments. The female members of the Van Rensselaer family with very few exceptions, make a long list of excellent daughters, wives and mothers, ornaments to their name and their sex.

REPRESENTATION.—Rensselaerwyck had a representation in the colonial assemblies, separate from Albany, from April 9, 1691 to April 3, 1775, a period of eighty-four years. The representatives were: 1691 to 1704, Killian Van Rensselaer; 1701–2 and 1715–26, Andries Coeymans; 1703–4, Andries Douw; 1705–14, Hendrick Van Rensselaer; 1726–43, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer; 1743–61, John B. Van Rensselaer; 1761–75, Abraham Ten Broeck.

It is worthy of remark that all the members of this wealthy and aristocratic family were always found on the side of popular liberty. As citizens, they voted on that side; as civil officers, they contended for it even when in a minority and against the English crown; as soldiers, they bravely fought for it and generously spent of their wealth for it. And yet they must have known that a simple representative free government would, as it did, at once abridge and finally destroy their feudal descended rights and powers.

LAND PATENTS, SETTLEMENTS, LEASES, TITLES AND BOUNDARIES.

THE claims of the native proprietors to the soil were admitted by the Holland companies and the Patroon, and purchases of lands were made from the Indian owners "for certain quantities of duffels, axes, knives and wampum." In this manner purchases were made by the Van Rensselaer Patroons and others, who made original purchases of Indian tracts of lands. The general policy of these Patroons was to lease lands and transmit them to their heirs, not to sell them. This has been briefly spoken of in other parts of our volume.

Much could be said under our heading, but we propose to say but little—just enough to give a few facts and suggestions on a subject of great interest and extensive relations.

In 1678, Governor Andros thus writes of land grabbing: "New York is in 40° 35′, Albany abt. 43°. The Colony is several long narrow stripes of wh. a great part of the settlemt. made by adventurers before any Regulacon by wh. Incroachmts. without pattents, wh. towns have lately taken but by reason of continuall warrs noe Survey made & wildernesse, no computacon can be made of the planted and implanted." True to his King, this Governor endeavored to place a check upon such proceedings. But with poor success.

The extravagant land grants made in this State, to private persons, by some of the English Governors were in such vast parcels that the government thereby lost much revenue, which caused much uneasiness and discontent. Individuals came into collision on account of the irregular manner in which the grants usually were located—without surveys or boundaries. The most reckless governors in these transactions were Governors Fletcher and Cornbury. Lands by 50,000, 100,000, and

even a million of acres were placed in the hands of unscrupulous speculators. Conflicting claims made great trouble; honest settlers were defrauded; and the settlement of good lands by worthy citizens greatly hindered. The King interfered; called home some governors in disgrace, and vacated some of the grants. No State in the Union has suffered so much by the extravagant and unguarded distribution of its domain as the State of New York. The hurtful consequences have always been felt as prejudicial to the public interests.

The recognized claim of the Patroons, dating so far back, and being so well established by the extinguishment of the Indian claims and the actual occupation of the land, prevented any trouble from such grants in Rensselaerwyck.

While the title of the lands in this county could not be disputed, having been duly purchased of the aboriginal owners by the Van Rensselaers and confirmed by the States General of Holland, the manner of dividing off the farms was not well considered. Land was plenty and the value small. Patents and farms were located by spotted trees, stones, streams, and other points subject to decay, removal or other change. One badly defined lot was bounded as lying next to another just as badly defined. Lots overlapped each other, and gores or other shapes were left between lots without a legal occupant. Lands were stepped off, or measured with a pole, a rope, or the "leading line" of a harness. Courses were run by unskilled surveyors, running northerly or north-by-west from any evanescent or uncertain point that first came to notice in the line. In after time came the difficulty of finding the old points and retracing the old lines. This has cost labor, expense and perplexity. Many questions pertaining to the farm lands in this county are yet unsettled, the farmers wisely concluding that it would cost more than it would come to to hire a surveyor; much more to go to court. So, by some neighborly compromise, the unsettled line of division has long remained unsettled; and we may hope that it long may, except it be peaceably.

Joel Munsell tells us that the boundaries and tracts were quite indefinite, and as they became cultivated, all traces of the described bounds utterly ceased to be distinguishable. For instance, a farm now in the heart of the City of Albany, leased by the Patroon to Isaac, son of Casper Halenbeck, is thus described in the lease: "Bounded on the north by the plain and hill; on the east by the swamp; on the south by the Bever Kil; on the west by the woods." Nothing now remains but the Kil to mark the boundaries of this tract, and that is partially arched over and used as a sewer. The hill was long since leveled, the swamp filled in and built upon, the woods cleared up, and the area occupied by streets and a dense population.

The Duke of York, as proprietor and as King, as well as his successors, saw the good policy of treating the Hollander well, and readily confirmed the rights and patents that dated under the government of the States General or of the Dutch West India Company. All other lands were claimed as belonging to the English crown; and, after satisfying the Indian title as a matter of policy, all grants were finally subject to the approval of the King.

The acknowledgment of the just title of the Patroon of Rensselaerwyck to the territory that became the City of Albany in 1686, unfairly disputed by Governor Stuyvesant, reflects credit on the policy of the English government at that time, as discussed in another place.

The claim of England to the territory of New Netherlands, by right of prior discovery, has been referred to elsewhere, and needs no further discussion here. It was at a time when might made right. Indeed, when and where in the world's history has it not been so? But how little did King James realize the value of his province of New York! Nor was George III much wiser.

Writing concerning the state of lands in the Province of New York in 1732, Cadwallader Colden, Surveyor-General, says: "By the 3d article of Surrender agreed to with the Dutch Govt. it is stipulated (in 1664) that 'all people shall continue free denizens, and enjoy lands, houses, goods, ships, wheresoever they are within the country, and dispose of them as they please.' And by the 11th article, 'The Dutch here shall enjoy their own customs concerning inheritances.'"

In pursuance of this the inhabitants took out confirmations of their lands and tenements under the hand and seal of Colonel Nicolls, the first English Governor under the Duke of York, in which their title under the Dutch is recited. The form of these confirmations appear to be everywhere the same.

Governor Nicolls likewise, granted unimproved lands to any who were willing to settle and improve them; and these first grants were made without any previous survey or without reciting any certain boundaries, but only to contain, for example, 100, 200, or 300 acres adjoining such another man's land or a certain hill, or river, or rivulet.

Subsequent governors made land grants with surveys or without, as it pleased them. Some parted

with valuable lands and large tracts for a mere trifle to their favorites. Land was plenty. The few who had influence with the government, and desired increase of power and wealth, saw their opportunity in large territory which they might settle with dependents. The evil that came from such a policy has cursed this State even to our day; giving us confusion of titles and boundaries; vexatious and expensive lawsuits; many bitter contentions, that have grown so mighty as to move the whole body politic; and kept many hard-working tenants and their families in a condition but little better than abject servitude, with all its consequences in ignorance and lawlessness. Albany County is a witness of this condition of things. The article on Anti-rentism in this volume clearly exhibits the evils that have sprung from feudal tenures, rents conditioned upon leases in perpetuity, and exacted by the Patroons and their assignees. The conflicting opinions of learned legal authority are perplexing to the lay citizen. The financial ruin of many so-called tenants, and the physical, mental and moral degradation frequently consequent upon this condition of things, are too patent for denial, and excite commiseration. This state of things shows that a great wrong has been the natural outgrowth of the policy of such land grants made long ago, no doubt, at first, with a worthy purpose. Nor is there any doubt that the Patroons, or original landholders, regarded their manorial claims as beneficial to the State as well as advantageous to themselves. They designed to treat the farmers who occupied their lands with justice, and usually did treat them with a policy both benevolent and lenient. The evils that resulted were the fruits of the system. One of the worst ills that has resulted from the lease system in this county has been its effect upon the family of the lessee, which has occupied the same soil for many years without owning anything.

If men do not possess the right of soil, however cheap the lease rents, they never can be independent citizens. They are always under the influence of their landlords. Their minds are apt to become debased and their enterprise destroyed. When their vassalage becomes hopeless, they live as dumb, driven cattle.

The exact boundaries of our county, and of the towns of which it is constituted, are not accurately defined. Says Mr. J. T. Gardner, in State Survey Report for 1877:

"Less than one hundred years ago, however, surveyors, carrying only the compass, chain, ax and rifle, contending with innumerable obstacles in pathless forests, forced their way to the utmost limits of a wilderness stretching from the Hudson River to Lake Erie. They traversed every part, and roughly measured lines, dividing the lands into tracts of suitable size for coming settlers, and marking the lots by notching or 'blazing' surrounding trees.

"There has been no survey of the State since the pioneer surveyors ran their compass lines through the woods.

"The maps of New York are false to the extent of one, two, and even three miles in the positions ascribed to prominent points. * * * It is well known that we are far behind the rest of the world in knowledge of our own territory."

What is true of the State is measurably true of the smaller divisions of the State, of which it is composed. There is something yet to be done by the surveyors and engineers of the future.

The sagacity of the Dutch settlers is shown in their selection of lands, and the tenacity with which they held possession of them. They rarely occupied the hills. Their native Holland was a flat country, abundant in water, lying by the sea, and traversed by rivers and canals. The early colonists of this county planted their homes, usually, upon level tracts, upon the rich alluvium of the Hudson River, or other streams that run into it. These they were apt to leave to their heirs. The later German took the best he could find in the valley of the Mohawk, or else looked for his home on some fertile spot but a little removed from some stream.

The following is a list of patents of lands located in or near Albany County by the Dutch Government from 1630 to 1634, so far as they now have been found recorded in the Book of Patents and Town Records. It will interest the many descendants of our original landholders:

Kiliaen Rensselaer: Indian land east of Hudson, Rensselaerwyck, August 6, 1631; Indian land west of Hudson, Rensselaerwyck, August 13, 1631; Indian land, Papskenea, Rensselaerwyck, April 13, 1637; Indian land, Katskill, April 19, 1649; Indian land, Claverack, May 14, 1649. Jan Michelsen: a lot, Beverwyck, May 23, 1650. Rutger Jacobsen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Goosen G. Van Schaick: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Anthonie De Hooges, a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Cornelis Teunissen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Andries Herbertsen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Dirck Jansen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Arent Andriessen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Volkert Jansen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Albert Gerritsen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Jacob Adrien-

sen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Willem Teller: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Annetje Bogardus: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Teunis Jacobsen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Rut Adriensen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1652. Jacob Janz Schermerhorn: a lot, Beverwyck, November 9, 1653. Jochem Backer: a lot, Beverwyck, April 23, 1653. Pieter Loockermans: a lot, Beverwyck, July 7, 1653. Hans Kierstede: a lot, Beverwyck, July 18, 1653. Ryer Elbertsen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Laurens Lourenzen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Jochem Kettelhuyn: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Evert Janz Van Embden: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Casper Jacobsen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Michel Reyckersen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Hendrick Andriessen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Jan Verbeck: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Thomas Jansen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Andries DeVos: a lot of woodland, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Thomas Sandersen: two lots, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Rut Adriensen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. And. Janz Appel Van Leyden: two lots, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Jacob Janz Schermerhorn: two lots, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Jan Labadie: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Laurens Jansen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Captain Abram Staets, a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Jacob Hendrick Sibbinck: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Jacob Symonz Klomp: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Hags Brunysen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Jan Frs. Van Hoesen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Gillis Pietersen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 25, 1653. Captain Abram Staets: Cicheckawick, north of Claverack, March 17, 1654. Leendert Phillipsen: a lot, Beverwyck, March 24, 1654. Hendrick Marcelis: a lot, Beverwyck, March 24, 1654. Gillis Pietersen: a lot, Beverwyck, April 14, 1654. Wynent Gerritsen: a lot, Beverwyck, August 29, 1654. Ad. J. Van Leyden Appel: a lot for an inn, Beverwyck, December 16, 1654. Ph. Pietersen Schuyler: two lots, Beverwyck, June 16, 1656. Adrien Janz Ilpendam: a lot, Beverwyck, October 28, 1656. Mattheus Abrams: a lot, Beverwyck, October 28, 1656. Claes Hendricksen: two lots, Beverwyck, September 25, 1657. Pieter Jacobsen: a lot, Beverwyck, February 23, 1658. Jeremias Van Rensselaer: a lot, Beverwyck, February 25, 1658. Sander Senderts Glen: a lot, Beverwyck, July 13, 1658. Ph. Pietersen Schuyler: a lot, Beverwyck, September 10, 1658. Pieter Meersen: a lot, Beverwyck, October 31, 1658. Thomas Chambers: a lot, Beverwyck, November 8, 1653. Volckert Jansen, et al.: a plantation, Fort Orange, March 31, 1659. —— Andriessen: a plantation, Fort Orange, March 19, 1659. Arent Van Curler: a plantation, Beverwyck, March 23, 1659. Pieter Hartgers: two lots, Beverwyck, September 1, 1659. Jan Daretha: a lot, Beverwyck, February 5, 1660. Peter Jacobsen: a lot, Beverwyck, February 23, 1660. Peter Mees: a lot, Beverwyck, August 17, 1660. Jan Costers Van Aecken: a lot, Beverwyck, March 7, 1661. Jan Tomassen: two lots, Beverwyck, March 10, 1661. Rutger Jacobsen, et al.: Pachnach Killick Island, near Beverwyck, March 10, 1661. Rutger Jacobsen: Constable's Island, Beverwyck, March 19, 1661. Arent Van Curler, et al.: Indian land, Schonowe, July 27, 1661. Schenectady, Great Flatt confirmed April 6, 1662. Jan Jansen Van Hoesen: Indian land, Claverack, June 5, 1662. J. B. Wemp, et al.: Martin's Island, Schenectady, November 12, 1662. Peter Bronck: a lot, Beverwyck, 1663. Symon Symonz Groot: a lot, Beverwyck, May 11, 1663. Casper Jacobsen: a lot, Beverwyck, December 29, 1663. Jan Tomassen: a lot, Beverwyck, March 10, 1664. Cornelis Van Nes: twenty-one morgen, Schenectady, June 1, 1664. Teunis Cornelissen: twenty-four morgen, Schenectady, June 16, 1664. Symon De Bakker: twenty-four morgen, Schenectady, June 19, 1664. Pieter Adriensen: twenty-six morgen, Schenectady, June 16, 1664. Willem Teller: twenty-three morgen, Schenectady, June 16, 1664. Ph. Pietersen Schuyler: Indian tract, Half-Moon, July 10, 1664.

All lands within this State are allodial, so that, subject to their liability to escheat, the owners have entire and absolute property in them, according to the nature of their respective estates. No leases can now be made of agricultural lands for a time longer than twelve years, and all quarter sales or other restraints upon alienation, reserved in any grant hereafter made, are void in law.

Albany County never had any State lands except those occupied by State buildings. It has no United States land except that occupied by the Watervliet Arsenal and the Government building in Albany. It has had no Gospel or school lands, no literature lands, no military land grants, nor were any patents covering its territory or any part of it, ever granted originally by the English government. Some of its citizens, as the Livingstons, the Schuylers, and the Van Rensselaers, had large patents located in other parts of the State.

THE BEAVER AND THE FUR TRADE.

THE earliest industry in the territory now called Albany County was the beaver trade. Nothing else brought the first Dutch adventurers to New Netherlands, as nothing but the love of gold led the earliest adventurers from our Eastern States to the mines of California. Had it not been for the beaver, we cannot tell how much longer the settlement of our county would have been deferred. A brief account of this fur-bearing rodent, and of the important relation he sustained to our early history, seems due to him. Without it our work would be incomplete.

How much he was esteemed is shown in part by the local preservation of his honored name in Beverwyck, Beaverkill, Beaver street, Beaver block and the like.

We begin with a description in popular language of the beaver himself, that we may better understand his character and habits.

The beaver is one of the most extraordinary of all animals. It is between three and four feet in length, and weighs from forty to sixty pounds. Its teeth, which are long, broad and sharp, project considerably beyond the jaw, and are curved like a carpenter's gouge. In its fore-feet the toes are separated, as if designed to answer the purposes of fingers and hands. Its hind-feet are accommodated with webs, suited to the purpose of swimming. In no animal does the social instinct and habit appear stronger or more general than in the beaver. Wherever a number of these animals are found, they immediately form an association to carry on their common business. Their societies are generally formed in June and July, and frequently number two or three hundred, all united in promoting the interests of the whole community.

The society of beavers seems to be regulated altogether by natural dispositions and laws. It is one of peace and affection, guided by one principle. No contention or disagreement is ever seen among them; but harmony and unity prevail throughout their dominion. The principle of this union is not the superiority of any individual; there seems to be among them nothing of the authority or influence of a leader or chief. Their association has the aspect of a pure democracy, founded on the principle of perfect equality and the strongest mutual attachment.

When these animals are collected together, they give attention, first, to their public affairs. Being amphibious, they spend part of their time in the water. Their first work is to find a situation convenient for both their land and water purposes. A lake or a running stream of water is chosen for their habitation, selected always of such depth that they may have sufficient room for swimming under the ice. They seem to have an eye to undisturbed possession. Such is their foresight or instinct, that they are said never to form an erroneous judgment. Having selected their site thus carefully, they next construct a dam; and so well chosen are both the place and form of this, their home, that no engineer could give them a better, either for convenience, strength or duration.

The materials used are wood and earth. If there be a tree on the side of the river which would naturally fall across the stream, several beavers go to work with their teeth, with great diligence, to fell it. Trees twenty inches in diameter are thus thrown across a stream as the formation of their dam. Others are cutting down smaller trees, which they divide into convenient lengths. Others serve as porters, conveying the trees to the needed places; and others, still, engage in the masonry of the work. The earth is brought in their mouths, formed into a kind of mortar with their feet and tails, and spread over the interstices between the stakes in such a way as to render the whole impervious to water. The magnitude and extent of these dams is marvelous when we consider the artisans and their instruments. They are from fifty to one hundred feet in length, and from six to twelve feet thick at the base, forming ponds, frequently of 500 or 600 acres.

When the public works are completed, their domestic concerns next engage their attention. The beavers separate to build houses, each division for itself, along the borders of the pond. These houses are of an oval form, resembling a haycock in appearance, and varying from four to ten feet in diameter, according to the number of families they are designed to accommodate. In these huts the families of beavers live, enjoying the fruits of their

labors. But if any injury is done to their public works, the whole society unites to repair it.

Nothing can exceed the peace and regularity which prevail through the whole commonwealth. No discord ever appears in any of their families; every beaver knows his own apartment and storehouse, and there is no pilfering or robbing from one another.

The color of the beaver varies with the climate, being nearly black in the colder regions, and growing brown in the warmer. Its fur is of two sorts, one being long, coarse and of little use; the other consisting of a fine, thick down, about three-quarters of an inch long, which has the commercial value.

The beaver attains its greatest magnitude and its highest perfection of society only where it is undisturbed by man. Hence it makes its home only in uncultivated regions, retreating as man approaches.

Some idea of the trade in beaver, in those primitive times, may be gathered from the facts which follow.

The ship Nieu Nederlandt took 1,500 beaver and 500 otter skins from Fort Orange at the close of the first season.

The number of beavers reported from New Netherlands in 1624, as Hazard tells us, were 4,000; also 700 otters—all valued at 27,125 guilders. About 10 years later the returns were 14,891 beavers and 1,413 otters, estimated at 134,000 guilders.

The ship Arms of Amsterdam sailed from New Amsterdam September 23, 1626, and arrived in Amsterdam, November 4th, following, with a cargo of 7,246 beaver skins, 853½ otter skins, 48 mink skins, 36 wild cat skins, 33 mink and 34 rat skins, besides some wheat, rye, barley, oats, buckwheat, canary seed, beans and flax, and considerable oak and hickory.

In 1632, the Dutch Colonists were reported to have sent over to Holland "15,000 beaver skynnes, besides other commodities."

About 1633, it was estimated that about 16,000 beaver skins were sold in the Hudson river trade, mostly at Fort Orange.

The value of furs exported in 1626 was reckoned at about $19,000; in 1632 it had been raised to $50,000.

In 1638, the States General observe that nothing comes from New Netherlands but beaver skins, minks and other furs. About this time the fur trade was made free. Every boor became a fur trader.

The trade in furs at Albany was very flourishing in the years from 1645 to 1660.

In 1645, an arrival of tobacco and beavers is reported in Amsterdam—the latter invoiced as "10 cases containing 2,137 pieces of beavers," which, valued at 7 guilders, amount to 14,959 florins.

The number of furs exported from Fort Orange and vicinity in 1656, amounted to 34,480 beaver and 300 otter skins. In 1658 the number reached 57,640 beaver and 300 otter skins.

In 1657, according to the record of Johannes Dyckman, 40,940 beaver and otter skins were shipped to New Amsterdam from Fort Orange, now Albany.

Here we take note of the commercial value of beaver.

When specie was scarce and paper money had not come into use, beaver skins and wampum, or seawant, were used among the people as currency.

In 1656 a beaver skin was worth 8 to 10 guilders, or $3.50 to $4. The former was the usual price, the real value of which would be $3.20 in our currency. One guilder equals 40 cents.

In 1676 "good merchantable beavers" were valued at 12 shillings a piece or 9 shillings a pound. A negro boy, nine years old, hale and sound, was valued at the sum of twenty-eight merchantable beavers in this same year.

Wheat and other goods were often sold at "beaver price." In 1678 five schepels, equal to about three pecks, of wheat were valued at one beaver.

In April, 1680, the Labadists, Dankers and Sluyter paid each one beaver price, 25 guilders in seawant, for their boat passage from New York to Albany. A guilder seawant was worth about one-third as much as a guilder beaver.

In 1705 thirty beavers were valued at £18.

During these years the boschloopers or bush-runners, who made it their business to meet the Indians on their trails to Albany and go to their villages with the purpose of intercepting their trade, caused much excitement. In 1655, orders forbidding this kind of traffic were made by the Court. These ancient drummers were not allowed to drive trade in this way; nor were the merchants allowed to allure the Indians having peltry to sell, to their own houses. After this the magistrates rescinded the order. Governor Stuyvesant was next called in by the savages themselves to interfere; and in 1660, at a meeting with the Indians, he assured them of his displeasure at the conduct of these in-

terlopers, who interfered with their right to trade with whom they chose, and promised his protection if they used even blows to keep off these officious middlemen or any other mercenary intermeddlers, who shut them into their houses to compel their trade while in Beverwyck.

The fur trade was so profitable at Fort Orange, that fur traders from New Amsterdam, and others who had no residence near this fort, engaged successfully in competition with the Patroon and his officers and merchants, by intercepting the Indian hunters and by advancing the price, much to the detriment of the Beverwyck traders. This led to a great deal of trouble. The fort erected on Bearen Island and the controversy that followed, as stated in another part of this work, were the outgrowth of this foreign intermeddling in what the Patroon, for a time, regarded as his exclusive right.

There can be no question that this trade did much to demoralize the inhabitants of Rensselaerwyck. Agriculture for a long time was neglected, and every other pursuit, except hunting and trading in furs. Every farmer left tilling his land and became a fur trader as soon as the restrictions were taken off and the trade was free to every one. Legitimate methods of securing the wealth that this business promised, were violated. Not only were the Indian trails filled with drummers, and all the arts of flattery and special attention bestowed upon the fur-bearing traveler from the woods as he came to the village of Beverwyck, but he was bribed by trifling gifts and made drunk with firewater. Strifes arose among the people, and quarrels among the savages. Cheating became common. The Dutchman's hand balancing a pound of beaver in the scale, and his foot two pounds, as stated by the veritable Knickerbocker in his "History of New York," if not strictly true, as it may have been, illustrates one of the methods of cheating the Indian.

The trade in fur began seriously to diminish about 1660. The beavers had either been trapped and skinned, or had retreated to regions north and west, farther away from the white man. The resources of the Indians in the neighborhood of Beverwyck had become nearly exhausted. Scarcity of furs on their tramping ground was felt by them and the traders. They had sold some of their land, and what remained possessed no value to them. They parted with it for trifles to the settlers, who now began to give more attention to cultivating the soil as their best resource for a livelihood. About this time (1661) several important families, including Commissary Arent Van Curler, the Indians' friend, purchased the "Great Flatts," where now is Schenectady, and began a settlement. This diverted much trade from Beverwyck, which led to rivalry and much bitter feeling between the two neighboring villages.

Dankers and Sluyter, in 1680, made the following entry in their journal, speaking of Fort Orange:

"As this is the principal trading fort with the Indians, and as the privilege of trading is granted to certain merchants, there are houses or lodges erected on both sides of the town, where the Indians who come from the far interior to trade, live during the time they are there. This time of trading with the Indians is at its hight in the month of June and July, and also in August, when it falls off, because it is then the best time for them to make their journey there and back."

In 1687, Governor Dongan speaks of the intermeddling of the Governor of Canada with the fur trade. Sixty young men of Albany and some Albany Indians had undertaken a trading expedition to the distant tribes, and on their return were intercepted and taken prisoners, with their goods, by the French and Canada Indians. He complains that the revenue of the province was very much reduced by the course taken by Canada in persuading the Indians to take their furs to Montreal, or by depredations like the above. He adds, "in other years we used to ship off for England 35,000 or 40,000 beavers, besides peltry, and this year only 9,000 and some hundreds peltry in all."

In 1699, the Indians in council at Albany, complained of the diminishing value of the beaver trade, alleging that the earlier traders lived in small huts, but now are grown rich and high, and wear fine clothes and dwell in great houses, and all this from profits on the beavers, which they brought from afar on their backs. And now they paid little for beaver and put a large price on their goods.

In 1700, the vigilant and judicious Governor Bellomont writes to the Lords of the Admiralty: "The beaver trade here and at Boston is sunk to little or nothing, and the market is so low for beaver in England that 'tis scarce worth the transporting. I have been told that in one year, when this province was in possession of the Dutch, there were 66,000 beaver skins exported from this town (New York), and this last year there was but 15,241 beaver skins exported hence, from 24th of June, '99, to 24th of June, 1700. * * * A few years ago beaver skins sold in London at 14 shillings a pound, and then the custom was but 4d. the

skin. Now beaver has fallen to 5 shillings per pound in England and pays 9d. per skin here, 3d. per skin freight, and 12d. when it is unshipped in England." The Governor then urges the bad effects of such a state of things on population and trade, and advises free trade in peltry. He also claims that it is wise to keep the Indians in favor with the King, by a policy that will encourage him in his favorite pursuit of hunting and selling beaver.

On the 19th of July, 1701, the Sachems of the Five Nations deeded all their beaver hunting lands in the Province of New York and vicinity to King William III of England and his successors. The quit claim deed was made at Albany, signed and sealed by Governor John Nanfan and the Sachems of the Senecas, Mohawks, Cayugas, Onondagas and Oneidas, and comprehended a territory claimed as extending 800 by 400 miles. John J. Bleecker, Mayor, and the Aldermen and other city officers were present as witnesses. The only consideration seems to have been protection of their persons and possessions against the French. The only reservations made were peaceable homes and free hunting to themselves and their descendants.

It having been found that the French, through their missionaries, were rapidly gaining upon the English in the matter of profitable trade, Governor Bellomont, in January, 1701, proposes to the Lords of Trade some course by which this trade could be diverted from the French and turned from Mississippi, Canada and Nova Scotia to the English colonies. He writes thus from New York: "In order to this design the beaver trade ought to be encouraged by Parliament—all duties wholly taken off, both here and in England, from beaver and other peltry exported from this Province. * * * * The French King, to encourage the beaver trade, has ordered the Parliament of Paris to put forth and requiring all the hatters to mix a certain quantity of beaver's furr in all their hats, under a severe penalty, which is a wise course, and I wish our Parliament would take such a course to help the consumption of beaver, which at present is grown almost out of use in England since Carolina hatts have been so much and fur hatts so little in fashion." The following table gives the value of furs imported from the Province of New York for the years from 1717 to 1723:

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1717–18.....	10,704	3	11	1720–21.....	6,659	4	11
1718–19.....	7,138	2	5	1711–22.....	7,045	3	10
1719–20.....	7,487	16	5	1722–23.....	8,333	5	4

In 1721, the Worshipful Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany adopted most stringent rules, designed to put an end to long-existing abuses in the Indian trade. They forbade, under penalties of £5 and upwards: 1. Receiving or concealing in their houses or elsewhere any packs of furs belonging to any Indian. 2. Lodging and entertaining any Indian or squaw, except Sachems, in their houses or other buildings. 3. Conveying any Indian, his wives or children in any wagon or cart from the westward towards Albany, or any of his goods, without payment. 4. Carrying Indians or their goods, in like manner, for any other person for a price or a gift. 5. Speaking to any Indian outside the stockades and coming from the West, or enticing them to trade. 6. Employment of brokers.

The whole purpose of the ordinance was to leave the matter of trade with the Indians themselves, they going to any person whom they chose without influence or hindrance.

At other times orders were passed restricting the sale of firearms and intoxicating drinks to the savages.

The importance of the trade, the character of the traders, and the evils that existed are made evident by these ordinances.

The struggle between the English in New York and the French in Canada for the control of the beaver trade was very great, especially during the first fifty years of the eighteenth century. This was carried on by regulating the prices paid the Indian hunters, who carried their goods where they could secure the best returns. The prices paid depended, of course, very much upon what the colonial traders could realize in the European market. It appears that the beaver had taken himself from the beaver dams of New York to more secluded places in Canada and the North, because he was more remote from danger. But the hunter found him in his northern resort and took the precious fur beaver in great numbers. Canada had the advantage of a near market; but the English took good advice, and, with Anglo-Saxon good sense, offered the fur merchants free trade and a better price, and made it up by increased manufactures, and sales at advanced rates. The Indians were better paid by the English colonial trader and carried their furs to the better paying market. So it appears from the correspondence of the colonial traders and Governors in the Colonies both of Canada and New York, during the years from about 1720 to 1750. The English thus secured the most of the Five Nations as their friends—a great loss to the French. And yet, by priestly art and smuggling, the Canadians

had, much of the time, a good trade. In the two years 1746 and 1747, the French Company of the Indies realized a profit of 430,785 livres from the beaver trade alone.

Peter Kalm, the intelligent Swedish naturalist, who visited Albany in 1749, throws light upon the fur traffic as it appeared to him at that time. He writes: "Albany carries on considerable commerce with New York, chiefly in furs, etc. * * * There is not a place in all the British Colonies, the Hudson Bay Settlements excepted, where such quantities of furs and skins are bought of the Indians as at Albany. Most of the merchants in this town send a clerk or agent to Oswego, an Indian trading town upon the Lake Ontario, to which the Indians resort with their furs. * * * The merchants from Albany spend the whole summer at Oswego, and trade with many tribes of Indians who come to them with their goods. Many people have assured me that the Indians are frequently cheated in disposing of their goods, especially when they are in liquor, and that sometimes they do not get one-half or even one-tenth of the value of their goods. I have been a witness to several transactions of this kind. The merchants of Albany glory in these tricks, and are highly pleased when they give a poor Indian a greater portion of brandy than he can bear, and when they can, after that, get all his goods for mere trifles. The Indians often find, when they are sober again, that they have been cheated. They grumble somewhat, but are soon satisfied when they reflect that they have, for once, drunk as much as they are able of a liquor which they value beyond anything else in the whole world, and they are quite insensible to their loss if they again get a draught of this nectar. Besides this trade at Oswego, a number of Indians come to Albany from several parts, especially from Canada; but from this latter place they hardly bring anything but beaver skins. There is a great penalty in Canada for carrying furs to the English, that trade belonging to the French West India Company; notwithstanding which the French merchants in Canada carry on a considerable smuggling trade. They send their furs by means of the Indians to their correspondents in Albany, who purchase it at the price they have fixed upon with the French merchants. The Indians take in return several kinds of cloth and other goods, which may be got here at a lower rate than those which are sent to Canada from France."

Smith, the historian, in 1757, speaks of the fur trade as "very much impaired by French wiles and encroachments."

Coneiogatchie, one of the Chiefs of the Iroquois, in a speech made in council in 1782, said: "Your traders exact more than ever for their goods and our hunting is lessened by the war, so that we have fewer skins to give for them. This ruins us. We are poor."

Elkanah Watson, in 1788, speaks of the trade in furs at Albany as extinct. The British Hudson Bay Company was then carrying on the trade.

The *Albany Gazette*, in 1796, speaks hopefully of a revival of the fur trade in the city, nine wagon loads of furs and peltries having been received by one of the merchants from the Northwest territory. But it was only a temporary matter. The old-time fur trade was no more.

SLAVERY IN ALBANY COUNTY.

SLAVERY was introduced at an early day into the American colonies. The first introduction of African slaves was in 1619, by a Dutch vessel sailing up the James River in Virginia, and selling twenty negroes from Africa to the planters. The trade in negro slaves did not increase very rapidly until after 1700. In 1714 the whole number of slaves in the colonies was 55,850; of this number about 30,000 had been imported. In 1808, the total number imported was not less than 400,000.

The United States Constitutional Convention of 1774 resolved to discontinue the slave trade. In 1789, the Convention to frame the Federal Constitution looked to the abolition of the traffic in 1808. On March 2, 1807, Congress passed an act against the importation of African slaves into the United States after January 1, 1808.

In violation of these laws, the trade continued to an alarming degree for many years; and as late as 1855, New York city was largely engaged in the nefarious business. An article in De Bow's Review in 1855, quotes Captain Smith, who says: "New York is the chief port in the world for the slave trade, and is head-quarters for fitting out vessels for all the slave ports."

As early as 1628, frequent mention is made of blacks owned as slaves in the colony of New Netherlands. The West India Company in 1629,

granted to "all persons who will plant colonies in New Netherlands, to supply them with as many blacks as they conveniently can, on condition and in such manner that they shall not be bound to act for a longer time than they shall think proper." It appears that parties who leased land from the Company also leased servants or slaves from individuals for a term of years. The Company itself was not above this business, since we learn that in 1644, Nicholas Toorn, of Rensselaerwyck, acknowledges the receipt of a young black girl to be returned at the end of four years, "if yet alive," to the Director-General or his successor. In 1650, the West India Company sold at Albany "a farm-house, hay-loft, two mares and a horse, and a negro, all now in use by Thomas Hall."

In 1650, the States General of Holland submitted a plan to the deputies of the West India Company that the inhabitants of New Netherlands shall be at liberty to purchase negroes wheresoever they may think necessary, except on the coast of Guinea, and bring them to work on the bouweries on payment of a duty. They also gave permission to import as many negroes as were required for the cultivation of the soil under certain conditions and regulations.

In these early days of slavery the price varied, $100 to $200 being the value. Rev. Johannes Polhemus, a colonial minister, paid, in 1664, $175 for a slave. Rensselaer Nicol gave permission to Jan De Decker, October 8, 1664, to sail from Albany with eight negroes for the French plantations of Martinico and Guadaloupe. Slaves could be emancipated after eighteen or nineteen years of service to the Company. At a court of Mayor and Aldermen for the city of Albany, Myndert Frederickse's negro, Hercules, was found guilty of stealing a chest of wampum from his master, and the court sentenced him "to be whipped throu ye towne att ye cart tale by ye hands of ye hangman forthwith, for an example to oyrs, and his masters to pay ye costs." He confessed the theft, and said he entered by an open window. This appears in City Records, 1686. In the Records of 1679 it is resolved, "That all Indians within the colony were free, nor could they be forced to be servants or slaves."

The Colonial General Assembly in 1683 enacted laws defining the privileges of slaves; also empowering officers to follow and arrest runaway slaves. They could not give, sell, or trust any commodity whatsoever, under penalty of corporal punishment; neither was any person allowed to buy of a slave or trade with one. The old colonial statutes are filled with laws relating to negroes and slaves. We quote the substance of some of them. In 1704, liquors were not to be sold to negroes or Indians on the Sabbath, and tavern keepers were forbidden to entertain or harbor them in their houses. In 1705, an act was passed to prevent negro slaves from running away from Albany to the French in Canada. Other acts, passed at sundry times, forbade all trading with those who were in bondage; allowed owners to punish with discretion; no more than three slaves to meet together under penalty of whipping; provided that a slave who struck a man or woman professing Christianity must be imprisoned fourteen days; the testimony of negroes good only in plotting among themselves; forbade slaves to be further away from Albany than Saratoga under penalty of death, except with master or mistress; encouraged the baptizing of negroes, Indians, and mulattoes. The law of 1730 provided that no person shall traffic with a slave; that no one shall sell to a slave rum or other strong drink under a penalty of forty shillings; that each town or manor have a whipper of slaves, to be paid not exceeding three shillings a head; that any one harboring a slave shall forfeit to the master £5 for every twenty-four hours, but not to exceed the value of the slave; that the owners of slaves are liable for thefts; and that no slave shall carry fire-arms. In 1775, a law was enacted that slaves must do military duty in cases of imminent danger, and that one or more slaves above the age of fourteen, in time of invasion, found a mile or more from the habitation of his master, without his consent or a written pass, was adjudged a felon, and it was lawful for the person so finding any slave to shoot him.

The early laws of the State relative to slaves, referred to their services in the American army. The act of 1788 revised many of the existing laws, and, in 1793, a law existed binding all owners of slaves to have them housed at an early hour. In 1798, the corporations of Albany and New York frequently granted warrantee deeds of slaves.

The price of slaves was as changeable as other commodities. In 1710, Melgert Vanderpool sold a negro for £65, and a negress for £35. In 1790, Captain Bloodgood, of the sloop Olive Branch, carried a slave from Albany, the property of Mrs. Staats, to Antigua, and sold him for £51.

In 1761 a law was passed which laid a fine of £10 on every master who allowed a slave to beg.

In 1710, Harmanus Fisher, of Albany, states that his negro, Yorke, had been found guilty of burglary and sentenced to be whipped round the

city, to receive nine lashes on his bare back at every corner. The sentence was not executed, but the sheriff dunned Fisher for £13 7s., the amount allowed by law for the service.

In November, 1793, several attempts were made to fire the city of Albany by slaves. Some were arrested and confessed their guilt. In January, 1794, Pomp, the property of Matthias Visscher, bought of Jacob Roseboom, Jr., in 1788, for £90, a negro slave, was charged with having set fire to the stables of Leonard Gansevoort. He was tried and found guilty. Bett and Deane, two female slaves, were also tried as accomplices and convicted of the same offense. All were sentenced to be hanged. On January 24th the sentence was respited for six weeks. The two girls were hanged on the 14th March, and Pomp on April 11th. The gallows was erected on Tyburne Hill, in the rear of the house of the late Rufus H. King, near the lower part of Fayette street. The concourse of people to witness the executions was immense.

A custom prevailed in slavery days of advertising them when for sale, and the newspapers generally had one or more of these "Negro for Sale" advertisements in them. We give a few samples: In 1784, the executors of Mrs. Schuyler offered for sale at auction, at Lewis' Tavern "A likely negro." In 1796, we find: "*To be sold.*—A healthy, active negro wench in her nineteenth year. Can be recommended for honesty and sobriety, and sold for no fault." "A negro wench about thirty years old, strong and healthy, for sale." "*For sale.*—A healthy negro wench about thirty years old; can be recommended for honesty and good conduct. Also, her two male children, both in good health. One, nearly three years old, until he arrives at the age of twenty-five years. The other, about four weeks, will be sold for life."

The abolition of slavery in the State of New York was agitated at the formation of the first constitution in 1777. When John Jay urged the early abolition of slavery he declared, "Till America comes to this measure, her prayers to heaven will be impious." Other early statesmen and philanthropists advocated this great doctrine of law and liberty, and claimed freedom and protection as the inherent right of all men.

The agitation was continued in this and other States. The first to abolish slavery were Pennsylvania and Massachusetts in 1780; New Jersey, provisionally, in 1784—all children born of a slave woman after 1804 to be free in 1820. In 1784 and 1797, Connecticut provided for gradual extinction. In Rhode Island after 1784, no person could be born a slave. The ordinance of 1787 forbade slavery in the territory northwest of the Ohio. New York provisionally abolished slavery in 1799; twenty-eight years' ownership being allowed to those born in slavery after this date. This was the commencement of successive legislative acts and amendments for the years including 1801-04-07-09-10. In 1813, laws were enacted relative to vagabond slaves, and to prevent kidnapping, with severe penalties. In 1817, a new law was passed with more severe penalties, and a more important amendment—no less than a final decree of abolition of slavery in the State of New York—was added as follows: "And be it further enacted that every negro, mulatto or mustee within the State, born before July 4, 1799, shall from and after the 4th day of July, 1827, be free." This law was passed by twenty affirmative votes, out of a total of thirty-two in the Senate; and by seventy-five, out of a total of 128, in the Assembly. It was signed by Governor De Witt Clinton.

The enactment of 1819 made it a misdemeanor to send away from the State any slave or servant except such as might have been pardoned by the Executive for some offense; and owners of slaves who resided for a time in other States were forbidden to sell to parties not resident within the State. This was the last enactment, and the institution ceased to exist in the Empire State, July 4, 1827.

For the most part the slaves of the Dutch were employed as domestic servants, and their condition was not as hard as that of those who performed outdoor work. The treatment of the negroes was generally humane. Stories of cruelty among Albany County slaves were seldom heard. Laws, it is true, were passed for their punishment as well as for their protection. Among slave-owners, in many instances, an attachment was formed that lasted through life. The slaves were usually faithful and true to their masters and mistresses, and aside from their being bond slaves and chattels, their lot was comparatively happy. The blacks who were farmers or mechanics were allowed their own domestic animals.

Negro slavery existed in its mildest form in Albany County, not only in the Dutch, but in the English colonial days, and in its latter years, after the Revolution. Individual exceptions to this statement were very rare. It was so among the farmers and mechanics of Rensselaerwyck, as well as among the merchants and gentry in and near the City of Albany. The testimony of the excellent Mrs. Grant, in her "Memoirs of an American

Lady," is appropriate here. She writes: "In the society I am describing, even the dark aspect of slavery was softened into a smile. And I must, in justice to the best possible masters, say that a great deal of that tranquillity and comfort, to call it by no higher name, which distinguished this society from all others, was owing to the relation between master and servant being better understood here than in any other place. Let me not be detested as an advocate for slavery, when I say that I think I have never seen people so happy in servitude as the domestics of the Albanians. One reason was that each family had few of them, and that there were no field negroes. They would remind one of Abraham's servants, who were all born in the house, which was exactly their case. They were baptized too, and shared the same religious instruction with the children of the family, and for the first years there was little or no difference with regard to food or clothing between their children and those of their masters. I have nowhere met with instances of friendship more tender and generous than that which here subsisted between the slaves and their masters and mistresses."

Affectionate and faithful as these home-bred servants were in general, there were some instances, but very few, of those who, through levity of mind, or a love of liquor or finery, betrayed their trust or habitually neglected their duty. In these cases, after every means had been used to reform them, no severe punishments were inflicted at home. But the terrible sentence, which they dreaded worse than death, was passed;—they were sold to Jamaica.

One must have lived among those placid and humane people to be sensible that servitude—hopeless, endless servitude—could exist with so little servility and fear on the one side, and so little harshness or even sternness of authority on the other.

Amidst all this mild and really tender indulgence to their negroes, these colonists had not the smallest scruple of conscience with regard to the right by which they held them in subjection. Had that been the case, their singular humanity would have been incompatible with continued injustice. But the truth is, that of law, the generality of those people knew little; and of philosophy, nothing at all.

They sought their code of morality in the Bible, and there imagined they found this hapless race condemned to perpetual slavery; and thought nothing remained for them but to lighten the chains of their fellow Christians, after having made them such.

Arguments for the right are of small account as weighed against interest. The irrepressible conflict at last came, and involved the nation in a cruel, bloody and expensive civil war. It decided that the system of human slavery was a national evil, and could not be extended and protected as a national institution. Blood and iron in this great conflict severed the fetters of every black man in the land, and legalized slavery was blotted forever from the constitution and the laws of the United States. The people of Albany County did well their part in this great struggle.

Records and statistics relating to the number of slaves in this county are very incomplete, and not wholly reliable. Those given below are compiled from census returns and other sources. The same may be said of the enumeration of negroes or blacks, as the early record did not often distinguish the slaves. It may be presumed that most persons counted as negroes before 1800 were slaves.

The following lists exhibit all we are able to give at this writing:

1. Negroes in the State census, including slaves, in specified years: 1790, 25,978; 1800, 31,320; 1810, 40,350; 1820, 39,367; 1830, 44,949: 1840, 50,031; 1850, 49,069; 1860, 49,145; 1870, 52,549; 1880, 56,121.

2. Negroes in Albany County, inclusive of slaves, in the years specified: 1698, 23; 1714, 213; 1723, 808; 1731, 1,273; 1737, 1,630; 1749, 1,480; 1756, 2,119; 1771, 3,877; 1795, 4,094; 1800, 2,094; 1810, 1,638; 1820, 1,271; 1830, 1,595; 1840, 1,314; 1850, 1,194; 1860, 939; 1870, 1,095; 1880, 1,367.

3. Colored persons in the towns of Albany County in 1880, were as follows:

Albany, 1,036; Berne, 1; Bethlehem, 91; Coeymans, 59; Cohoes, 17; Guilderland, 2; Knox, 2; New Scotland, 25; Rensselaerville, 0; Watervliet, 131; Westerlo, 3; total 1,367.

4. We gather the following census of slaves in this County by towns:

Albany, 1810, 256; 1820, 109. Berne, 1810, 35; 1820, 30. Bethlehem, 1810, 137; 1820, 73. Coeymans, 1810, 101; 1820, 36. Colonie, 1810, 30. Guilderland, 1810, 66; 1820, 47. Rensselaerville, 1790, 11; 1810, 21; 1820, 14. Watervliet, 1790, 730; 1810, 128; 1820, 96. Westerlo, 1820, 8. Total 1790, 741; 1810, 772; 1820, 413.

HOMICIDES IN THE COUNTY OF ALBANY.

Collected and Arranged by ELISHA MACK.

1687.—JOHN CASPERS, indicted for causing the death of his negro girl. No record of trial.

1767.—Jack, the negro of James Starling, indicted for murder.

Two indictments against Sarah Seecles for child murder.

1780.—Pomp, indicted for the murder of Pete, both negro slaves of George Sharp.

1782.—Joseph Bettys, convicted of treason and murder. Conditionally pardoned by General Washington. Recaptured for murder and hanged.

1806.—Daniel Chambers, Jr., indicted for killing Peter Roff. Tried and convicted of manslaughter. Sentenced to State Prison for thirteen calendar months.

George Van Derwerken and John C. Hemstraat were indicted for killing Peter Roff. Tried and acquitted.

John Pye, innkeeper, whose house was feloniously entered in the night-time, shot and fatally wounded the burglar—a case of justifiable homicide.

1807.—Benjamin Gates, indicted for the murder of an Indian named Joe. Tried and acquitted.

1811.—Isaac Killan, indicted for manslaughter in the first degree. Tried and acquitted.

1813.—Thomas Burns and Joseph Mosher, indicted, tried and convicted for the murder of John E. Conklin and sentenced to be hanged. Burns was executed. Mosher was respited by Governor Tompkins until the meeting of the Legislature. He was subsequently pardoned.

1815.—Anson Spooner was sentenced to State Prison for manslaughter for the term of five years.

David Allen, Jr., indicted for murder, was discharged by order of the court.

1816.—James Walsh, convicted of manslaughter.

1818.—James Hamilton, indicted, tried and convicted for the murder of Major Benjamin Birdsall. He was sentenced to be hanged. Executed November 6, 1818.

1820.—Jack Van Patten, indicted for murder and assault and battery. Tried. Verdict: "Not guilty of murder, but guilty of assault and battery only." Sentence: County Jail for thirty days.

1823.—Robert Anderson—trial for murder—was acquitted.

1824.—Barent Haner, indicted for killing a negro with a club. Tried, convicted and sentenced to State Prison for ten years.

1825.—William Bell and Samuel Bromley, indicted for manslaughter. Tried. Bromley was convicted and sentenced to State Prison for ten years. Bell was acquitted.

1826.—James Wilson, indicted for the murder of John Queen. Tried and acquitted.

Robert Carhart, indicted for murder, was tried and convicted of manslaughter. Sentence: State Prison for twelve years.

1827.—Jesse Strang, indicted, tried and convicted for the murder of John Whipple. He was sentenced to death, and executed August 24, 1827.

Elsie D. Whipple, indicted as accessory before the fact, for the murder of her husband, John Whipple. Tried and acquitted.

1829.—George Thomas, indicted for murder. Tried and convicted of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentenced to State Prison for seven years.

1831.—John Snyder, indicted for murder. Convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to State Prison for two years.

William Wilson, for killing Thomas Platt, was indicted for manslaughter. Convicted of an assault and battery, and sentenced to the County Jail for three months.

William Lackey, indicted for the murder of Peter Turner. Tried and found guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentenced to State Prison for three years.

1833.—Geerge Sims, convicted of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentence: State Prison for two years.

1835.—Daniel Riley, tried for murder. Acquitted.

1836.—John Hamilton, indicted for the murder of William Duffy. Tried and acquitted.

Sally Ann Harden, indicted for murder. Tried and acquitted.

1837.—Daniel Murray, convicted of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentence: Jail for forty days.

1838.—Thomas Rector, indicted for the murder of Robert Shepherd by striking him on the head with a wooden bar, fracturing his skull. He was tried and convicted. A new trial was granted, the venue fixed at Ballston, Saratoga County, where he was convicted of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentenced to State Prison for seven years.

George Thompson, indicted for the murder of John Johnson by striking him on the head with a cart-stake, fracturing his skull. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to be executed; commuted to State Prison for life.

Jane Dupang, indicted for the murder of her infant by drowning. Tried. The jury did not agree. Prisoner discharged.

1839.—Isaac Hallenbake, indicted for manslaughter in the fourth degree, causing the death of Seth B. Barman, under twelve years of age, by administering to him spirituous liquors. Acquitted.

1840.—Jacob Leadings, indicted for murder—killing his wife, Harriet, by shooting her with a gun. Tried, convicted and sentenced. Was executed December 29, 1840.

Edward Snooks, indicted for the murder of Mary Jenks. Tried and acquitted.

1841.—Henry P. Van Zandt, indicted for murder. Tried and acquitted.

Aaron Hughes, indicted for murder. Tried and convicted of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for seven years three months and eleven days.

Bridget Hughes, indicted for murder. Arraigned and discharged.

1842.—Louis Bourgeois, indicted for manslaughter in the third degree by stabbing James Kennedy. Tried and convicted. Sentence: State Prison for four years.

Christian Boork killed his wife by striking her on the head with an ax, crushing her skull. He ended his life by hanging himself.

1845.—Robert Black and Patrick Markey, indicted for manslaughter in the fourth degree by running their sleigh into another sleigh in which was Miss Lydia Oliver, who was thereby instantly killed. Tried and convicted. Sentence: State Prison for two years.

Harman B. Campbell, indicted for manslaughter. Tried and acquitted.

George Wilson, held to bail for manslaughter in the fourth degree, whereby Mrs. Anthony, of Cohoes, was instantly killed by a locomotive running over her. Wilson was not indicted.

1846.—Charles Gouche, Joseph and Charles Malay, indicted for murder by shooting John Barman. On trial, Gouche was convicted of manslaughter in the first degree and sentenced to State Prison for life. The Malays were acquitted.

1847.—Jeremiah and Eugene Sullivan, indicted for the murder of James Smith. On trial, Jeremiah was convicted of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for four years. Eugene was acquitted.

Michael Teeven struck Michael Walls on the head with a stick of wood, causing death in a few hours. Teeven escaped.

1848.—John McGuire, indicted for murder—killing, by kicks and blows, James Connolly. Tried and acquitted.

Thomas Kelly, a lunatic, killed, by shooting and stabbing, James C. Mull. Kelly died in the State Lunatic Asylum in Oneida County.

James Whalen, for the murder of Peter Turner, by beating and kicking and throwing him in the canal, causing death. Tried and convicted of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for seven years.

George Erwin, bailed for manslaughter in the second degree. Can find no record of trial or acquittal.

William Maxted killed Michael McGown by stabbing him with a knife. Tried. Convicted of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for four years.

1849.—Barney Leddy, for the murder of his wife by kicks and blows. Convicted of manslaughter in the first degree. Sentence: State Prison for life.

Three unknown assassins robbed and murdered Joseph N. Becker. No capture.

John Robinson, indicted for the murder of Christopher Jocelyn by striking him on the head with a heavy club. Tried and convicted of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for seven years.

Eseck Carr, indicted for the murder of his wife, Jane, by poison. Tried and acquitted.

1850.—Reuben Dunbar, indicted for the murder of two small boys, Stephen V. and David L. Lester. Tried, convicted and sentenced to be hanged. Executed January 31, 1851.

John S. Jackson, indicted for the murder of his mother-in-law, Margaret Thompson. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to State Prison for four years.

1851.—In the night-time, one or more assassins killed, by kicks and blows, Harriet Smith. No capture.

John Osborn killed, by beating with a stone, Teunis S. Slingerland. Osborn escaped.

Susan Gaynor, for manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentenced to the Penitentiary for six months.

John Moore killed his wife, Elizabeth, by shooting her, tearing off the upper part of her skull. He then shot himself, causing instant death.

1852.—Patrick McEnroe killed, by kicking and beating, Thomas Cassidy. Tried. Convicted of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for two years.

James Moore, indicted for murder—killing his wife, Elizabeth. Tried and convicted of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for two years.

John Henderson, convicted of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for two years.

1853.—John Hendrickson, Jr., indicted for the murder of his wife, Maria, by administering to her poison. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to be hanged. Executed May 4, 1854.

Richard Dyness, indicted for manslaughter in the fourth degree. Tried, convicted, and sentenced to the Penitentiary for four months.

1854.—John H. Phelps, indicted for the murder of his wife, by stabbing her with a dirk. Tried, convicted and sentenced to be executed. Commuted to State Prison for life.

John H. Hotaling stabbed William Gibson, causing his death. Tried. Convicted and sentenced for manslaughter in the third degree. Sent to State Prison for four years.

Catharine Slingerland, an imbecile, killed her infant. Indicted for murder. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentenced to the Penitentiary for one year.

1855.—John Dunnigan, indicted for murder—killing his wife, Catharine. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to be hanged. Commuted to State Prison for life.

William McCrossin, indicted for the murder of Michael Brennan, by shooting him with a pistol, causing instant death. Tried and acquitted.

1856.—Patrick Lane, indicted for manslaughter in the second degree, by kicking and beating, causing the death of James Carlin. Tried and convicted. Sentence: State Prison for four years.

Francis McCann, indicted for the murder of his wife, Agnes, by striking her on the head with an ax. Arraigned. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the first degree. Sentenced to State Prison for life.

John Cummings, indicted for murder, by shooting with a gun Frederick Stumpf. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to be executed. Commuted to State Prison for life by Governor King. Pardoned by Governor Fenton.

James Carney, indicted for the murder of Patrick Carroll by throwing stones and otherwise beating him, causing his death. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the first degree. Sentenced to State Prison for life.

Assassins, unknown, killed Mrs. Anastatia Bulger.

1857.—Robert Morrison, indicted for manslaughter, by keeping bears on a public thoroughfare, whereby one John Hoey and an Indian named Joseph Harney were killed. Tried and acquitted.

Susan Anthony, indicted for murder—strangling her infant. Tried and convicted of manslaughter in the first degree. Sentenced to State Prison for life.

1858.—Robert Morrison, Jr., held to bail for manslaughter in the third degree. No record of trial found.

Michael Naughton, a boy, indicted for murder—killing, by stabbing in the breast with a knife, Joseph O'Callaghan, Jr. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentenced to the House of Refuge.

Thomas N. Francis, indicted for the murder of Rachel Hilton, by beating her with a bar of wood. Tried. Verdict: guilty of manslaughter in the first degree. Sentence: State Prison for life.

John Wilson, indicted for the murder of Patrick McCarty, by striking him on the head with a hatchet. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to be executed. Commuted to State Prison for life.

1858.—Mary Hartung, indicted for the murder of her husband, Emil Hartung, by administering poison to him. Tried, convicted and sentenced to be executed. Proceedings stayed. Discharged.

William Rheinmann, indicted as accessory for the murder of Emil Hartung. Tried and acquitted.

1859.—Oscelia Mastin, indicted for causing the death of a young woman pregnant with child, by abortion. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for four years.

Catharine Messer, causing the death of an infant by giving it poison in porridge. Find no record of trial.

Jefferson W. Bennett, indicted for the murder of Robert Morrison. Tried and acquitted.

Michael O'Brien, indicted for the murder of his wife by beating her. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to be executed. Executed June 3, 1859.

John Osborn, indicted for murder. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentenced to the Penitentiary for one year.

John Irvin, indicted for murder, by beating his wife with a club. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for four years.

Adam Murray, indicted for murder—killing John Cahill by stabbing him with a knife. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for four years.

1860.—John McCotter, indicted for the murder of Thomas O'Halloran by stabbing him with a chisel. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentenced to State Prison for two years.

Terence Leavy, indicted for the murder of Michael Burk by stabbing him with a knife. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for three years.

1861.—Walter Barrett, indicted for the murder of Terence Boyle by stabbing him with a knife. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for three years and eight months.

1862.—Michael Hewson, indicted for the murder of Thomas Costello by stabbing him with a knife. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for two years and eight months.

1863.—William J. Church, indicted for the murder of his wife, Ann, by stabbing her with a knife. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for twenty years.

Patrick Flynn, indicted for the murder of John N. Colburn by striking him on the head with a heavy stave. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for seven years.

Matthew Brumaghim, indicted for the murder of Charles Phillips by shooting him with a pistol. Tried and acquited.

1864.—Mackey Dunnigan, indicted for the murder of John Connors by shooting him with a pistol. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: State Prison for two years and two months.

Bridget and David McCarty, indicted for the murder of Michael Gilmartin by beating him with a stove cover and a stone or brick-bat. No record of trial.

George E. Gordon, indicted for murder in killing Owen Thompson by beating him with a club. Arraigned and tried. Convicted of murder. Sentenced to be executed. Exceptions taken and carried to the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. Final sentence: State Prison for life.

John P. Cordell, Philip Damp, and Frederick Damp, indicted for manslaughter in the first degree, by causing the death of the wife of Frederick Damp by inflicting upon her blows and otherwise brutal treatment. Acquitted.

David Crawley, indicted for murder. Tried. Verdict: guilty of manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for seven years.

1865.—Some four or five persons were suspected of throwing the missile that struck John McInnerney on the head, fracturing his skull and causing his death a few days after the fatal deed. The criminal was never captured.

1866.—Michael Chestnutt, without felonious intent, struck John Hanna a blow with his fist, causing him to fall, striking his head against some hard substance, fracturing his skull, of which injury he died. Chestnutt was indicted for manslaughter in the first degree. Convicted of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentenced to pay a penalty of fifty dollars.

Judson W. Palmer, indicted for murder. On trial the jury did not agree upon a verdict. Discharged.

1867.—George W. Cole, indicted for the murder of Hon. L. Harris Hiscock by shooting him with a pistol. The jury did not agree. On the second trial the prisoner was acquitted.

1869.—Henry Trainor, indicted for manslaughter in the second degree, for killing John Donnelly. Tried and convicted. Sentence: Penitentiary for one year.

1870.—Lorenzo Murphy, indicted for manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: Penitentiary for one year.

Robert Pickett, indicted for murder. On trial the jury was withdrawn and the prisoner discharged.

John O'Neil, indicted for murder. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: House of Refuge.

1871.—Lemuel P. Van Hoesen, killed his wife, Harriet A., by beating her head with a stew-pan, fracturing her skull. The prisoner was declared

insane. A few years since he committed suicide at Omaha, Neb.

1872.—William Wilcox, indicted for murder of John Seib by shooting him with a pistol. Tried. Convicted of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentence: State Prison for four years.

Michael Hifford, convicted of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentence: House of Refuge.

1873.—Emil Lowenstein, indicted for the murder of John D. Weston, by shooting him with a pistol. Tried and convicted. Sentence: death by hanging. Executed April 10, 1874.

Margaret Lyons, indicted for the murder of an infant by administering phosphorus. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentenced to State Prison for one year.

1874.—David Landers was tried for killing Thomas Van Aernam by hitting him on the head with a stone. Verdict: guilty. Sentenced to pay a penalty of one hundred dollars.

1875.—Rachel Bartell, indicted for causing death by abortion. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to the Penitentiary for eighteen months.

John Barrett, indicted for killing Ira B. Mosely by stabbing him with a carving knife in the breast, penetrating a lung. Find no record of trial or acquittal.

1876.—Lewis Theus, indicted for murder in the first degree by throwing a butcher's knife, striking John Gresser, aged fourteen years, causing death. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentenced to the Penitentiary for three years.

Mary A. McDonald, indicted for manslaughter in the third degree for shooting her husband, Robert McDonald. Tried and acquitted.

1877.—Edward Scully killed John Davis by stabbing him with a knife. Scully escaped capture.

1878.—Daniel Van Deusen, indicted for murder in the first degree by stabbing with a knife Philip Hyde. Pleaded guilty of murder in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for life.

1879.—John C. Hughes, indicted for murder in the first degree by stabbing William J. Hadley with a knife, causing death. Tried. Verdict: murder in the second degree. Sentenced to State Prison for life.

Helaire Latromouille, indicted for murder in the first degree by stabbing with a knife Catherine Dunsbach. Tried. Verdict: guilty of murder in the first degree. Sentence: death by hanging. Executed August 20, 1879.

Thomas Mallon, indicted for murder in the first degree by shooting his wife, Ann, with a gun. Tried and convicted of manslaughter in the fourth degree. Sentence: State Prison for two years.

Person unknown murdered Stephen Dugan.

1880.—William McNeal, indicted for murder in the first degree, by stabbing with a knife, his wife Catharine. Tried. Verdict: murder in the second degree. Sentence: State Prison for life.

Hiram G. Briggs, indicted for murder in the first degree by shooting Erskine Wood. On motion, the indictment was quashed. The prisoner was arraigned on a new indictment similar to the former. Pleaded guilty of manslaughter in the third degree. Sentenced to the Penitentiary for two years.

Charles Burt killed, by shooting with a pistol, Catharine Smith. He immediately shot and killed himself.

1883.—William Dyer, indicted for manslaughter in the second degree by carelessly driving a two-horse team attached to a truck wagon, and running over a small boy named Charles Cook, causing his death. Tried and convicted. Sentenced to the Penitentiary for one year.

Person or persons unknown killed Michael Biofore.

1884.—Peter Edwards killed his wife, Cornelia, by beating her with a hammer and stabbing her with a butcher's knife. He inflicted injuries upon himself of which he died.

Catharine Schreiver, wife of Christopher Schreiver, in one night killed four of her children by cutting their throats. She then caused her remaining child, a daughter nine years of age, to accompany her to a place half a mile distant on the New York Central Railroad, known as Black Rock, where the affrighted child, in obedience to the stern command of her crazed mother, sat upon the rail, while the mother prostrated herself across the railroad track. Soon the down train came rapidly, decapitating the mother and so mangling the child that she too was soon numbered with the dead.

Michael Downey, indicted for murder in the first degree by shooting with a pistol, Dennis Desmond. Arraigned. Pleaded guilty of murder in the second degree, and was sentenced to State Prison for life.

Ah Kay, indicted for murder in the first degree by shooting Wee Kee. Both were Chinese. Arraigned and tried. Convicted for murder in the second degree. Sentenced to State Prison for twenty years.

Mrs. Margaret Ahern, indicted for murder in the second degree by maliciously pushing Peter Clark off a stoop, causing instant death. Tried.

Verdict: manslaughter in the second degree. Sentence: Penitentiary for three years.

Assassin unknown killed James Larrison.

ELISHA MACK, who industriously and conscientiously compiled this paper on "Homicides in Albany Co.," is able to give a more extended history of most of them. He has also written out, very fully, the history of other noted criminals in this city and county, many of whom were brought to justice by his own detective skill, while he was (for nearly twenty years) on the Police force. No man ever held this trust with more integrity, and few with more acceptance. The Police records, kept by those high-minded Police Magistrates—Cole, Kane, Comstock and Loveridge—testify to his sagacity and skill in making important arrests, and bringing to light cunningly hidden iniquity. Want of space prevents us from inserting some of his marvelous details, told, as he tells them, with remarkable clearness and delicacy. If they could be printed in book form the record would be valuable to the police, the lawyer and the Courts everywhere. Mr. Mack was born in Windsor, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, February 7, 1811. He came to Albany in 1816, and still lives among us, active and highly respected, in his 75th year.

It is worthy of note that the number of murders is very small for a county so old, and with so large a population made up of people of such varied nationality and pursuit. The number convicted, sentenced, and punished with the extreme penalty, is also remarkably small.

TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION IN ALBANY COUNTY.

THE native Indian, in his journeyings, had marked out his paths by the courses of the streams, by the peaks of the hills, and observations of the sun, moon and stars. We have named them Indian trails, and early European hunters, trappers and settlers found them very useful. When the Indian came to navigable waters he paddled his light canoe, which he took up when he came to dangerous rapids or wished to cross from one water to another, and launched in the desired place in his route.

When the early immigrants from Holland came to this country, they came up the Hudson in the sailing craft of their time. The Dutch knew how to construct and navigate ships. The water-way between New Amsterdam and Fort Orange, afterwards New York and Albany, was much traveled by the early adventurers in the fur trade; by colonial farmers, settlers, and speculators of every name; by curious travelers; and by public functionaries of the Patroons, of the Dutch West India Company, and of the English crown. All came and went in canoes, batteaux, rafts, or some kind of ship. Trade was carried on in the same way; and the trade, of bringing supplies for a people whose chief business was hunting and trading, whose manufactures and farming were of the most simple kind, was large. It took in return, to the New York, West India and European marts, furs, peltries, and, after a time, the surplus products of the forest and farms. In all the years from the discovery of the Hudson to the war for American independence, the carriages and the carrying, both by land and water, were essentially the same. Most of the settlements hereabouts were from the Atlantic waters along up the Hudson River and the Mohawk. Those few who dwelt a little way off from them or other waters, got to them, when necessity or profit impelled, either on foot, bearing their bearable burdens on their backs, or using the rudest conveyances that ox or horse ever dragged or drew.

Some improvements in carriages were introduced by the English in the later colonial period and especially by those who came from New England. But the best of these, rude as they were compared with those of to-day, were few and owned only by the wealthy. The enormous carts or wagons which the early immigrants from New England used in which to bring their families and their household goods, created amazement and amusement to the natives along the Hudson and the Mohawk. But these moving Saxons from "the Eastern States" brought ideas with them and cute ways of doing things. Heavy wagons were used for transportation in this vicinity during the revolutionary war; but the lighter travel was pursued on horseback or on foot, for long journeys. For some years after the dawning of the present century, there were no light wagons in the new settlements and no roads for them. The dominie made his parish visits on horseback; the doctor visited his distant patients on horseback, carrying his medicines in saddle-bags; and the lawyer, taking his green bag, rode to court on horseback. Social visits were interchanged between friends residing at remote distances in this same way. Church-goers in neighboring towns came on horseback, several miles, to attend service in Albany, taking all day and often spending the night with friends. The same horse carried

the wife, sitting on the pillion behind the husband, and frequently an infant for baptism. When they could not ride, parents and older sons and daughters often walked long distances to do an important errand, to visit friends, or to listen to their pastor's Sabbath instructions. In one or the other of these ways the grist was taken to mill, the fleece to the wool-carder and clothier, and the little surplus produce to the city merchant.

Time makes many changes to meet the requirements and necessities of mankind. New inventions to economize domestic affairs and to lighten the burdens of toil were sought; many rude improvements were the result. New and better conveyances, first used by the more prosperous citizen, were introduced, while the laborer back in the forest long continued to ride in his rudely constructed cart, often drawn by a yoke of oxen.

When the carriage and coach made their appearance for the aristocracy, the farmer was usually content in the comfort he realized from the rude wagon, the workmanship of home skill. All these vehicles were improved to meet the demand of progress. The years that followed the first quarter of this century witnessed rapid strides in better facilities for intercommunication and the conveyances for travel and transportation.

Travel from Albany to distant points began to assume considerable proportions as new fields of enterprise were opened. Increase of population, the multiplied demands of agriculture, manufactures and home industries, brought a corresponding increase in travel, trade, and other branches of business which contribute to prosperity. Among the first considerations of a practical kind was to find a market for surplus agricultural products and manufactures. These found a natural outlet by the river, and commodities were usually shipped upon it by sloops or schooners. Trade was opening beyond Albany westward, along the Mohawk valley to Johnstown and even to Cherry Valley. Roads must be made. At first they naturally followed the Indian trails. Those from the north and west were by five routes centering in Albany. In time they were improved and used as wagon roads by early travelers, and served during the revolution for transporting supplies and for other military purposes.

The earliest traveled route, as has been said, between Albany and New York was by the Hudson River. In 1785, the Legislature granted to Isaac Van Wyck, Talmage Hall and John Kinney, the exclusive right to drive stage wagons on the east side of the river for the term of ten years. The fare was fixed at four-pence a mile. A year later, communication with Springfield, Mass., was opened, and in 1789 a stage commenced running to Lansingburgh.

Public wagon roads, about 1790, were opened for travel east; also to Whitestown on the west, which soon extended to the Genesee country. Thus was a new idea suddenly brought to the notice of active men, from which they hoped to realize success in new enterprises. Among the first was a line of stages by way of Schenectady to Johnstown, Canajoharie, Fort Plain and Warrensbush. In 1790, the Legislature granted to Ananias Platt the exclusive right to run a stage between Albany and Lansingburgh. In 1791, a stage route was extended by the Legislature to Bennington, Vt. In 1792, a line of stages was established from Albany to Whitestown, performing the journey once in two weeks. In the spring of 1793, Moses Beal carried passengers from Albany to Canajoharie once a week; the fare was three cents a mile. About this time John Hudson established an opposition line to Schenectady; fare, four shillings. A line connecting Albany with the Connecticut River Valley was soon started. In 1794, Mr. Platt ran his stage between Lansingburgh and Albany twice a day. So great was the increase in travel, that in the winter of 1795 the number of daily trips was six; and in the summer of 1796, it was necessary to employ twenty stages daily between Waterford, Lansingburgh, Troy and Albany, averaging more than one hundred and fifty passengers daily. The mails in 1796, were carried between Albany and Philadelphia in three days. This year there were five post routes centering in Albany. The fare to New York was reduced from ten to eight dollars.

After the war of the revolution, there was general activity in the direction of internal improvements. The great object was to connect existing highways with the Mohawk River, extend trade to other places, and bring the products west of Schenectady to Albany, and thence to New York for a market. The Mohawk not affording a continuous route, on account of the Cohoes Falls, to obviate this obstruction, and to secure a more economical and expeditious method, the Northern Inland Lock and Navigation Company was organized as early as 1790, followed in 1792 by the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company, to connect the central lakes with the Mohawk. Philip Schuyler was president, and Barent Bleecker was treasurer; Elkanah Watson and Stephen Van Rensselaer were active in the enterprise. In 1796, $40,000 worth

of furs and peltries were received by one Albany house from Western companies, and trade was increasing rapidly. The heavy lumbering wagons with their four and six horses, loaded with tons of produce and merchandise, formed a line on this road not unlike an Eastern caravan. It is recorded that, in the winter of 1795, one thousand two hundred sleighs passed through this city in three days with emigrants to the Genesee Valley. They were from New England—ancestors of the prosperous citizens of the farms and shops of Western New York. They soon had abundant products to sell and demanded a highway of trade. It was for the interest of Albany and New York that it be made. Following the enterprise of a few public benefactors, improved facilities for transportation on the Mohawk to Schenectady were undertaken. In 1797, was incorporated the Albany and Schenectady Turnpike, then one of the most important roads in the State. It became the leading highway for travel and traffic connected with the wonderful progress then developing in the western part of the State, opening lateral outlets of vast importance. This road continued to be profitably patronized until the opening of the Erie Canal in 1823, when its usefulness and profit were diminished. The Hudson and Mohawk Railroad in 1832 was a great competitor. Turnpikes became an enterprise in which capitalists eagerly invested. They were a great improvement upon the old roads; but few of them proved profitable to the stockholder, and several of them are now abandoned.

The trade that centered in Schenectady was a source of rivalry. To obtain a share of the business and to secure a portion of this coveted treasure, the Troy and Schenectady Turnpike was incorporated in 1806, which, after a few years of successful operation, shared the fate of other similar roads. Travel and freight have been diverted to other methods, and are now conveyed by the agency of steam.

In 1798, the Legislature chartered the Lebanon and Albany Turnpike; in 1799 the first company of the Great Western Turnpike was chartered; in 1804 the Bethlehem Turnpike; and in 1805 the Albany and Delaware Turnpike. A turnpike on the west side of the river to Catskill was chartered about this time. All these roads had in view the concentration of travel to Albany, and for many years Albany was the starting point of a score of stage lines, and mail routes diverged in all directions, extending west as far as Buffalo.

After 1800, until the completion of the canal, travel and transportation to Buffalo and other points were exclusively performed by heavy wagons drawn by four or six horses.

After the completion of the canal, Albany became a great highway for travel; for many years the packet boats were well patronized, as they offered the passengers many comforts, and facilitated social enjoyment. The first packet boat on the canal, direct from Albany, that visited Buffalo was the Benjamin Wright, which arrived October 29, 1825. The event was duly celebrated in that village.

In 1811, a line of stages was started from Albany to reach Niagara Falls in three days, thence to Buffalo. The fare to Canandaigua was $16.25.

The old swinging stage coach rumbled over these roads, and its departure or arrival was hailed with interest by the villagers, who gathered at the taverns to gossip, to hear the news and to see the sights.

The stage owners located at Albany were Thorp & Sprague, Rice & Baker, Baker & Waldridge, Halsted, and some others. These parties owned a good number of horses; but upon the completion of the railroads, the glory and usefulness of their business departed, and the iron horse now supersedes the weary men and jaded horses.

The year 1807 marked a new era and introduced a new power in the economy of travel. From that year to the present, steam has wrought wonderful changes, and the Hudson River claims the honor of the first successful steamboat enterprise. Since the establishment of this mode of travel on the Hudson River, steamboats have been improved, from the simple craft of Fulton—which left New York on September 5, 1807, with twenty-seven passengers, and October 7th with one hundred passengers, taking from 24 to 36 hours time to make the trip—to the gorgeous and spacious floating palaces of the present, which make the trip in nine hours or less, and have accommodation for 600 to 800 passengers, and often carry a larger number. The fare on Fulton's boat was seven dollars, now it is from one dollar to one dollar and fifty cents.

In 1811 there were two steamboats carrying passengers to New York, the Hope and North River. In 1836 there were twelve steamboats and seven towing boats. The steamboat travel on the river in past years has been immense, but the railroads on either side of the river have become formidable rivals to the once monopolized privileges of the passenger boats, so that the number has somewhat diminished as compared with former years. We have space to give the names only of a few of the principal steamboats that have ploughed the Hudson River.

In 1820, the Chancellor Livingston, 175 x 50 feet. Had beds for 160 passengers and settees for 40. Fare, eight dollars.

In 1823, the Constitution, Constellation, Swiftsure and Saratoga began to run

In 1828, the North America, "the most beautiful and swift of the floating palaces on the Hudson; or, as I believe, I may add with truth, in the world," says Dr. Charles Stuart.

In 1835, the Champlain followed by the Diamond, Swallow, Reindeer, Henry Clay, Hope and Columbia. After 1850, by the Alida, New World, Francis Skiddy, Empire City, Jonas C. Heart.

After 1860, came the Armenia, Daniel Drew, Isaac Newton, Mary Powell, St. John, Chauncey Vibbard, Vanderbilt, Dean Richmond, and the Albany.

Many of these recent steamboats have made the trip between New York and Albany in seven hours forty-five minutes, and sometimes in six hours forty-two minutes.

In the words of Lossing: "The steamboat itself is a romance of the Hudson. Its birth was on its waters, where the rude conceptions of Evans and Fitch were perfected by Fulton and his successors. How strange is the story of its advent, growth and achievements! Living men remember when the idea of steam navigation was ridiculed. They remember, too, that when the Clermont went from New York to Albany without the use of sails, against wind and tide, in thirty-two hours, ridicule was changed to amazement. The steamboat was an awful revelation to the fishermen, the farmers, and the villagers. It seemed like a weird craft from Pluto's realm,—a transfiguration of Charon's boat into a living fiend from the infernal regions. Its huge black pipe vomiting fire and smoke, the hoarse breathing of its engine, and the great splash of its uncovered paddle-wheels filled the imagination with all the dark pictures of goblins that romancers have invented since the foundation of the world. Some thought it was an unheard of monster of the sea ravaging the fresh waters; others regarded it as a herald of the final conflagration at the day of doom. Some prayed for deliverance; some fled in terror to the shore and hid in the recesses of the rocks; and some crouched in mortal dread of the fiery demon.

"The Clermont was a small thing compared with the great river steamers of the present time. Fulton did not comprehend the majesty and capacity of his invention. He regarded the Richmond (the finest steamboat at the time of his death) as the perfection of that class of architecture. She was a little more than 100 feet in length, with a low, dingy cabin, partly below the water-line, dimly lighted by tallow candles, in which passengers ate and slept in stifling air, and her highest rate of speed was nine miles an hour. Could Fulton revisit the earth and be placed on one of the great river steamboats of our time, he would imagine himself to be in some magical structure of fairy-land, or of forming a part of a strange romance; for it is a magnificent floating hotel, over four hundred feet in length, and capable of carrying a thousand guests by night or by day at the rate of twenty miles an hour. Its gorgeously furnished parlors, lighted with gas, and garnished with rich curtains, mirrors and elegant furniture; its cheerful and well-ventilated dining-room; and its airy bedrooms, high above the water, compose a whole more grand and beautiful than any palace dreamed of by the Arabian story-tellers. It is the perfected growth of the Indian's bark canoe."

For a few years, about 1850, plank roads were chartered, and five were constructed in the county. These for a time were a novel enterprise, and commanded a large share of local travel; but now they are mostly abandoned, except on short lines, the travel having been diverted to lateral railroads.

Since the first railroad — the Mohawk and Hudson—was built, and began to be operated in this county in 1832 with its open coaches, a new system of journeying began at once to be introduced.

The facilities centered at Albany, by railroad and steamboat, for reaching any given point, will compare favorably with any city in the State. Roads center here from all points, and connections are made with other and continuous lines leading to everywhere.

The New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, with its consolidated branches from New York to Buffalo, makes Albany a great thoroughfare. During the year 1883 this road carried on its several branches nearly eleven million passengers. During the month of May, 1885, there were sold at the Union Depot, Albany, 53,228 passenger tickets. In the same month sixty-five passenger trains were dispatched daily. The fare on this road averages about 2.05 cents per mile.

The Delaware and Hudson Canal Company's Railroads are of immense utility to this County. This great corporation leases and operates, among other roads, the Albany and Susquehanna, the Rensselaer and Saratoga, and the New York and Canada, which start from Albany. The number of passengers carried on these roads in 1884 was

2,622,174, and for the month of May, 1885, there were sold at the Albany office 56,823 passenger tickets, and seventeen regular passenger trains were sent out daily. The fare on this road is three cents per mile.

The Boston and Albany Railroad has its station in the Union Depot. This road carried in 1883 over eight million passengers; and in the month of May, 1885, sold at the Albany office 37,099 passenger tickets, and despatched seven regular passenger trains daily.

The New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad was opened to Albany in 1883. There were sold from the Albany offices for the month of May, 1885, 9,095 passenger tickets, and eleven trains were sent out daily with passengers. The fare is three cents per mile.

The Troy and Boston Railroad sends six daily trains. It passes through Hoosac tunnel.

The several railroads that center at Albany sent out for the month of May from this city about 105 passenger trains daily, and the same number arrived daily. The total number of passenger tickets sold at the Albany offices for the same month was 156,243.

The whole number of passengers carried on the several steamboats from Albany for the season of 1884 was about 1,500,000.

Stages run daily from the city to New Scotland, New Salem and Berne; also to Clarksville, Westerlo and Rensselaerville, via Bethlehem Centre; to Guilderland Centre every afternoon; to Newtonville, Nassau and East Schodack daily; and to Greenbush every fifteen minutes.

RAILROADS IN ALBANY COUNTY.

ALBANY has become a very important railroad center. It was one of the earliest points of railroad interest in the United States. The construction of a railroad parallel with the Hudson River, connecting the City of New York with the City of Albany, affording a communication between the two cities at all seasons, was considered an object of so much importance, that, in 1832, a number of enterprising citizens obtained from the Legislature a charter with a capital of $3,000,000, and powers to construct the same. But a sufficient amount of the capital stock was not subscribed, and the project was abandoned for about twenty years. The then estimated cost of the road for a single track was $12,000 per mile, which would amount to nearly $2,000,000 for the whole line. It was believed that branches of this road might easily be constructed to Hartford and New Haven, and a large amount of business might be expected, not only from the eastern counties of this State, but from Berkshire County, Mass., and Litchfield and Fairfield Counties, Conn. The railroad commissioners of 1833 have this curious speculation concerning the profits of the proposed road: That it would accommodate a large number of the population in the vicinity of the route; that the amount of transportation which would be paid to the road by this population, on produce, minerals, manufactures and merchandise would amount to $350,000, to which was added a larger amount to be obtained from travelers and light freights between New York and Albany, particularly in the winter; that the annual income of the proposed road would amount to $852,000. "This railroad," says this report, "will connect at Albany with the grand chain of railroads now in progress, or contemplated, from Albany to Buffalo, viz.: the Mohawk and Schenectady, completed; Utica and Schenectady, in progress; Syracuse and Utica, contemplated; Auburn and Syracuse, stock subscribed; Auburn and Rochester, contemplated; Tonawanda, contemplated, from Rochester through Batavia to Attica." Fifty-two years ago there was no railway between Albany and Buffalo, except the short line then known as the Mohawk and Schenectady, and no railway connection between New York and Albany; and the great road now known as the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad was not in existence.

The Albany and Schenectady road had been in operation since September 12, 1831, under the name of the Mohawk and Hudson. The Hudson River Railroad, chartered in 1832, and abandoned for lack of the necessary capital, obtained a new charter May 12, 1846, and on October 3, 1851, the road was opened from New York to East Albany. November 1, 1869, the New York Central Railroad and Hudson River Railroad companies were organized by consolidation. The New York Central Railroad Company was organized April 2,

1853, authorizing the consolidation of the railroads between Albany and Buffalo, as follows:

Albany and Schenectady; Schenectady and Troy; Utica and Schenectady; the Mohawk Valley; the Syracuse and Utica; the Syracuse and Utica direct; Rochester and Syracuse; Buffalo and Rochester; the Rochester, Lockport and Niagara Falls; the Buffalo and Lockport.

Articles of agreement, taking effect May 1, 1853, were filed May 15, 1853. The first Board of Directors was elected July 6, and the whole line delivered to the new company August 1, 1853.

The first railroad ever built in the State was the Albany and Schenectady, chartered in 1826 as the Mohawk and Hudson. It was opened September 12, 1831. In 1847, the name was changed to Albany and Schenectady.

Previous to the consolidation of the Hudson River Railroad with the New York Central, the Troy and Greenbush road, chartered in 1845, was leased to the Hudson River road, June 1, 1851, for seven per cent. on $275,000 capital stock. The lease runs during the time of the charter, or any extension of the same. It was assumed by the New York Central and Hudson River road on consolidation.

The New York and Harlem, chartered April 25, 1831, is one of the routes from Albany to New York—formerly from Greenbush—the corporate existence of which was extended December 28, 1874, four hundred years. It leased its steam portion, running to Forty-second street, New York City, April 1, 1873, to the Central. This lease expires April 1, 2274, the annual rent being the interest on its funded debt and eight per cent. on its capital stock.

Before the construction of the railroad bridges which span the Hudson at Albany, all passengers and freight arriving at Albany en route for New York or the East were shipped by ferry to Greenbush. The two bridges now crossing the Hudson to East Albany are owned nominally by a separate organization called the Hudson River Bridge Company. The ownership, however, is vested really in the New York Central and Hudson River Company three-fourths, and the Boston and Albany Railroad one-fourth. Except for foot passengers, they are used exclusively for railroad purposes. Each company pays its proportion of maintenance in operating. The cost of the road, consolidated, with all its rolling stock, etc., was $114,731,917. Two hundred and ninety-five miles of the road between Albany and Buffalo has four tracks; between Albany and New York there are four tracks. It owns, in all, 2,361 miles of track, and controls by lease 324 additional miles; it owns 655 locomotives, 361 first-class passenger cars and 22,973 freight cars. It employs 15,355 persons, paying them during the year 1883, $8,401,208 for services. During the railroad year ending December 31, 1883, it carried 10,746,925 passengers and 10,892,440 tons of freight; the average rate per mile per passenger was: through, 2.05 cents; way, 2.04 cents. The freight rates per ton per mile are .69 cents on through freight; .67 cents on way. Total earnings, $33,770,721, from which is deducted, including an 8 per cent. dividend amounting to $7,148,131, $33,591,697, leaving a balance in favor of the road of $179,024.

ALBANY AND SUSQUEHANNA RAILROAD COMPANY.

This road was incorporated under the General Railroad Law, April 19, 1851. It was open for travel and traffic from Albany to Central Bridge, a distance of thirty-five miles, September 16, 1863, and to other points at various dates, and to its terminus at Binghamton, January 14, 1869. The property of the company was leased February 24, 1870, to the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company for the term of its charter, one hundred and fifty years from April 19, 1851, paying a rental as follows: Six per cent. upon the Albany City bonds; seven per cent. upon the first, second and third mortgage bonds and first consolidated mortgage bonds; seven per cent. upon the capital stock; and $1,000 for maintaining the organization. The interest and dividend are paid by the lessees directly to the stock and bondholders. A payment of $5,000 semi-annually is also made by the lessees to the trustees of the sinking fund of the City of Albany, and is invested by the latter in certain funds for the ultimate payment of the Albany City bonds.

The following statement shows the condition of its funded debt:

STATEMENT OF FUNDED DEBT.

Kind of Bonds or Obligations.	If and How Secured.	Date of Issue.	When Due.	Rate of Interest.	Amount of Authorized Issue.	Amount Actually Issued.	Outstanding.
First mortgage	By mortgage.	July 1, 1863.	July 1, 1888.	.07	$1,000,000 00	$1,000,000 00	$998,000 00
Second mortgage	By mortgage.	Oct., 1865.	Oct. 1, 1885.	.07	2,000,000 00	2,000,000 00	1,627,000 00
First consolidated mort.	By mortgage.	April 1, 1876.	April 1, 1906.	.06 and .07	*10,000,000 00	4,556,000 00	4,556,000 00
Albany City	By mortgage.	Nov. 6, 1865.	Nov. 6, 1895.	.06	250,000 00	250,000 00	250,000 00
Albany City	By mortgage.	May 1, 1866.	May 1, 1896.	.06	250,000 00	250,000 00	250,000 00
Albany City	By mortgage.	Nov. 1, 1866.	Nov. 1, 1896.	.06	250,000 00	250,000 00	250,000 00
Albany City	By mortgage.	May 1, 1867.	May 1, 1897.	.06	250,000 00	250,000 00	250,000 00
Total					$14,000,00 000	$8,556,000 00	
Total outstanding							$8,181,000 00

* Includes $3,450,000 to be used in exchanging other classes of bonds, as per terms of amended lease.

Albany is largely interested in various ways in the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad Company. The total cost and equipment of the road was $6,701,691.55. The following is the balance sheet for the year 1883, showing the moneyed interest of the City of Albany therein:

Dr. BALANCE SHEET AT END OF YEAR. Cr.

	By last Report.	By this Report.		By last Report.	By this Report.
Cost of road and equipment	$6,701,691 55	$6,701,266 55	Capital Stock	$3,500,000 00	$3,500,000 00
Additions and betterments made by the lessee	4,706,255 91	5,689,786 63	Funded Debt	7,134,000 00	8,881,000 00
Sinking fund in the hands of the trustees of the City of Albany, applicable to retiring the Albany City bonds issued to this company	237,466 54	260,237 37	Unfunded Debt	1,072,255 91	1,008,786 63
New York and Albany Railroad Company stock	7,000 00	7,000 00			
Cash by last report $487 88					
Trustees' account by last report 419 58	907 47				
Cash by this report $887 90					
Trustees' account by this report 419 58		1,307 48			
Other assets	419 14				
Income account	52,513 30	30,188 60			
Total	$11,706,255 91	$12,689,786 63	Total	$11,706,255 91	$12,689,786 63

Income or Profit and Loss Account.

Debit balance of income account, Sep. 30, 1882	$52,515 30
Deduct items of gain	22,326 10
Balance of income account, Sep. 31, 1883	$30,186 60

THE ALBANY AND VERMONT RAILROAD.

This road was chartered October 17, 1857, and was leased in perpetuity to the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad Company, June 12, 1860, and is operated by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. The main line of the road from Albany to Waterford Junction, is twelve miles in this State. Its capital stock, as authorized by charter and paid in, is $600,000; number of shares, 6,000; number of stockholders, 47.

The total earnings of the road for the year ending 1883 were $21,060.00. The charges against these earnings were $19,200, giving surplus of $1,860.

BOSTON AND ALBANY RAILROAD.

This important and thoroughly equipped railway, uniting Albany with Boston, was chartered November 2, 1870. It is made up of a combination or consolidation of roads, as follows: Western Railroad Corporation, established by the Common-

wealth of Massachusetts March 15, 1833; Castleton and New Stockbridge Railroad Company, incorporated by New York May 5, 1834. Its name was changed to Albany and West Stockbridge Railroad Company by an act of May 5, 1836.

On November 11, 1841, a permanent contract was made for transportation by the Western Railroad Corporation and the Albany and West Stockbridge Railroad Company for the operation of the latter by the former.

On the 24th of May, 1867, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts passed an act consolidating the Western Railroad Corporation with the Boston and Worcester Railroad Company, under the name of the Boston and Albany Railroad Company. This was done under authority of an act of the Legislature of the State of New York, passed May 20, 1869. By an act of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, passed May 23, 1869, the Boston and Albany Railroad Corporation, the Albany and West Stockbridge Company, and the Hudson and Boston Railroad were united, and became the Boston and Albany Railroad Company. This grand scheme of consolidation was consummated November 2, 1870.

It is a direct route from Albany to Pittsfield, Worcester, Springfield and Boston. The Albany station, at this time, is Union Depot.

STOCK AND DEBT.

	By last Report.	By this Report.
Capital stock as authorized by charter	$27,325,000 00	$27,325,000 00
Capital stock as since fixed	20,000,000 00	20,000,000 00
Capital stock subscribed	20,000,000 00	20,000,000 00
Capital stock paid in	20,000,000 00	20,000,000 00
Funded debt	10,858,000 00	10,858,000 00
Unfunded debt	1,012,722 15	906,729 58
Total funded and unfunded debt	11,870,722 15	11,764,729 58
Average rate per annum of interest on funded debt	5, 6 and 7 per cent.	5, 6 and 7 per cent.
Number of shares of ordinary stock	.....	200,000
Number of stockholders	.....	6,124

The cost and equipment of this road was $28,363,874.78, of which $1,215,000 is invested in locomotive engines and fixtures; $408,000 in passenger and baggage cars; $1,442,400 in freight and other cars; $1,182,731.13 in bridges. It has 244 locomotives, 229 passenger cars, 5,437 freight cars.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ROAD.

	Length in this State. Miles.	Length out of this State.	Total Length. Miles.
Main line of road from Albany to Boston	39.30	162.35	201.65
Main line laid	39.30	162.35	201.65
Branches owned (built)	17.33	81.25	98.58
Lines leased (built) or operated	.....	74.03	74.03
Total main line (laid), branches owned, and lines leased or operated	56.63	317.63	374.26
Second track on main line	39.30	162.35	201.65
Second track on branches owned, or lines leased or operated	1.00	8 22	9.22
Total second track	40.30	170.57	210.87
Third track on main line	.....	8.36	8.36
Fourth track on main line	.....	8.35	8.35
Total third and fourth tracks	.....	16.71	16 71
Sidings and turnouts on main line	24.81	125.05	149.86
Sidings and turnouts on branches owned, and on lines leased or operated	6.99	38.72	45.71
Total sidings	31.80	163.77	195.57
Aggregate of all tracks on main line, branches owned and lines leased or operated, including all sidings and turnouts	128.73	668.68	797.41

Expenses for operating the road for the year 1883, including expenses for specific purposes, $3,205,358.65. Of this sum $161,740.06 was paid conductors, baggage and brakemen of passenger trains, and $345,879.10 to freight conductors, baggagemen and brakemen; $795,383.49 was expended for fuel; $61,328.08 for oil and other lubricants and waste; for loss and damages of goods and baggage, $10,342.89; for damages to property, including damages by fire and cattle killed on road, $7,116.73; for damages for injury to persons, $17,259.61; for stationery and printing, $33,560.05; advertising, $6,268.44; legal expenses and counsel fees, $12,685.11; telegraph services, $17,402.20.

Total earnings of the road, $8,539,875.88. Charges against these earnings, including dividends dated quarterly and rate eight per cent per annum on all stock, except that owned by the State of Massachusetts, for which was given in exchange, $3,858,000 five per cent. bonds, $1,407,100; making all charges against earnings $8,303,904.07, leaving a surplus for the year of $235,971.81.

Of the 8,079,072 passengers carried over the road during the year 1883, not a person was killed or injured. Of the 3,411,324 tons of freight carried, but a small per cent. of the same was injured.

WEST SHORE RAILROAD.

This railroad is properly the New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad. For a long time the project of building a road along the west shore of the Hudson, from Weehawken, through Albany, and thence westward to Buffalo, was considered. But the difficulties of construction, especially along the Hudson, were so great, that the plan was delayed until some time in 1880, when it took definite and active form, and June 14, 1881, it received its charter. It was prosecuted with such vigor, that on July 9, 1883, it was opened for passengers to Albany, and on January 1, 1884, it was opened to Buffalo. Albany is connected with the main line by a branch from Coeymans, a distance of twelve miles south. It is 407 miles by the road from Weehawken to Buffalo. There are, at this writing, 135 locomotives, about 70 passenger cars, and over 3,234 freight cars. The depot of this road is at the foot of Maiden lane, at the Delaware and Hudson River Canal Company's Depot.

During most of the year of 1884–5, through the sharp competition between railroads, resulting in what was termed a "railroad war," rates for passengers were cut to such an extent, that but one cent per mile was charged on all railroads leading out of Albany. The "war" was closed in the Autumn of 1885, and the West Shore is now said to be under control of Wm. H. Vanderbilt, and running as before at the old rates.

RAILROAD DEPOTS.

With all the railroads passing in and out of Albany, there are really but two depots in the city. The Central and Hudson River and the Boston and Albany Railroads occupy the Union Depot just north of Maiden lane and east of Broadway. The Rensselaer and Saratoga, the West Shore, and the Susquehanna division of the Delaware and Hudson Canal, have their depot at the foot of Maiden lane. The cars of the latter pass the steamboat landings, and during river navigation, passengers desiring to take the boats leave the train. The West Shore trains arrive at and depart from the depot at the foot of Maiden lane.

EXPRESS BUSINESS IN ALBANY COUNTY.

IN the early history of this county we find pack-horses, then lumbering wagons, and then stage-coaches drawn by four, six or eight horses, were the usual vehicles for transportation. The cross-road post and the village or country tavern served as package offices. These, in time, were superseded on certain lines by the steamboat and canal boat. Then the advent of those more formidable rivals, the railroads, wrought a change truly marvelous.

For many years the stage-coach served as a "carry all," the driver of which was employed to perform many errands, and empowered to transact important commissions of trust, including a multitude of messages, bills to collect and money packages to deliver, for which trouble he received a very small perquisite. It may be recorded to their credit, that for honesty and faithfulness, few men have a better record. There are no authentic cases in which they proved recreant or dishonest

in the performance of the trust committed to them.

Before the introduction of railroads, the stage-coach lines that centered in Albany were numerous, and considered among the most useful and even necessary institutions contributing to the business interests of the city. These lines extended in all directions. Every post-road and turnpike was a mail-route. The inhabitants of every village and hamlet anxiously waited for the arrival of friends, of the mail, and of important messages and packages by stage.

The stage-coach and carrier of the post were as indispensable then as the steamboat, railroad and express systems are now. But their rough life and hard experience was a source of excitement. The stage-driver was a jolly, jovial Jehu, with his four-in-hand team, the envy of all the bigger boys. In the important positions they occupied, they were as proud of their "rig," as the modern locomotive engineer is of his seventy-ton engine, or the conductor of his lightning express or palace-car train. Now their swinging throne and exalted occupation are gone.

Providence seems to govern all things for man's welfare. The inspirations that bring forth such marvelous inventions as the whole system of railway and steamboat locomotion, the telegraph and ocean cable, the telephone and electric light, may be regarded as of more than human origin.

To William F. Harnden belongs the credit of recognizing a public want before the public had any definite idea of what that want was; and not merely recognizing it, but going practically to work with energy to supply it.

He was the beginner and earliest practical worker of an institution which, for rapid growth and business importance, is without a parallel.

The package express of modern times was unknown until Harnden started it in 1839; although special expresses for the transmission of important private and public intelligence have been in use, occasionally, for hundreds of years past.

Special expresses for the conveyance of important public news were sometimes employed by enterprising newspaper proprietors, as in the case of the Websters, early journalists of Albany.

The origin of the express, as an institution, was brought about by the introduction of the railway, which made a revolution in former methods. Business men began to require a more rapid and safe delivery of valuable packages and sundry parcels.

The old way demanded large confidence, and sometimes became a burden and an inconvenience to friends and acquaintances. There are now living those who well remember how anxious men were to send by some friend going to New York or Boston, parcels of bank notes, drafts, bills collectable, or other valuables; and it was expected to be cheerfully performed as a favor. Mutual confidence among men at that time prevailed; misappropriation was almost unknown; embezzlement was punished; and honesty generally regarded as necessary to respectability.

William F. Harnden in the spring of 1834, was conductor on the first train of the Boston and Worcester Railroad. He continued to serve on this road until the close of the year 1838. Weary of working sixteen hours a day, he told his friend "Jim" Hale, one day, that the confined employment of the past years had injured his health, and he was determined to seek some more active business. James W. Hale, the originator of cheap postage between Boston, New York and Philadelphia in 1837, and in a measure the father of the express business in this country, is now "hale" and hearty at 84 years old. Hale advised him to do errands between New York and Boston; that there was an urgent want of a parcel express which would command the patronage of all classes of business men. He at once secured facilities and a contract on the Boston and Providence Railroad.

Little did Harnden, or any other living man, dream what immense results his humble express was leading to.

The earliest public hint of this enterprise is contained in a Boston Newspaper, dated February 23, 1839, in which Harnden advertises: "He will accompany a car himself for the purpose of purchasing goods, collecting drafts, notes and bills, delivering packages, bundles and forwarding merchandise, etc."

The "extra car" was a little play of fancy; an ordinary valise serving to hold all that the original expressman had to carry for months after this time. The identical valise is now in the possession of Benjamin P. Cheney, Boston. For the first few months, Harnden served as his own messenger; but business soon increased so that he was obliged to extend facilities and employ help.

The burning of the Lexington on Long Island Sound, January, 1840, was a bitter experience to this enterprise.

In 1842, Harnden was upon the top wave of popularity, and his lines began to reach in all directions. When Henry Wells had urged upon

him, a year or two before, the importance of extending his line to Albany and Buffalo, and thence Westward, Harnden replied: "Put a people there, and my express shall soon follow."

THE AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY.

In 1841, or a little earlier, Henry Wells, agent of Harnden at Albany, suggested to George Pomeroy that it would pay to start an express from Albany to Buffalo. Pomeroy made three trips. His express had been relinquished for some time, when Crawford Livingston proposed to Wells that he should join him in resuming the enterprise. Wells consented, and Pomeroy & Co.'s Albany and Buffalo Express was established. Its transportation at that time was by railroad to Auburn; thence by stage, twenty-five miles, to Geneva; thence by Auburn and Rochester Railroad to Rochester; thence to Lockport, sixty miles, by stage; thence to Buffalo, thirty miles, by private conveyance; from Rochester to Batavia, thirty-four miles, by Tonanda Railroad; and thence to Buffalo, forty miles, by stage. The trip was made once a week, and occupied four nights and three days. It is now accomplished in about nine hours.

About 1843, Pomeroy & Co. commenced running a Hudson River Express. They had for competitors Pullen & Copp. This continued only a few months, when Pullen & Copp gave up the Albany and Western business, acting as messengers on the Troy route for Pomeroy & Co.

In the winter of 1843–44, Harnden & Co. sold their Philadelphia Express to George Hatch & Co., who run it for a short time and then sold it to Johnston and William A. Livingston. In a month or two the latter sold out to the former and went to Albany, where William A. Livingston engaged in the express business.

About 1844, the firm of Livingston, Crawford, Wells & Co. was established. This firm continued until the latter part of 1846, when W. A. Livingston bought the Wells interest in the Western Express, and Livingston & Fargo became a company. W. A. Livingston acted for many years as the agent at Albany for Livingston, Wells & Co.

About this time Henry & Co.'s Express started a short-lived business upon the Albany and Buffalo route.

Crawford Livingston died in 1847, aged thirty-four; Harnden died January 14, 1845, aged thirty-three.

In the autumn of 1849, an opposition express was started over the New York Central Railroad by Butterfield, Wasson & Co. James D. Wasson was then postmaster of Albany. Both partners had formerly been stage proprietors.

The American Express Company as now existing, is a consolidation of Wells & Co., Livingston & Fargo, and Butterfield, Wasson & Co. These were merged into Wells, Butterfield & Co., and Livingston, Fargo & Co., which comprise the joint stock concern of 1850. It was then valued at $500,000.

In 1854, the United States Express Company suddenly started into existence as a joint stock company; but after a few months it was merged in the American.

The present United States Express Company was organized in 1854, with a view of doing business on the New York and Erie Railroad. This railroad company for a time transacted its own express business; but in August, 1858, transferred its express to the United States Express Company, which had no operations east of New York. Another, called the United States and Canada, which transacted an express business from Albany to points East and West, in June, 1882, united with the Erie and New England Express from Boston to Binghamton, over the Fitchburg Railroad, via Hoosac Tunnel, and the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. In June, 1883, the United States and Canada Express passed into the hands of the American, while the United States withdrew, June, 1885, in favor of the National Express Company.

The Merchants' Union was consolidated with the American, December 1, 1868, and had an office in Albany, southwest corner of Broadway and Maiden lane during its existence there. Mr. D. T. Hunt was agent.

THE NATIONAL EXPRESS COMPANY.

The original projector of this excellent company was J. A. Pullen. He was an early and efficient aid of Harnden, and served as messenger in 1842, between New York, Albany and Troy, via the Hudson River steamboats.

In the winter of 1843–43, Harnden having sold out his Hudson River Express, Pullen & Copp started a like business from New York to Albany, Troy, and Saratoga Springs. At this time Pomeroy & Co. were doing business between Albany and Buffalo.

In 1844 or 1845, these two companies made a division of their routes, Pullen & Copp taking Troy, north; Pomeroy & Co., Albany, west. Copp retired and Major Pullen took E. L. Stone as a partner. In 1843, Mr. Jacobs had started an express from Albany to Montreal. E. H. Virgil acted as

his messenger and agent for about a year, and then, in company with N. G. Howard, purchased Jacobs' interest. Its route was by packet boats or stage from Albany to Whitehall; thence, north, by other conveyance. It connected at Troy and Albany with Pullen & Co. Early in 1844, H. F. Rice bought Howard's interest, and the firm became Virgil & Rice. Soon after it changed to Pullen, Virgil & Co.'s Express. Office in Exchange Building.

Upon the opening of the Albany Northern Railroad in 1845, Robert L. Johnson and others established a northern express, under the style of Johnson & Co., from Albany to Rutland. This enterprise came in competition with Pullen, Virgil & Co. In the spring of 1855, it became a joint stock express under the style of the National Express Company. E. H. Virgil, of Troy, was superintendent of the routes, and Robert L. Johnson, agent, located in Old Exchange Building. At the present writing, in 1885, the record of this company in the county is as follows: Commenced business in 1849 in the Exchange Building, the ground now occupied by the Government Building; in 1873 removed to the corner of Maiden lane and Dean street, in a large, capacious building owned by the company, in which are their several offices. James W. Hutt, General Superintendent; George W. Slingerland, Assistant Superintendent. The railroads upon which this company does business to or from Albany are the Rensselaer and Saratoga; Albany and Susquehanna; New York, West Shore and Buffalo. There are, in the county, twenty-six offices, one hundred and twenty-eight employees, and twenty-two horses in daily use.

THOMPSON & CO.'S WESTERN EXPRESS

Was commenced in 1841 by William F. Harnden. Its route was from Boston to Albany, and its original agent in Albany was Henry Wells. In 1844, Harnden & Co. sold this Western Express to James M. Thompson, its agent. The new proprietor was shrewd, systematic and persevering. E. Lamb Stone, Thompson's earliest agent in Albany, was succeeded in the autumn of 1844 by Robert L. Johnson, then only seventeen years old. He had been, for a year or two, a clerk for Pomeroy & Co.'s Express. When, in May, 1845, Thompson & Co. occupied the same premises, Exchange Building, in Albany, he acted as their agent. In 1847, R. L. Johnson, the Albany agent, started an express between Albany and Troy, over the Troy and Greenwich Railroad, acting as his own messenger. He continued in this service until the spring of 1853, when he was taken into the partnership of Thompson & Co. This company connected at Albany with the American Express Company, and Johnson acted as agent.

The Albany, Springfield and Boston route was sold to the American by J. M. Thompson, R. L. Johnson and William N. Melcher in 1861.

HOWARD & CO.'S EXPRESS.

N. G. Howard was agent for Harnden & Co. at Albany in the summer of 1842. In the following year he became associated with E. C. Bailey, under the style of Bailey & Howard. Harnden, desirous of connecting at Albany with some other express than Pomeroy & Co., brought into existence Bailey & Howard, which firm soon dissolved. Shortly after abandoning his Albany and Buffalo enterprise, Howard joined E. H. Virgil in running an express between Albany and Montreal. This proving uphill work, Howard accepted an offer from Harnden to take charge of the Philadelphia office, which he did in the spring of 1844.

In 1866 The Merchants' Union Express Company was organized as a stock company of prominent men, with a large capital. This proved unsuccessful, and the company was consolidated, December 1, 1868, with the American, under the name of The American Merchants' Union Express Company. This name was retained until February 1, 1873, when it was changed to

THE AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY.

By these consolidations, and the vast growth of its operations in the Far West, the capital of the American was increased to $18,000,000. Its managing forces were augmented by the accession of Messrs. Theo. M. Pomeroy, General John N. Knapp and William H. Seward, and two other business men of capital, enterprise and approved judgment, thus rendering it without a superior among the mercantile institutions of America.

The American Express Company doing business in Albany County is largely the growth from seed sown by such men as Henry Wells, Crawford Livingston, William A. Livingston, R. L. Johnson and George Pomeroy. More than two-score years ago, in 1841, when Harnden induced Henry Wells to serve him as agent, Wells, then young, sanguine, full of energy and willing to work, fixed his headquarters in Albany. He became associciated with George Pomeroy and Crawford Liv-

ingston, in 1842, in the Hudson River Express, and having been an agent and runner for the river steamboats, he was well schooled for this special enterprise and proved a valuable partner. Crawford Livingston at this time was a coal merchant, with only a few hundred dollars at his command. With his associates and unremitting hard work, he commanded respect and was in a measure prosperous. Pomeroy and Wells had, so far, served as the two messengers of the concern, having a desk in the Exchange Building, where the first express business was transacted in this city. Many years afterwards it was a daily scene of hurry and commotion. Dispatch and delivery were executed promptly. Crawford Livingston was on hand here daily, a most indefatigable agent, clerk and manager, his firm representing both Pomeroy & Co. and Harnden & Co. Samuel Carter became assistant agent in this office. Crawford Livingston removed to New York to take charge of the business of the new firm of Livingston, Wells & Co., William A. Livingston taking his brother's place in Albany. Soon after this, in 1844, the Western Express Forwarders became identified with a new force, the late William G. Fargo becoming resident partner and manager at Buffalo, assisted, subsequently, by his brothers, James C. and Charles Fargo. The Western Express firm name was Livingston, Fargo & Co., its style in Albany being originally Livingston, Wells & Co., and after Crawford Livingston's death, in 1847, Wells & Co. "Robbie" L. Johnson at that time was label boy and general helper in the Albany office. He was a bright, rosy-faced, energetic, honest little fellow, and grew into great popularity and prosperity in the express service in Albany. He became a partner and local agent for Pullen, Virgil & Co.'s Troy and Montreal Express, now the National Express Company; also partner of Thompson & Co. Mr. Johnson was a man remarkable for his strict integrity, great financial and executive ability, and superior business qualities. In his social relations he was respected by all, a worthy citizen of whom Albany was proud. He died here a few years ago. The agents who have served the American at Albany since the beginning, in 1842, have been Henry Wells, Agent of Harnden's Boston and New York Express and Pomeroy & Co.'s Hudson River Express, which were merged in Livingston, Wells & Co. in 1843, with Crawford Livingston as Agent; in 1845, William C. Spencer was Agent. In 1850, Butterfield, Wasson & Co.'s Express was consolidated with it, under the corporate name of The American Express Company. Henry Wells was President; John Butterfield, Vice-President; William C. Fargo, Secretary; and Alexander H. Rand, Treasurer, who served for thirty-five years.

The Superintendent of the New York State Eastern Division of the American, M. B. White, long resided at Albany. He was, in October, 1867, succeeded by E. H. Sly, who as clerk, messenger, and line superintendent or route agent between Albany and New York, resided here. For a year past C. W. Selleck has served the company in like capacity. It has headquarters on the second floor of the Express Building, corner of Broadway and Steuben streets. John L. Van Valkenburgh, who was first employed by the company in March, 1863, succeeded Mr. Sly as superintendent, February, 1874. He is still the highly esteemed, popular and faithful agent of the popular American, with a force of fifteen clerks, forty messengers and general supervision. The business requires the services of twenty-four horses, twelve drivers, and other helpers as needed.

The business of this company was originally from Albany to New York City by the river, and extended to Buffalo, via several short railroads and stage lines, in 1845. Now, and for thirty-five years past, it is making full use of the Hudson River Railroad and the New York Central, with their connections, and the Boston and Albany Railroad. It has exclusive control of 34,417 miles of railroad, 4,718 offices and 7,053 employees.

Other line superintendents are or have been A. G. Nickerson, J. Schermerhorn, H. M. Dwight, and John B. Prentiss, with headquarters at Syracuse.

The American is fortunate in retaining the best of its employees, and when, after many years faithful service, they decline into the sear and yellow leaf, and, unfitted for the active duties of expressmen, become superannuated, the company accords them pensionary support adequate to their necessities, and respects them for their past fidelity and usefulness. Among this class in Albany, the most worthy of honorable mention are Andrew Weatherwax and B. P. Wheeler, who have served as express messengers thirty-two years each. Alexander Stone, in the American's service twenty-five years, is still on a money wagon, performing daily duty, greatly respected by the company and its many customers in this city.

The writer is specially indebted to A. L. Stimson and John L. Van Valkenburg for kindly giving aid and counsel in making up this express history.

BAGGAGE EXPRESS.

This branch of business was begun in Albany as early as 1868, by Ransom Garrett and Thomas H. Wygant, from and to the railroad and steamboat depots. Wygant & Co. have been represented by T. H. Wygant, T. B. Morrow and George Hendrickson. The firm is now composed of T. H. Wygant and George Hendrickson. Baggage is received, delivered or transferred, at small expense, to the several railroad depots, steamboat landings, hotels or private residences in any part of the city. Agents pass through the principal and express passenger trains when nearing the city, collect checks, and upon arrival deliver the baggage with promptness. They also answer calls by telephone and receive orders by call books in the baggage-rooms of the different depots and several designated places in the city. The charges are: Inside of Lark, Arch and Livingston avenues, thirty cents for a single piece of baggage, and twenty-five cents for each additional piece, and special rates for combinations, with charges according to distance, beyond specified rates. Union Depot, Delaware and Hudson Canal Company and West Shore Railroad Depots are the principal offices. The company employs fifteen persons and thirteen horses. Connected with their business is a boarding stable located at 46 Spencer street.

The Albany Five Cent City Express is located at No. 8 James street and does a good business.

The Cohoes, Troy and Lansingburgh Express has an office at 74 State street. It transports merchandise, etc., by wagons.

TELEGRAPH BUSINESS.

THE City of Albany is very intimately connected with the early history of telegraphy. Perhaps, with the exception of S. F. B. Morse, no one performed a more important part in discovering the means of transmitting intelligent sounds through wire by magnetic force than Joseph Henry, a native of Albany, who from 1826 to 1832 was one of the professors in the Albany Academy. It was in an upper room of the academy building that Henry first demonstrated the theory of the telegraph, by the transmission of the tones of a bell through a mile of wire strung around the room. It has been well said: "The click heard from every joint of those mystic wires which now link together every city and village all over this continent, is but the echo of that little bell which first sounded in the upper room of the Albany Academy." Professor Henry had long been a sanguine believer that electricity would ultimately accomplish all it has in the transmission of sound, and as early as 1829, by successful experiments, had discovered many of the fundamental principles of telegraphy. An article on this subject written by him, and published in a scientific journal in 1831, attracted much attention. In fact so many important discoveries on this subject were made by Professor Henry, that some of the scientific men of to-day regard him as the originator of the underlying principles of the Morse system of telegraphy. The relationship between Henry and Morse was close and intimate, as revealed by the friendly correspondence between them on a subject so dear to both, a number of years prior to Morse's well-known triumph in 1844. From Professor Henry, Morse admitted having not only received much encouragement, but much practical assistance. Our venerated townsman, Professor Philip Ten Eyck, once a professor in Albany Academy, well remembers Professor Henry's experiments and the assistance he rendered.

After Morse had demonstrated the success of his experiments, by sending a message over a wire stretched from Baltimore to Washington in 1844, it was not long before men of capital began to take hold of the scheme.

Prominent among the men in this State to become interested in the new telegraph enterprise in 1845, were Theodore S. Faxton, John Butterfield and Hiram Greenman, three men well known in Albany at this time as pioneers of the old stage line through central and eastern New York. They went to Washington, and with the utmost care made themselves familiar with all the details, and formed a favorable judgment of an invention then but little understood, and looked upon with incredulity. Early in June, Mr. Butterfield closed a contract with Mr. Kendall to erect a line of the Morse telegraph between Springfield, Mass., and Buffalo, via Albany, and from Albany to New York.

July 16, 1845, an association was formed in Utica to construct the Springfield, Albany and Buffalo Telegraph Line. Trustees were appointed.

These were Theodore S. Faxton, John Butterfield, Hiram Greenman, Henry Wells and Crawford Livingston. The capital was fixed at $200,000, with power to increase it to $250,000. The trustees became the contractors to construct the line, which was to consist of two copper wires.

At this time this enterprise was looked upon as foolish and impracticable. Steps were soon taken to prove it could be made of practical utility. In September, 1845, a wire was stretched from Utica to the fair grounds, and the successful working of the system was regarded with wonder and amazement. November 7, 1845, a wire was run from Buffalo to Lockport, being the first line opened in America for regular commercial business. Meanwhile the State was canvassed and a fair subscription secured. No interest was taken, strange to say, by Albany capitalists in this movement.

The first section of the new line was built between Albany and Utica. To this Mr. Faxton devoted his whole time. In this city, where he was well known, he did not receive much encouragement; some of his friends even laughed at what they considered his foolish zeal, and predicted naught but failure.

The line between Albany and Utica was finished and ready for business, January 31, 1845. The Albany office was located in the old Exchange Building, and was under the management of O. S. Wood and S. P. Carter. The opening of this office caused great excitement in the city. The newspapers of that day show how intensely the people were moved. One of the earlier feats of these primitive times was to telegraph from Albany to Utica the New York news brought up by the Albany boats which arrived in Albany in the morning.

The line from Albany to New York was completed July 3, 1846; to Hudson, October 28, 1846; Troy, August 7th; Syracuse, May 1st; Auburn, May 25th; to Geneva, November 9th.

When the office was opened in Rochester, June 1st, the whole city seemed in a general excitement. The papers gave glowing descriptions of the machinery and the influence which the telegraph was to exert on human history.

Connection was made with Buffalo, July 3, 1846; and the whole line from Buffalo to New York completed September 9, 1846.

January 5, 1847, Governor Young's message of 5,000 words was sent from Albany to New York in two and one-half hours by W. C. Buel and John Johnson. This was regarded as a wonderful performance.

During the winter of 1846–7, a severe sleet storm nearly demolished the wires from Albany to Amsterdam, and from Troy to Hudson, suspending operations for six weeks. The comparative strength of iron and copper wire to withstand the force of a severe storm was then demonstrated in favor of iron wire, now in universal use.

May 1, 1847, when the Albany office had been removed to the Delevan House, Mr. Carter, the manager, while receiving a message from Utica, found the paper had become twisted. As he with difficulty attempted to translate, W. C. Buel, the assistant manager, who was sitting near, said: "I think Utica asks 'if the nine o'clock train has arrived.'" Scarcely knowing how the intelligence came to him, Carter was much astonished to find it correct. Mr. Ten Eyck, of the *Evening Journal*, who was present, made the incident the subject of an article, which was extensively copied, even in Europe. Thus Buel is justly claimed to be one of the original sound readers.

The success of the Springfield, Albany and Buffalo Company awakened opposition. About two years after the establishment of this line, the House State Printing Telegraph Company constructed a line from New York to Buffalo by way of Albany, and opened an office in this city in the Exchange Building; but subsequently removed to the old Museum Building. The method of receiving messages by this company was somewhat different from the Morse system, which at this time consisted of certain signs punctured on white paper, to be translated by the operator. By the House method the messages as received were printed in Roman characters, the wires being connected with a type machine, with alphabetical keys similar to the present type-writing machines. A short time after the House Company became established, the Merchants' State Telegraph Company was constructed from New York to Buffalo. This company used what was known as the Bain patent. The existence of this line was mainly owing to the exertions of Henry O'Reilly, of Rochester, and by his name the company was generally known. Its office in this city was in the old Museum Building. This line was run as an opposition line to the Springfield, Albany and Buffalo Company and the House Company, until 1852, when it was consolidated with the former company.

In 1857, the American and the New York, Albany and Buffalo lines were formed. The latter company at this time purchased the property and rights of the House Printing Company. The office

of the American was located at 450 Broadway, and in 1864, removed to the corner of State and Broadway. It had connections with Boston, Providence, St. Johns, Pittsfield, Springfield, Hartford, Portland, Halifax, and intermediate places, with connecting lines to all other parts of the Eastern States and the British Provinces.

From 1864 to 1866, the United States Telegraph Company had an office in this city in the Exchange Building.

In 1864, the Western Union Company was formed. It was originally a Western line, known as the Mississippi Valley Telegraph Company, its lines running from Mississippi to Buffalo. In the same year it purchased the New York, Albany and Buffalo line, and the Springfield, Albany and Buffalo line, which, from 1845 to this date, had an office in this city. Thus was opened up a direct communication between the West and New York City. The central office in Albany was located in the old Museum Building, under the management of George B. Prescott. Up to the time of the sale of the Springfield, Albany and Buffalo line to the Western Union, its affairs had been managed in this city, besides those already mentioned, by C. S. Cutler, J. R. W. Johnston, S. C. Rice, E. S. Keep, C. S. Jones, M. L. Morgan and Fred H. Lawrence.

In 1866, the Western Union purchased the United States line, and from this time to 1870, when the Atlantic and Pacific line was constructed, had a monopoly of the telegraph business in this section.

The Atlantic and Pacific Company's office was first located at 463 Broadway, and afterwards removed to 444 Broadway, with branch offices in the Lumber District and at the Capitol.

In 1877, this company was consolidated with the Western Union. The Western Union had no other competing line in this city until the American Union line was constructed in 1880, with an office at 444 Broadway. But this company was in existence but a short time, when it was consolidated with the Western Union.

In 1882, two competing lines were constructed, with offices in Albany, the Mutual Union and the American Rapid. The former opened an office at 462 Broadway and the latter at the corner of State and James. Neither existed as a separate company more than a year, the Mutual Union becoming consolidated with the Western Union, and the American Rapid being leased to the Bankers' and Merchants'.

In 1884, the Bankers' and Merchants' and the Baltimore and Ohio opened offices in this city, the former at 444 Broadway and the latter at 462 Broadway. The Bankers' and Merchants', a short time ago, was sold to the United line. Its office in this city is now under the capable management of J. H. Rugg, who for many years has been connected with the telegraph business in Albany. The Baltimore and Ohio in this city is under the management of E. J. Slattery. This company has branch offices in this county at West Troy and Coeymans. The central office of the Western Union in this city is located in the old Museum Building at the corner of State and Broadway, with branch offices at the Capitol, West Albany, Delevan House, Union Depot, Lumber District, People's Line Office, Delaware and Hudson Canal Railroad Office, and at the Kenmore Hotel. Outside of this city, within the county, it has offices at West Troy, Cohoes and Coeymans. Its local management is under F. W. Sabold.

In 1871, the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad and the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company constructed a line of telegraph along their respective roads and opened offices in this city. These lines are still in use, but only for the accommodation of the respective railroad companies, and not for the general public.

The American District Telegraph Company, chartered in 1875, is simply a local telegraph line, with messenger service for the City and County of Albany. It went into operation in 1876, with a central office at 444 Broadway, afterwards removed to 468 Broadway. It is now owned by the Commercial Telephone Company, under the management of A. B. Uline.

The Capital District Telegraph Company, similar to the American District, went into operation in this city in 1881, with a central office at No. 100 State street, and is now under the management of W. H. Hamilton.

THE TELEPHONE AND MESSENGER SERVICE.

THIS comes from one of the most recent and remarkable inventions which contribute to man's innumerable wants. In this county it was the outgrowth of the American District Telegraph Company, located in the City of Albany, and chartered in November, 1875. It began operations in February, 1876, by instituting messenger service, which has been, in part, superseded by the telephone.

The American District Telegraph Company made a contract with the Bell Telephone Company, of Boston, for the use of the latter's instruments, in March, 1878, and in May established a telephone exchange in Albany, with about one hundred subscribers. The Albany District Company controlled the business until July, 1879, when the Commercial Telephone Company began operations in the city.

The owners of the Commercial Company obtained control of the American District in November, 1880, and the two companies were consolidated in January, 1881, under the name of the Commercial Telephone Company.

This company was located at 468 Broadway (Van Heusen & Charles' Marble Building), with branches at 68 Washington avenue and corner of South Pearl and Hamilton streets. The officers were: Henry R. Pierson, President; N. D. Wendell, Treasurer; J. L. Van Valkenburgh, Secretary; A. B. Uline, Manager.

The Hudson River Telephone Company began operations in 1883, and are now the owners of the Commercial Company, with lines and communication extending to the following places in the county: The Abbey, Berne, East Berne, West Berne, Cedar Hill, Coeymans, Clarksville, Cohoes, Green Island, Hurstville, Chesterville, Londonville, Menands, Potter's Hollow, Slingerlands, Sloans, West Albany, West Troy, Watervleit Centre, Newtonville, New Scotland, Delmar, Rensselaerville, Bethlehem, Guilderland, Preston Hollow, with about 2,000 stations or instruments distributed in the city and county. The employees number about one hundred.

The officers of the Hudson River Company are: J. Bigler, President; H. L. Storke, Secretary and Treasurer; A. B. Uline, General Manager. Directors: J. Bigler, H. L. Storke, A. B. Uline, C. S. Beardsley, D. A. Smith, A. O. Morgan, Theo. N. Vail. General office, No. 468 Broadway, Albany. Branch offices: 68 Washington avenue and corner South Pearl and Hamilton streets.

The Messenger Service, beginning here in 1875, under the American District Telegraph Company, has been fully identified with the business interests of the city as one of its very useful, almost necessary modern conveniences. The system adopted is for each subscriber to have a box, and by pulling down a crank, a number peculiar to that box is recorded at the office, which is answered promptly by a uniformed messenger boy. This method is still used to some extent, the telephone in a great measure taking its place. The Commercial Telephone Company became the owners of the American District Telegraph Company, both of which are now owned by the Hudson River Telephone Company. From forty to sixty boys are employed. Boxes are placed at convenient locations free of cost, subscribers paying only for service. The rates are: For 30 minutes or less, 10 cents; 30 to 45 minutes, 15 cents; 45 to 60 minutes, 20 cents; each continuous hour after the first, 15 cents. The boys are called to perform all kinds of errand work. They distribute invitations, wedding cards, circulars, packages, etc., etc. Offices for this service are at the Hudson River Telephone Company's offices. This company now controls all the territory from New York City to Clinton County east to the State line, and west fifty miles along the Hudson River to Jersey City, It is the only company operating from this city or in the county.

In 1880, the Construction Telephone and Supply Company contracted to build lines and exchanges throughout the State. A. B. Uline, President and Manager; W. B. Butler, Secretary and Treasurer. This was finally purchased by the Bell Telephone Company, of Boston, and afterward sold to the Hudson River Telephone Company.

AGRICULTURE IN ALBANY COUNTY.

AGRICULTURE, or the cultivation of the soil, is the first and one of the most important occupations of the human family, having been instituted and blessed by the Creator as soon as the earth was ready for man's habitation. Then was the command given that by the sweat of his brow was man to earn his bread. Agricultural art is a factor in molding human events and in adjusting the interests of communities. Its rational pursuit is not incompatible with the highest intellectual attainments and the best development of the individual citizen and of the public service.

Many of the sciences are useful servants of agriculture, and the most learned often become its most skilled exponents.

The energies of the thrifty husbandman lead to substantial comforts, and no one better deserves and enjoys the luxuries of life.

In the early settlement of this county, its agricultural inducements were not very inviting. For many years, little progress was made in this direction. The land was covered with a heavy growth of trees that required to be felled and removed before the soil could be planted and tilled. Sturdy blows from the pioneer's ax cleared the forest for an opening upon which to erect his log cabin and extend his fields for culture. Here, too, he was met by Indians and wild beasts—enemies cruel, treacherous and savage, which were to be tamed or subdued. In these days the settler and his family experienced the greatest hardships and difficulties. Useful implements and other conveniences were needed, the lack of which made his labor burdensome and of slow progress. Another and, perhaps, greater want was that of domestic animals, then introduced only to a limited extent for food or for assistance in the daily demands of labor. The poor man dwelt in his cabin-home and patiently wrought, with spade and grub-hoe, a scanty subsistence from the soil. The native forest furnished him with wild game and the streams an abundance of fish.

Nine-tenths of the farmers of that day commenced life bare-handed, as tenants or in debt for land, with small means for purchasing stock, implements or necessaries. Yet they possessed rugged constitutions, a determined spirit, and a will to labor. None knew, from hard experience, better than these farmers and their wives, the necessity of self-denial, unflinching industry and careful economy, in their heroic struggles to secure a home and rear a family; nor the firm reliance and strength-giving trust in God and each other needed to sustain them through the long years of discouraging trials and unceasing toil.

There were conditions and unfavorable surroundings which attended these early adventurers in their choice of occupancy. Many of these early farmers were unused to labor of this kind, having been engaged by the West India Company as traders or servants. But dependence on this was not proving permanently profitable to the Dutch boor. He at first selected lands of easy culture near Fort Orange. Small beginnings were made. In time others followed, extending their possessions farther in the forest, seeking the best lands within easy communication. At the same time he held his trade with the Indians as well as he could for the benefit of the company. Farming was neglected in these early years and by these first colonists.

The West India Company, by their charter, had the right to navigate the rivers of New Netherlands; and in 1623 equipped a vessel of 130 lasts, called the New Netherland, whereof Cornelis Jacobs, of Horn, was skipper, with thirty families, mostly Walloons, to plant a colony. They sailed in the beginning of March, and in May entered the River Mauritius. Eight of these families came to Albany. But they came not as farmers.

In 1625 and 1626, "there arrived for New Netherlands, at Mauritius, 103 head of cattle—stallions, mares, steers and cows, hogs and sheep, for breeding and multiplying." Few, if any, were taken to Fort Orange. The Patroon charter of 1629, provided, that within four years, at least fifty persons over fifteen years of age, one-fourth of whom should be located within the first year, should settle in every colony. Early in the spring of the following year, a number of colonists with their families, and provided with farming implements, stock and other necessaries, sailed from Texel and landed in safety at the Manhattes. In a short time afterwards some of them landed at Fort Orange, and were

soon furnished with farms, houses and other dwellings at the expense of the Patroon and his associates. Other colonists followed each succeeding season. Needful supplies of stores were kept by the agents of the Patroon and sold to the colonists. In 1644, Priest Jogues, says of Beverwyck: "There are twenty-five or thirty houses along the river, built of boards and thatched. They cultivate some land for their horses, of which they have a large stock."

Among the products cultivated were Indian corn, wheat, flax, hemp and tobacco. Sugar made from the maple was a substitute for cane-sugar. These articles were bartered with the agents of the company in return for foreign goods for household and domestic use.

There seems to have been very little progress made or interest developed in farming until after English rule in 1664, when a change in government brought some encouragement to the few tillers of the soil. Hardships were many; the winters were severe, with cold and snow; the travel was bad; the means of living scanty; the surroundings cheerless and exposed to dangers. From this time to 1700, the condition of the few colonists upon lands of the Patroon were not much improved, although some progress was apparent in the increased acres under cultivation, the additions to stock and the increased quantity of grain and other farm products. The few bushels of grain, or pounds of flax, hemp and tobacco that could be exchanged, were taken by the agent. In 1665, wheat, corn, or any sort of grain was not allowed to be transported from the city down the Hudson River. Some produce was exported in 1678. In 1680, when Dankers and Sluyter were in this county, wheat and rye were cultivated, and a trade with the West Indies was carried on. The soil of the farming lands was well adapted to the growth of every variety of grain, fruit and vegetables. The low lands along the streams furnished luxuriant pasture and abundant hay. Wheat, in 1692, was sold at four shillings per bushel.

The settlement of lands on the manor was slow. In 1714, there were only 427 white persons and 181 slaves. In 1719, there were very few leases in the hands of the settlers. As late as 1767, from a map made for the Patroon, the number of families on the west side of the river is given as 148. This number does not probably include those on the Coeymans and Slingerland patents of 1673 and 1685.

There were a few families of Bradts who had settled under the shelter of the Helderbergs; along the Normanskill, and in the northeast part of the county. After the close of the Indian and French disturbances, there was a marked increase of permanent settlers throughout the county, some of whom had been soldiers, and now exchanged the sword and musket for the ax and plow. These men were bred farmers in their native land, and by industry and frugality became worthy citizens. The tenants of the Patroon brought their rent and surplus grain to his store-house at Albany. Shipments down the river were under his control. In 1770, there were several sloops trading at Albany, loaded with grain and other farm produce, evidence of growing prosperity of the farmers.

The period from 1780 to 1800, witnessed the change from war to peace; from foreign power to an independent government. It was a new era in the development of agricultural pursuits, as well as in social and political life.

During the hostile years of revolutionary war, the agricultural interests of this county were not materially affected. There were no serious conflicts between the contending parties nearer than Saratoga, and the farmers, many of whom remained at home, were ready and anxious to furnish needed supplies from their cultivated acres. After hostilities ceased, and peace spread her protecting wings over the valleys and plains of this region, new life and encouragement was assured to the practical farmer. Prominent men engaged in the work, and gave the results of their experience to others.

As early as 1784, an agricultural society was formed, and an annual fair for the sale of cattle was held in Albany. Chancellor Livingston, in 1790, introduced the use of gypsum as a fertilizer. In 1785, grain and other farm products were shipped from Albany; and in 1790, Capt. Bloodgood loaded a vessel with surplus local products, among which was a negro slave, the property of Mrs. Staats, which he sold in Antigua for fifty-one pounds. In 1794, trade in wheat and other grain was quite extensive. The yield was from sixteen to twenty bushels per acre, and it brought seven shillings a bushel. In 1799, it was sold at fourteen shillings a bushel.

Farming lands in the county began to be held, generally, by a class of men who brought experience and knowledge to practical farming. Wheat was the staple product, and the soil gave generous yield; rye, oats, corn, buckwheat, hemp, flax and root crops were cultivated. Sheep were a source of profit, as they could be kept on the new and unimproved lands. Neat-cattle, of native stock, were raised only for home demands. During the

war of 1812, wheat was sold for $2.00 and $3.00 per bushel.

This date marks another era of improvement in all branches of agriculture and domestic husbandry. Its interests, as connected with the prosperity of the State, enlisted the attention of public officials and all men of intelligence. Among the men most actively interested near this time, and deserving of special mention, were Matthew Bullock, De Witt Clinton, Solomon Southwick, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Jesse Buel, C. N. Bement, Ezra P. Prentice, Erastus Corning, Thomas Hillhouse, Christopher Dunn, and Proctor & Hawes.

Hemp and flax culture has almost or quite disappeared as a paying branch of farming. Cotton has, to a great extent, taken their place in domestic fabrics as being more readily obtained and more economic in the family. The rope-walk, spinning-wheel, and farm-house loom have nearly disappeared, and millions of dollars are now invested in machinery and factories employing thousands of operatives and producing millions of yards of woolen and cotton fabrics in this county.

The cultivation of hops has in a large measure been substituted for hemp and flax. Increased acreage is devoted to small fruits and garden products, now largely cultivated in the county. The near-by city markets consume the supply offered. These and the orchard products are a profitable source of income to the farmer. In 1865 there were produced in the county 46,585 pounds of hops, and in 1885, 250 acres were under culture, with an estimate of 150,000 pounds. The value of orchard products of all kinds, sold or consumed in 1879, was $138,881; of market products, $208,420.

Hay is one of the staple products, and for the past thirty years has been the main crop relied upon for prompt sales and largest returns. The hay crop of 1864 was 74,133 tons, and in 1879 it equaled 95,137 tons. Albany County has a territory extensive and varied enough; a soil suited to almost every variety of grain and vegetable, fruit and flower.

The grain crops in this county have been remarkably free from the ravages or destruction caused by the pests which sometimes commit fearful waste. The Hessian fly has never been troublesome. About 1833 the grain-worm and weevil made their appearance, and for several years were very destructive to growing wheat. This compelled farmers to abandon this crop altogether. Other grain was more largely cultivated; more acres were given to grass; more orchards were planted. For the past twenty years there has been a steady increase in the acreage of wheat, with a fair yield. In 1864, the number of bushels harvested was 1,858, and in 1879, 23,128. All the usual cereals are grown in the county, and furnish a range for the rotation system. Rye produced in 1864, 114,785 bushels; in 1879, 158,600 bushels. Oats in 1864, 259,694 bushels; in 1879, 787,529 bushels. Corn in 1864, 159,200 bushels; in 1879, 296,145 bushels. Barley in 1864, 10,017 bushels, and in 1879, 17,952 bushels. Buckwheat in 1879, 211,225 bushels. Potatoes as a farm crop in 1879 amounted to 495,402 bushels.

Farm implements and machinery of improved invention are extensively in use.

The following items are taken from census returns for 1880: Value of all farms in the county, including fences and buildings, $19,898,866. In 1865, the same were valued at $16,966,583. Value of farming implements and machinery in 1865, $797,486; in 1880, $1,047,171. Estimated value of farm products sold or consumed in the year 1880, $2,783,028.

The present condition of agriculture in the county is encouraging, and the average crops that contribute to the prosperity of the people will compare favorably to-day with other counties. Changes have been necessary to meet the demands of successful farming. Productive new methods, experimental systems, scientific investigations, and improved machinery have been introduced to make labor easier, to lessen cost, and to increase returns.

The better construction of farm buildings is an evidence that improvement upon the past has been made. Spacious mansions, beautiful farm-houses, and well arranged cottages, with barns, stables, sheds, and other necessary structures, all planned and finished with architectural skill, attest the owner's wealth and taste. His material prosperity results from an intelligent knowledge of the best methods for producing desired returns, which crown the laborer and reward him for his toil and perseverance. The key to unlock the golden treasure hidden in the earth is "first and last, lots of manure and lots of brains." The manure is the easier to get and the sooner to give out.

The following farm and agricultural statistics for Albany County are taken from the tenth census of the United States, 1880.

Total number of farms, 3,325; number less than 3 acres, 2; number of 1,000 acres, 1; average acres per farm, 92; value of farms and improvements, $19,898,866; value of machinery and im-

plements, $1,047,170; value of farm products, $2,783,028.

Number of farms cultivated by owner, 2,635; number rented for fixed money rental, 381; number rented for share of products, 309.

Number of acres in county, 306,257; number of acres improved, 254,521; number of acres unimproved, 51,737; improved and covered by woods, 43,307.

Barley, acres, 1,077; bushels, 17,952. Buckwheat, acres, 14,774; bushels, 211,225. Corn, acres, 11,845; bushels, 296,145. Oats, acres, 30,169; bushels, 787,529. Rye, acres, 14,710; bushels, 158,600. Wheat, acres, 1,652; bushels, 23,128. Potatoes, bushels, 495,402. Hay, tons, 95,137.

Whole number of horses, 9,469; whole number of swine, 12,027; whole number of milch cows, 13,042; gallons of milk sold or sent to factory, 1,390,662; pounds of butter made, 1,154,969; pounds of cheese, 6,560; pounds of honey, 64,267; pounds of wool, 115,847.

Value of orchard products, $138,881; value of grain products, $208,420. Barn-yard poultry, number, 118,348; dozens of eggs produced, 627,374.

FARM ANIMALS IN ALBANY COUNTY.

AMONG the first to import into this county improved breeds of foreign cattle was Matthew Bullock, an Englishman, who bought a farm in now New Scotland, where he resided until his death. The property remained in the possession of his sons for a few years, and is now owned and occupied by Robert Huist. Mr. Bullock was a successful farmer, and noted breeder of improved short-horn cattle, which became celebrated throughout the United States. The introduction of this breed of cattle into the county is of so much importance that a special record is given, the facts of which are obtained from authentic sources. Previous to 1815, an Englishman by the name of Cox, who lived in Rensselaer County, imported from one of the established herds of England, a bull, cow and heifer which were pure short-horns, and are said to have been bred by Robert Colling, of Brampton, England, whose herd was sold in 1810, one of his bulls bringing one thousand guineas. Mr. Bullock purchased his stock of him in the year 1815. Upon the death of Cox, his cattle and their produce were purchased by Bullock, who bred them with the bulls Comet and Nelson, imported by Matthew Bullock and John Waine, in June, 1821. The herd, in 1843, passed into the hands of his sons, one of whom, William M., continues to breed them with some degree of purity. The descendants of this stock were remarkable for their robust size and extraordinary milking qualities, and for several years in succession, after 1818, at fairs and cattle shows, Mr. Bullock was awarded premiums for the best cattle exhibited.

About 1815, Jesse Buel, of Albany, purchased of Mr. Cox an imported short-horn bull and two cows, which were crossed with the above-named Comet and Nelson.

In 1823, Gen. Stephen Van Rensselaer imported from the herd of Mr. Champion, the bull Washington and the cows Pansy and Conquest. Pansy has many descendants, which were distributed through many of the States.

In the year 1835 or 1836, Ezra P. Prentice, of Albany, began breeding short-horns from the stock of Van Rensselaer; and from 1838 to 1841, he made several importations of this breed from various herds in England. He bred his stock with such skill and success that it was much sought after by purchasers from other States and Canada. In 1842, he added to his stock, by importation, Ayrshire or Scotch cattle; and in 1837, he imported a choice flock of Southdown and Cotswold sheep. The encroachments of the city upon his Mount Hope Farm compelled him to discontinue this branch of farming, in which he took so much interest. He disposed of his stock in 1850, the sheep being purchased by Mr. McIntyre.

About the year 1836, Erastus Corning, Sr., imported the cow Wildair, and a bull and heifer. This cow has progeny mentioned in the American Herd Book.

C. N. Bement, as early as 1835, had on his Three Hills Farm, Durham short-horn registered cattle, and in 1838 a cow and a bull of the Hereford breed. Benjamin Tompkins commenced the breeding of this variety of cattle about 1766, near

Hereford, England. In 1819, his herd of fifty-two head was sold at auction for £4,673. They were originally brown or reddish-brown, with white faces, and came, probably, from Normandy. The first importation to this country was made about 1817, by Henry Clay, of Kentucky. Massachusetts farmers began to import them in 1824.

The first direct importation of these cattle into this county was by Wm. H. Sotham in 1840. The Hon. Erastus Corning, of Albany, was interested in this transaction. The Albany *Cultivator* said: "One of the most important importations of cattle and sheep that has ever taken place in this county has been made by the Hon. Erastus Corning, of this city, and Wm. H. Sotham, of Jefferson County. It consists of twelve cows, calves and heifers, and twenty-five sheep. The cattle are the very best animals that could be selected, and the expense of this importation was nearly $8,000." At this time was imported the celebrated stallion Sampson, a heavy draught horse of fine proportion. The progeny of this horse possessed marked features, which have been transfused with native stock, and is yet counted in the pedigree of his direct offspring.

Messrs. Corning & Sotham continued together in breeding Herefords until July, 1847, when the firm was dissolved, and Mr. Sotham took a portion of the herd and removed to Black Rock. Mr. Corning retained a portion, and his son, Erastus Corning, Jr., maintains the reputation of the herd by occasional importations. In 1853, he imported three fine Herefords, a bull and two cows, selected in England especially for him, from Lord Berwick's prize stock. Stock from this choice herd are in demand, and are sold to all parts of the United States and Canada.

A strain of Durham or short-horn cattle called "Cream Pots," originated with Col. Jacques, by a cross with Cœlebs and Flora, in 1819; and for several years Hon. Wm. H. Slingerland has been a successful breeder of this choice stock, celebrated for their remarkable milking qualities as well as butter makers. Jenny Lind, a cream-pot cow, the property of Mr. Slingerland, in 1859 was awarded the first prize at the State Agricultural Fair as the best butter and milk cow exhibited. Jenny Lind, in her prime, gave thirty-six quarts of milk a day.

The first record of the Devon breed in this county, was a bull and cow, the property of Caleb N. Bement, of the Three Hills Farm, as early as 1839. Since that time the breed has been introduced by several practical farmers, and has produced satisfactory results. The largest breeder and owner of this fine stock in the county is Captain Joseph Hilton, whose herd contains some of the choicest specimens in the State. Mr. Hilton is a very successful breeder, and is usually awarded first and second prizes for herds or single animals. His bull, Prince of Wales, has been the winner of first prizes at State Fairs for several years. This animal stands at the head of the best herd of prize Devons, and is considered the finest Devon bull in America.

The origin of the Jersey cattle is quite obscure. They probably came first from Normandy and Brittany with the early settlers, and thence to the Channel Islands, where they developed characteristics that are modified to a remarkable degree from those on the mainland.

The Channel Islands are English possessions, and are composed of Guernsey, Alderney, Jersey and Sark. Within the past 30 or 40 years, efforts have been made among breeders of dairy cattle to develop a greater degree of docility of disposition with continuous milking tendency and extreme richness in butter qualities. Cattle from the Channel Islands were selected for this purpose by parties in England. As early as 1817, Mr. Richard Morris, of Philadelphia, describes "a cow of the Alderney breed" imported by Mr. Wurts. Early importations from these islands were usually shipped from a port in Alderney; hence the common name of "Alderney." This breed was imported to some extent into the United States by Mr. John A. Taintor, of Hartford, Conn., about the year 1850, and has been a favorite with special regard to their rich milking qualities, possessing many of the characteristics of the cattle from Jersey.

The Jersey cow is a product of the Island of Jersey. Its genial climate has produced a small, docile, useful and beautiful domestic animal. These fine qualities are said to be greatly due to the constant care and presence of women; for in Jersey the women have charge of the cattle.

The primary object in breeding the Jersey cow is for family use and butter dairies. This animal is simply a machine for first-class milk and butter. She produces the richest of milk, from which butter can be made of superior flavor, finer texture and richer gold color than any other. It also commands higher prices in the market. The importations made about the year 1850, by farmers near Hartford, Conn., were the foundation stock, which was largely distributed in several States. Numerous importations have been made since then. The finest herd of registered Jerseys

in this county is the property of Erastus Corning, collected from his own importations and selected with great judgment. Other parties in the county who have imported animals of this stock, are E. J. Larabee, John McEwen, G. E. Waring and L. S. Hardin.

In 1840, an importation of Guernseys was made by Nicholas Biddle, of fine animals from the Island of Guernsey. Since then several importations have been made, and the cattle have been received with favor and are considered but little inferior to the best Jerseys, which they resemble in some points.

There are in the county some fine animals. Those belonging to the herd of John S. Perry have been selected with great care from direct importations or progeny of imported stock.

The first importations into Massachusetts of the Dutch Holstein-Friesian, were made as early as 1852. In May 1885, the breeders and importers of Dutch cattle adopted the name of "Holstein-Friesian" as their title.

Mr. C. L. G. Blesssing is the largest and most extensive breeder and importer of Dutch cattle in the county. In 1881, he was the owner of an imported cow; in 1882, he imported six head of Friesian cattle; and in 1884, he made a successful importation of fifty-one head, selected by himself from the best herds of Holland. Schuyler Brothers, E. Sweet, John Gardner, Martin J. Blessing, and a few others of this county, have individual animals or small herds of choice and blooded stock, which, since their recent introduction, have acquired a high reputation for their many excellent qualities.

The improvement in neat cattle has been quite successful. There is scarcely a distinguished herd of short-horns, Devons, or Herefords in England, Ayrshires in Scotland, or the more recent introduction of Jerseys, Alderneys and Guernseys, or of the Holstein-Friesian from Holland, that has not its representative in this county. The grades and crosses have made a decided impression upon the general utility and produce of this class of animals, which return the farmer great profits in milk, butter and beef. The number of milch cows in the county in the year 1820, was 8,995. In 1865, cows, 10,615; heifers, 9,388; oxen, 792. In 1875, cows, 11,951; heifers, 4,029; oxen, 964. In 1880, cows, 13,042; heifers, 7,314; oxen, 515. Number of pounds of butter made in 1879, 1,154,969; of cheese, 6,560. Number of gallons of milk sold or taken to cheese factories, 1,390,663.

To write up fully the subject of horse-raising and breeds introduced in the county for the past eighty years, would require more time and space than can be given in these pages. Although a subject of much interest, it has received, until recently, but little consideration compared with other advanced farming industries from which success has resulted.

The earliest historic locations to which we can trace back the modern horse on this continent, are found in New Mexico, Wyoming and Utah. No horses, either wild or domestic, existed on this continent at the time of the Spanish conquest of Mexico in 1556; but those introduced at that time escaped, and multiplied rapidly on the plains of South America and Texas. In time they spread to the Western prairies.

The several breeds that were early found in this county came from thorough-bred stock, and the points of excellence they possessed were adapted to the requirements of that period. Of this class were the stallions Eclipse, Goldfinder, Blucher, Mambrino, Albion, Diomede, Messenger, and others. The Messenger stock, through its descendants, has in a wonderful manner perpetuated the endurance and the quality of speed that was characteristic of its ancestors.

Later, the Morgan, Black Hawk, Hambletonian, and Henry Clay stock, introduced a strain of blood into previously well-bred animals, and this infusion has had a decided and valuable influence in producing a class of horses possessing superior action as coach and roadsters. Many of them have records of great trotting speed.

In 1840, Messrs. Corning & Latham imported into this county, from England, the draught-horse Sampson, which, with the native mares, produced a class of horses possessing qualities desirable in a horse for farm work, and enhanced his market value as a draught-horse.

At the present time the Percheron, Norman and Clydesdale are being introduced and bred with native mares, and the experiment is attended with fair results The Percheron is a pattern of strength, and impresses this character upon his progeny. As a race they are remarkably hardy, of excellent temper, docile, of great endurance, with a disposition and willingness to work. The horse that the farmer needs is one that can do his work with ease on the farm, be active enough for the road and market, with style and action to command purchasers.

One of the reasons why the breeding of horses as an industry is very much depressed in this county is, that farmers, for several years past, have largely bred from fancy or trotting stock without regard to size, figure, usefulness or local require-

ments. The number of horses in the county in 1820 was 8,893; in 1865, 10,529; in 1875, 8,963; in 1880, 9,469.

Sheep husbandry supplies two of the great necessities of life—warm clothing and nutritious food. When the slopes and hill-sides of our county were first cleared, they furnished natural pasturage which the farmer stocked with sheep, and from which he realized a large return for his capital and labor. They required herding at night as a protection from the ravages of wild beasts, then common in the forests.

For many years, the farmers of this county gave considerable attention to this branch of industry—almost every farm had more or less sheep. But many have latterly abandoned sheep husbandry to devote their lands to greater breadth of grain crops, potatoes and fruit. After hay became a staple commodity for transportation, many a farmer found greater profit in growing hay; the sheep pastures were generally abandoned and converted into meadows.

The destruction of many sheep by the unrestricted control of dogs, was a great detriment to this special interest, and many have abandoned the business from this cause alone. In some of the towns containing hill-side or rough lands, small flocks are yet to be found.

As early as 1838–40, some of the improved English stock were introduced, and a few farmers now have small flocks. The varieties of improved breeds are fairly represented in the county. Yet, it is a fact, that sheep husbandry has steadily decreased for the past thirty or more years, and it is evident that the business of wool-growing has ceased to be a profitable branch of general farming in this county. Number of sheep in the county in 1820, 52,613; in 1865, 33,543; in 1875, 18,120; in 1880, 24,393. The clip of wool for 1880 equaled 115,847 pounds.

Improvement marks swine-raising in this county. The days when the only care that hogs received was a rustic ornament about their necks and a horse-shoe nail twisted in their nose, have passed away. When not confined in filthy pens, they ranged the highways and trespassed on their neighbors, or were turned in autumn into the woods or weedy pastures to seek their own living.

The long-eared, slab-sided and lank hog with protruding nose, is a relic of the past. As early as 1832, S. Hawes, who came from England and settled about three miles west of Albany, brought Berkshire hogs and New Leicester and Southdown sheep. But the credit for the first introduction of Berkshire hogs belongs to Thomas Hillhouse, who, in 1824, at the Albany County Fair and Cattle Show, exhibited this improved breed. After Hillhouse, Christopher Dunn and C. N. Bement, in 1835, were engaged in breeding Berkshires and improved China hogs from New Jersey stock. There is now a fair exhibit of all the different improved breeds in the county, including fine specimens of Berkshires, Chester Whites, Cheshires, China Reds, Poland, Essex, Suffolks and Yorkshires. The number of swine in the county in 1865 was 11,450; in 1875, 8,814; in 1880, 12,027.

Poultry-raising and the production of eggs is an industry that receives great attention. Almost every farm has its brood of hens, from which a fair profit is realized for a small outlay. With judicious management and proper selection of stock, this branch should be a source of pleasure as well as gain. Since 1850, the improved varieties have largely increased, and the introduction of these, with crosses, have produced many desirable qualities for both market-fowls and eggs. Beside barn-yard fowls, many farmers profitably raise turkeys, geese and ducks. Among the wonders of the age is the invention and machinery for artificial hatching, brooding and raising of poultry, which is rapidly improving and becoming a special industry. Not a few of these incubators are already in operation both in the city and county towns. The census report of 1880 gives 118,348 as the number of barn-yard or domestic poultry, and the production of eggs, 627,374 dozen.

HORTICULTURE, FLORICULTURE AND AGRICULTURAL LITERATURE IN ALBANY COUNTY.

SOLOMON SOUTHWICK came from Rhode Island to Albany in 1792; became connected with *The Albany Register*, and in 1808, its proprietor. In 1819, he conducted *The Ploughboy*, the first agricultural paper published in the county, under the *nom de plume* of Henry Homespun.

The Farmers', Mechanics' and Workingmen's Advocate, daily, was started in 1830 by McPherson & McKercher, and the next year it appeared as *The Daily Freeman's Advocate and Farmers', Mechanics' and Workingmen's Champion*, and was published for a year or two.

The American Quarterly Hemp Magazine was commenced in 1833 and continued two years.

The Silk-worm, monthly, was commenced in 1835, published two years, then changed to *The Silk-worm and Sugar Manual;* discontinued in 1838.

The Cultivator, monthly, was established in 1834, by Jesse Buel, who came to Albany from Connecticut in 1813; and soon after established *The Albany Argus*, his interest in which he sold in 1820, and purchased a farm of eighty-five acres on the sand barrens west of Albany. Here he was very successful in experimental and improved husbandry, proving that these sand lands, before considered as worthless, could be made highly productive, and the returns made remunerative. He gave the public the benefit of his labors through the columns of *The Cultivator*. The system he adopted was heavy manuring, under-draining, thorough tillage, clover seeding, root crops, and fallow crops for naked fallow. This was his practical farming. He was also an advocate for improved farm stock, of which he possessed many fine specimens. He also established, in 1838, the first nursery of fruit trees in the county, with James Wilson as partner. In this nursery were grown millions of *Morus multicaulis* trees. At this time the country was in a fever and excitement over the silk-worm humbug. Mr. Buel was a member of several agricultural societies in different States and foreign countries; was several times the honored President of the State Agricultural Society. In 1839, he was President of the Horticultural Society of the Valley of the Hudson; also of the Albany County Horticultural Society. His writings comprise his many addresses on agricultural subjects, six volumes of *The Cultivator;* "The Farmers' Instructor;" and "Farmers' Champion." Connected with him in conducting *The Cultivator* were J. P. Beekman and J. D. Wasson.

The Cultivator was subsequently published by Luther Tucker, W. Gaylord, associate editor, in November, 1839. January, 1840, *The Genessee Farmer* was consolidated with *The Cultivator*, and conducted by L. Tucker & Son.

The Country Gentleman was started at Albany, January, 1853, by J. J. Thomas and L. & L. H. Tucker. It was afterward published by L. Tucker & Son, and, in January, 1866, was united with *The Cultivator*. Since the death of Luther Tucker in 1873, *The Country Gentleman* has been conducted by his sons, Luther H. & Gilbert M. Tucker, with distinguished ability and devotion to the interests of progressive agriculture, diffusing practical knowledge as to the best methods. Its circulation is very large.

The American Quarterly Journal of Agriculture and Science was commenced in January, 1845, by Dr. E. Emmons and A. T. Prince. In 1846, it was changed to a monthly and published by E. Emmons and A. Osborn. In 1848, it was sold to Caleb N. Bement, and discontinued in December of the same year.

The Horticulturist and Journal of Rural Art and Rural Taste was commenced in July, 1840; published by Luther Tucker, and edited by A. J. Downing. In 1854, it was removed to Rochester; in 1855, was published in Philadelphia by R. P. Smith; and in 1858, brought to New York and published by C. M. Saxton, with J. J. Smith, editor.

The Journal of the New York State Agricultural Society was commenced in 1850, and published annually.

Forest, Forge and Farm started in June, 1883; H. S. Quackenbush, editor, Tweddle Building.

The Poultry Monthly commenced in November, 1879; published by the Ferris Publishing Company, at 481 Broadway.

Mount Hope Farm, since 1834, has been the property of Ezra P. Prentice, succeeded by his son,

The plot was originally owned by Maria, wife of Philip Van Rensselaer, and by her conveyed to her daughter, Harriet, wife of General Solomon Van Rensselaer, in 1805. It was used, in 1827, as a summer resort. After Mr. Prentice got possession, he erected new buildings and otherwise improved the premises and stocked them. He was an eminent stock-breeder as well as practical farmer. His 102 acres of improved land supported fifty head of cattle, six horses, fifteen to twenty swine, and a flock of sheep. Adjoining Mr. Prentice on the south, were Joel & John F. Rathbone's premises, upon which attractive improvements were made in 1835, the grounds laid out and beautified, green-houses erected, and other buildings constructed with cultivated taste. This property is now owned by the Catholics, upon which is the College of the Sacred Heart.

Other men in this county who deserve special mention for their intelligent and practical experiments in advancing the best interests of agricultural pursuits, at this period, are Christopher Proctor, Christopher Dunn, C. N. Bement, Joel B. Nott, the Watervliet Shakers, and some others.

These men were ever ready to communicate their individual experience that others might be benefited, and their influence was a force in community exerted to obtain better results from given methods. The practical effects resulting from the teaching of these men can be measured only by the value that has been realized in the development and formation of better methods with increased production, establishing a system of higher agriculture. They introduced a superior grade of neat cattle and farm stock in general. Experience is a teacher, and they are wise who follow its teachings.

The farmers of this county are intelligent as a class; many of them are foremost in adopting and applying new methods with satisfactory results.

Many farmers have engaged in growing garden vegetables and other staple products included in "truck-farming," denominated horticulture. A few acres are devoted to this branch, from which is realized a fair profit. The small farms near the city are almost wholly cultivated in this way. Among the men who are largely engaged in truck-farming may be mentioned Messrs. C. V. Baker & Son, at Fair View Farm; James Hendrick, of Font Grove; E. Van Allen, and many others. The several islands and river flats of the Hudson are almost exclusively planted with cabbages, of which many thousands are grown.

The earliest nursery established in the county was by Bull & Wilson, 1839. Wilson, Thorburn & Teller had nurseries about 1848. George A. Legget and Erastus Corning, in Bethlehem; James McElroy and Markle Brothers, of New Scotland; and James Hendrick, of Font Grove, have been prominent nurserymen. At the present time there are no nurseries devoted wholly to fruit trees and small fruits; a few of the florists cultivate a limited stock in connection with their green-houses and shrubbery culture.

Stephen Van Rensselaer established the first green-house in Albany about 1824, which at that date was the only green-house this side of New York City. Along the river were those of Dr. Hoosick, near that time. James Wilson was gardener for the Patroon. It was in these houses that the century plant—*Agave Americana*, or aloe—bloomed in 1842. The plants and stock of these houses were ultimately disposed of to different parties and the buildings taken down. The grape-house is now doing service on the farm of James Hendrick.

James Wilson established his green-houses with small fruits and trees in 1835, on what was then a waste place in this city, at the corner of South Knox and Morris streets. His grounds were about three acres, on a sloping hill-side; this was carefully cultivated and planted with nursery stock and flowering shrubs. Mr. Wilson was the originator of the famous "Wilson strawberry." He died in 1855. His widow and son continued the business until 1866, when it passed into the hands of John Sprague, then of Fredk. J. Welch, and, about 1870, of Thomas Davidson, the present proprietor. Mr. Davidson has six green-houses and an extensive collection of plants.

At Kenwood, the Rathbones built green-houses in 1837. After the property changed owners, many of the choicest plants were taken to the city, where they now beautify and ornament the private conservatory of General Rathbone.

Louis Menand located, in 1842, upon the Troy road and established his present green-houses and nursery. He has about ten acres of land, upon which are twelve green-houses containing many rare and valuable plants, with a large stock of flowering and ornamental shrubbery and fruit trees. The whole plot and surroundings are attractive and beautiful for situation. L. Menand & Sons also conduct green-houses near the rural cemetery.

Erastus Corning, on his farm below Kenwood, on the River road, erected a green-house in 1845. Since that date extensive improvements have been made, grading, filling and planting the inclosure

of ten acres with native and foreign trees, many of which are very ornamental, rare and valuable. This private park contains fourteen extensive green-houses connected with gardeners' cottages. The grounds in summer are very delightful. The houses contain many rare and beautiful tropical and other exotic plants. The collection of orchids is the most extensive of any green-houses in this country; probably the finest in the world. Mr. Wm. Gray is superintendent and gardener. Ta-wass-a-gun-shee, is the Indian name given to these green-houses, meaning a place of much water.

JOHN DINGWALL, in 1847, located and erected green-houses upon eight acres of land on the Troy road, opposite the Van Rensselaer mansion grounds, where he has six green-houses well-stocked with a fine collection of valuable plants. Nursery stock is cultivated in the open spaces. This garden occupies the ground made memorable as the spot upon which Daniel Webster delivered his great Albany speech in the Harrison campaign of 1840, heard by 10,000 listeners.

LOUIS GLOECKNER has green-houses and shrubbery at the rural cemetery for cut flowers, plants and other decorative supplies.

P. G. PFORDT'S SONS conduct green-houses in the City of Albany, on North Broadway, for the cultivation and sale of plants and flowers. These were formerly located on the Shaker road, north of West Albany, and were conducted by Joseph G. Pfordt, as nurseryman, florist and farmer.

A. F. CHATFIELD, florist and proprietor of Exotic Green-houses, is located at 66 Chestnut street, Albany City. Established in 1858.

JAMES HENDRICK, of Font Grove, at Slingerlands, established extensive green-houses in 1869. He, for a time also engaged in the cultivation of fruit trees and nursery stock. He has twenty-one green-houses, 15 x 100 feet, which occupy, with out-door culture, about six acres, for cut flowers and plants to supply his trade. He has an office at 36 North Pearl Street, Albany.

WHITTLE BROTHERS erected extensive green-houses on a plat of five acres on Madison avenue, Albany, in 1884. Here are grown plants and ornamental shrubbery in great variety, for cut flowers, bouquets and the trade. Connected with these green-houses is a store in Tweddle Building.

WASHINGTON PARK, Albany, has extensive green-houses for cultivating plants and shrubbery, under the care of Matthew Fink, superintendent. These were built in 1883, upon a portion of the Alms-house property, on the New Scotland plank road and near the Lexington avenue entrance to the park.

A. J. BINLEY, No. 323 Clinton avenue, first located on First street in 1880, has a green-house and lot for the cultivation and sale of plants and flowers.

THE NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

WAS organized by a few public-spirited men, assembled in Albany in the year 1832 from different parts of the State. A constitution was adopted and the following officers elected: Le Ray De Chaumont, President: Ambrose Spencer, Jacob Norris, Edward P. Livingston, Robert R. Rose, Vice-Presidents; Philip S. Van Rensselaer, Recording Secretary; Jesse Buel, Corresponding Secretary; Charles R. Webster, Treasurer; Henry W. Delavan, Horatio Hickox, John Townsend, Executive Committee. The society held a cattle show and fair the next year; but the want of funds prevented a continuance of fairs. The charter was granted for twenty years. It was renewed in 1842. An act passed by the Legislature for the encouragement of agriculture, appropriating $8,000 for five years, to be divided among the societies, gave the friends of agriculture renewed courage. The society was reorganized in 1841, with Joel B. Nott, of Bethlehem, as President. The first fair was held the same year at Syracuse, and in Albany the next year. Since that date the society has held fairs and agricultural exhibitions, as well as floricultural and mechanical displays, at Albany in the following years: 1850, 1859, 1871, 1873, 1876, 1880 and 1885.

The annual fairs, with a change of location each year, have become one of the institutions of the State; and the throngs of people who annually flock to its exhibition grounds from all classes and ranks of society, give very gratifying evidence of high public appreciation.

The society meets annually at its rooms in Albany and has a winter exhibition of agricultural and dairy products. Connected with this State society is the interesting Agricultural Museum, which occupies rooms in the building on State street, corner of Lodge, in which are the offices of the society and special accommodations for its extensive departments. On the 19th of November, 1784, an annual fair for vending cattle was held in Albany. Chancellor Livingston was a farmer of intelligence. He is credited with introducing gypsum as a fertilizer as early as 1789.

In 1790, a Society was instituted for the Promotion of Agriculture, Arts and Manufactures. Among its active members were Chancellor Livingston, Simeon De Witt and Ezra L'Hommedieu. The society continued its labors and issued its publications until 1804, when it was merged into the Society for the Promotion of the Useful Arts. It subsequently was merged in the Albany Institute.

The first anniversary address was delivered before the society, January, 1792, by the learned Dr. Samuel L. Mitchell.

ALBANY COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

IN 1818, an Albany County Agricultural Society existed, which received $350 from the State, and held three annual fairs. The first annual exhibition of the Albany and Rensselaer Horticultural Society was held in the Geological Rooms, Albany, September, 1848. Fairs and exhibitions followed in 1849 and 1850. The town of Coeymans organized an Agricultural Society in 1851, with James W. Jolley, President. This was afterward merged into the County Society.

Thursday, May 14, 1853, a meeting was held in the rooms of the State Agricultural Society at Albany for the purpose of organizing an agricultural society for the County of Albany. At this meeting James W. Jolley, of Coeymans, was called to the chair, and Joseph Warren, of Albany, acted as Secretary. After the usual preliminary discussion, the organization was effected by the election of the following officers: President, James W. Jolley; Treasurer, E. E. Platt; Secretary, Joseph Warren; with a Vice-President for each town.

The first annual fair of this society was held at Bethlehem Centre, October 4, 5 and 6, 1853. The receipts were $900. The fair grounds were located too far from the city, with no conveniences for reaching them.

The second annual fair took place on the Washington Parade Grounds in November, 1854.

1855.—The third annual fair was held on Washington Parade Grounds, September 25, 26 and 27.

January 2, 1856, the society was reorganized, with Levi Shaw, President; Richard Kimmey, Vice-President; Charles R. Wooley, Secretary; L. G. Ten Eyck, Treasurer.

1856.—The fourth annual fair was held on Washington Parade Grounds, September 23, 24 and 25.

1857.—Joseph Hilton, President. Fair was held in Albany in October.

1858.—William Hurst, President. Fair held on Washington Parade Grounds, September 21, 22, 23, 24.

1859 and 1860.—William Hurst, President. Fair held at Albany, September 18, 19, 20, 21.

1861.—Wm. Hurst, President. No fair this year.

1862.—William Tuttle, President.

May 8, 1862, was organized the Town Union Agricultural Association of the County of Albany. The following officers were elected: President, Jurian Winne; Vice-President, James W. Jolley; Treasurer, Wm. H. Slingerland; Secretary, Samuel C. Bradt.

June 7, 1862, The Town Union Agricultural Association, at a special meeting, changed its title to Albany County Agricultural Society. Its organization was made to conform to the Act of April 13, 1855. The officers chosen were: President, Jurian Winne; Vice-President, James W. Jolley; Treasurer, Wm. H. Slingerland; Secretary, Samuel C. Bradt. No fair held this year.

1863.—Jurian Winne, President. Fair held on Washington Parade Grounds, September 29, 30 and October 1 and 2. Receipts, $4,000.

1864.—Leonard G. Ten Eyck, President. October 4, 5, 6 and 7. Fair held on Parade Grounds.

1865.—Henry Callahan, President. Albany and Rensselaer Counties jointly held a fair on Island Park, September 19, 20, 21 and 22.

1866.—Jacob Messenger, President. Fair held last week in September.

1867.—The Albany City and County Agricultural and Industrial Societies held a fair and exhibition in Albany in September.

1869.—Joseph Hilton, President. The above societies held their fair and exhibition at Albany the first week in October.

1871.—William Ramsay, President; D. V. S. Raynsford, Treasurer; Thomas Bagley, Superintendent; John H. Farrell, Secretary. August 13th of this year the society was organized as a stock company. A fair was held at Hurstville in October. The weather was rainy and unfavorable, and financially it was a failure, being remote from the city and attended with many inconveniences.

1872.—George Tweddle, President. No fair.

1873.—December 2d, the Albany County Society held a meeting to elect officers.

1873.—In the month of June the Albany Agricultural and Art Association was organized; President, Thomas W. Olcott; Vice-President, Maurice E. Viele; Treasurer, Wm. H. Haskell; Secretary, Volkert P. Douw.

The society purchased about forty-four acres of land four miles north of the city, between the Watervliet turnpike and horse railway on the east, and the Albany and Saratoga Railroad on the west. This location was adapted to the purposes intended by the society as permanent exhibition grounds, with all the necessary buildings, machinery and other facilities to render them attractive, convenient and comfortable for general and special purposes.

The ground was planned by John Bogart, who superintended the grading, road-making, planting trees and other improvements. The society erected buildings, sheds, machinery departments, offices and other structures, at a cost of $30,000. The ground was inclosed by a close fence. On the west, platforms were erected for railroad conveniences. The New York State Agricultural Society held their fair on these grounds after completion of buildings in 1873.

1874.—Thomas W. Olcott, President. This society, with the Albany County Society, held a joint fair on these grounds September 22, 23, 24, 25. Volkert P. Douw, Superintendent.

The last officers elected for Albany County Agricultural Society were George Tweddle, President; John H. Farrell, Secretary; D. V. S. Raynsford, Treasurer. The society has held no fairs since 1874.

THE SHAKERS OF ALBANY COUNTY.

THE United Society of Believers, called Shakers, reside in the township of Watervliet, and are located at Shaker Post-office, six miles north of Albany. The post-office was established in 1871.

This settlement was founded as a religious and secular society in the year 1775, by Ann Lee, born in Manchester, England, in 1736. She came to America when she was 38 years old, with a few of her followers.

The society now has four families, called the Church family, the North family, the West family and the South family, all numbering about 300 souls. Mother Ann, as she was called, died September 8, 1784, and is buried in the Shaker cemetery, in a plain plat of inclosed ground, with nothing to mark the spot save a simple slab of white marble inscribed with the name of the dead.

Our article is compiled from verbal statements and from a volume prepared by Calvin Green and Seth Y. Wells. The doctrine and faith of this society are fully treated in this book as those which Mother Ann taught. They are substantially as follows: The second appearing of Christ in person; that all will become Christ's when fitted by self-denial; that Jesus became the Christ at His baptism; the community of all temporal things and effects; a life of consecrated celibacy; non-resistance and freedom from the strifes of war; and non-interference with political parties, with no distinction of government.

The society owns about 3,000 acres of land in different parts of the town, which is in a good state of cultivation, and upon which productive crops of grass, grain, broom corn, vegetables and fruit are grown. About 100 head of neat cattle furnish the several families with the necessary dairy supplies, and 50 horses are required for labor on the farms, trucking and marketing. The pursuits of the people are varied according to the wants of the society and the demands of trade. Some are

engaged in agriculture, some in horticulture, and some in the mechanical arts. Still others are engaged in canning fruit and vegetables, while the saw-mill, broom factory and several other shops give employment to many busy hands.

The domestic and household affairs are presided over by faithful superintendents, assisted by the necessary help. Order, system, neatness and punctuality prevail in every department.

Their dwellings, offices, factories, shops, storehouses and farm-buildings of every description are all substantial, plain structures, built for use, not ornament, containing all the necessary improvements of modern invention that skill can devise for the convenience of man and the comfort of domestic animals. The mechanical work in its several branches is performed by members of the society, many of whom are skilled workmen. Water and steam power are used for manufacturing purposes. During the season of general admission to their Sabbath worship, great crowds from the surrounding country visit them, mostly to hear their impressive singing and witness their peculiar dancing. Their present church edifice is a large plain building, having a seating capacity for 1,000 persons.

In their moral training they are carefully taught to regard the principles of honesty, punctuality and uprightness in all their conduct; to keep a conscience void of offense towards God and all men; to be neat, cleanly and industrious; to observe the rules of prudence, temperance and chastity; to subdue all feelings of selfishness and hatred; to let the law of kindness, love and charity govern all their feelings towards each other; to shun contention and strife; careful neither to give nor take offense; to conduct themseves with civility, decency and good order before all people; to promote the happiness of each other; and to live in gospel purity, peace, union, and social harmony. These are among those virtuous principles which actuate the people of the United Society in all their temporal concerns, and which tend greatly to promote the health and prosperity of the society, and insure the blessings of divine providence upon all their labors.

A well conducted monthly, called the *Shaker Manifesto*, is published in this community, edited by Rev. G. A. Lomas. All visitors, if courteous themselves, are treated with marked attention and courtesy. The business relations of these people with merchants, and all others who have dealings with them, are those of well-established integrity and trust.

The history of this interesting society in its origin is so peculiar, and so largely identified with our county, that we give it more in detail. Mother Ann, while in England, was often shamefully abused and a number of times imprisoned upon various charges brought by her enemies; after a time her people were allowed to enjoy their faith in peace, but their public testimony ceased in England about a year before they embarked for America.

Mother Ann was, by a special revelation, directed to repair to America, and this revelation was communicated to the society, which was confirmed by signs, visions and manifestations to many of the members, who were given permission to accompany her. Accordingly, those who became the companions of Mother Ann in her voyage to America, and professedly members of her society, were Abraham Stanley, her husband, William Lee, her brother, James Whittaker, John Hocknell, Richard Hocknell, James Shepherd, Mary Partington and Nancy Lee.

Having settled their affairs, they embarked at Liverpool on board the ship Mariah, Captain Smith, of New York, and sailed on the 19th of May, 1774. After enduring the storms and dangers of the sea in an old leaky ship, they arrived safely in New York on the 6th of August following.

After Mother Ann and her little family arrived in this country, they passed through many scenes of difficulty of a temporal nature. Being strangers in the land and without any means of subsistence, they were obliged to seek employment where they could find it, and at the same time arrange plans for their future residence. Accordingly, William Lee and John Hocknell went up the river and contracted for a lot of land in the County of Albany. Mother Ann, her brother William, and the others went to Albany, where they found employment. But she did not reside there permanently. In the beginning of the autumn of 1775 Abraham Stanley was taken sick, and, after his recovery, and before he was fully able to labor, he began to associate with the wicked and lewd, and lost all sense of religion. Unwilling to forsake his wicked ways, the relation between Mother Ann and her husband ceased. John Hocknell, with his family, returned from England December 25, 1775, and met Mother Ann in New York, where they remained until February following, and then went on to Albany by land. Having brought their effects from New York after the opening of the river, their next object was to prepare for a settlement in the wilderness by clearing their land, erecting suitable buildings and making other necessary provisions, which they accomplished in the

course of the summer, and in the month of September, 1776, they took up their residence in the woods of what is now Watervliet, about six miles northwest of Albany City. These lands were in the Van Rensselaer manor and were leased from the Patroon on the usual terms and conditions, and were mostly the light sandy plains of the vicinity. Here, in a wilderness state, they began with zeal and industry, through sufferings, to prepare the way for a permanent settlement. Here they held their meetings for three years and a half, until the way was opened for giving their testimony to the world in the spring of 1780.

During this year the society was encouraged in its work by additions to their numbers; new converts were added, and their meetings were largely attended by persons from a distance, notably from New Lebanon. From various parts of the country many embraced the faith of the society. This new sect and their religion were looked upon by the world as fanatical. The country being at war, these people were accused of being enemies to freedom. The charge of treason was publicly made against them. In consequence of these accusations, Mother Ann and a number of the leading characters were, in the month of July, imprisoned in Albany. This naturally excited great sympathy, and as they appeared an inoffensive people, many from various quarters visited them and were soon convinced not only of their innocence, but of the truth of their testimony.

Their enemies were highly offended when they saw their object defeated, and concluded that by separating Mother Ann from her followers, the society would come to an end. They sent her down the river about the middle of August, with a view to banish her to the British army, then in New York; but not being able to accomplish their object she was landed at Poughkeepsie, and imprisoned in the jail of that town.

About the 20th December following, those who had been confined at Albany for five months were released without trial. They immediately visited Mother Ann at Poughkeepsie, and through their intercession with Governor George Clinton, she was released about the last of December. Thus ended the only imprisonment they suffered in America.

On May 3, 1781, Mother Ann, with some of her followers, set out on a visit to Harvard, in Massachussetts. But here, as usual, she met enemies, and persecution was at once set in motion. Every evil report and every wicked device were called forth to render them odious in the eyes of the people. The usual charges of being enemies to the country, of living in debauchery and practicing witchcraft were alleged against them.

In consequence of these accusations they suffered much personal abuse, and were shamefully and cruelly treated. These persecutions, however, like the imprisonment at Albany, served only to accelerate the means of extending the testimony, which greatly increased the number of believers. About the beginning of July, 1783, they left Harvard to return westward, and on their journey visited the other societies. Leaving New Lebanon on the 4th September, they returned to Watervliet, having been absent two years and three months.

In July, 1784, the society was called to sustain a severe trial in the death of Elder William Lee. This event was soon followed by another, in the loss of the visible presence and protection of their dearly beloved Mother. Being herself sensible that her time was short, she often reminded the people of it and exhorted them to faithfulness and perseverance in the way of God. Having finished her work on earth, she was called to bid adieu to all worldly things, and was released from her labors, her sorrow and sufferings, and calmly resigned her soul to God, on the morning of September 8, 1784.

The society being now deprived of their faithful friend and guide, Elder James Whittaker succeeded her in the ministry, and was henceforth called Father James. The society labored on in the work before it, and, with increasing prosperity, saw the necessity of being gathered into a more united body, for greater protection and a further increase of their spiritual travail.

In the autumn of 1785, was raised the first house of public worship ever built by the society. From this time the affairs of the society began to assume a more regular form and order. This house still stands, well preserved.

Father James died July 20, 1787, and was succeeded in the ministry by Joseph Meacham and Lucy Wright, who was appointed as the first leading character in the female line. These two were established by the gift of God as spiritual parents in church relation and first ministers of gospel order. Under their ministration the people were gathered into a united body, and were gradually formed into church relation at New Lebanon, uniting their interests in one common stock, both spiritual and temporal, having all things in common.

Mother Ann possessed remarkable powers and faculties of mind by nature, which were greatly

enlarged and strengthened by the gift of God. At times, when under the power and operation of the Holy Ghost, her countenance shone with the glory of God, and the influence of her spirit at such times was great beyond description, and no one was able to gainsay or resist the authority by which she spoke. Her whole soul appeared to be always engaged in the work of God, and the Spirit of God seemed to breathe through all her words and actions.

TEMPERANCE WORK IN ALBANY COUNTY.

PEOPLE of different countries have many customs, habits, and social relations in common. These are dependent, in a measure, upon education, temperament, and constitutional heredity.

In the settlement of this county, it shared in both the good and the bad elements that were brought by the settlers. Perhaps no two greater evils could, by any possibility, have been introduced and fostered, under sanction of custom and law, than human slavery and intemperance caused by the use of alcoholic beverages. Both evils made rapid growth: the first through the slave trade, and the latter by immigration. Human slavery was abolished by statute in this State and county in 1827, without the loss of life or bloodshed; but the institution, as a national evil, existed in other States until 1863, when, through a war which cost thousands of lives and millions of dollars, slavery was forever abolished in the United States.

The future of this law-protected evil, the manufacture and traffic in alcoholic and malt liquors, is becoming a national danger, and its final overthrow will require heroic measures. How to accomplish this is a momentous question, and has occupied the consideration of worthy and thoughtful men. It is not by any sudden or arbitrary legislation that great social evils and the burdens of human woes are lessened. Let children and youth have light. Let us have more formation and less reformation will be needed. Few are made drunkards after they are forty years old. Few are reformed after they reach that age.

After many years of experience, temperance reformers have learned that victorious parties are born of many elements in citizenship, gathered about one great issue of paramount importance, and parties die when they fail to force that issue upon the conscience and manhood of a free people.

For fifty years, or more, men and women have zealously labored to modify the traffic and suppress the ravages of intemperance in this county, and whatever of success has attended these efforts for mitigating the evil, opposing forces and special interests, arose dissensions and differences of opinion in regard to methods brought divisions; and numerous societies and organizations followed.

Temperance societies in the county did not assume much importance until about 1830.

One of the earliest societies was organized in 1828, in the school-house near Chesterville. The meeting was called and presided over by Deacon Holmes. Two persons signed what was called the open pledge, which allowed the person to drink all beverages but distilled liquors. Mr. Evans, one of the signers, is dead; the other, Peter P. Harrower, is living in Albany, an honored minister of the Methodist Church. This pledge proved a complete failure. A few years later, the principles of total abstinence were advocated and inserted in the pledges. Men who were at first unwilling to give this subject careful thought, began to investigate the facts that were presented, and many prominent citizens became convinced and identified with the efforts of societies that followed.

The following memoranda of early temperance movements and societies in Albany were furnished by Professor McCoy.

1. In the year 1832 there were fourteen temperance societies in Albany, with an aggregate membership of 4,164.

2. The First Ward Temperance Society, Erastus Corning, President, and Gerrit L. Dox, Secretary, had 1,227 members.

3. The Second Ward Temperance Society, Charles R. Webster, President, and Eli Perry, Secretary, had 410 members.

4. The Third Ward Temperance Society, Uriah Marvin, President, and Israel Williams, Secretary, had a membership of 410.

5. The Fourth Ward Temperance Society, Joseph Alexander, President, and John Davis, Secretary, had 270 members.

6. The Fifth Ward Temperance Society, H. A. Fay, President, and George W. Carpenter, Secretary, had 349 members.

7. There was a Canal Temperance Society, of which Thaddeus Joy was President, and Horace Meech, Secretary.

8. The Albany Apprentices' Society numbered 111 members. E. J. Hosford was President, and William Bleeker, Secretary.

9. The Furriers' Temperance Society had 112 members. Ezra P. Prentice, President, and C. J Taylor, Secretary.

10. The Hibernian Temperance Society, Rev. Charles Smith, President, and P. M. Morange, Secretary, had 123 members.

11. The African Temperance Society had 192 members, with B. Lattimer, President, and Richard Thompson, Secretary.

12. The Albany Young Men's Temperance Society, Bradford R. Wood, President, and Archibald McClure, Secretary, had 500 members.

13. There was an Albany County Temperance Society, membership not given, of which A. Platt was President, and Benjamin F. Butler, late Attorney-General of the United States, was Vice-President.

14. The Albany Academy Temperance Society, W. P. Pohlman, President, and E. T. Griffith, Secretary, numbered 150 members.

15. In some cases one person probably belonged to two societies. Perhaps the total membership in Albany County included 8,500 persons. The total population of Albany in 1832, was 26,000.

16. 1832 was the year of the cholera. The whole number of deaths by cholera in Albany, of persons over ten years old, was 336. Of these but two were members of temperance societies.

17. The Albany Young Men's Temperance Society probably led to the formation of the Albany Young Men's Association. The members of the former, Amos Dean, Bradford R. Wood and others, were founders of the latter.

The organization of these societies was largely due to the heroic labors, resolute purpose, and powerful influence of Edward C. Delavan, of Albany, a wine merchant, the great and well-known apostle of temperance, who, with a terrible fearlessness and zeal advocated the suppression of the sale of intoxicants and the awful danger of drinking habits. He revolutionized customs which had been long in existence. His zeal in this reform was so great, that his opinions were at times uttered with great vehemence and enthusiasm. His opponents he treated with fairness; yet he never receded from what he believed to be right and just.

A temperance sentiment began to grow in Albany. It gained the attention of a few clergymen and prominent citizens, who examined and approved the necessity of action in this reform. Public meetings were held, at which free discussion and inquiry were made. These meetings caused the organization of temperance societies as above. Public sentiment was changed. Clergymen did not hesitate to express their opinions. Eminent judges saw the evil. Chancellor Walworth said: "It was his opinion that the time would come when men would as soon be engaged in poisoning their neighbors' wells as dealing out to them intoxicating drinks as a beverage."

As auxiliaries in this great reform, one of the most potent means early employed was the publication of tracts and papers devoted to this subject, which were distributed in the community as educators. For the first twenty-five years of this reform they exerted a powerful influence. Added to public addresses, numerous societies and other practical methods, the newspaper, the lever that moves the world, has contributed its full share of influence. The following have been published in Albany in the interest of temperance reform:

The Temperance Recorder, monthly, was published in 1831 by the State Temperance Society.

American Temperance Intelligencer was commenced in January, 1834. Published monthly.

The Youth's Temperance Enterprise, monthly, was started November, 1842, by J. Stanley Smith, and continued three years.

The Sons of Temperance and Rechabite, an 8vo monthly, was published in 1846, by J. Stanley Smith & Co.

The Telegraph and Temperance Journal was commenced in 1848 by S. Meyers, and continued four years.

The Temperance Courier was commenced February, 1849, by Jasper T. Hazen, and subsequently published by J. T. Hazen & Son.

The Washingtonian and Rechabite was issued in 1849, by J. T. Hazen. In 1855 it was united with the *Courier*.

The New York Reformer was published for ten months; edited by John Abbott.

The Prohibitionist, monthly, was commenced in 1854 as the organ of the New York State Temperance Society. It was edited by A. McCoy, and in 1857 it was united with the *Journal of the American Temperance Union*.

July 4, 1844, J. Hyatt Smith and Isaac Edwards delivered orations at Guilderland Centre. These were printed by Joel Munsell.

In 1854 was published an address delivered in the Assembly Chamber by E. C. Delavan before the New York State Temperance Society.

In 1860, E. C. Delavan published "Temperance in Wine Countries." He also had printed and published for free distribution numerous papers, addresses, tracts and other matter relating to temperance. After the libel suit against him in 1840, he had the proceedings of the trial published in pamphlet form.

February 12, 1835, an article ably written appeared in the *Albany Evening Journal*, charging that John Taylor, the brewer, used for malting purposes filthy and stagnant water, taken from a small pond then in existence at or near the present location of the Trinity Methodist Church. For this an action was soon after laid for libel, with damages. It was not until April 21, 1840, that this case was brought to trial, and the record is as follows:

John Taylor vs. Edward C. Delavan; prosecuted for an alleged libel; tried at Albany circuit, April 21, 1840, Judge Cushing presiding. Counsel for plaintiff: Messrs. Stevens, Reynolds, McKown and Van Buren; for defendant: Beardsley, Taber and Wheaton. Libel published as above, and charged "that Taylor, the plaintiff, caused his malting establishment, on the hill (corner of State and Lark streets) in Albany, to be supplied with filthy, stagnant, putrid water, such as is taken from pools, gutters and ditches, in which were dead animals; that the water was often so foul and polluted as to be green on the surface and nearly as thick as cream with filth; and that such water had been used for malting, etc."

This trial occupied six days. Seventy witnesses were examined pro and con. The jury rendered a verdict for the defendant with costs. Other suits had been instituted with damages of over $300,000, but were never prosecuted. Delavan was victorious, and the friends of temperance and reform were encouraged to renewed efforts in the work.

Higher ground was taken; more aggressive and stringent methods advocated, and a general interest for the cause manifested by the addition to its ranks of many men of intelligence and character, who earnestly and fearlessly entered upon the work as lecturers or organizers of various societies.

In 1840, the Albany City Temperance Society was organized, with Israel Smith as President.

In 1840, Rev. J. A. Schnellar, Pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Albany, organized a temperance society, with a test pledge for one year; and in May, 1841, reorganized with a pledge for life, including this condition: that if a person wished to be released from his or her obligation, he must present his petition to the pastor of this church.

July 4, 1841, the temperance societies of the city joined in a procession to the Second Presbyterian Church, where an oration was delivered by Benjamin Nott.

In 1842, the Washingtonian movement reached Albany. The Washingtonian Total Abstinence Society was organized with a large membership, and efficiently presided over by John C. Ward, who was a pioneer in the work, and has been a zealous and faithful member of various societies.

Meetings were of frequent occurrence, many eminent public speakers and prominent reformers addressing them. Hawkins and Pollard, Washingtonians, were engaged to address large assemblies, at which the pledge was always presented for signatures. The influence of this remarkable agitation infused new life into the old societies, and called into existence the secret orders.

In June, 1842, a day was devoted to a great temperance celebration in the city.

July 4, 1842, in the afternoon, the wives and children of the Washingtonian temperance societies formed a procession, with banners and badges, and marched to the National Garden on Broadway, where they had a celebration.

In 1843, the following citizens, members of the State Temperance Society, addressed a letter to Drs. Warren, Mott and Horner for their opinion in regard to the drawings of Dr. Sewall, representing the pathology of drunkenness, for the use of schools: Azor Taber, Ira Harris, I. N. Wyckoff, B. T. Welch, Erastus Corning, B. R. Wood and Barent P. Staats.

In 1844, was instituted Albany Division, Sons of Temperance, No. 24.

July 4, 1845, temperance societies celebrated the day with enthusiasm. Samuel G. Courtney and John H. Carroll delivered orations, and Jacob C. Cuyler read the Declaration of Independence.

In the year 1846, Tivoli Temple of Honor and Temperance, No. 22, was organized. Albany Social, No. 22, was connected with this temple.

During 1844 and 1846, these several temperance organizations were instituted: I. O. of Rechabites —Forest Tent, No. 75, and Sche-negh-ta-da Tent, No. 304; Order of Social Circle—Albany Circle,

No. 1, Constellation Circle, No. 4; Albany Dorcas Temperance Society; and Albany County Temperance Society.

June, 1849, the Temperance Pavilion, a large tent, was erected in North Pearl street by Mr. Van Wagner, the "Poughkeepsie Blacksmith," in which were held meetings that were crowded to excess.

In 1849, Father Mathew, the Irish orator and apostle of temperance, came to Albany and delivered lectures to great multitudes of people. His intense discourse and fervent appeals touched the hearts of many. His mission was successful, and the good he wrought has borne fruit for all the years since.

October, 1851, a City Temperance Society was organized, with Bradford R. Wood as President.

During Father Mathew's second visit to Albany in 1851, at one of his meetings, September 19th, Mrs. Susannah C. Maguire, wife of Martin J. O'Heaney, signed pledge numbered 6,100,990. This represented the number of pledges given to him at that date.

January 27 and 28, 1852, State temperance society and temperance organizations of the city held meetings which were attended by large numbers. Many persons were turned away for want of room. Great enthusiasm prevailed. Albany Social, No. 22, was organized.

October, 1852, State Temperance Convention.

January 19, 1853, temperance meetings were held in the city churches, with crowded houses.

January 21, 1853, a delegation of the Women's State Temperance Convention was permitted to enter the Assembly Chamber for the purpose of presenting memorials signed by 28,000 persons, petitioning for the abolition of the sale of intoxicating liquors.

April 10, 1855, the Delavan House was splendidly illuminated, on the occasion of the passage of the temperance bill, and a supper was given to the friends of the measure.

January 7, 1861, a lecture was given at Tweddle Hall by Professor Amasa McCoy, on the "Curious and Humorous Phases in the History of Temperance," and a City Temperance Society was organized, with Rev. Dr. I. N. Wyckoff, President; Jasper T. Hazen, Corresponding Secretary; Wm. Headlam, Recording Secretary; Wm. McElroy, Treasurer; and Philip Phelps, Auditor.

July 4, 1869, was celebrated in a fine grove on the farm of Rensselaer Markle, near the village of New Salem, by the several divisions of Sons of Temperance in the county. A large concourse of people assembled in the grove to partake of the bounties spread before them by the generous hearts and hands of the Sons and Daughters. A spirit of enthusiasm, mingled with enjoyment, prevailed. The speakers were Revs. A. A. Farr, J. G. Noble and others.

In 1869, a series of temperance meetings, conducted by the Christian Temperance Committee, were held in Washington Park and elsewhere on Sunday afternoons. Among the speakers were Dr. Wilson, of Albany, who delivered several addresses.

St. Joseph's Total Abstinence Society, of Albany, owes its origin to the zeal and perseverance of Messrs. James J. Hartwell and James Wilkinson. The organization was perfected January 13, 1870, under the title of St. Joseph's Temperance Society. During the year 1875, the members thought the word Temperance did not clearly indicate the scope of the society, and the name was changed to its present title.

The society holds weekly meetings in St. Joseph's Hall, corner of North Pearl and Colonie streets. It uses the Father Mathew Pledge, as follows: "I solemnly promise, with Divine assistance, to abstain from all intoxicating liquors, and to prevent, by advice and example, intemperance in others." Wine and cider are strictly prohibited.

The present officers are James H. Dulin, President; John J. McMahon, Vice-President; M. F. McGowan, Recording Secretary; Wm. Sennett, Financial Secretary; James J. Hartwell, Treasurer; R. J. Kelly, Clerk; Patrick Costello, Marshal.

Another society, connected with St. Joseph's Church, meets in St. Joseph's Hall, of which Thomas Murphy is President. St. Mary's Guild meets in St. Mary's Church, corner of Pine and Chapel streets; J. J. Franklin, Regent.

Societies throughout the county have been numerous. Some maintained their organizations for many months, and then disbanded, to be again reorganized through the efforts of lecturers, many of whom have addressed large audiences in the rural districts.

In the summer and autumn of 1878, Mrs. T. L. Courtney lectured in several of the townships under the auspices of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and organized auxiliary societies. At the present time there is in West Troy a Lodge of Good Templars and a Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Green Island has a Lodge of Good Templars, of which John P. Lansing is presiding officer; and Cohoes has a Women's Christian Temperance Union; also a Gospel Temperance Association.

The pledging of men and women against the manufacture, sale and use as a beverage of all that can intoxicate, has been the foundation of all these societies. For this purpose we have Women's Christian Temperance Unions, The Sons of Temperance, The Temples of Honor, The Good Templars, Father Mathew Societies, Blue Ribbon Leagues, and many other organizations with records of two-score years or more of labor in the cause of total abstinence.

In the past fifty years the people of this county have witnessed great changes in the customs, habits and public sentiment wrought through the efforts of these societies. At that time the use of ardent spirits was well nigh universal, and men of all classes and professions indulged freely without losing caste. Then officers and members of churches considered it no impropriety. Ordinations, weddings, christenings, funerals, and in fact every assembly and gathering was considered incomplete without a plentiful supply of spirituous liquors. But these customs of the people have undergone a change, and reform marks a higher standard of sobriety and moral intelligence.

A brewery was erected in Albany, on the Rutten-Kill, as early as 1637, with the exclusive right to supply retail dealers with beer. About the beginning of the present century, Mr. Gill was proud of the fact that he produced 150 barrels of beer yearly in Albany. During the year 1883, there was manufactured in this county 353,133 barrels, or 11,123,689 gallons, of malt and brewed liquors; and for the year 1884, 369,977 barrels, or 11,654,275 gallons. The several malt-houses, during the year, manufacture about 1,200,000 bushels of malt, with a capacity for 1,500,000 bushels.

There are not less than 1,200 places in Albany where distilled and malt liquors are sold; in Cohoes, 160; West Troy, 140; Green Island, 40; and in the several towns about 100, making a total of nearly 1,650 licensed and unlicensed resorts for the sale and traffic in these beverages.

From the Supervisor's Report of Albany Penitentiary for 1884, the following facts and figures are taken: Total number received, 2,270. Of this number, 658 were from Albany County. Of the 2,270, 1,894 admitted themselves to be intemperate.

SECRET TEMPERANCE ORDERS.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

THE organization called Sons of Temperance was brought into existence in the City of New York September 29, 1842, and consisted of sixteen members. Not long after this event, Selick Slawson, a member of the Washingtonian Society of Albany, brought this new organization to the attention of his associates, who became pleased with its methods. A subordinate division was instituted here March 7, 1844, by Grand Deputy John W. Edmonds, under the name of Delavan Division. The name was changed, December 23, 1844, to Albany Division, No. 24, Sons of Temperance.

The installation took place in the building then standing corner of State and South Pearl streets, now occupied by the Globe Hotel. Its charter members were Thomas Mygatt, Smith Quackenbush, John C. Ward, Selick Slawson, Alexander Shepherd, Jacob Wetzell, Daniel Luscom, Joseph Courtright, Allen Adams, and John W. Dean. These, with others, were duly initiated. Its first officers were: Thomas Mygatt, W. P.; John C. Ward, W. A.; William C. Schuyler, R. S.; Daniel Salisbury, A. R. S.; Smith Quackenbush, T.; John King, Chap.; Jacob Wetzell, A. C.; Selick Slawson, I. S. Most of the members had been members of the Washingtonian Total Abstinence Society. After forty-one years of action and faithful membership in this and other societies, two of the charter members are among the living—John C. Ward and Selick Slawson.

The present officers of this division are James Kelly, W. P.; Charles Sexton, W. A.; A. P. Thayer, Chap. The division meets at 586 Broadway, opposite Delavan House.

For the years intervening between 1865 and 1875, the growth of this order in the county was rapid. Numerous divisions were instituted and the membership increased, including many men of prominence and influence. In 1865 there was one division; in 1868, nine; and in 1872, twenty-four divisions in the county.

After this the decline was as rapid. Interest in the good of the order and attendance upon its regular services were neglected. In some instances

jealousy and dissensions arose, and the disbandment and surrender of charters followed. Of the many once flourishing divisions in the county, only one now exists, No. 24, of Albany City, the first one instituted.

THE TEMPLE OF HONOR.

The first Temple of Honor was organized in December, 1845, by prominent Sons of Temperance. Although in its infancy as compared with other societies embodying benevolent features, it has steadily advanced until temples have been reared in every State, and Albany records five temples and councils in working order.

The Temple of Honor is a secret organization, and has its signs, grips, and other tests to secure friendship and protection, and enable brethren to recognize each other whenever and wherever they chance to meet.

In the council department of the order are conferred the three degrees of Love, Purity and Fidelity, and the sublime, solemn and impressive degrees of Tried, Approved and Select Templars are adorned with appropriate paraphernalia.

Every member of the order in good standing who can pass a medical examination, may become a participant in the endowment fund.

The Junior Templars of Honor is an order where youths are taught the principles of total abstinence from intoxicating drinks, obedience to the laws of God, parents, and country. No boy under twelve is admitted, and he must possess a good moral character, and use no profane, improper or indecent language. At the age of fifteen the boy may be initiated into the Degree of Honor; and any Junior Templar on arriving at the age of eighteen years may be received into membership in the Temple of Honor.

The Social Department is where women can join hands in this labor of love. All worthy Templars and all ladies of good moral character are eligible to this department, to which are attached three degrees.

The following are the subordinate temples in the County in working order:

Tivoli Temple of Honor, No. 22, organized at Albany City, 1846; meets at 586 Broadway. Wm. H. Mogridge, W. C. T.; C. H. Meyer, W. V.; O. C. White, W. R.; A. P. Thayer, Chaplain. Among its first members were Daniel L. Weaver, David Rose, Selick Slawson, Elisha Mack, and John Reid.

Excelsior, No. 23, Albany City, organized 1866; meets in Lavantall's Hall. Officers: J. Edward Stremple, W. C. T.; Wm. S. Pattison, W. V.; A. C. Van Vorst, W. R.

Capitol Council, No. 4, Select, Albany, organized 1866. Officers: A. P. Thayer, C. of C.; O. C. White, R. of C.; John Reid, Chap.

Ituria Council, No. 3, Select, Albany, organized 1868; meets 66 South Pearl Street. Officers: J. Halley Lindsay, C. of C.; Wm. S. Pattison, R. of C.

D. J. Johnson Temple of Honor, No. 33, Cohoes, organized 1873. George Mathews, W. C. T.; Archibald McLean, W. V.; David White, W. R. In 1872, there were three temples, three councils and two social temples.

The Grand Temple of Honor has been represented in its sessions by the following Albany members: Elisha Mack, G. W. Vice-Templar; J. Halley Lindsay, G. W. Usher; A. P. Thayer, G. W. Chaplain.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF GOOD TEMPLARS.

In the year 1851, Daniel Cady, of Poughkeepsie, came to Utica and instituted an order known as the Knights of Jericho. There were three lodges of this order in Oneida County. The lodge at Utica had, among other members, L. E. Coon, J. E. N. Backus and Thomas L. James, afterward Postmaster-General. The order had a fantastic initiatory ceremony and did not please some of the members. One evening, L. E. Coon made a motion to change the name to the Good Templars. After some debate the motion was carried, and in two weeks eight lodges were instituted. Thus was organized in New York State the first lodges of this order.

The first Good Templar paper was the *Crystal Fount*, published at Hamilton, N. Y., by T. L. James and others.

On August 11, 1852, a Grand Lodge was formed at Syracuse, with Nathaniel Curtis, G. W. C. T.

The revised ritual was written by Rev. Dr. D. W. Bristol, of Ithaca; accepted by the Grand Lodge, without alteration, in 1853. Regalia was provided and the State divided into districts. Thus was the order fully established and prepared for that wonderful growth which it has enjoyed for so many years. The degrees were written by Dr. Bristol, and this year, in December, at a convention held in Pennsylvania, a seal was adopted, with a device representing the three great principles of this order: Faith, Hope and Charity.

This order takes the broadest ground upon all questions connected with the temperance reform. The following platform was adopted at the annual session in 1859:

1. Total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors as a beverage.

2. No license, in any form or under any circumstance, for the sale of such liquors to be used as a beverage.

3. The absolute prohibition of the manufacture, importation and sale of intoxicating liquors for such purposes. Prohibition by the will of the people, expressed in due form of law, with the penalties deserved for a crime of such enormity.

4. The creation of a healthy public opinion upon the subject by the active dissemination of truth in all the modes known to an enlightened philanthropy.

5. The election of good, honest men to administer the laws.

6. Persistence in efforts to save individuals and communities from so direful a scourge, against all forms of opposition and difficulty, until our success is complete and universal.

Women are admitted and are entitled to all the honors of the order. In the obligation, initiation and solemn ceremonies of this organization, signs, grips, pass-words and signal raps are used, with pledges of secrecy.

In May, 1867, a resolution in favor of juvenile societies was adopted, and in 1870, the Cold Water Temple was adopted.

The order in the county was tardy. Not until 1867 was a lodge instituted, and that owed its existence and much of its prosperity to Andrew S. Draper, a representative of Albany, who stands as high as any living Good Templar in the regard of the order.

Hon. A. S. Draper was initiated into the order December, 1866, at Westford, Otsego County, and in July, 1867, he assisted in the organization of the first Good Templar Lodge in Albany County, named Harrison Lodge, and became its first W. C. T. At the Rochester session, in 1869, he was elected a member of the first Board of Managers. In 1873 he was elected G. W. Counselor, and in 1874 and 1875, G. W. Treasurer. In 1876, at the Saratoga session, he was honored with the highest office in the gift of the Grand Lodge. At the thirteenth annual session of the Grand Lodge of New York, held at Elmira, August, 1877, he presided as G. W. C. T. At the Cooperstown session of the Grand Lodge, he was, for the fifth time, elected G. W. C. T. In 1879, at the R. W. G. L., held at Detroit, he was elected R. W. G. Counselor. He resigned the office of G. W. C. T., January 1, 1881, having been elected a Member of Assembly, but in August, 1882, attended the Grand Lodge session at Ithaca as P. G. W. C. T. He has many times been a representative in the R. W. G. L.

About thirty lodges have been instituted in the County, some of which have ceased to exist.

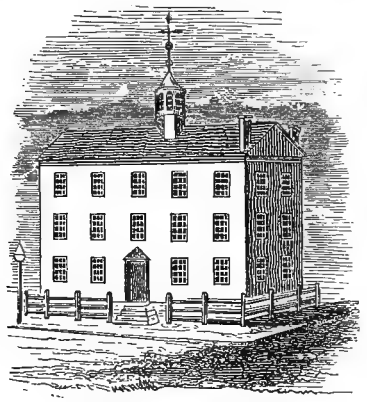
Albany County Lodge was instituted 1869. Holds meetings quarterly and annual meetings in September. The present officers are: C. C. T., John B. Hilton; C. S., Fred. F. Wheeler; C. D., Richard Kennedy; G. D. D., Rev. C. I. Wilcox. At the session of the Grand Lodge of New York, held at Elmira, August, 1877, Albany County reported nine subordinate lodges, and the county was represented by Andrew S. Draper as G. W. C. T.; Alden Chester and George H. Niver, Representatives. At the annual session of the Grand Lodge, held at Ithaca, August, 1882, Albany County reported twenty-one subordinate lodges. At this session Mrs. George H. Niver was elected General Superintendent of Juvenile Temples, and, with A. S. Draper, P. G. W. C. T., were officers of the Grand Lodge. The county was represented by Alden Chester.

Mrs. George H. Niver, C. S., Albany, reports for the year 1882, nine juvenile temples in the county.

THE OLD STADT HUYS.

THIS venerable building has been used as a City Hall, a County Court Building and Prison, and as a State House. It was also the place where conventions, councils, and other gatherings of a public nature were held in the elder days. From its uses it may properly be counted among the county institutions. It stood on the northeast corner of what is now Broadway and Hudson avenue, just inside the stockades. It is uncertain at what exact period it was erected; but, as near as the time can be ascertained, it was about 1635, while the Colony of New York was under the control of the Dutch. We are led to the belief that this was the time of its erection from some minutes in the journals of Wouter Van Twiller, the sixth Dutch Governor of the province. It is certain that some punitory building was erected on that spot under the direction of Van Twiller that year. As Albany was then a frontier trading town, a substantial building for Courts of Justice, in which should be a proper prison for the confinement of criminals and desperadoes, was necessary. According to an account given of it in 1646, it was a substantial, and, for that time, large, solid, three-story building,

the lower story being of stone, which was used as a jail. The building was surmounted by a cupola or belfry, from which rose a vane ornamented with a gilt ball. In the belfry was a bell brought from



THE OLD STADT HUYS OR CITY HALL.

Holland, and placed there soon after the completion of the building. For nearly one hundred and sixty years it was rung on all public occasions to summon legislators, lawyers, judges, and municipal officers to their duties in the rooms below.

After the building was demolished, the bell was placed in the cupola of the new capitol, where it hung for many years, discharging the same duties it had done in the tower of the old Stadt Huys. At last it was taken down. What became of it is somewhat uncertain; it is believed that it now hangs in one of the churches at Ballston, N. Y.

In this building was held the provincial courts under the Dutch and English laws. Here the Common Council held its first meetings after its organization under the Dongan Charter, in July, 1686.

In front of this building, in July, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was read for the first time in Albany, to an immense crowd of people.

This building was, for a time, the Capitol of the State, in which the Legislature under the first constitution held several sessions.

A few years ago a memorial slab was placed in the front walls of the commercial building on Broadway, standing on the spot where this old structure stood, with appropriate addresses and other ceremonies.

ALBANY COUNTY JAILS.

THE lower story, or basement, of the old Stadt Huys in Albany was used as the jail of the county for many years. It was made of stone, and divided into cells of sufficient strength and size for the confinement of prisoners from the large territory which, for many years, was embraced in the County of Albany. Heavy iron bars or grates protected the windows. The massive doors were made double, of heavy three-inch oak plank, fastened with strong iron bolts. A diamond-shape opening, a foot in size, near the top, let in light and air. These doors were secured by ponderous locks, to turn whose keys required the whole strength of a man.

Chains, with rings and clasps attached, for the more secure confinement of desperate characters, were fastened in the solid stone wall. On the whole, it was a grim, but secure place of confinement. It might have more properly been called a dungeon. After the lapse of years, although some repairs had been made, the building began to assume a dilapidated condition, and that part used as a jail became so insecure that the escape of prisoners from it was a matter of such frequent occurrence, that the High Sheriff, Samuel Babbington, appeared at the Bar at the Court of Sessions, in October, 1718, and formally protested against the jail as follows :

"I urge upon your Worships that care may be taken to have ye same Jail sufficiently repaired to keep such bad prisoners as I may take for debt, &c., safely from escaping, as is now often ye case."

After hearing the Sheriff's complaint, the Court made the following order:

"It is resolved by this Court, in consideration of ye insufficiency of ye said Jail, that a letter be forthwith writ to ye representative of ye General Assembly of ye Province, to desire leave of that honorable body now sitting, that they may bring in a bill to raise ye same, not exceeding one hundred and forty pounds for repairing ye Jail, and that ye repairs be directed to ye management of ye Justices of ye Peace of ye City and County of Albany, or the major part of them."

There had been several attempts to erect a jail or prison apart from the City Hall. An application of this kind was made to the Common Council in August, 1700. On the 14th of October following, an application having been made to the Supervisors for a new and common jail, the matter came up in February, 1701, and was disposed of as follows :

"Relateing ye Prepareing of ye Court-house and Common Goall, which ye Justices of ye Citty and County on ye 26th of Feb'y instant Recommended to be laid before ye Supervisors, is referred to their Consideration, who of the County Positively Refused to Contribute anything unto ye same, alleadging that it must be Repaired out of ye 2 per cent.

to Defray ye necessary charges of ye Citty and County."

Accordingly, the General Assembly passed a general bill for the making or repairing of the jails in the Province of New York.

At a Court of Sessions, held in the City Hall October 7, 1719, the following order concerning the jail of the County of Albany was made and entered in the records of the Court.

"Pursuant to an act of the General Assembly of the Colony of New York, entitled an Act to Authorize ye Justices of the Peace to Build and Repair Jails and Court-houses in the Several Counties of the Province, whereby ye Justices in each County are Impowered (upon their own view) on any Insufficiency or Inconveniency of their County Jail or Prison, or ye Inconveniency of their Court House, to Conclude and agree upon such sum or sums of money, as, upon examination of sufficient and able workmen, shall be thought necessary for building, Finishing and Repairing a Public Jail, etc.

"It is therefore Resolved, that any five or more of His Majestie's Justices shall make a computation with sufficient and able workmen, what a sufficient Jail, etc., for ye Citty and County of Albany may cost, and bring a report thereof at the next meeting of this Court and the Justices thereof."

This order caused much discussion in the county, a portion of the people desiring to erect a new court-house and jail, while others were equally desirous that the city hall, and the jail in the basement thereof, should be thoroughly repaired. At length, at the Court of Sessions held in the City Hall, it was decided to repair the State House and Jail, according to the following resolution:

"It is Resolved that the City Hall shall be repaired and an addition be made of fifteen foot in length to the south'd, and in breadth to the Court Hall, and joyned in the roof of the same, made up with boards without as the present old house, with a sufficient stone seller under ye same, the north end thereof partitioned off with oak boards. To have one window with cross-iron bars therein, one cross window to the south'ard, one to the eastward and one to the westward in the first room."

The resolution continues:

"The door which stands to the South in the Court Hall, to be removed in the fore room, and in the room above to the south'ard. The gable end of the house to the westward be repaired; the room above the new floor on the top of the old floor with one and one-half inch boards. The windows are to have strong cross iron bars, and the glass windows and wall repaired, all good and sufficient work. Also a convenient place for the Jury to sit in, and the bench for the Justices' seats made larger and more convenient.

"The Justices have agreed with John Wemp to make and repair the said building according to the above dimensions, all well finished, for the sum of £140, which he promises shall all be done by or before the first of January next."

These repairs were made; but those of the jail were so negligently done that the escape of prisoners from it was still of common occurrence. Henry Holland, Esq., then High Sheriff of the City and County, appeared at the Court of Sessions, October 4, 1721, and represented the insecure condition of the jail. Whereupon the following order was made:

"Henry Holland, Esq., High Sheriff of the City and County of Albany, informs this Court that though the City and County of Albany Jail has been lately repaired, it is still very insufficient, and he desires it may be made sufficient. As it is, it cannot secure any prisoner, as several have gained their liberty by breaking Jail. It is therefore ordered that meet and proper repairs at said jail be at once made under the direction of the said Sheriff."

Substantial repairs soon followed. With occasional and slight repairs, the city hall and jail continued as described until the building was demolished somewhere about the year 1803.

That the lower story of the city hall was occupied for a jail, is evidenced by the fact that there is an account of "the prisoners in the old city hall, which was the jail," celebrating the fifth of July, 1790—the fourth being on Sunday. The fifth toast drank on the occasion was: "May the time soon come when no honest man shall be confined for debt."

In 1791, the Legislature passed a law authorizing the city authorities to raise £2,000 towards the completion of the court-house and jail.

It was some time before this appropriation was agreed to by the city and county authorities; and it was not until 1803 or 1804, perhaps as late as 1809, that the new jail was completed. The premises on which this jail stood occupied about 80 feet on State street; 84 on Maiden lane; and 116 on Eagle street. It was sold at auction on August 11, 1832, in behalf of the trustees of the Albany Academy.

On November 1, 1831, the grand jurors visited the jail, and found it so much out of repair that they recommended to the Board of Supervisors the building of a new jail without the compact part of the city, "inasmuch as this building, which had stood twenty-two years was fast decaying, very illy constructed, and too small in order to health, comfort and convenience, and situated in too thickly settled a locality." There were, at that time, fifty-six persons in confinement. If the jail, according to the above statement, had stood twenty-two years,

then, of course, it must have been built in 1809. We are inclined to the belief that there was some mistake about its having "stood twenty-two years," but that it was built somewhere near 1804, and succeeded the old jail in the Stadt Huys, on the corner of Broadway and Hudson avenue. It was sold at auction, August 11, 1882.

The next jail built, stood on the ground at the corner of Eagle and Howard streets, and was completed in the latter part of the year 1834.

Early in April, 1834, the masons at work upon it struck, but the difficulty was adjusted.

This building was occupied as the county jail until the spring of 1854, when the jail on Maiden lane was erected, and the old jail fitted up with great taste and convenience for a hospital, and opened for that purpose August 8, 1854.

In May, 1854, John Hendrickson was executed in the jail on Maiden lane, for the murder of his wife.

ALBANY COUNTY ALMS-HOUSE.

THE County of Albany, unlike most other counties in the State, has not made any material distinction between the poor of the towns and the poor of the county. It has no Board of Superintendents of the Poor.

The poor laws are executed by the Superintendent of the Alms-house, Overseers of the Poor, and other charitable institutions.

The office of Overseer of the Poor is one of the most ancient in the State. It existed long before 1703, and has always been very important in the City and County of Albany. The powers of the office were considerably increased by the act of 1703, which continued through the colonial period, and was retained almost intact by the Legislative Act of March 7, 1788. This act makes provision for establishing an Alms-house in Albany. This was the first of the kind known in the State under the laws of the State. The churches had what were known as church or parish alms-houses. Thus, in the act incorporating the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in the City of Albany, passed August 10, 1720, we find that a certain tenement and lot of ground, commonly called poor-house or alms-house, situated in the First Ward of the City, is described as follows: "Bounded on the south by the High street that leads to the burying-place, to the north of the Rutten Kill, and to the east of Harmon Rutgers', and to the west by the lot of Garrit Bancker, containing in breadth towards the street that leads to the Lutheran Church by the said Rutten Kill, six rods one foot; and the like breadth in the rear; and in length on the east side eight rods and two inches, all Rhineland measure."

The act of 1788 gave the Overseers of the Poor, with the consent of the towns, power to build, purchase or hire houses for the accommodation of the poor. It also gave the Overseers power to purchase materials for setting the poor at work, and to appoint proper persons for keepers. It provided that if any poor person refused to be kept in such houses, he or she was denied relief from the town or county. This act was made more favorable to Albany than to other towns.

By an act passed April 2, 1819, the act of 1788 was amended. The powers and duties of the Overseers of the Poor were extended to lunatics, habitual drunkards and poor children. It gave Overseers the right to bind out poor children; power over illegitimate children chargeable to the public; to sue for penalties incurred by bets or wagers, and for penalties under the excise laws.

The Supervisors have the power, under certain restrictions, to abolish the distinction between town and county poor, making them all chargeable to the county.

This law provides that, in those counties where the poor are made a charge upon the counties, there shall be a Superintendent of the Poor, with the same powers and rights as the Overseers of the Poor, in respect to compelling relatives to maintain their paupers, and in respect to the seizure of property. But there are no Superintendents of the Poor in Albany.

The charter of April 23, 1883, and the city ordinances under it, passed May 5, 1884, provide that the Overseer of the Poor of the City of Albany shall have the charge of and shall apply and distribute the funds for the temporary relief and support of the poor of the city. It also provides that the father, mother or children, when of sufficient ability, of a poor person of the City of Albany unable to work by disease or decrepitude, are compelled to maintain or relieve such poor person. The

Overseers of the Poor of Albany shall exercise and perform the same powers and duties, relative to compelling such relatives to afford such relief, as are in like cases vested in and exercised by Overseers of the Poor of the respective towns of the County of Albany.

By the Act of the Legislature passed May 24, 1884, it is made the duty of the Overseers of the Poor of the several towns of the County of Albany; of the Village of West Troy; of the City of Cohoes; and of the City of Albany, whenever any idiot, lunatic person of unsound mind, deaf mute or pauper within the jurisdiction of the said officers respectively, whenever any such person shall become chargeable to the county, and shall be lawfully liable to be committed to the alms-house or asylum, or other place for the safe keeping of such person or persons, to take and deliver him or her to the alms-house in said city, under certain conditions and restrictions provided by statute. Superintendents to make quarterly reports to County Treasurer, giving full details of all circumstances and expenses of the asylum. Whenever any child shall be in danger of becoming a charge upon the County of Albany, the Overseers of the Poor having jurisdiction of the place of residence to take the child before some magistrate, who shall examine such child and its parents and other persons, touching its age, condition, and the condition of the poor parents, and all other circumstances connected with the child; and if the circumstances warrant it, may be placed in the alms-house under the restriction of the act.

The present Alms-house is situated on the road south of Washington Park, and west of the Penitentiary. There is a very finely cultivated and productive farm of 116 acres belonging to this institution, known as the Alms-house Farm. The productions of this farm, besides furnishing fine vegetables and some fruit for the poor establishment, are a source of some income.

Connected with the Alms-house are the poor-house, lunatic asylum, hospital, pest-house, etc. This is the poor establishment of the city and county, the former paying sixty and the latter forty per cent. of the cost of maintenance. Under the State charitable laws, paupers who have not been residents of any county for sixty days are called State paupers, and are received here and boarded at the rate of $2.50 per week, chargeable to the State.

By the statutes, the Superintendents of the Alms-house are required to make annual reports to the Secretary of State on or before the 10th day of January of each year, covering the year ending November 30th.

The lands granted the city under the Dongan charter of 1686 have all been alienated by the city, excepting the 116 acres known as the Alms-house Farm, and what was known as the Washington Parade Ground on Willett street, and the old burying-ground on State street, both included in Washington Park.

The Alms-house is under the management of an officer called the Superintendent of the Alms-house.

The City Physician has the right to purchase any stores, drugs, medicines, or articles required by the institution, under the direction of the Superintendent of the Alms-house.

The general regulations of this poor establishment are admirable. Perfect care and scrutiny is directed to the health, cleanliness, and comfort of the paupers, who are carefully distributed in different rooms—persons of different sex in different rooms.

When a child attains the age of two years, it is placed in the children's department.

Profane or indecent conversation, quarreling, drunkenness, disorderly conduct at meals, and criminal or immoral conduct of any kind are strictly forbidden in or about the Alms-house. Suitable and wholesome punishment for the above offenses is provided.

All paupers who are able are kept employed without compensation.

Careful medical attendance and nurses are provided for the sick, both adults and children.

Children belonging to the Alms-house of suitable age, attend the school established for their instruction, and are instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic. The girls are taught plain needle-work and knitting, and when they arrive at the proper age are bound out to suitable trades or occupations.

The paupers are suitably clothed and have a change of linen at least twice every week during the year. The linen of the paupers is numbered and is distributed among them.

Careful attention is paid to cleanliness, to ventilation and airing of the rooms, clothes, beds, etc. All the fuel required is distributed throughout the Alms-house. The meals are served at stated hours in a clean and decent manner.

Spirituous liquors are not allowed in the Alms-house except by order of the attending physician.

At nine in the evening the fires and lights throughout the Alms-house are extinguished, except in the hospital and asylum.

The inmates of the Alms-house assemble for religious worship in the chapel every Sabbath at the hours of ten A.M. and two P.M. Some person or persons appointed by the Superintendent reads suitable forms of prayer, approved sermons, and portions of scripture at such meetings.

In the morning some clergyman of the city, of the Protestant faith, and in the afternoon a clergyman of the Catholic faith, conducts religious services in the chapel each Sunday.

Some of the buildings are old and time-worn, but are kept in as comfortable condition as the circumstances will admit. They were first erected in 1826, at a cost of $14,000. The number of persons occupying it that year were as follows:

White females between the ages of 19 and 80, 44; of these 13 were sick and lame and 3 insane.

Thirty-eight children between four months and eight years of age.

Three black males between the age of 45 and 80; 8 black females between the age of 35 and 80; and 30 white males; in all, 123.

The architect of the Alms-house was Henry W. Snyder.

In the Report of 1857, the Alms house, or Poor Establishment, is described as follows: "It embraces four buildings constructed of brick, two stories in height above the basement; one in size, 40 x 70 feet; and two others, 32 x 90 feet; connected with a farm of 216 acres, yielding an annual revenue estimated at $6,000. The basements of one building are used for domestic purposes; the others are unoccupied.

"In the Poor-house proper are ten rooms, warmed by furnaces and stoves, but with but little ventilation.

"This building was erected thirty-four years ago. From 6 to 40 paupers were placed in a single room. The whole number of inmates was 319: 120 males, 299 females. Of these three-fourths were foreign born."

In the asylum are fifty insane paupers. All incurables are sent to the asylum at Ovid. A pest-house has been erected on the outer limits of the farm, which will accommodate about fifty persons.

The unclaimed dead of the streets, the river, and penitentiary are buried in these grounds, and the cattle and geese are here impounded.

Visitors are admitted every day except Sunday.

Albany has been for some time burdened with paupers who are not properly charges for the county. The West Shore Railroad, when nearing the completion of its road, discharged a number of its laborers near the city, most of whom were suffering from malaria or similar disease. The city being the terminus of the canal, draws many known as alien paupers to Albany, where they apply for aid. If sent for any reason to the Penitentiary, after serving for sixty days, they remain in Albany and apply to the Overseer of the Poor for aid. If by physical or mental defect they need care, Albany County cares for them. In tracing their records, some are found to have been paupers in other cities and in other States.

The number of inmates in the Alms-house Department April 30, 1884:

Remaining at the last report		254
Admitted during the quarter		110
		364
Discharged during quarter	103	
Absconded	19	
Died	9	
Insane transferred to State Asylum	2	
Sick transferred to City Hospital	1	
Sick transferred to St. Peter's Hospital	1	
Alien transferred to Italian Consul	1	
Alien transferred to Commissioners of Emigration	1	
Children adopted	1	
		138
Inmates April 30, 1884		226

Of those admitted during the quarter there were males, 72; females, 38.

Total number of weeks' board furnished during the quarter, 3,274; increase over last quarter, 254.

The cash receipts for the quarter, $165.39; expenditures for the quarter, $5,381.71; average cost per day for each pauper was twenty-nine cents.

The employees of the Alms-house are: Overseer, monthly salary, $50; baker, monthly salary, $25; teamster, monthly salary, $30; night watchman, monthly salary, $60; hostler, monthly salary, $15; cook, monthly salary, $16; hospital cook, monthly salary, $5; hospital nurse, monthly salary, $20; hospital nurse, monthly salary, $5; two hospital nurses, each, monthly salary, $3; keeper of asylum, monthly salary, $50; matron, monthly salary, $20; cook, monthly salary, $5; carpenter, monthly salary, $50; farmer, monthly salary, $30; matron, monthly salary, $20; children's nurse, monthly salary, $5.

The report claims that the amount expended for the support of alien paupers for the last twelve months would have kept the institution in hospital supplies for a year.

Superintendent, John McKenna.

Inmates July 31, 1884, 184; inmates October 31, 1884, 198. Of those admitted 92 were males; 52 females. Average cost of maintenance per day, each, thirty cents.

Cash receipts for the quarter, $183.30.

The amount paid into the city treasury by the Superintendent of the Alms-house, for the year ending October 1, 1884, was $19,649,81.

The amount paid towards the maintenance of Alms-house from the treasury, $30,104.49.

On December 5, 1884, a resolution was passed by the Board of Supervisors to levy a tax, to be applied in several ways, among which was an appropriation of the sum of $26,000 for the Alms-house for the ensuing year, and also $2,000 to meet the deficiency of the past year.

ALBANY PENITENTIARY.

A BILL passed the Legislature incorporating the Albany Penitentiary about April 9, 1844, and on December 19th of that year the Supervisors directed a proper site to be purchased for the erection of the buildings. In 1846, it was first opened, the work on the building having been done principally by prisoners, who were taken to and from the jail each day. It is situated in a park of about fifteen acres, located south of Washington Park.

Amos Pilsbury, of Connecticut, was appointed Superintendent in 1844, and continued in office until his death, in 1872. No essential change has been made in the working plans of the institution, as put into practice by him with such wonderful success as to gain a world-wide admiration. It cannot be detailed in our space. The silent or Auburn system was adopted at the beginning. The prisoners are marched in lock-step to and from their work, and are not permitted to converse with each other. They are kept at work. Some are employed in the manufacture of brushes and chairs, but the chief employment is in the shoe shops.

A great source of financial success in this institution comes of receiving prisoners from other counties. Contracts are made with the Supervisors of other counties for the board and care of their criminals. Many have also been received from the United States Courts. For these board has been paid to this Penitentiary. These prisoners have been put at work, and their labor is let to contractors at remunerative wages.

Originally the prison had but 90 cells; now it has 625. The building has been enlarged to nearly six times its original dimensions. New work-shops have been erected, and the whole yard has been inclosed by a high wall.

The greatest number of commitments is caused by intemperance. In 1855, there were 801 commitments. Of these 771 admitted themselves to be intemperate.

The prisoners are confined in separate cells at night, but work in the shops during the day. The discipline seems almost perfect.

In 1872, General Pilsbury died, and was succeeded by his son, Louis D. Pilsbury, who, by continuing to improve in conducting the system begun by his father, brought the institution to its present prosperous condition. He has, since leaving this Penitentiary, been in charge of the institution on Ward's Island, and been Superintendent of all the New York State Prisons. Mr. John McEwen, since 1879, has held the position of Superintendent.

Each year the Penitentiary pays into the treasury a handsome surplus from the earnings of the institution, and thereby lessens taxation throughout the county. Under the present Superintendent the amount paid to the credit of the county in actual money is about $75,000.

All short-term prisoners are cared for without expense to the county. Without the Penitentiary, it is estimated that the expense to the county would be at least $50,000 per annum.

The following is a summary of statistics from the Report of the Superintendent, filed with the Clerk of the Board, February 3, 1885:

The number of prisoners received during the year has been 2,270; added to those in confinement October 31, 1883, 837; making a total of 3,107. Discharged by expiration of sentence, 2,012; pardoned by President, 4; discharged by order of Secretary of War, 2: pardoned by Governor, 6; commuted by Governor, 1; discharged by remission of fines, 8; discharged by court or magistrate, 25; discharged by appeal, *certiorari*, etc., 22; discharged by payment of fine to justices, 113; died, 15; total discharged during year, 2,208; leaving in confinement October 31, 1884, 899.

Of these 785 were males, 114 females. Of the above number received during the year there were: Males, 1,962; females, 308; total, 2,270.

Of these there were born in the United States, 1,480; Ireland, 409; Germany, 115; England, 90; Scotland, 25; Canada, 75; France, 10; Italy, Poland, Wales and Norway, 17; Sweden and Switzerland, 20; Denmark, Holland and Newfoundland, 4; Prussia, Australia and New Brunswick, 8; Russia, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward's Island, 17; total, 2,270.

Of these 1,644 could read and write; 216 could read only; 410 could neither read nor write; 1,894 admitted themselves to be intemperate; 376 claimed to be temperate; 822 were or had been married; 1,448 were single; 379 were sent from the City of Albany; 179 from the town of Watervliet; 1 from Bethlehem; 98 from the City of Cohoes.

Of these 1,398 were sentenced for a term less than six months; 578 for six months each; 57 from seven months to one year; 84 for one year; 20 for one year, and fine from $100 to $500; 46 for terms over one year, not exceeding two years; 38 for over two and not exceeding three years; 29 for three and not exceeding four years; 16 for four years, not exceeding five; 13 for terms from six to ten years; 1 for life. 273 were under twenty years of age; 906 were between twenty and thirty years; 527 were between thirty and forty years; 318 were between forty and fifty years; 246 were over fifty years.

Early in the Legislature of 1885, a bill was introduced to relieve the Board of Supervisors of Albany County, and the Mayor and Recorder of the City of Albany, from all responsibility in regard to the maintenance and care of the Penitentiary. On May 11, 1885, the bill became law.

The Penitentiary Commission consists of D. Cady Herrick, District Attorney; John Battersby, County Treasurer; and John Reilly. The Penitentiary has been under their control since May, 1885. The Superintendent receives a salary of $3,000 per annum. A deputy, two clerks, three matrons and several subordinates are employed. The shops are in immediate charge of faithful overseers.

LEGISLATIVE OFFICERS FROM ALBANY COUNTY.

SENATORS.

UNDER the first Constitution of the State, the Senate consisted of twenty-four members, apportioned among four great districts. After the first election they were divided by lots into four classes, so that the terms of six should expire each year. An additional Senator was to be added to each district whenever, by a septennial census, it was shown that the number of electors in the district had increased one twenty-fourth. This increase was to be allowed till the number reached one hundred. The census of 1795 made the number forty-three. In 1801, the rule being found unequal in its operation, the Constitution was amended so as to fix the number of Senators permanently at thirty-two, which has ever since been retained. By the Constitution of 1821, the State was divided into eight great Senatorial districts, each of which was entitled to four Senators, one being elected every year. Their term of office was four years. Under the present Constitution the State consists of thirty-two Senatorial districts, in each of which a Senator is elected each odd year. The Senate district must consist of contiguous territory, and no county can be divided unless entitled to two or more Senators.

Abraham Yates, Jr., 1777–90; Dirck W. Ten Broeck, 1777–78; Anthony Van Schaick, 1777–78; Rinier Mynderse, 1777–78.

The first session of the Legislature of this State was in 1777, assembling at Kingston, September 9th. On October 7th following it was dispersed by the British troops. The second meeting of this session was held at Poughkeepsie, beginning January 15th and ending April 4, 1778.

Rinier Mynderse, 1778–81; Dirck W. Ten Broeck, 1778-83; Philip Schuyler, 1781–84, 1786–88, 1792–97; Henry Oothoudt, 1782–85; Volkert P. Douw, 1786–93; Peter Schuyler, 1787–92; Leonard Gansvoort, 1791–93, 1797–1802; Stephen Van Rensselaer, 1791–95; Anthony Ten Eyck, 1797–1801; Anthony Van Schaick, 1797–1800; Abraham Van Vechten, 1798–1805, 1816–19; Francis Nicoll, 1797–98; John Sanders, 1799–1802; Stephen Lush, 1801–2; Simon Veeder, 1804–7; John Veeder, 1806–9; Joseph C. Yates,

1806–8; Charles E. Dudley, 1820–5; John McCarty, 1827–30; Peter Gansvoort, 1833–6; Friend Humphrey, 1840–1; Ira Harris, 1847; Valentine Tredwell, 1848–49; Azor Taber, 1852–53; Clarkson F. Crosby, 1854–55; John W. Harcourt, 1856–57; George Y. Johnson, 1858–59; Andrew J. Colvin, 1860–61; John V. L. Pruyn, 1862–63; Lorenzo D. Collins, 1866–67; A. B. Banks, 1868–69, 1870–71; Charles H. Adams, 1872–73; Jesse C. Dayton, 1874–75; Hamilton Harris, 1876–79; Waters W. Braman, 1880–81; Abraham Lansing, 1882–83; John B. Thacher, 1884–85.

MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY.

Gerrit Abeel, 1796; Mathew Adgate, 1780–85; Flores Bancker, 1779–80; Thomas E. Barker, 1798–99; Daniel D. Barnard, 1838; Frederick Bassler, Jr., 1840; George Batterman, 1825; John Bay, 1779–80; Abraham Becker, 1784–85; John Beekman, Jr., 1804; John H. Beekman, 1782–83; John James Beekman, 1780–83; Sidney Berry, 1791–92; James Bill, 1796–1800; Harmanus Bleeker, 1814–15; David Bogardus, 1807, 1812–13; Leonard Bronck, 1786–93; Abraham Brooks, 1823; John Brown, 1808–9; Jonathan Brown, 1791; Jesse Buel, 1823; Daniel Burhans, 1804–6; John H. Burhans, 1808–9, 1816–17; Benjamin F. Butler, 1828; Asa Colvard, 1806–7, 1811–12, 1820; John Colvin, 1810; Philip Conine, Jr., 1796–97, 1800; Clarkson F. Crosby, 1845; Abraham Cuyler, 1784; Jacob Cuyler, 1777–78; John Cuyler, Jr., 1777–78; John Davis, 1839; Adam Deitz, Jr., 1804–6; Johan Jost Deitz, 1798–1804, 1807–9, 1811–14; Johannes Deitz, 1792–96; David Delong, 1811; Abijah B. Disbrow, 1832; John A. Dix, 1842; David Dorman, 1836; Prince Doty, 1798–1802; James C. Duane, 1796–97; William A. Duer, 1818–19; John Duncan, 1788–89; Peter Flagler, 1840; Jellis A. Fonda, 1792–94; Jacob Ford, 1781–85; Sylvester Ford, 1814–15; Michael Freeligh, 1816; Abel French, 1810; Philip Frisbie, 1781–82; John Frisby, 1803; John Fuller, 1847; John I. Gallup, 1847; Leonard Gansvoort, 1778–79, 1788; Leonard Gansvoort, Jr., 1795; Peter Gansvoort, 1830–31; James D. Gardner, 1829; John Gibbons, 1812–13; Henry Glen, 1786–87; James Gordon, 1777–81, 1784, 1786–90; Theo. V. W. Graham, 1794; Daniel Hale, 1807; Willis Hall, 1843; Isaac Hamilton, 1827; Ira Harris, 1845–46; John Haswell, 1827; And. N. Heermance, 1798–99; John V. Henry, 1800–2; Jacob Hotchstrasser, 1794–97; Gerrit Hogan, 1820–21; Lawrence Hogeboom, 1786; James Holcomb, 1796–97; Aaron Houghtaling, 1841; W. D. Houghtaling, 1819; Cornelius Humphrey, 1779–80; Thomas Hun, 1794–95; Elishama Janes, 1812–13; Jonathan Jenkins, 1808–9, 1820; Richard Kimmey, 1837; Francis Lansing, 1841; John Lansing, Jr., 1780–84, 1786–89; Jeremiah Lansingh, 1798–99; Philip Lennebacker, 1832; Leonard Litchfield, 1845; Aaron Livingston, 1834; Edward Livingston, 1833, 1835, 1837; John Livingston, 1786–87; Peter R. Livingston, 1780–81; Walter Livingston, 1777–79, 1784–85; James S. Lowe, 1830; Samuel S. Lush, 1825–26, 1830; Stephen Lush, 1792–93, 1803–6; David McCarty, 1792; James McKown, 1820–22; William McKown, 1822; Hugh Mitchell, 1779–80; Nich. V. Mynderse, 1804–5; Francis Nicoll, 1792–93; 1796–1800; William North, 1792, 1794–96; Nathaniel Ogden, 1796–98; Henry Oothoudt, 1779–80; Volkert D. Oothout, 1822; John I. Ostrander, 1816–17; Cornelius G. Palmer, 1842; George Palmer, 1781–82; Stephen Platt, 1794–95; William Powers, 1787; John Price, 1814–15, 1820; John Prince, 1796–98; Henry Quackenboss, 1779–80; Edmund Raynsford, 1838; Abraham Rosecrantz, 1823; James Sacket, 1818; J. W. Schermerhorn, 1791; Maus Schermerhorn, 1803–4; John Schoolcraft, 1816; Jacob Schoonhoven, 1786; John C. Schuyler. 1836; Peter Schuyler, 1784; Peter S. Schuyler, 1802–4, 1820; Philip P. Schuyler, 1796–99; Stephen J. Schuyler, 1777–79; David G. Seger, 1835; Jacob Settle, 1833; Paul Settle, 1838; William Seymour, 1832, 1836; Thomas L. Shafer, 1846; Levi Shaw, 1844; Israel Shear, 1833; John P. Shear, 1822; Jonas Shear, 1842; Joseph Shurtleff, 1798–99, 1800–2, 1804–7; Thomas Sickles, 1787–88; Richard Sill, 1789–91; William N. Sill, 1828; John I. Slingerland, 1843; Jesse Smith, 1816; Moses Smith, 1804–5, 1814, 1820–21; Barent P. Staats, 1834; Chandler Starr, 1829; Archibald Stephens, 1824; Samuel Stephens, 1844; John Stillwell, 1824; Henry Stone, 1827; Dirck Swart, 1780–85; Gideon Taber, 1816–18; John Tayler, 1777–81, 1786–87; Jacobus Teller, 1778–79; Dirck Ten Broeck, 1796–1802; John Ten Broeck, 1792–93; Samuel Ten Broeck, 1781–83; Andrew Ten Eyck, 1826; Henry Ten Eyck, 1792; Jacob Ten Eyck, 1800–3; J. De Peyster Ten Eyck, 1788; Israel Thompson, 1781–82, 1784–85; Joel Thompson, 1798; John Thompson, 1788–89; Valentine Treadwell, 1847; Jesse Tyler, 1812, 1814–15; Ab. J. Van Alstyne, 1786; Cornelius Van Dyck, 1788–89; Dirck Van Ingen, 1788; Peter Van Ness, 1782–84; Hezekiah Van Orden, 1788; Andrews Van Patten, 1795; H. K. Van Rensselaer, 1788–90; J. Van Rensselaer, 1788–89;

J. Van Rensselaer, Jr., 1780–81; Killian Van Rensselaer, 1777–79; Robert Van Rensselaer, 1777–81; Stephen Van Rensselaer, 1789–90, 1808–10, 1818; Aaron Van Schaick, 1843; J. Van Schoonhoven, 1791; Corn. A. Van Slyck, 1791–93; Abraham Van Vechten, 1800, 1808–13; Corn. Van Vechten, 1789–90; John G. Van Zandt, 1812; Jacob Veeder, 1807–8; Simeon Veeder, 1844; Abraham Verplanck, 1837; David I. D. Verplank, 1828; Mathew Visscher, 1784–85, 1787; Isaac Vrooman, 1779–82; Peter Vrooman, 1777–79, 1786–87; Corn. H. Waldron, 1819; Tobias T. E. Waldron, 1835; Robert D. Watson, 1846–47; Rufus Watson, 1816–17, 1839; Wheeler Watson, 1831; Edmund Wells, 1781–82; John H. Wendell, 1796–98; Peter West, 1798, 1800–2; Henry G. Wheaton, 1835–41; Malachi Whipple, 1826; Phineas Whiteside, 1779–80; William B. Whiting, 1777–80; Stephen Willes, 1820–21, 1825; Erastus Williams, 1830; Prentice Williams, Jr., 1834; Jacob Winne, 1800–1; John D. Winne, 1814–15; John L. Winne, 1814; Peter W. Winne, 1831; Jesse Wood, 1824; Christopher Yates, 1782–85; J. Van Ness Yates, 1819; Peter W. Yates, 1784–85; John Younglove, 1782–85, 1788–90.

Charles H. Adams, 1858; William Aley, 1866; Cornelius W. Armstrong, 1858; Daniel L. Babcock, 1872; Robert Babcock, 1851; Dwight Batcheller, 1858; A. Bleecker Banks, 1862; Hiram Barber, 1849; Lewis Benedict, Jr., 1861; Robert C. Blackall, 1871; Martin J. Blessing, 1855; James Brady, 1856; Waters W. Braman, 1874–75, 1877, 1879; Henry A. Brigham, 1848; Israhiah Chesebro, 1854; John C. Chism, 1868; Clark B. Cochrane, 1866; Thomas D. Coleman, 1876; Lorenzo D. Collins, 1859–60; Hugh Conger, 1867, 1869; Almerin J. Cornell, 1862; Edward Coyle, 1871; James F. Crawford, 1866; Henry Creble, 1859; John Cutler, 1852; Edward Curran, 1877–78; Alexander Davidson, 1855; Archibald A. Dunlop, 1854; John Evers, 1857; Morgan L. Filkins, 1859, 1864; Wm. W. Forsyth, 1853; John N. Foster, 1878; Jay Gibbons, 1861; Samuel W. Gibbs, 1860; Hiram Griggs, 1878–80; Robert Harper, 1852; Hamilton Harris, 1851; Jonathan R. Herrick, 1877; Stephen M. Hollenbeck, 1854; Orville M. Hungerford, 1865; Henry Jenkins, 1856; Thomas Kearney, 1853; William J. Maher, 1876–77; William D. Murphy, 1870–71; Michael A. Nolan, 1865; Joel B. Nott, 1850; William L. Oswald, 1863–64; Harris Parr, 1864; Eli Perry, 1851; Henry R. Pierson, 1873; Oscar F. Potter, 1867; Robert H. Pruyn, 1848–50, 1854; Terence J. Quinn, 1874; John Reid, 1853; Alexander Robertson, 1865, 1867; Edward D. Ronan, 1870; John Sager, 1877; George M. Sayles, 1852; Fred. Schifferdecker, 1874; Peter Schoonmaker, 1874; Willett Searls, 1862; William S. Shepard, 1850; Adam I. Shultes, 1851; John I. Slingerland, 1860; Peter Slingerland, 1875–76; Adam W. Smith, 1869; Henry Smith, 1867, 1872; William J. Snyder, 1863; Stephen Springsteed, 1872; James T. Story, 1878; Jackson A. Summer, 1868; William D. Sunderlin, 1871; Hugh Swift, 1852; John Tighe, 1869–70; Franklin Townsend, 1857; Lyman Tremain, 1866; Adam Van Allen, 1857; David Van Auken, 1849; Cornelius Vanderzee, 1850; Harmon H. Vanderzee, 1865; John Vanderzee, 1862; James B. Van Etten, 1855; J. W. Van Valkenburgh, 1873; T. Van Vechten, Jr., 1852; Theo. Van Volkenburgh, 1868; Francis W. Vosburgh, 1875; Henry L. Wait, 1863; William J. Wheeler, 1861; Isaac Whitbeck, 1856; Edward S. Willett, 1848; Joel A. Wing, 1849; George Wolford, 1858; Francis H. Woods, 1868; William A. Young, 1859; Alfred LeRoy, 1876; Leopold C. G. Kshinka, 1874–5; George B. Mosher, 1872–73; Charles Knowles, 1879; Thomas H. Greer, 1879; William H. Slingerland, Ignatius Wiley, Joseph Haynes, Thomas Liddle, 1880; Miner Gallup, Andrew S. Draper, Aaron B. Pratt, George Campbell, 1881; Michael J. Gorman, Aaron Fuller, Amasa J. Parker, John McDonough, 1882; Daniel P. Winne, Warren S. Kelley, Edward A. Maher, Joseph Delahanty, 1883; John Zimmerman, Hiram Becker, Edward A. Maher, James Forsyth, Jr., 1884; Lansing Hotaling, 1885.

ALBANY COUNTY COUNTY TREASURER.

This ancient officer was known before the revolution. He is the custodian of the funds of the county, and also disburses them. He is required to give heavy bonds for the faithful performance of his duties. He is required to report to the Board of Supervisors annually. They audit his accounts. His salary is fixed at the annual sum of $5,000. Among his duties is to direct the sale of property for unpaid taxes—in fact he has large duties connected with the taxes of the county. Under the direction of the Board of Supervisors he often borrows money in the credit of the county, cancels taxes, etc. On the whole, it is one of the most important offices in the county. The Treasurer was formerly appointed by the Board of Supervisors; but by the statute provisions of 1846, he is now elected for a term of 3 years by the people, in November. The

following is a list of the County Treasurers under the Constitution of 1846: James Kidd, 1848; Cornelius Ten Broeck, 1851; Richard J. Grant, 1854; Adam Van Allen, 1857; Thomas Kearney, 1860; Stephen V. Frederick, 1866; Alexander Kennedy, 1869; Nathan D. Wendell, 1872; Henry Kelly, 1878; Albert Gallup, 1881; John Battersby, 1884.

JOURNALISTS AND JOURNALISM IN ALBANY COUNTY.

ALBANY has always been conspicuous for the ability of its editors, publishers and printers. Its history is embellished with the career of illustrious journalists. Here the press has wielded an influence that may truly be called national.

The history of the Albany press began in November, 1771, when Alexander and James Robertson issued the first number of the *Albany Gazette*, a journal which had its birth and death within the space of one year. But it was the pioneer undertaking.

Down to 1811 there were but thirty-four newspapers in the State. "The paper," says Mr. Weed, "on which they were printed resembled ordinary wrapping-paper in texture and hue, and the type, in most cases, was worn well down toward the first nick. The *New York Columbian* was printed on a sheet as blue as indigo, while the *Hudson Bee* rejoiced in colors as yellow as Mrs. Skewton's bed-curtains." Considering the material and conveniences of that day, printing was done with wonderful rapidity. In Albany, as early as 1816, Governor Tompkins' last message was printed and republished in Canandaigua within five days. Canandaigua, at that time, was as far from Albany, in length of time, as San Francisco is now.

ALEXANDER & JAMES ROBERTSON, the pioneer printers of Albany, having established the *Gazette* in 1771, Albany was the second city in the State in which a regular newspaper was published. It was printed on a small sheet, about one-fourth the size of the *Evening Journal*.

At the time it was started, and during its existence, New York was a province of Great Britain, though the growing spirit of liberty was fast producing the crisis which resulted in the revolution and American freedom. It was, doubtless, the turbulent state of the times that caused the Robertsons to suspend the *Gazette*. They were loyal to Great Britain, and left, it is said, for Nova Scotia. The editors of the *Gazette*, January 13, 1772, make the following quaint apology;

"The printers of the *Gazette*, from motives of gratitude and duty, are obliged to apologize to the public for the omission of one week's publication; and hope the irregularity of the mail from New York since the first great fall of snow, and the severe cold preceding Christmas, which froze the paper prepared for the press so as to put a stop to its operation, will sufficiently account for it."

The liberal manner in which merchants advertised at that day, is indicated by the advertisement of Thomas Barry, a leading merchant of Albany, whose store stood near the Dutch Church, at the foot of State street. His advertisement occupies a column of the *Gazette*, giving a description of his goods quite as eloquently written as that of the popular merchants of to-day. Among the articles advertised, we find the following: "None-so-pretty of various colors, and black breeches patterns." Another firm, James Gourlay & Co., largely advertise, stating particularly that their "store is to be found in Cheapside street, next door to the King's Arms."

JESSE BUEL.—Among the most prominent names among the great journalists of Albany, is that of Jesse Buel.

He was born in Coventry, Conn., January 4, 1778, the youngest of a family of fourteen children. His father, Elias Buel, was an officer in the army of the revolutionary war. At the age of fourteen, he entered the printing-office of a Mr. Lyon, at Rutland, as apprentice. The first four years of his term were spent in unremitted attention to his calling. Having purchased of Mr. Lyon the unexpired three years of his time, he began the life of a journeyman printer. After a brief stay in the City of New York, he worked a short time with Mr. McDonald of Albany; also at Waterford and Lansingburgh. In connection with Mr. Moffat, of Troy, he began in June, 1797, the publication of the *Troy Budget*. In September, 1804, he left the *Budget*. About that time he married Miss Susan Pierce, of Troy.

In October, 1801, he was in Poughkeepsie, publishing a weekly paper called the *Guardian*. This was discontinued after about one year. He began

the publication of the *Political Banner*, which was also short-lived.

At the close of 1802, he established a paper in Kingston, called the *Plebian*, which he conducted with marked success until the close of the year 1813. Six years after he came to Kingston, he was appointed Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Ulster County.

While at Kingston, he gained the lasting friendship of that illustrious jurist, Ambrose Spencer. Through Judge Spencer's influence, he removed to the City of Albany and commenced the *Albany Argus*. The next year he was appointed State printer. He occupied the editorial chair of the *Argus* with distinguished ability till 1820, when he decided to abandon the duties of journalist and printer.

Judge Buel, during all his career as a journalist, insisted upon spending a portion of his time in setting type and working at the press.

Disposing of the *Argus*, which he had founded, he purchased a farm near the City of Albany, and assumed the life of a farmer. While residing on his farm, he was a member of the State Assembly during the session of 1823.

His attention to agriculture met with such success, that he became one of the most distinguished agriculturists in the State. In March, 1834, the *Cultivator* was commenced, under the auspices of the State Agricultural Society, and Judge Buel became its editor. From a small monthly sheet, issued at the price of twenty-five cents per year, it rapidly increased in size and in subscriptions until, in March, 1838, its subscription list amounted to 23,000. On commencing the fifth volume, it was increased in size, and took its place among leading agricultural journals.

In 1821, he was elected a member of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society; in 1829, of the Horticultural Society of that State; in 1830, of the Monroe Horticultural Society of Rochester; in 1831, of the Charleston Horticultural Society in South Carolina; in 1832, of the Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden Society in Massachusetts, and of the Hamilton County Agricultural Society at Cincinnati; in 1833, of the Tennessee Agricultural and Horticultural Societies; in 1834, of the Horticultural Society of the District of Columbia; in 1838, of the Philadelphia Society of Agriculture; and in 1839, of the Albemarle Agricultural Society. In 1838, he was chosen President of the Horticultural Society of the Valley of the Hudson, and was several times chosen President of the State Agricultural Society. Thus is seen the regard in which he was held. Judge Buel's efforts were by no means confined to agricultural pursuits. The motto of his *Cultivator* was "To improve the soil and the mind."

His system of education, like his system of agriculture, was practical. He would guide the effort of muscle by the direction of the mind. While cultivating the land he would enjoy the landscape. The efforts of Judge Buel greatly tended to make honorable, as well as profitable, the pursuits of agriculture. He delivered addresses before agricultural and horticultural societies in various parts of the Union, and always drew large audiences to listen to him.

On September 22, 1839, while at Danbury, Conn., he had a severe attack of bilious colic, followed by bilious fever, which terminated fatally October 4th. His death produced a profound sensation and general sorrow.

Judge Buel was a practical illustration of republican simplicity—always plain in dress and appearance, and unassuming in his manners. He was hospitable without display, pious without pretension, and learned without pedantry. As a writer his style was well adapted to the nature of his communications. With him words meant things, and not simply their shadows. He came to the common mind like an old familiar acquaintance, though he always brought new ideas.

His writings are principally found in the many addresses he delivered; in the six volumes of his *Cultivator;* in the small volume made up from materials taken from the *Cultivator*, published by the Harpers; and in the "Farmer's Companion," the last and most elaborate of his works. It was written expressly for the Massachusetts Board of Education, and was one of the most popular works of the kind.

Moses I. Cantine was born at Catskill, New York, December 14, 1774. He received a preparatory classical education and entered the office of Chancellor John Lansing, at Albany, under whose instruction he qualified himself for admission to the Bar. He was made an attorney-at-law at Albany, in October, 1798. Opening an office at Catskill, he was not long in attaining a highly respectable position in his profession. March 5, 1801, he was appointed by Gov. George Clinton, Assistant Attorney-General for the Third District of the State, and was reappointed February 8, 1808, and February 15, 1811. On June 19, 1818, he was appointed first Judge of the Greene County Court of Common Pleas.

Judge Cantine, at an early period of his life exhibited the qualities of an easy, ready and attractive writer. His contributions to the *Catskill Recorder* and *Albany Argus* attracted much admiration.

In December, 1820, he retired from the Bench, and, with I. Q. Leake, purchased the *Albany Argus* and became editor-in-chief. The next year the *Argus* was made the State paper, and rapidly increased in influence. Judge Cantine and Mr. Leake continued to conduct the paper until January, 1823, when a change took place in its management by the sudden and greatly lamented death of Mr. Cantine. Thus the editorial duties of the *Argus* were committed to Mr. Leake, a man of learning and talents, distinguished for his literary and scientific attainments and abilities as a journalist; but, feeble in health, he was soon compelled to relinquish the trust.

William Cassidy.—The history of journalism is best found in the lives of those who have been journalists.

Prominent among those who aided in making the journalistic history of Albany, is William Cassidy. With Webster, Barber, Southwick, Croswell, Weed, Dawson, Manning, and others, he aided in making that history foremost in the annals of the nation. He was born in Albany, August 12, 1815.

The grandfather of William emigrated from Ireland and settled in Albany in 1790. His father was John Cassidy, who with his uncle, Patrick Cassidy, were esteemed citizens.

At an early age, Cassidy began his classical education at the Albany Academy, and at the age of sixteen was admitted to Union College in the Senior class, graduating in 1833, after remaining in the college one year, He studied law in the offices of Judge McKown and John Van Buren. His articles on political subjects, written at his leisure and published in Democratic journals, found favor with the public. The taste thus cultivated and encouraged, induced him to leave his legal studies and adopt the profession of journalism. At a time of life when other young men are scarcely through with their collegiate education, Mr. Cassidy's brilliant gifts as a writer were winning wide recognition, and he was acknowledged by the leaders of the Democratic party as one of their ablest and most effective political writers. At the age of twenty-five he first entered the field of journalism as a regular, writing for the *Plaindealer and Rough Hewer*, then published in Albany.

From 1841 to 1843 he was State Librarian. In the spring of 1843 he became connected with the *Albany Atlas*, a daily paper started in 1841 by Vance & Wendell, and, with Henry H. Van Dyke, edited that journal. The *Atlas* was founded as the organ of the "Barn-burner" section of the Democratic party, and recognized as such during its existence.

The contest between the "Barn-burner" and "Hunker" factions of the Democratic party will long be remembered as more bitter than that which the former party waged against the Whigs. The *Atlas* entered the political arena as the opponent of a majority of the Democratic party led by the *Argus*, a veteran in the politics of the State. At this time Edwin Croswell, wielding a bold, gigantic pen, was the editor of the *Albany Argus*. The sharp and bitter antagonism between that journal and the *Atlas* was what might have been expected.

Cassidy, as the friend of Silas Wright and the "Free-soilers" and "Barn-burners," vigorously maintained his position against his formidable opponent. The contest continued with unabated ardor until 1856, when the advent of the Republican party, and the great power it developed, with other causes, led the factions in the Democratic party to unite and the *Atlas* and *Argus* became consolidated. This event was a triumph for Mr. Cassidy. He had exhibited such brilliant talents and such lofty character, such admirable management in editing the *Atlas*, that he was selected, with Mr. Croswell's approval, as the editor of the new paper, which received the new name of the *Atlas and Argus*. Under his editorship the *Atlas and Argus*, rapidly attained a high and commanding position in the State. In a short time Cassidy became its principal proprietor.

In 1865, the Argus Company, a joint stock association, was formed, and Cassidy became its president. He continued to edit the paper for the remainder of his life. In 1866 he made the tour of Europe, enriching the literature of his native county by many charming and elegantly written letters, which first appeared in the *Argus*, and were copied into various journals. Mr. Cassidy always persistently refused official position, though in 1867 he was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention, and in 1872 was appointed by Governor Hoffman on the State Commission to Revise the Constitution. He accepted both these positions with reluctance, and they were the only ones he ever held.

As Governor Robinson said, in addressing the Commission after Mr. Cassidy's death: "No temptation would lead him from those fundamental principles which he had imbibed from conscientious conviction, deep thought and study. The welfare of the State was his sole concern, and his advice to his associates was summed up in his remark: 'See that your constitution enunciates principles, and those, principles of elevated statesmanship.'"

As has been said, his career was that of the political editor. He helped to make and unmake men. His own life was that of the sanctum, the library and the social circle. His influence was such as is wielded by a matchless pen; his achievements those of a master of thought, the exponent of party, and the leader of political councils. He combined in a superlative degree the qualities which distinguish the wit, the scholar and the politician. These, with his fine taste and culture, made him one of the most brilliant and accomplished men of his time. He had an eminently social nature and loved the social circle. John G. Saxe, the poet, paid a pleasing and delicate compliment to Mr. Cassidy, when he dedicated a volume of his poems to him, as a tribute to his scholarship.

Mr. Cassidy's personal appearance and bearing were striking and noble. His manner was uniformly courtly and dignified in its courtliness; unstudied, yet perfect. His love for his native city was not the least of his characteristics. He believed in Albany, and never failed to enlarge upon its advantages of position and the manifest evidences of its marked progress. He lent every energy towards its improvement, and as a member of the Board of Commissioners of Washington Park, he entered into every project looking to the expansion of that beautiful spot, and urged every wise scheme for kindred purposes.

But his active and useful life terminated suddenly, with brief warning to his friends that he was soon to leave them for ever. He died at his home in Albany, January 23, 1873, after a very short illness.

On the formal announcement of his death, both branches of the Legislature adjourned, after appropriate eulogistic remarks in both bodies by

distinguished Legislators. The Delta Phi Fraternity, the Park Commissioners of Albany, the Board of Trade, the Young Men's Catholic Lyceum, the Trustees of S. Agnes' Cemetery, the Typographical Union, the Employees of the Argus Company, and the Directors of the National Commercial Bank, all passed resolutions of condolence and appreciation. Letters of regard were received by the family from prominent men of the country.

Mr. Cassidy was a life-long member of the Catholic Church, and died in that faith. In 1856 he was married to Miss Lucie Rochefort, who survives him. He left three sons.

EDWIN CROSWELL, whose name ranks high among the illustrious journalists of the past, was born at Catskill in 1797. At the age of fourteen he entered the office of the *Catskill Recorder* as an apprentice. At this time Moses I. Cantine was a distinguished lawyer and writer, with an interest in the *Recorder*. Young Croswell was favorably brought to his notice. Time passed, and Judge Cantine became a resident of Albany, and one of the editors and proprietors of the *Argus*. Young Croswell, in the meantime, had worked his way to assistant editor of the *Recorder*. When, in 1823, Judge Cantine died, Croswell attended his funeral at Albany. The death of Judge Cantine and the poor health of Mr. Leake, left the *Argus* comparatively without an editor. Mr. Croswell, as one of the editors of the *Catskill Recorder*, had exhibited marked abilities as a political writer, and rendered that paper a power in the State. As he was about returning to Catskill, after the funeral, Martin Van Buren, Benjamin F. Butler, and Judge Duer, then leaders of the Democratic party in the State, and deeply interested in the *Albany Argus*, strongly urged him to become assistant editor with Mr. Leake, and soon the name of Edwin Croswell became identified with that paper.

In 1831, Sherman Croswell became associated with Edwin in the editorial management. July 26, 1834, Sherman Croswell became a proprietor and editor, and so continued till January, 1855. Edwin Croswell, having withdrawn from the *Argus* August 18, 1854, was succeeded by Gideon J. Tucker, who was made Secretary of State in 1857. In 1855, Sherman Croswell and Mr. Tucker transferred their interest to James I. Johnson, who associated with him Calvert Comstock as editor.

It was not long after Edwin Croswell had entered on the editorial duties of the *Argus*, before he became a power in the politics of the State and nation. His vigorous mind and ready and powerful pen were devoted to the interests of the Democratic party and the discussions of the great questions which then divided the public mind. As a political writer it is not too much to say that, during the period of his active life, he had no rival as a political journalist, except Thurlow Weed. In the course of the long political warfare conducted by these eminent editors, he never allowed himself to be thrown off his guard by friend or foe. Few American journalists ever exhibited more ability in conducting controversy, or in quieting animosities among his own friends, than Edwin Croswell. His advantages for obtaining an education were limited; but he understood and practiced the art of self-culture with success. He became familiar with the English classics. The sententious purity of Swift was to him a delight and a model. From Swift he learned how to express his ideas with vividness and force. From the pages of Junius he learned the art of binding ideas together "in close compacted masses." But it was in the printing-office, that practical school of knowledge, that he made his way to the highest rank of a political journalist.

A distinguished contemporary writer of Mr. Croswell's, speaks of him as follows: "As a party political editor he has few, if any, superiors in the United States. Always cool, collected, sagacious and cautious, he seldom, if ever, allowed himself to be guilty of any indiscretions. His style of writing is more highly polished than that of most American journalists; indeed, it is somewhat remarkable that a man educated to practical business pursuits should acquire so nice and cultivated literary taste, and a style of writing so pleasing and perspicuous."

SHERMAN CROSWELL, another eminent journalist of Albany, was born in New Haven, Conn., May 4, 1803. His father, Rev. Harry Croswell, D.D., was rector of Trinity Church in New Haven. Young Croswell was graduated at Yale College in 1822. He studied law and was admitted to the Connecticut Bar in 1826. In 1831, he came to Albany, where he was associated with his cousin, Edwin Croswell, in the editorial management of the *Albany Argus*, from which he finally retired in 1885.

Mr. Croswell became reporter for the *Argus* in the Assembly in 1833, and for twenty-five successive years, with the exception of the session of 1854, he regularly reported the proceedings for the *Argus*, closing with the session of 1857, two years after its consolidation with the *Atlas*. At the time of his retirement, probably, he had no superior as a reportorial writer in this country.

Mr. Croswell became one of the proprietors and editors of the *Argus*, July 26, 1834, and so remained until January 1, 1855.

A distinguished citizen of Albany who knew him very intimately, paid the following tribute to his memory at the time of his death: "For a man so widely known, he was, indeed, known to few. He did not make many friends, but the few he made were life-long and true. Eminently courteous in his manners to all, he was a man of reserve. His confidence was given slowly, and even reluctantly, but when given was never withdrawn without the strongest cause for withdrawal."

His poetic, imaginative mind rendered the duties of a political editor, at first, uncongenial to him. But by determination he warped his mind to the calling he selected until he loved it.

A service of nearly a quarter of a century, first as an assistant, and subsequently as chief editor of one of the most influential political papers in this country, had not been without its influence upon Mr. Croswell's character.

No one familiar only with the always vigorous and sometimes trenchant style of the *Argus* of that day, would have suspected that many of its most characteristic articles came from the pen of a writer whose temperament was essentially a poetic one, and whose feelings were much more in harmony with whatever is beautiful in nature or art than in the details of politics. He died March 16, 1859.

GEORGE DAWSON.

The name of George Dawson ranks high among American journalists. The influence which the daily press has attained is largely due to his pen and his vigorous mind. As has well been said: "He was a journalist of the old school, wedded to the tradition of days when party organs were the leading newspapers of the country." And yet such was the versatility of his talents, that he was at home in any field where the newspaper existed. He possessed the sound judgment, the large circumspection, which enables men to weigh the relative value of either reason or facts; he was cautious enough, and drew sufficiently from his imagination in forming his hypotheses to render his writings attractive; and he was not deficient in the happy sagacity which pierces through apparent dissimilarity and ranges things seemingly unlike under the same class. In a word, he was an excellent collector of facts and a successful, active and bold reasoner upon them. These qualities rendered him powerful in the political arena and made him among the first politicians of his times.

As a politician he was eminently distinguished for the two great virtues of inflexible steadiness to his principles, and invariable gentleness and urbanity in his manner of asserting them. Yet, if occasion required, he could be rancorous, could dip his pen in gall, or move it responsive to the keenest satire, the liveliest wit, the most polished humor. With his wit he could make any subject repulsive, or render a repulsive subject agreeable.

In his writings, whether literary or political, all his wit was argument, and each of his delightful illustrations a material step in his reasonings.

Elegant and graceful as was his style of writing, it was distinguished more for its practicability and its strong sense than its beauty and elegance. But the former often enabled him to state a strong argument or a nice distinction in a more striking and pleasing way, and actually with greater precision, than could have been attained by the severer forms of reasoning.

Mr. Dawson's pen was not confined to politics alone; he relieved the tedium, the responsibility and the aggressiveness of partisan journalism by the cultivation of a beautiful and enlivening literature.

A lover of rural life, the forests, the stream and the lake, his pen often painted scenes from these in life-like beauty; indeed, we have sometimes thought that there is nothing, even in the Bucolics or the Georgics of Virgil, or the enlivening pages of Thompson, more redolent with fragrance of the forest and the field; or which brings home more forcibly the attractions of the stream, touches more exquisitely on pastoral life, and gives the viscissitudes of the changing year, more truthfully and graphically than the pen of Dawson.

He was born in Falkirk, Scotland, March 14, 1813. His father, after whom he was named—a book-binder by trade, and the son of a gardener, residing near Edinburgh—was for many years in the employ of the famous publishing house of the Constables, at Edinburgh. In 1810, he married Mary Chapman, and soon after removed to Falkirk, the birthplace of George.

From his parents George derived no patent of peerage, but he inherited from them those sterling qualities of Scottish character: industry, integrity and reverence for God. He was a child of the Covenanters. In 1816, the father, for the purpose of bettering his fortunes, crossed the Atlantic and found employment in the City of New York. Thither, in 1818, he brought his wife, with young George and an elder brother, James, born in 1811, and a younger sister, Ellen, born in 1815. The father remained in New York till 1818, when he removed to Toronto, then Little York, Canada, where he followed his occupation six years, after which he lived in Niagara County, and afterwards in Rochester, in both places continuing his occupation. In 1836, he removed to Royal Oak, Michigan.

The advantages of young George for an education were meager; but his intellect was active, and he sought and attained knowledge almost intuitively. He was one of those who obtain an education without teachers—always in school and always learning.

When he was eleven years old, he was entered as an apprentice to the printing business in the office of the *Niagara Gleaner*, where he remained till 1826, when his parents removed to Rochester. At this time Thurlow Weed was the editor of the *Anti-Masonic Inquirer*. In the office of that journal young Dawson found employment, and in this way he was brought in contact with the powerful intellect and rare journalistic qualities of its distinguished editor. The relations thus begun were fortunate for both parties, and continued through life; each evolved and radiated the talent of the other.

During his apprenticeship, young Dawson's leisure hours were devoted to his books; they were his companions, the fountain of his pleasure. He might almost have adopted the language of Horne Tooke, when he said to Erskine: "If you had obtained ten years of life for me in a dungeon, with my books, pen and ink, I should have thanked you." He eagerly read the translations of Greek and Roman history and literature.

He once said to a gentleman in Rochester, now living: "You would, perhaps, be astonished at the progress one can make by devoting to study but one hour of each day. I used to average more than that each day, taking time which was employed by others in amusement. In this way I made myself a proficient in several branches, particularly in belles-lettres, history and political economy."

Geo. Dawson

It is impossible to read either his political or literary productions without being convinced that they are the offspring of a cultivated and polished mind. There is a classic excellence about them, showing that, in some way, he certainly attained scholarly profundity and finely balanced powers.

Early in 1830, political anti-masonry attained a strength which enabled it to contend, apparently with success, for the supremacy of the political power of the State, and the project of starting a journal at Albany devoted to political anti-masonry was broached. It was advocated by such men as Francis Granger, Abner Hazleton, Millard Fillmore, William H. Maynard, Albert H. Tracy and others, and with their influence the proposed measure took definite form. The new paper was called the *Albany Evening Journal*, with Thurlow Weed as its editor. Accordingly he removed from Rochester to Albany, and assumed editorial duties which have given his name to history.

George Dawson accompanied him and became foreman in the office of the *Journal*, the first number of which appeared in March, 1830. It is said by those who knew him in the printing-office, that he was an accomplished, practical printer—at the case, a rapid and correct compositor; as a foreman, perfect in order and discipline; courteous and amiable in his intercourse with the employees of the office. It was not long before he began contributing to the columns of the *Journal*, and his contributions bore the impress of a master hand, adding largely to the ability and influence of the paper.

Fifty years after the first edition of the *Journal* appeared, it was said in an anniversary editorial, that the first edition of the paper "did not vary materially in appearance from the present one. The main head-line was in plain, clean-cut capitals bespeaking the well-defined and upright purpose of the projectors."

In the Legislative session of 1831, George Dawson was the reporter for the *Evening Journal*. His reports were hardly equaled for their freshness, vigor and ingenuity, and they brought him favorably before the public. He continued as reporter for the *Journal* until the spring of 1836, when he was called to the editorship of the Rochester *Daily Democrat*, and thus he entered upon his long, successful and brilliant editorial career. In looking over some of his editorials in the *Democrat*, one is struck with their incisive strength, their keen and subtle point.

As the editor of the *Democrat*, he made himself a reputation so extended, that in August, 1839, he was called to take editorial charge of the *Detroit Advertiser*. Before leaving the *Evening Journal* the Anti-Masonic party had passed away—absorbed, as some have said, in the Whig party—and George Dawson was one of the founders of the Whig party, advocating its interests with his pen and occasionally in the rostrum. It was as a Whig that he assumed the editorship of the *Detroit Advertiser*, and it was largely through his instrumentality that the State of Michigan was secured to the Whig party.

Very soon after Mr. Dawson became editor of the *Advertiser*, he was appointed State Printer, which position he held until 1842, when the office of the *Daily Advertiser* was destroyed by fire. About that time he received a flattering invitation to resume the editorial chair of the *Rochester Daily Democrat*, which he accepted. His return to Rochester was attended with many pleasing circumstances. Complimentary notices of his return appeared in all the Rochester papers, and also in very many of the leading journals in and out of the State; while the journals of Detroit and in other parts of Michigan contained sincere and pleasingly-worded regrets at the loss of "a journalist so distinguished; one whose abilities and rare social qualities had made him hosts of friends in the State of Michigan."

Early in the summer of 1846, Mr. Dawson was urgently solicited by Mr. Weed to accept the position of associate editor of the *Albany Evening Journal*. But Mr. Dawson had become attached to Rochester and Western New York by many strong affinities, many pleasing associations. In the society of Rochester he was a favorite. Besides, the beautiful lakes and bright streams of Western New York and Northern Pennsylvania afforded him facilities for enjoying the favorite pastime of an angler. He would often leave the sanctum and seek the waters of lake or stream, and,

> "Under an oak, whose antique roots peeped out
> Upon the brook that brawls along the wood,"

spend many hours in quiet happiness. He, therefore, reflected long and seriously before sundering these pleasant associations. But at length, in August, 1846, yielding to repeated solicitations, he returned to Albany, and entered upon his duties as associate editor of the *Evening Journal*.

During the whole of Mr. Weed's administration, the *Journal* was omnipotent with its party. It gave the word of command and the lesser organs made haste to regard its behest. The orders which all obeyed, came from the capital. The *Journal* spoke with authority. It dictated party policies, controlled appointments, and marshaled all the forces of political campaigns. In the management of the *Evening Journal*, Mr. Dawson shared with his senior the enjoyment of the "power behind the throne;" was thoroughly acquainted with his plans, proved an able lieutenant in his political encounters, and fully indorsed his political and journalistic views. In 1862, Mr. Weed retired from the editorship of the *Journal*, and Mr. Dawson became the senior editor and proprietor. He continued to fill this position till 1877, with the exception of a short time in 1871, when the late George W. Demers occupied the editorial chair. In 1877 he sold his interest in the *Journal* to Mr. Charles E. Smith, now editor of the *Philadelphia Press*. After that time Mr. Dawson did only occasional work on the paper until February, 1880, when Mr. Smith retired from the editorship on account of his course in indorsing Governor Cornell's nomination of John F. Smyth as Superintendent of the Insurance Department, which was disapproved by the controlling partners. At the request of the proprie-

tors of the paper, Mr. Dawson temporarily resumed the editorship, and did some of the best work of his life in the remarkably bitter fight waged against Mr. Smyth's confirmation, and subsequently against "machine" dictation, unit rule and the bosses. His pen was also especially pungent and forceful in the senatorial contest which resulted in the retirement of ex-Senator Roscoe Conkling to private life.

Mr. Dawson retired finally from the editorial work on the *Journal*, September 2, 1882, and was succeeded by Mr. Harold Frederick. His valedictory, published in the *Journal*, was an ably written production, exhibiting the elastic vigor of his intellect and the strength of his memory. The pathos with which he refers to old associations, with its brief but touching reminiscences, gained it universal admiration.

In 1861, Mr. Dawson, without solicitation on his part, was appointed postmaster at Albany. He held the office six years, when he resigned, being unwilling to continue under President Johnson's administration, which he opposed. This, we believe, is the only civil office he ever held. Though abundantly able to have filled a prominent place among the distinguished politicians of his day, he had little fondness for official life, and could not consent, for the sake of personal interest or official advancement, to resort to the wearisome correspondence with local great men, and to those platitudes necessary, at the present day, to attain the rewards of party labor. Adroit and keenly sagacious as a party manager, he never turned to his own advantage topics which happened, for the moment, to attract public attention. He never fished "with ever freshly-baited hook in the turbid waters of an ephemeral popularity."

In a word, George Dawson was in no sense a demagogue. In his political career there was no shade of selfishness. Had he been willing to purchase advancement at the price often paid for it, there was never a moment from the time he first made himself felt and known, that he could not have commanded almost anything which his party could bestow. But, as we have said, he desired none of the rewards or honors of party success. Personally, he regarded office as a burden, an obstacle to the enjoyment of his tastes. It was said of Mr. Dawson that "his vigorous intellect—shrewd, far-sighted and restless—impelled by well-balanced instincts of policy and aggressiveness, furnished with all that general knowledge which the newspaper man must necessarily acquire, lacked that breadth of classic information, that catholicity of tastes and sympathies, which are demanded to-day in the average leader writer." We do not believe Mr. Dawson lacked breadth of classic information, or that catholicity of taste required by an editor of the present time. We have already seen how ardently in his youth he devoted himself to solitary study, and how he familiarized himself with the classics. The felicitous classical quotations with which his writings abound, exhibit the result of his studies. His fondness for books through his whole life was a striking characteristic; the heart of his home was his library. Hither he retreated from the cares and labors of his business to discourse with the great spirits of other times, yielding with unfailing delight to the lofty stimulus of great minds, communing with them as with familiar friends. We believe that most of his leaders rank in ability, in argumentative and analytic power with those of any contemporary journal.

We close what we have to say in regard to Mr. Dawson as a political writer, in the language of another. "He was a man of magnificent pluck. He loved thrust, parry and retort of newspaper battle. In every encounter he was cool, confident, wary, sometimes audacious. He spied the weak point in his antagonist's defense and made his lunge instantaneous with the discovery. George Dawson's last great feat in journalism was an assault on Roscoe Conkling; indubitably the most severe, pointed, and serious attack to which Mr. Conkling has ever been exposed."

We have thus far reviewed the life and career of Mr. Dawson as a political journalist and party leader. Politics, though they make the intellect active, sagacious and inventive, within a certain sphere, generally extinguish its thirst for universal truth, paralyze sentiment and imagination, corrupt simplicity of mind, destroy confidence in human virtue, and finally ends in cold and prudent selfishness, if not in that insincerity which amounts to turpitude. Dawson, however, passed through all this with the ardor of moral feeling and the purity and enthusiasm of his youth uncontaminated. May we not say he was exalted by his trial? It now remains to consider briefly another phase of his life.

As a writer, Mr. Dawson devoted his pen considerably to literature. His powers of description, particularly those of stream, lake and forest, have already been referred to, as also his love of angling. His description of the manner in which he indulged this love, portrayed in his admirable work, entitled "The Pleasures of Angling," is intensely interesting—an excellent model of angling literature—the finished work of a mature man and graceful writer, natural and unaffected in style, and brimful of sentiments which are shared by all genuine followers of the craft.

He loved angling for its refining influences and for its associations; he indulged in it as a medicine, as a better preventive than cure; he loved it with unselfish devotion and courtesy. "I have," he says, in one of his essays on angling, "often to assure my critical and incredulous friends that it is by no means all of fishing to fish. The appreciative angler, who has inherited or acquired the true spirit of the art, is not alone happy while plying his vocation, but happy also in the recollection of what has been and the anticipation of what is to be. To him, memory and hope are equally satisfying, the one luminous with the sunshine of the recent past, and the other all aglow with the assured cheer of the near future. Nor is the pleasure derived from a review of the last outing, wholly or chiefly associated with its material results. 'Cast-

ing' and 'striking' and 'killing' belong to the mere mechanism of the art. Its real fascination lies in what one sees and feels in mountain and valley; in river and lake; in sunshine and shadow; in the exhilarating atmosphere and delectable odors of the virgin forests; in the music of singing birds and in the soothing monotone of running waters; in the quiet and repose best found in the solitary places where anglers most do congregate. It strikes me like the sound of a trumpet to remember my fights with three-pound trout, five-pound bass, or thirty-pound salmon, but I find intenser ecstasy when I recall the circumstances and surroundings of these material experiences. The transparent brook, whose ripples were rendered as dazzling as molten silver by sunshine glints which fell upon them through the ever-waving branches of the pine, or birch, or hemlock which over-arched it like a benediction; the pellucid waters of river or lake, whose unruffled surface trembled as the fly and leader touched its bosom; the deep pool, cast into deeper shadow by the giant boulders, near which the lordly salmon rests on his upward journey; and a thousand other things of beauty which fill the eye and ravish the senses while watching and waiting and casting for a 'rise.'

"These are the pictures most distinctly photographed upon the memory of the appreciative angler, and which come up most vividly before him when he looks back on what has been."

What a vivid picture this! Can the pencil's mimic skill, in the hand of the most accomplished artist, throw more exquisite coloring, more natural light and shade blended in a more entrancing scene? Has not the mind that can thus describe nature penetrated those secret recesses of the soul where poetry is born and nourished?

We do not know that Mr. Dawson ever wrote poetry, but he had an imagination which might have made him a poet had he indulged it. He believed that the poetic fictions of great intellects are often the vehicles of the sublimest verities; that even when the letter is false the spirit is the profoundest wisdom; and he enlivened his writings with extracts from poets bearing the seal of genius, inspiration, learning and taste.

In 1876, he published his book already alluded to. This work was first published in sketches in the *Evening Journal*, at long intervals, during the three years antedating its appearance. They were eagerly read, and added largely to the circulation of the paper. When the work appeared it was immensely popular, not only with the lovers of angling, but by all lovers of true literary merit, and still continues to be a favorite work with the reading public.

Said one of his friends, a delightful writer and critic: "Mr. Dawson wielded a trenchant pen; when he turned from the conflict of parties to the praise of his favorite pastime 'of simple wise men;' his essays, limpid as the crystal stream, are aglow with the soft summer sunlight, and melodious with the song of birds. When angling was the theme, he wrote from a full heart and closest sympathy. The effect of his writings is, therefore, magical, like that of the mimic players in Xenophon's Memorabilia. He who reads, if he be an angler, must go a fishing; and if he be not, straightway then he must become one."

This is the feeling which the reading of his "Pleasures of Angling" inspires. It is descriptive of his fishing adventures in the waters of the Cascapedia, the St. Lawrence, in Canadian streams, and in the home of the finny tribes of our own State and Pennsylvania. He introduces the reader to his delightful friends and associates in these excursions, and, finally, ere he is aware, the reader himself is one of the party engaged in the exciting and pleasurable scenes.

The characteristics of Mr. Dawson which secured respect and affection are not difficult to depict; for, with the qualities which made him eminent, there were blended simplicity and artlessness open to every eye. He possessed excellences which, at first, seemed to repel each other, as his political aggressiveness, though in truth they were of one genial family. In the political contest he was aggressive, triumphant over fear, gathering strength and animation as the conflict deepened, bound closer to duty as its hardships and the difficulties that surrounded it increased; yet, at the same time, he was a child in simplicity, innocence and benignity.

He was singularly alive to the domestic affections. In the bosom of his family he exhibited the deep sympathies and affections of his nature. His home was pervaded by his love as by the sunlight, and very much of his life was centered there. But the peculiar charm, over all, lay in the junction of intellectual power with religious and moral worth; his honor was superior to every temptation by which the world could assail him.

No one who ever met Mr. Dawson in the social circle can easily forget the attraction of his manner and conversation, for he possessed the power of communicating with ease and interest the riches of his mind. He carried into society a cheerfulness and sunshine of soul which, without effort, won the hearts of those in his presence to a singular degree.

Mr. Dawson was one who may well be called a Christian gentleman. As early as 1831, in the early dawn of his manhood, he united with the Baptist Church at Rochester, and his connection with that denomination continued to the day of his death.

On coming to reside permanently at Albany, he attended the North Pearl Street Baptist Church, which then stood on the site of Perry Building. The North Pearl Street Mission had been established at this time, under the auspices of this church, on North Pearl street, above Wilson, and nearly in the rear of Mr. Dawson's residence on Ten Broeck street. He devoted himself to the care of this mission, became its superintendent, and through his efforts it was finally incorporated under the name of the Tabernacle Baptist Church, with the Rev. J. D. Fulton, pastor, on October 29, 1859. After that time Mr. Dawson's efforts to build up and add to the new church were unswerving. The new church thrived and increased in membership to such an extent that a more pretentious edifice

became necessary. A fine site on the corner of Clinton avenue and Ten Broeck street was purchased. It cost $20,000; and with $54,000 additional the building was constructed. On February 14, 1877, it was formally dedicated and occupied.

During the work of building, Mr. Dawson spent much of his time in superintending it. How much of his means were contributed will doubtless never be known, as he was as unostentatious as he was liberal in his benefactions. It is known, however, that his contributions were very large.

His zeal in the cause of the Church did not end with the completion of the Tabernacle Baptist Church. There was established, in North Albany, a Mission School, under the auspices of the Tabernacle Church. To the promotion of this enterprise, Mr. Dawson bent his efforts. Every Sunday he was found attending to his duty there, discussing doctrine to the youthful and old alike, and educating them in the knowledge of religion. As a lay preacher he was without a peer. His vigorous and timely discourses will long be remembered by the attendants of this mission.

The various pastors of the Tabernacle Church always found in him a zealous supporter; and the congregation and Sunday-school a disinterested friend.

In June, 1834, Mr. Dawson was united by marriage to Miss Nancy M. Terrell, a native of Tolland, Conn. His married life was fortunate and happy; his home, as before said, the center of happiness, of refinement and comfort. Three sons were born to the marriage: the first died in infancy; the second, George S. Dawson, imbued with a patriotic spirit, entered the service of his country in the darkest days of the rebellion, and gave his life to the cause for which he left his home and all its attractions. For him, in recognition of his valor and patriotism, the well-known George S. Dawson Post of the G. A. R., of Albany, was named. The other son, Burritt S., with Mrs. Dawson, still survives.

After retiring from active life, Mr. Dawson gave more of his time to his favorite pastime of angling, to occasional contributions to the press, to works of charity and benevolence, and to the society of his cherished friends. And thus the afternoon sun of what we may truly call his beautiful life, gradually descended toward the night. But that night drew on much sooner than his robust and apparently healthy condition indicated, closing after an illness of less than a week. He died February 17, 1883, at the age of seventy years.

The death of such a man, as might be expected, produced a profound sensation. Seldom has the death of any one in this State called forth more general expressions of sorrow from the press than the death of Mr. Dawson. The popular favor which he enjoyed in such unmeasured profusion, was indicated in many ways. Every degree of talent, of eloquence, of learning, and of distinction laid upon his fresh made tomb, green and fragrant garlands.

The editorial fraternity of the city met, and a committee of one from each newspaper represented, was appointed to prepare an expression of the collected sense of the profession on the career and character of Mr. Dawson. This committee was composed of St. Clair McKelway, *Argus;* T. C. Callicot, *Times;* J. C. Cuyler, *Express;* Harold Frederick, *Journal;* H. M. Rooker, *Press and Knickerbocker*; R. M. Griffin, *Post;* Edward Miggael, *Friee Blaetter;* Wm. Kisselburgh, *Troy Times;* John A. Place, *Oswego Times;* Wm. H. McElroy, *New York Tribune.* At 12.30 on the day of the funeral, the representatives of the Albany press, and those from other parts of the State, met at the City Hall, and from there moved in a body to the Tabernacle Baptist Church, where the funeral took place. During the services many of the prominent places of business were closed and flags were at half-mast.

Among the many tributes of respect paid to the memory of Mr. Dawson, was one—the act of private friendship—so touchingly appropriate and beautiful, that we cannot refrain from describing it; and with this we close our notice.

In the southwest corner of the Tabernacle Baptist Church, Albany, there was erected on January 3, 1885, a handsomely proportioned, highly-polished granite tablet, bearing the following inscription:

GEORGE DAWSON.
Born March 14, 1813.
Died February 17, 1883.
His renown as a Journalist, Author and Party Leader;
His eminence as a citizen and statesman;
His life of probity and spiritual elevation,
Commanded the admiration of all who value
goodness and greatness.
His labor and munificence in its establishment
and maintenance endeared him to this church,
in which he illustrated the nobility of an
exalted Christian manhood.
Private affection placed this tablet to commemorate
his virtues and worth.

This chaste, enduring and eloquent memorial of Mr. Dawson was erected by Hon. Hamilton Harris, a long cherished friend.

HUGH J. HASTINGS was born in the North of Ireland, August 20, 1820, and came to this country when eight years of age, accompanied by his mother, brothers and sisters, his father having preceded them. The family settled in Albany. There were eight children, Hugh being next to the eldest. He began work at an early age, and helped support his parents and the younger children. His first labors were as an errand boy in a dry goods store in William street, New York. This kind of work, however, was unsatisfactory to the ambitious boy, who longed for a chance to better his condition. He was a great reader, and managed, by utilizing his spare time, to acquire much general information.

His tastes led to writing for the newspapers, and, being encouraged by the success of his first attempts, he resolved to make newspaper writing his business. He was first a reporter on the *Albany Evening Journal.* In 1840 he assumed the publication of a Whig campaign paper called the *Union.* At the close of the canvass he became a reporter

Daniel Manning

on the *Albany Atlas*, and made quite a hit by the crisp, lively manner in which he wrote up local items. But the measure of his ambition was not to be filled in this way. He longed to have a newspaper of his own, and he resolved to have one. With a capital of only $7.50, he founded the *Albany Knickerbocker* in 1843, a daily paper, which grew to be very valuable property and an able and influential journal.

Mr. Hastings also took an active part in politics. His natural talents lay in that direction, and he entered into the field of political discussion with a vigor that was the result of a lively inborn interest in the subject. He was for "Tippecanoe and Tyler too," before he was able to vote. He admired Clay, and was a great friend of General Taylor, who, when he became President, made Mr. Hastings Collector of the Port of Albany. He resigned this position when President Fillmore assumed office.

In 1867, he determined to embark in metropolitan journalism, and purchased a controlling interest in the *New York Commercial Advertiser*, of which he was editor and proprietor at the time of his death. Mr. Hastings was passionately fond of his newspaper work, but was preparing to leave the active conduct of the paper to his nephew, John Hastings, and the publication entirely to his son-in-law, Mr. Ward. In 1843, he married Miss Mary Keeler, daughter of Mr. Henry Keeler, of Albany. The fruits of this marriage were four children, three daughters and one son. One daughter was married to Dr. Henry, and another to Mr. Ward, the business manager of the *Commercial Advertiser*. Mr. Hastings died in the City of New York, September, 1883, after a life that made a mark

Hon. DANIEL MANNING.

Hon. Daniel Manning was born in Albany, August 16, 1831. He was of sturdy parentage, which, in its ancestral lines, ran into Irish, English, and Dutch sources, combining the main stocks which have settled Albany, and impressed upon its life and growth its staid qualities with its progressive movement. From earliest boyhood he felt the desire and formed the purpose of self-help. While at school, the disposition to be doing was dominant in him. It was his conviction, before he could shape it into statement, that he could unite the getting of an education with the work of supporting himself. He resisted the policy of confining himself to the routine of schooling for a set number of years before he attacked industry itself. So, as soon as he acquired the rudiments of learning, he obtained, at eleven years of age, a situation as boy-of-all-work in the office of the *Albany Atlas*, which was subsequently merged into the *Argus*, with which establishment he has ever since been connected, rising through every stage of service to the presidency of the company and the executive proprietorship. In this adherence to one vocation in one establishment, the qualities of attachment, persistence and application, for which he is rightly noted, are exemplified.

Many are the relations and responsibilities growing out of his connection with the *Argus*, but they all radiate from it; and the journal and his own personality have had a marked reciprocal influence upon one another. The three-fold form of newspaper work is apparent. It comprises printing, literary work, and business management, to each of which Mr. Manning served a long tutelage, and in each of which he mastered the art. From one to the other he graduated in due course. Over all of them he qualified himself to exercise supervision. By thorough knowledge of the details of each branch, he became able to manage them simultaneously in their affiliated bearings, however large or however minute. His life has been spent in the city of his birth. His associates have been those who were the companions of his youth. His political opinions have been in harmony with the journal which he has promoted. The position of that journal in the politics of the State, and the nation, has required him to scrutinize and weigh the large responsibilities which, in time, he has had to wield and temper in its name.

Journalism is becoming the educating force of the people who have to do with it. Most of all, is it an educating force to those who, from boyhood to mature manhood, have had to do with it in all its trinity of activity. Mr. Manning's career, passed at the center of political competition of the Empire State, has partaken of the administration of successive Governors and the course of successive Legislatures. It has brought him into relations of confidence and co-operation with many able minds. It has tested the qualities by which influence is wrought or wrecked. It has been a school of faculty and character, conceivably second to none other in American affairs. It can be advisedly said that Mr. Manning's discharge of every trust in this relation has earned him promotion to one beyond it, until he reached the summit of opportunity and power in the field in which he worked. From the time of his identification with the news and editorial work of the *Argus*, his relation was a most confidential one. He represented the paper in the Legislature, in which it has always been recognized as the monitor and exponent of one of the great contending parties. Its duty was to organize, lead, reflect, and restrain its party *clientele*, and to example the press of its party in the State always; and often in the nation. Prevision, steadiness, sagacity, and honor were demanded. The vigilance and power of great antagonists had to be challenged. The irresponsible freedom of remote journalism was impossible. In this work, Mr. Manning was the assistant of Calvert Comstock, the partner of William Cassidy; and he became the successor of both. He never affected their ornament of method; but his tempering thought, worldly wisdom, ever sedate judgment, imperturbable repose, and far-reaching sight, were helpful to their brilliant powers of statement; and his share in their successes and reputation is no small one.

No public man of either party in State service at Albany for years past, has failed to feel the governing strength of Mr. Manning's mind on the higher

and larger interests of politics. He grew to his influence by long and legitimate preparation. On the death of Mr. Cassidy, in 1873, Mr. Manning took full charge of the *Argus* and became president of the company. Since then, his political life has been one of unsought prominence and influence within the party in the State, and, latterly, throughout the Union. He was a member of the Democratic State Convention which met at Syracuse in 1874, and nominated Governor Tilden, and of every Democratic State Convention during the succeeding ten years. He has been a member of the Democratic State Committee since 1876, and was its Secretary in 1879 and 1880, and its Chairman in 1881, 1882, 1883, and 1884. In 1876, he was one of the seventy-two delegates from New York to the National Convention at St. Louis, which nominated Governor Tilden for the presidency. He was a member of the New York delegation to the National Convention at Cincinnati, which nominated General Hancock, in 1880, and was unanimously chosen its chairman. His part in the presidential contest of 1884 has passed into history. Nothing that could be said in these pages would add to its repute. Comment on his ability as an organizer, his knowledge of men and measures, and his skill in reconciling conflicting interests, would be forceless side by side with a statement of the results of their influence upon the political history of the period. Avoiding serious collision with the opponents of Mr. Cleveland at the Democratic State Convention at Saratoga, by his tact and ingenuity, Mr. Manning was instrumental in securing a two-thirds majority of the State delegation for the nomination of his candidate.

At the Chicago Convention, he was unanimously chosen Chairman of the New York Delegation. From the first he was implicitly trusted by his own delegation; and, from early in the deliberations of the Convention, by the Cleveland delegates from all parts of the Union. Exhibiting rare tact in handling questions as they arose, he met emergencies with admirable insight and promptitude, and accomplished the nomination of Mr. Cleveland in a manner which won the approval of the country at large. But with that great task achieved, the work Mr. Manning had in hand, both as Chairman of the State Committee and as Governor Cleveland's chosen friend and adviser, was only begun. There followed a campaign memorable for its conflicting elements, and marred by factional animosities and bitter personalities hitherto unknown. The herculean task was before the managers of the Democratic party of healing, or at least checking, its internal dissensions in New York. Upon Mr. Manning, in great measure, devolved this apparently impossible work. Harmony was measurably secured upon national issues, thus assuring the success of the party in the State and the casting of New York's decisive electoral vote for Cleveland and Hendricks. The same courageous and quiet dignity that marked Mr. Manning's conduct during the campaign, and with which he had met the fierce tactics of the forces arrayed against Mr. Cleveland, characterized his work during the trying period succeeding the election, when desperate opponents were clamorously charging fraud upon the Democratic management, and claiming the election of Mr. Blaine with a persistent plausibility that for a time deceived more than half the country.

Much of the aggressive work the State Democracy has accomplished within the last twelve years has been shaped by Mr. Manning's influence upon its organization and policy. To the duties before exercised by Dean Richmond, and then by Samuel J. Tilden, in the leadership of leaders, Mr. Manning has succeeded, and has impressed on the position his own methods and qualities. These comprise a confident reliance on principle, and on the public capacity and disposition to respond to it; a making of issues broad, sharp and commanding; a policy of campaigning marked by candor, evidence and aggression; a calculation of the people as the decisive factor. His trust in the honesty and intelligent self interest of the masses is marked. His perceptions are intellectual, his tactics are ethical; his consciousness that neither political party is as good as it ought to be, leads him to strive to make the one with which he acts better. His relations with the statesmen of his party have long been intimate, and the best of them are his personal friends. Never relishing, and reluctantly accepting, political responsibilities, Mr. Manning would now retire from them altogether, and would have done so long since had he been permitted to act upon his own choice. Never consenting to hold political place, though often urged to do so, his political stewardship has been marked by principle, by high honor, courage and unselfishness. The placing of a great party in a position to deserve and to achieve success, is to him far more important than any personal credit that he may derive from it.

In the affairs of his native city, no man has attained to greater influence than Mr. Manning, yet no one has more sturdily refused to identify himself with official position. He has recognized a sole duty in administering unselfishly and unhamperedly the great public journalistic and unofficial political trusts which have been his. His business gifts have, however, not permitted him to devote them exclusively to the work of publishing. He has long been a Director for the City in the Albany and Susquehanna Railway Company. From 1869 to 1882, when he resigned, he was a Director in the National Savings Bank of Albany. In 1873 he became a Director in the National Commercial Bank of Albany; in 1881 he was chosen its Vice-President; and upon the death of Robert H. Pruyn, in 1882, he succeeded to the presidency. He became a Park Commissioner of the City in 1873, and resigned the charge in 1884; and is one of the trustees of the Fort Orange Club.

Married to Miss Mary Little, a lady of English parentage, he suffered her loss by death in 1882. Two sons and two daughters are the crown of this union. His sons are James Hilton and Frederick Clinton Manning, the former being managing editor of the *Albany Argus*. In November, 1884,

Mr. Manning married Miss Mary Margaretta Fryer, daughter of William J. Fryer, of Albany. His brother, John B. Manning, was elected Mayor of Buffalo as the successor of Grover Cleveland, now President of the United States. A life of beneficent activity, cultured by informing studies, ballasted with many responsibilities, tempered by intercourse and friendship with able and illustrious men, and inspired by a high and practical sense of honor and duty, has been that of Daniel Manning, who, still in the prime of his faculties, has, it is hoped, many years of honor and usefulness before him, in which his past would be a proof of his probity and power. And it is an excellent attestation of the possibilities and product of what is best in American character, by self-help, under American institutions.

Mr. Manning now fills the distinguished position of Secretary of the Treasury in the cabinet of President Grover Cleveland, the duties of which he is believed to be discharging with characteristic independence, industry and energy, and with due fealty to party and country as he regards his obligations to both. He entered upon the duties of this appointment March 4, 1885.

JOEL MUNSELL.

Joel Munsell was born in Northfield, Mass., April 14, 1808. His parents were Hezekiah and Cynthia (Payne) Munsell, who came from Hartford, Ct., to Northfield. Here young Munsell spent the first seventeen years of his life in boyish sports, in the schools of the town, and in working with his father at the trade of a wheelwright. At the age of 17, in 1825, he was a regular apprentice in the printing-office of the *Franklin Post and Christian Freeman*, published in the near village of Greenfield. December, 1826, found him still "at the case," but at another office in the same village. John Denio, his next employer, took him to Albany, the next May, as his clerk in a bookstore. But he was a printer, and preferred this art. After a month on the *National Observer*, published by Solomon Southwick, he was, about the 1st of January, 1828, a journeyman printer, two days in the week, on the *Masonic Record;* helping Mr. Denio in his bookstore at spare moments; and printing, editing, publishing, and distributing from door to door his own paper, the *Albany Minerva*. He issued eight numbers. Much of his time was now spent in reading, studying, and making collections of papers and binding them. His employment for a second time, for a few months, in Mr. Denio's bookstore, and in job work and journeyman work on various newspapers, as he was needed, occupied him quite busily for nearly a year and a half, ending June, 1829. From this date until his return to Albany, January 4, 1830, he was visiting friends in Northfield and seeking a journeyman's work in Hartford and New Haven. Having no steady employment at his trade, he gave his spare hours in New Haven to attending lectures and reading useful works in science and literature. In Albany again, he spent a few more years in irregular employment as a printer. But like many other printers, whose lives have become eminently useful and successful, his simple habits of economy and constant devotion to gaining valuable knowledge did not forsake him.

In 1834, he was associated with Henry D. Stone, for two or three years, in the successful publication of the *Microscope*. From his savings he purchased material in October, 1836, and set up a job printing-office for himself at 58 State street. Here his skill and industry found appreciation. In these respects he had no superior. "Joel Munsell, the Albany printer," from this time forth made himself more fully known as the master of his art, as the enterprising publisher, the faithful annotater and compiler, and the generous friend of students and writers in genealogy, local history, and antiquities. A list of books and pamphlets of this kind from his press makes a volume. We can name but few here. His volumes are seen and his imprint known wherever books are read by intelligent students of American history and genealogy. The first work compiled and published by him was called "Outlines of the History of Printing," in 1839.

Albany owes him much for work done upon its local history. His "Annals of Albany," in 10 volumes, 12mo, were begun in 1849 and finished in 1859. "Collections on the History of Albany," in 4 volumes, royal 8vo, were issued between 1865 and 1871. They embody a mass of matter relating to the earlier and later history of Albany, which, with the help of indexes, is exceedingly valuable for reference. Their preparation shows fondness for work, patient industry, great courage, and conscientious fidelity. He was much aided in some parts of the work by Professor Jonathan Pearson, of Union College, and others. He must have spent untold hours among old records, old newspapers, and old tombstones, to have amassed such an amount of unassorted material.

Another monument of his industry is found in "The Every Day Book of History and Chronology," compiled by him and published in two volumes, 12mo, in 1843.

"Webster's Annual Almanac," started by Charles R. Webster in 1784, had been prepared and issued by Mr. Munsell since 1843; and is now continued by his youngest son, Frank. Some volumes of the Albany Directory were prepared and published by Mr. Munsell. "Joel Munsell's Sons," Charles and Frank, are still carrying on his work as printer at 82 State street.

In the field of local journalism, Mr. Munsell, besides his own *Albany Minerva*, published in 1840, a daily campaign paper, edited by Hon. Daniel D. Barnard; in 1842, *The Lady's Magazine*, edited by E. G. Squier; also, *The Northern Star and Freeman's Advocate*, in 1844; *The Spectator*, edited by Rev. Dr. W. B. Sprague, in 1845; *The Guard*, an Odd Fellows' paper, edited by C. C. Burr and John Fanner; also, at various times, *The New York State Mechanic*, *The Unionist*, *The State Register*, *The Typographical Miscellany*, *The New York Teacher*, *The Morning Express*, and *The Daily Statesman*. Some of these were partly edited by him, and contribu-

tions from his pen, on matters of local importance, were frequent.

Ten volumes of valuable historical matter were issued by him, in limited editions, with excellent paper, 4to size, and faultless typography. They were called "Munsell's Historical Series," and published, as were his "Historical Collections," and many other volumes, at a pecuniary loss. He scarcely ever refused to put in print a valuable manuscript, because "it wouldn't pay." His unselfish zeal for the preservation of historic truth led him to forget the question, "Is there money in it?"

Mr. Munsell took great interest in that valuable quarterly, now in the forty-first year of its publication, called the *New England Historic-Genealogical Register*, of Boston, which he published for three years.

He was one of the original founders and constant members of the Albany Institute, and published its Transactions and Proceedings. For forty years, up to his death, he was its treasurer.

For forty-three years he was a faithful supporter of the Lutheran Church in this city, and one of its trustees for over twenty years. Many historical, genealogical, and antiquarian societies showed their appreciation of his great life work by electing him an honorary member.

He died after a brief illness, January 15, 1880. He had worn himself out. His funeral was largely attended by the members of the press, the Albany Institute, the Lutheran Church, and many citizens, who sincerely mourned the loss of a most useful man. All who knew him esteemed him highly.

He was small in stature. In expression he was usually cheerful; his features, in his later years, told of thoughtful care and hard work. In conversation he was often jocose and facetious. In manner he was quiet and unobtrusive, but always easily approached. His portrait, appropriately inserted in its early pages, illustrates this work.

One of the most distinguished characters in the history of journalism of Albany County, is SOLOMON SOUTHWICK. Not only was he conspicuous as a journalist, but his influence as a politician was, at one time, almost unbounded, approximating that of more modern political leaders.

Mr. Southwick was born in Newport, R. I., December 25, 1773. His father was early identified with the struggle for American independence. He was a printer, and editor of the *Newport Mercury*, a journal heartily committed to the cause of independence. His patriotism drew upon him the hatred of the Tories, and cost him a hard-earned fortune, compelling his son to begin life in a bitter struggle with poverty.

After engaging in several humble employments, young Southwick drifted to New York City, where he apprenticed himself in a printing establishment. The *Albany Register* was then conducted by his brother-in-law, John Barber.

After remaining in New York a little over a year, young Southwick went to Albany as an assistant in the office of Mr. Barber. His ability and industry very soon made him Mr. Barber's partner.

On the death of Mr. Barber in 1808, Mr. Southwick succeeded to his interest in the paper. His talents, energy and ambition soon placed him at the head of the Democratic party, of which the *Register* was the organ and champion.

He continued in charge of the *Register* for many years, during which time he successively held the position of Clerk of the Assembly, Clerk of the Senate, Sheriff of the County, Manager of the State Literature Lottery, State Printer, Regent of the University, and Postmaster of Albany. After the discontinuance of the *Register*, he established and conducted an agricultural paper called the *Ploughboy*, first, under the anonymous designation of Henry Homespun, Jr., and subsequently in his own name. At about the same period, he became editor of the *Christian Visitant*, a periodical devoted to the interests of religion and morality, and to the refutation of infidel principles. Subsequently he assumed editorial charge of the *National Democrat*, during which time he presented himself to the electors of the State as a candidate for Governor, in opposition to the regularly nominated candidate of the Democratic party, Joseph C. Yates. During the prevalence of the anti-masonic excitement, he established, and for several years conducted, the *National Observer*, a prominent organ of anti-masonry, and was soon after nominated as candidate of that party for the chief magistracy, in opposition to Martin Van Buren and Smith Thompson.

Failing of success, and disgusted with the manifold vexations of political strife, he withdrew from the turbulent arena of public life, and sought in the congenial atmosphere of the domestic and social circle that happiness and peace of mind which he had failed to experience in the restless career of personal and political ambition.

The remainder of his life was devoted to study, to his family fireside, and to the dissemination of religious, moral, and intellectual truth.

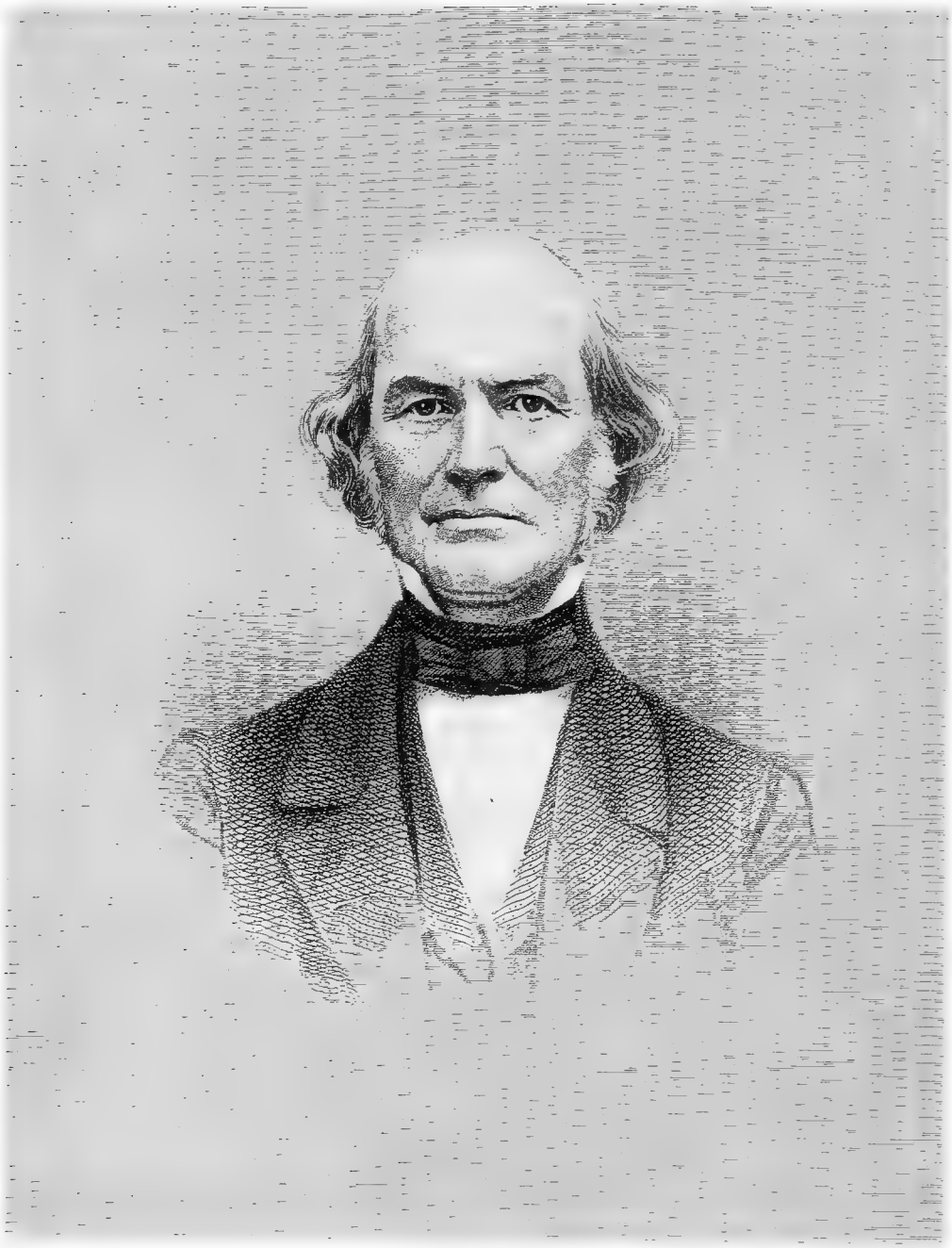
From 1831 to 1837, he delivered a course of lectures on the Bible; another on Temperance; and another on Self-Education, which were much admired. He published the "Letters of a Layman" under the signature of Sherlock.

This publication was followed by "Five Letters to Young Men, by An Old Man of Sixty."

For the last two years of his life he conducted the editorial department of the *Family Newspaper*, published by his son, Alfred Southwick.

On the 18th of November, 1839, while returning with Mrs. Southwick from a social visit at the house of a friend, he was attacked by an affection of the heart, which terminated fatally. His age was sixty-six.

Few men ever experienced more vicissitudes of fortune than Mr. Southwick. He was a self-made man, owing all his knowledge and mental culture, his success and distinction in life, to his own exertions. He loved to encourage the laboring classes, the young, the obscure and friendless; to teach them the knowledge of their power and to aid the advancement of their personal and pecuni-



Luther Tucker.

ary interests. His address at the opening of the Apprentices' Library in Albany was an earnest, impassioned and eloquent appeal in behalf of the young mechanic.

A few months previous to his death, he projected the establishment of a literary and scientific institute in this city, to be placed under his personal control and supervision, for the purpose of affording the requisite facilities to young men desirous of pursuing a course of self-education.

In person, Mr. Southwick was somewhat under the medium size, with a countenance full of benignity, and expressive of an enthusiastic, ardent and sanguine temperament. An insidious disease, the result of sedentary and studious habits, had undermined his health and deprived the evening of his life of that full enjoyment which he might otherwise have enjoyed.

LUTHER TUCKER.

LUTHER TUCKER was born in Brandon, Vermont, May 7, 1802. The death of his mother, which followed almost immediately, broke up the family—his father and the older children shortly afterward joining the tide of migration to which Vermont has always furnished so large an army of recruits, while the subject of this notice was adopted in the house where he had been cared for in the hours of motherless infancy. At the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to Timothy C. Strong, a printer, of Middlebury, encountering, in connection with the instruction he received, the rough fare and hard work that were natural enough at the time, but very different from the customs of the present. Mr. Strong removed to Palmyra, N. Y., in 1817, taking the young apprentice with him; but the connection between them ended two years later, before the expiration of the term of apprenticeship. Mr. Tucker thus entered upon the prosecution of his craft as a journeyman somewhat prematurely, making his way, with intervals of work at various intermediate points, toward his old friends in Vermont, for whom and for his native hills, then, as through all subsequent changes, he entertained the warmest affection. A tour of work, on which he soon set out, carried him, in the course of the five succeeding years, to various points in the north and east, and to Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, and New York. In the spring of 1825, he entered into partnership, at Jamaica, Long Island, with Mr. Henry C. Sleight, whose business was chiefly the publication of standard works for New York houses. Some volumes, now in possession of his sons, bearing the imprint of Sleight & Tucker, chiefly English reprints of a moral or theological kind, are strikingly characteristic of the condition of American publishing at the time; but, in freedom from typographical errors and excellence of press-work, they suffer nothing in comparison with the larger and more hurried editions of the present generation.

In his travels as a journeyman, Mr. Tucker had passed through Rochester in 1823, and witnessed the first crossing on the aqueduct over the Genesee, of the Erie Canal; and, though the place was then little more than a village, he was struck with its evident capacities for future growth and prosperity.

And when he began to look for a wider field than that afforded at Jamaica, Rochester was the point that occurred to him. Encouraged by his partner, who aided him with capital as well as with advice, at the age of twenty-four he turned his steps thitherward, and, entirely unknown among its people, began the publication of the *Rochester Daily Advertiser*—the first daily newspaper to spring into existence west of the City of Albany, in the boundless and then undeveloped territory that extends to the Pacific. Its initial number appeared October 27, 1826, and, as we learn from contemporary notices, at once attracted attention as showing the remarkable progress of the place. In referring to its establishment, the New York *Evening Post* of October 31, 1826, said: "Nothing can show, in a more striking point of view, the rapid increase of our population and internal commerce, than the fact that Rochester, which within a few years was a wilderness, is now enabled, by the number of its inhabitants and the activity of its trade, to support a daily paper."

This enterprise, in proportion to the business transactions of the day, and the simpler customs of a young and still struggling Western town, was a success. But we have been already too long in tracing the steps by which Mr. Tucker reached what became the all-absorbing work of his life, to allude even briefly to his associates, or to the part he took in the active and often heated political discussions of a peculiarly exciting period. Wherever he had traveled he had been struck with the backwardness of our agriculture; the lack of intercommunication among our farmers; the tendencies of all-prevailing practice towards the deterioration of the soil; the almost universal absence of agricultural reading. His taste was strongly for farming, and other business he regarded as simply the resource from which he hoped to buy and cultivate land of his own, without indebtedness to others, and with reasonable provision in case of bad seasons and slow returns.

From this ambition, and his very considerable opportunities of observation among farmers in widely scattered localities, arose the establishment of the *Genesee Farmer*, January 1, 1831, while still publishing the *Daily Advertiser*. Mr. Tucker's aim in a paper for the practical benefit of farmers, was to provide them with a means of communication touching the details of their experience and modes of practice, and to bring their example, so to speak, within the personal knowledge of his readers, looking to what had been accomplished, or was actually going on among the most intelligent and enterprising, for guidance as to what might or should be done, rather than to scientific investigation or the theories of the closet. It may not be too much to claim that the *Genesee Farmer*, though preceded in date of issue by a few other agricultural journals here or in Great Britain, was the first to begin from this end. Its circulation rapidly increased,

and this notwithstanding the establishment of the *Cultivator* at Albany by Judge Buel, under the auspices of the State Agricultural Society, in 1834, when some falling off might have been expected from the division of the field with a rival so able and influential; and it was somewhat to Mr. Tucker's surprise, on the union of the two journals, some years later, to ascertain that the circulation of his own was much the larger of the two.

Having at last attained what was to have been his great object, the purchase of a farm near Rochester, the daily paper was sold in 1839. It still exists as one of the leading and most popular journals of Western New York, under the name of the *Rochester Union and Advertiser*. Farming and the publication of the *Farmer* were to be the sole objects of the future. But before a single season had passed, Judge Buel's death left the *Cultivator* without a head, and a proposition was made to Mr. Tucker for the combination of the two papers, that seemed in many respects so advantageous, that the farm was sold, and the number for January, 1840, was published from Albany and bore the title of the *Cultivator: a consolidation of Buel's Cultivator and the Genesee Farmer*. A *New Genesee Farmer* subsequently led a brief and flickering existence, and after the second part of the *Cultivator's* title had been dropped as too cumbersome, other *Genesee Farmers* came into fitful being—the last calling itself "the oldest paper," because of its borrowed title—an attempt at appropriating a history as well as a name of which there have been many other specimens in our periodical literature, but about which Mr. Tucker may, perhaps, have been excusable in feeling somewhat sensitive.

In respect to the details by which Mr. Tucker was led into his life-work, we have spoken more fully, because no notice would be fitting, as it seems, without at least an outline of those preliminary steps by which, and through which, it came about that all the efforts he could put forth were thereafter devoted to the cause of agriculture. Without the genius for manipulation, which seems to be essential in the political managers of the present day, it is possible that with all his energy, judgment and industry, he might not have attained, by continuing in the political field, the leading rank among those who have the credit of making or unmaking aspirants for public positions. With the same qualities, coupled with an admirable appreciation of the real wants of the community, agricultural or educational—but without training in that administrative capacity which consists so largely in the selection and employment of deputies by whom all details can be wrought out under general guidance and supervision—for a long time he retained in his own hands and under his own eye every department, business and editorial, and never felt quite satisfied when anything that could possibly be done by himself was left to another. The untiring work he thus assumed was often far too much for the individual energies of any one, but with heart and soul fully engrossed in its accomplishment, he escaped from serious results until the confinement to labor began to tell, and he felt more and more, with the enfeebling heat of each successive summer, that some measure of respite was absolutely essential. For a number of years prior to his death, he had been forced from constant application, by absolute inability to continue it, and a large part of his last summer he spent in freedom from care at various resorts. But as soon as he was at home, he was only contented with a certain measure of the office work; and it may be truly said of him, if the saying is anywhere strictly correct, that "he died in the harness." In the wandering of his mind, after fever had set in, he urged that manuscripts should be sent him for scrutiny before publication, specifying some that he remembered as coming in before he left the office; and, recollecting that the State Agricultural Society was about to hold its annual meeting, he was full of anxiety lest his illness might prevent his son's attendance, and eager to be up and at his desk for work. But his work was over. He died Sunday, January 26, 1873. He had been at the office on the 14th for several hours, although not very well or strong, and on the morning of the 15th found himself too ill to leave his bed. Inflammation of the lungs followed, attended at the last by defective and irregular action of the heart, and when the fever left him his strength gradually failed, until he entered into the rest of the unending Sabbath beyond the grave. With his native predisposition for agricultural pursuits, it had been his task for many long years to weigh the merits of discussion after discussion and question after question, endeavoring to give due prominence to each in turn according to its deserts. Without prejudice or partiality, he admitted to publication what was counter to his own views, that it might stand upon its merits, and provoke thought among his readers. Clear, pointed and accurate in the use of language, what he wrote always came with weight. During his latter years, with manual difficulties of penmanship rendering any prolonged exertion irksome, he wrote but little; but the guidance of his judgment and advice was ever present. Whatever he wrote was in all respects as he intended it to appear, and if he had been content to leave for printers the task of deciphering illegibilities and correcting sentences—in other words, to abridge his own labor at the expense of others—he would probably have written more and at greater length. But to the last he was equal to the work of editing and correcting the manuscript of others, however much it wore upon him; for the great aim of his labor was to give voice to experience that might otherwise be unknown, and he would rather take in hand a few pages from some unlettered correspondent embodying the actual results of his experience, than deal with folios of correctly written and diffuse ramblings from writers whose syntax and etymology were above their actual knowledge of their subjects. For over forty years at the head of the *Country Gentleman*, and constantly in communication with those who acted under his supervision, as with many correspondents at a distance personally unknown, Mr. Tucker seemed to possess an unusual power of attracting friendship and affection,

of which evidences have often come from quite unexpected sources.

The publication of the paper has been continued successfully since Mr. Tucker's death by his sons, Luther H. Tucker and Gilbert M. Tucker, under the firm name of Luther Tucker & Son, and, as in the past, it ranks among the leading agricultural journals of the United States.

In his personal relations, Mr. Tucker was for many years a man of sorrow. Fairly under way at Rochester, with the promise of his new experiment with a daily paper just budding into fruition, the cholera season of 1832 that swept like a pestilence over the country, visited that place with unusual severity. His young wife and a boy of special promise, in his fifth year, after but a few days' struggle, were carried to the unending repose of the cemetery at Mt. Hope; but they lingered for forty years longer in a recollection that, until the last, was never revived without the deepest emotion. The surviving husband and father fell into a decline from which it was long thought that he could scarcely recover. Marrying the sister of his former wife, she succumbed, in 1844, to consumption, the scourge of her native New England climate, preceded by one daughter and soon after followed by another. Smitten by repeated blows, though assuaged by all that could tend, in social and business relations, to mitigate their severity, he became constantly less inclined to mingle in public occasions, and more bound up in the welfare of those who were left to him.

Since his third marriage, over a quarter of a century had elapsed at the time of his death—a period of exemption from afflictions, and gradually closing over the scars of former wounds—but he seldom, if ever, accepted invitations likely to bring him into prominent notice. During the hot months of summer, which were especially trying to his constitution, he was often so greatly enfeebled as to excite the serious apprehensions of his family. Of unvarying sweetness of disposition in the home circle to which he was so much devoted, the charity that speaketh no evil was equally prominent in his judgment of other men and their motives. The memory of an injury was far less permanent in his mind than the recollection of favors received, kindly words when the business horizon was clouded, and warm sympathies at times of trial. That the struggle of life had wearied him there can be no doubt; but his faith and gratitude, and unselfish efforts for the happiness of others, never wavered; and when his task on earth was over, it may be truly said that he fell asleep with a conscience void of offense toward God and toward man, and a heart unspotted from the world.

In May, 1782, CHARLES R. WEBSTER made his appearance in Albany. His long and conspicuous career forms an interesting chapter in the history of the City and County of Albany.

On his arrival he at once began with Solomon Balentine the publication of the *New York Gazetteer or Northern Intelligencer*. The only existing copies of this paper are in the Albany Institute. In 1783, Mr. Webster withdrew from the *Gazette* and removed to New York. The paper was enlarged, and continued by Mr. Balentine down to May, 1784, when it was discontinued.

The first pocket almanac ever published in Albany was printed by Mr. Balentine. It is a curious and antique specimen of that kind of publication.

In the latter part of May, 1784, Charles R. Webster returned to Albany and began the publication of the *Albany Gazette*. A regular file of this paper, from the sixteenth number down to the time of its discontinuance in 1845, is preserved in the State Library. At that time it was seventy-two years old—the oldest newspaper in the State. It was conducted with marked ability, and is an excellent record of the proceedings of the Legislature of the State, the Courts of Justice, of the Common Council of Albany, and of the general events of the time in which it existed.

On November 17, 1793, the *Gazette* printing-office was consumed by a terrible conflagration, which broke out on Sunday evening in an out-house belonging to Leonard Gansevoort.

Mr. Webster is justly called the "Father of printing" in Albany. He was born at Hartford, Conn., September 30, 1762. His father was Matthew Webster, and his mother's maiden name was Mabel Pratt.

When Charles was seven years of age, his father, by an unfortunate turn in his affairs, was reduced to poverty, and young Webster was apprenticed to Hudson & Goodwin, publishers of the *Connecticut Courant*, to learn the printer's trade.

The opportunities afforded the boy for schooling were limited to two quarters in a select school. His subsequent education was pursued in silent study in hours which most other boys devoted to play.

At the age of nineteen he was one of the company who marched to New Haven to repel the threatened attack of the British upon that town. In 1781 or 1782, when about twenty years of age, he came to Albany and entered into partnership with Solomon Balentine, the only printer in the city at the time. About the first production beside their paper, was a work entitled "Plain Reasons," a dissuasive from the use of Watts' version of the Psalms, executed with neatness and accuracy. Balentine & Webster began the *Gazette* in 1782. In 1783 the latter left partnership with Balentine and went to New York. Immediately after the evacuation of the city by the British, in company with John Lang he commenced the publication of the *New York Gazette*.

In 1784, he returned to Albany, and commenced the *Albany Gazette*. Mr. Balentine had removed, and Webster was the only printer in the city.

In 1787, he was married to Miss Rachel Steele, of Hartford, who died March 31, 1794. Two children survived her, a son and a daughter. The former was the Rev. Charles Webster, long a pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Monmouth County, N. J. The daughter married Mr. Brown, of Albion,

April 2, 1796, Mr. Webster was married to Miss Cynthia Steele, a sister of his first wife.

Though the columns of the *Gazette* were open to both Federalists and Republicans, it was regarded as a Federal organ. This led to the establishment of a rival paper and printing-office. But the rapid settlement of Western New York furnished abundant patronage for both papers, and largely increased the book-selling and printing business. About this time Mr. Webster associated with himself his brother, George, and some time after, his nephews, Elisha W., Hezekiah and Daniel Skinner, became partners. He was active in the establishment of the Mechanics' Academy, and when that school was abandoned, he became interested in the Lancasterian School and the Apprentices' Library.

He never held any public office, except that of Acting Deputy to the County Clerk of Albany County for a brief period.

Amid all the exciting events that attended the war of 1812, he, though a warm Federalist, maintained a dignity in the tone of his paper, a freedom from ribaldry and personal invective, never compromising his character for fidelity and devotion to the cause he served. No indictments for slander, no suits for libel, were brought against him. He abhorred defamation. Morgan Lewis, when a candidate for Governor, thanked him for his generosity in repelling an unjust attack made on him as soon as it met his eye, although he was busily engaged in using all honorable means to defeat Mr. Lewis' election.

On approaching sixty years, he made a settlement of all his affairs. A division of the property was amicably made, and the firm of Websters & Skinners was dissolved by the withdrawal of the three younger partners. The book-selling, printing and binding was carried on at the old stand by C. R. & G. Webster. This firm was dissolved in 1821, by the death of Mr. George Webster. The surviving brother purchased his half in the property at the Elm-tree corner, for $13,000, and the firm, E. W. Skinner & Co., purchased one-half the stock for $10,000. The new firm of Webster & Skinners continued till his death, July 18, 1834. His failing health induced him to visit Saratoga Springs. He made his will and left his home, never to return. His last letter was written July 14, 1834, and, in view of the near approach of death, contained these words: "The aim of my life has been to have my heart right with God and my trust in the merits of the Redeemer." He expired almost instantly, without the slightest appearance of pain, July 18, 1834, and was buried from his residence in Albany, on the 20th. He was about six feet in height, well made in person, erect and easy in motion. His manner was dignified, full of courtesy and sweetness. His conversation was interesting, pure, instructive, entertaining and edifying. The great aim of his life seemed to be the elevation of the masses, especially of all classes of mechanics, in mind and morals. Albany County never possessed a nobler class of toiling men than during his day.

THURLOW WEED had no superior as a political journalist in his day. He was born at the small village of Acra, in the town of Cairo, Green County, November 15, 1797. His parents were natives of Connecticut. His father was Joel Weed. His paternal grandfather was Nathan Weed, a soldier of the revolution, who, with a large family, removed from Connecticut at the close of the war, and settled in the place of Thurlow's birth. Mr. Weed's mother was Mary Ellis, a native of New Haven. He was the eldest of three brothers and two sisters, all of whom he survived, except his brother Osborn.

Mr. Weed's father was an honest, amiable man, "doomed," as Mr. Weed says, "to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow, in the most literal sense. He was bred a farmer; but in 1799 removed to Catskill to become a carman." He continued poor, "sometimes very poor," through life. It is easy to see that, under these circumstances, Thurlow had no advantages for attaining an education.

His first occupation in life was blowing a blacksmith's bellows, for which he received six cents per day, which he expended towards the support of his father's family. When nine years old he obtained a situation as cabin boy on board a North River sloop. This brought him to the City of New York.

The occupation of cabin boy was very much to his taste, and he indulged in the ambition of becoming a sailor. As he says, "but for an infirmity, which incapacitated him for the most essential part of a sailor's duty, his occupation would have been that of a seaman instead of a printer."

After serving on different vessels on the Hudson, he removed, in 1808, with his father, to the town of Cincinnatus, Cortland County, then almost a wilderness. His father attempted to bring a piece of land, covered with woods, to the condition of a farm; but, like all his other adventures, it proved a failure. The boy did what he could to aid his father in erecting a log-house, and to make a clearing in which to plant corn, potatoes, etc. One of his occupations was aiding in making "Black Salts," by leaching ashes gathered from burned log-heaps.

He relates that at this time his parents were so poor, that in winter he was compelled to tie pieces of rag-carpet around his feet instead of shoes, and thus equipped he chopped wood and, in spring, gathered sap. In this wilderness he evinced a strong desire for information. But there were few books, and the pleasure of reading was denied him. Having heard that a family living several miles distant owned a history of the French Revolution, he set out bare-footed through the snow, and obtained the book after considerable entreaty. Candles in his father's house were unknown, and he read the book evenings, after the day's work was done, by the light of pine-knots. In 1809 his father removed from Cincinnatus to Onondaga Hollow, where Thurlow obtained work in an ashery, and in doing such odd jobs of labor as offered themselves.

After abandoning the idea of becoming a sailor, his ambition turned to the life of a printer, which, at last, became irrepressible. After several attempts

to get a place, he became an apprentice in a printing-office in Onondaga Hollow. The work pleased him, and he soon became very useful in the office. Every leisure moment he employed in reading the office newspapers and such books as the village afforded. Here he remained until the war of 1812 broke out.

The printing-office in Onondaga was closed, and he secured a place in the old town of Scipio, where was published a paper called the *Tocsin*. Soon after, he entered the printing-office of Messrs. Seward & Williams, in Utica. The war was then waging, and Mr. Williams, one of his employers, enlisted in the army, and young Weed went with him. After serving in the lines a part of the campaign of 1813, he obtained his discharge, went to Albany, and obtained employment in the office of Webster & Skinner, publishers of the *Albany Gazette*. After working a while at Albany, he went to Herkimer and obtained employment in the office of the *American*, published by Wm. L. Stone, afterwards distinguished as editor of the *Northern Whig*, in Hudson; the *Mirror*, of Hartford; the *Daily Advertiser*, in Albany; and the *Commercial Advertiser*, in New York. Here he made the acquaintance of Michael Hoffman, and Alvan Stewart, the anti-slavery lawyer. At this early day, Mr. Weed made the acquaintance of very many men who became distinguished actors with him in the political arena.

After working in several places as a journeyman printer, he again, in 1815, became a resident of Albany. During the Sessions of the Legislature he listened to its debates, conducted by such men as Martin Van Buren, Erastus Root, and Nathan Sandford in the Senate, and Elisha Williams, William A. Duer, and Samuel Young in the Assembly. Here he took his first lessons in politics. Early in 1816, he began work in the office of the *Albany Argus*, of which Jesse Buel was editor. In 1817, Israel W. Clark, editor and proprietor of the *Albany Register*, invited Mr. Weed to become foreman of the office. It was while here that he first tried his "'prentice hand" on editorials. Of these first efforts, he says: "I first wrote brief paragraphs upon common subjects, taking great liberties with the King's English, for I was ignorant of the first principles of grammar; but Mr. Clark, the editor, would good-naturedly point to these blunders and say encouragingly, 'I would improve with time.'" He did; and he became one of the most trenchant and powerful political writers in the State. In the split which occurred in the Republican party in 1818, one faction was headed by Governor De Witt Clinton, the other by Martin Van Buren, leading to a political and personal warfare of great bitterness, in which the pen of Mr. Weed became a somewhat powerful instrument. In the fall of 1818, Mr. Weed purchased the printing establishment of John F. Hubbard, of Norwich, Chenango County, and established the *Agriculturist*, a paper favorable to Mr. Clinton. After conducting this some fourteen months, he disposed of the establishment, returned to Albany, and became foreman in the office of the *Albany Argus*.

In April, 1818, Mr. Weed was married to Miss Catherine Ostrander, of Cooperstown. In his autobiography, he says: "To this marriage I am indebted for as much happiness as usually falls to the lot of man. She more than divided our labors, cares and responsibilities. But for her industry, frugality and good management, I must have been shipwrecked during the first fifteen years of trial. Economy and a well-regulated system in household affairs were virtues I did not possess, and their presence in her saved us from disaster." Mrs. Weed died, deeply mourned, on the fortieth anniversary of their marriage.

Mr. Weed became foreman in the *Argus* office in 1821. In 1822, after a brief residence in Manlius, he became a resident of Rochester, then a new, straggling village, containing but a few hundred inhabitants. Here he found occupation as a journeyman printer in the office of the *Telegraph*, a Clintonian paper published by Everard Peck. Mr. Weed's residence at Rochester in a measure laid the foundation of his future political life. Here he made the acquaintance of Frederick Whitlesey, Derrick Libley and Colonel Nathaniel Rochester. Mr. Whitlesey, afterwards a Vice-Chancellor of the State, with Wm. H. Seward, Bates Cook and Thurlow Weed, became the founders of the Anti-Masonic party.

In 1823, the *Rochester Telegraph* placed the name of John Q. Adams for President under its editorial head. This was the first paper nominating Mr. Adams. As Mr. Weed was soon known throughout the State as one of the chief supporters of Mr. Adams, he was fairly launched on the sea of politics.

In the singular campaign of 1824, in which Jackson, John Q. Adams, William H. Crawford, Henry Clay and John C. Calhoun were candidates, Mr. Weed and the *Telegraph* were the energetic and efficient friends of the successful candidate, Adams.

In September of that year, an accident to a stage-coach in Rochester, containing William H. Seward and Judge Miller, of Auburn, his father-in-law, led to Mr. Weed's acquaintance with the former. "This acquaintance grew rapidly," says Mr. Weed, "on subsequent occasions, when Mr. Seward was called to Rochester on professional business. Our views on general politics were not dissimilar, and in regard to anti-masonry he soon became imbued with my opinions."

Political anti-masonry, which had lurked in private dwellings, affecting town politics and creating neighborhood feuds, was at this time gathering strength from pamphlets and newspapers, under the leadership of Messrs. Seward, Weed and John C. Spencer, and soon began to exhibit the strength and influence of a new and powerful party. Though the Anti-Masonic party was short-lived, it developed many distinguished men, who are now ranked among the statesmen of the nation. Space will not permit us to follow all the windings of the partisan conflicts in which Mr. Weed was an acknowledged leader.

His singular abilities for molding and controlling public opinion, was first and most admirably

exhibited in the manner in which he manipulated the excitement growing out of the alleged murder of William Morgan by the Masons—molding it into a powerful party.

Mr. Weed was elected Member of Assembly from Monroe County to the session of 1825, and re-elected to the session of 1830.

After retiring from the Legislature, he left Rochester, and again became a resident of Albany. At this time Edwin Croswell was editor of the *Albany Argus.*

While Mr. Weed was in the Assembly in 1830, a project began to be discussed, which in time was carried into effect, and exerted a powerful influence in shaping the future events of his life. This project had in view the establishment of a new journal in Albany, devoted to the interests of the Anti-Masonic party. The first number appeared March 22, 1830, and was called the *Evening Journal.* Political anti-masonry soon passed away. The Whig party coming into existence; the *Evening Journal* became a leading organ. Years passed, and the Whig party also passed into history.

As it is our purpose to speak of Mr. Weed as a journalist and not as a politician, this sketch will be confined mostly to his journalistic career. It is proper, however, to say that, as a journalist, he was one of the founders and supporters of the Whig party, and, as such, he was equally influential in forming and sustaining the Republican party through all its triumphs, down to the time when he retired from the editorial duties of the *Evening Journal.*

Next to the *New York Tribune*, through all the history of the Whig and Republican parties, the *Evening Journal* has been a leading organ of the former, as it now is of the latter party. A contemporary, writing of Mr. Weed when in the zenith of his influence, says: "Everything written by him affords evidence of a powerful mind. His sarcasms are keen, his wit pungent. He knows how to touch the most sensitive part of his adversary. Every blow he strikes is felt. Few editors in America possess more of party tact than Thurlow Weed. He affords decisive evidence of being by nature a great man. He has risen from an obscure situation in life to eminence, and in all the positions which he has occupied he has discovered new resources of mind fully adequate to those powers requisite to meet the exigency."

In contact with all classes of men, he gained a wonderful knowledge of human nature—the ability to read men, to understand their motives, to scan the true spirit of the times—which gave him superiority and influence as a politician. A strong, vigorous and graceful writer, his pen was a source of strength and a defense to his party, to his friends and to himself. Allegiance and fidelity to his friends was a cardinal principle of Thurlow Weed. He was a politician in every sense of the word, excepting in low devices and platitudes. Magnanimous and generous toward rivals; severe, determined and untiring in his opposition to political enemies; his contests were honorable and high-minded.

In 1840, he was appointed State printer, by the removal of his great rival, Edwin Croswell. Mr. Weed always took commendable pride in his calling as a printer and in his connection with the Typographical Society. In January, 1851, writing to the New York Typographical Society, he said:

"It is now forty years since I was apprenticed to the 'Art preservative of all arts.' * * * According to all accounts I was then a very verdant youth. My master not unfrequently proposed to get ideas into my head with the 'mallet,' and on one occasion I evaded a well-aimed experiment in the same direction with the 'sheep's-foot' only by an 'artful dodge.' * * * But now only one branch of our trade is taught to apprentices. A printer is no longer connected with the 'press-room.' The printer of the present day is a stranger to its healthful toil, its rich humors, its merry laugh, its habitual jests, and, I am constrained to remember, its too frequent revelries. The customs of the press-room, along with its labors, are all obsolete. * * * Upon the years of my life which glided away as a journeyman printer in New York, I look back with exceeding gratification. It was a period of high, healthy, buoyant spirits and fresh enjoyment. I was never for a day out of work, and with a hardy frame and willing hand was enabled from my wages to gratify every rational wish. Few journeymen made a larger figure in the 'bill-book' of a Saturday night than myself."

The last time that Mr. Weed ever set type was on the 8th of November, 1854. On receiving the news that Myron H. Clark was elected for Governor, he rushed into the composing-room, "seized a 'stick,' and, himself, threw into 'brevier' these expressive sentences: 'Let the eagle scream! Myron H. Clark is elected!!'" Such was Thurlow Weed as an apprentice, journeyman printer and editor. His career as a politician and Statesman is written conspicuously in the history of the State and nation.

In 1869, Mr. Weed retired from journalism, after forty years of unwearied devotion to his duties as an editor. From that, to the day of his death, his time was spent in the genial companionship of his home friends; in correspondence with absent ones, among whom were ranked the most distinguished names in America and Europe; and in reading and in writing reminiscences of his times. He often wrote for the press. Finally, surrounded by everything conducive to happiness, the sun of his life went down. He died in the City of New York, on Wednesday, November 22, 1882, in the eighty-sixth year of his age. His death was peaceful and painless. "A short time before it occurred. while his mind was wandering, he seemed to be carrying on a conversation with President Lincoln and General Scott in regard to the late war. At the conclusion he ordered a carriage, and then, after a moment's pause, said: 'I want to go home!' These were his last words."

The facts of this notice are largely abridged from Mr. Weed's autobiography.

The past has given to Albany many other editors and periodical writers whose graceful pens have

delighted and instructed the public here and elsewhere. Many of them became eminent in other fields of literature. Some were here but a brief time only; but they are worthy of mention. Among them we record the names of William L. Stone, Harry Croswell, Nathaniel H. Carter, James R. Boyd, S. De Witt Bloodgood, John B. Van Schaick, Henry James, Horace Greeley, Francis Dwight, Ebenezer Emmons, S. H. Hammond, Daniel D. Barnard, Jabez D. Hammond, A. J. Downing, William B. Sprague, E. G. Squire, E. C. Delavan, Jasper Hazen, John A. Dix, A. George Johnson, Alfred B. Street, S. C. Hutchins, and J. Wesley Smith. Not one survives; but their writings remain.

It might seem invidious to speak of the living, some of whom have recently been called to similar duties in a larger sphere; others of whom have retired with laurels; and still others of whom are diligently toiling among us with prospects of a bright fame. As exponents of public sentiment, as teachers of the people, as dispensers of such knowledge as every one seeks to gain, such men ought to fill no second rank in personal character and in general esteem.

THE ALBANY COUNTY PRESS.

Under this head we attempt to give a list of all periodical publications of any importance issuing from the press of the county since the very first newspaper printed in the city in 1771. Our sources of information have often been contradictory as to dates of the minor papers, and we do not vouch for the accuracy of all. But a list of them is very suggestive and instructive.

1771.—November. *Albany Gazette*, published by James & Alexander Robertson. Discontinued about 1776, the publishers having joined the British and gone to New York City.

1782.—June 3. *New York Gazette, or Northern Intelligencer*, weekly. Balentine & Webster, publishers. The name was changed and Balentine left out.

1784.—May 28. *The Albany Gazette*, weekly. Charles R. Webster, publisher. May 25, 1789, semi weekly. United with the *Albany Advertiser*, March, 1817, and so continued until April 14, 1845.

1788.—January 26. *The Albany Journal, or Montgomery, Washington and Columbia Intelligencer.* Charles R. & George Webster, publishers. Semi-weekly, winter and summer. In connection with the *Gazette.* Discontinued May 25, 1789. February 11. *The Federal Herald.* Removed from Lansingburgh by Claxton & Babcock, and soon after returned. *The Albany Register*, weekly; John & Robert Barber until 1808; Solomon Southwick until 1817. Revived in 1818 by Israel W. Clark.

1796.—November. *The Chronicle*, John McDonald. Joseph Fry, printer, whom Henry C. Southwick succeeded. Discontinued in 1799.

1797.—*The Albany Centinel.* Loring C. Andrews; afterwards Whiting, Backus & Whiting. Discontinued, November 10, 1806.

1806.—November 11. *The Centinel revived in The Republican Crisis.* Backus & Whiting, and then Isaac Mitchell, publishers. 1808, Harry Croswell & Co.; William Tucker, printer. In 1809, name changed to *The Balance and New York State Journal.* Croswell & Frary. Removed to Hudson in 1811.

1807.—*The Guardian.* Van Benthuysen & Wood, Court street, three doors below Hudson street. Continued about two years.

1812.—April 11. *The Albany Republican.* Samuel R. Brown. Succeeded by Mr. Romain. Finally taken to Saratoga.

1813.—January 26. *The Albany Argus*, tri-weekly, semi-weekly and weekly. Founded by Jesse Buel. A daily in 1825. The Croswells, Comstock, Cassidy and Manning have been among its publishers and editors. Now the Argus Co. publish it.

1813–14.—*The Stranger*, 8vo, published by John Cook.

1815.—June. *The American Magazine*, monthly. Horatio Gates Spofford. Discontinued May, 1816. September 25, *Albany Daily Advertiser.* Theodore Dwight, editor. John W. Walker, printer. In March, 1817, William L. Stone consolidated it with the *Albany Gazette.* Published by the Websters as *Albany Gazette and Advertiser* until April 14, 1845. June 3. *Christian Visitant*, 4to, by Solomon Southwick. Continued two years. *The Friend*, 8vo, monthly, by D. & S. A. Abbey. Continued one year. *The Statesman*, published and edited by Nathaniel H. Carter, a graduate of Dartmouth College. Removed to New York in 1818.

1819.—June 5. *The Ploughboy.* Solomon Southwick, editor; John O. Cole, printer.

1820.—*Albany Microscope*, started by Charles Galpin and continued a few years.

1822.—August 3. *The Oriental Star*, weekly. Religious. Bezaleel Howe.

1823.—*National Democrat.* William McDougal. Published at Albany and New York. Discontinued April 7, 1824. Revived April 20, by Solomon Southwick.

1824.—May. *Religious Monitor*, monthly. Chauncey Webster. Removed to Philadelphia.

1825.—August 8. *The Albany Patriot and Daily Commercial Intelligencer.* George Galpin.

1826.—July 25. *National Observer*, weekly and semi-weekly, by George Galpin. Continued four years. Edited by Solomon Southwick.

1826.—April 22. *Albany Daily Chronicle.* Chas. Galpin & M. M. Cole; also, *Albany Morning Chronicle*, John Denio & Seth Richards. Discontinued in 1827.

1826.—*Escritoire, or Masonic and Miscellaneous Album*, started by E. B. Child. February 3, 1827, changed to *American Masonic Record and Albany Saturday Magazine*, E. B. Child. Changed to *American Masonic Record and Albany Literary Journal*, January 30, 1830. May, the *Albany Christian Register*, by L. G. Hoffman. J. R. Boyd, editor. *Christian Register and Telegraph* united with the *Journal* (of Utica) and published by Hosford & Wait as the *Journal and Telegraph*, November 21, 1831. About this time Lewis G. Hoffman published the *American Masonic Register*, five years.

1827.—May. *The Antidote*, by Solomon Southwick, editor; Webster & Wood, publishers. *The Standard*, weekly, by Matthew Cole. August 4. *The Comet*, by Daniel McGlashan, editor. October 13. *The Albany Signs of the Times and Literary Writer*, Daniel McGlashan, publisher; J. B. Van Schaick and S. D. W. Bloodgood, editors.

1828.—*The Morning Chronicle*, daily, by Beach, Denio & Richards. *Albany Chronicle*, semi-weekly.

1828.—*The Age*, by Galpin & Sturtevant.

1828.—December 27. *Albany Times and Literary Writer*, James McGlashan, publisher; Bloodgood and Van Schaick, editors.

1828.—*Albany Minerva*, by Joel Munsell.

1830.—January 30. *The Albanian*, semi-monthly, Arthur N. Sherman. March 22. *The Albany Evening Journal*, Thurlow Weed, editor; B. D. Packard & Co., publishers. April 3. *Farmers', Mechanics', and Workingmen's Advocate*, McPherson & McKercher. April. *Albany Bee*, J. Duffy, W. S. McCulloch & C. Angus.

1831.—September 7. *Albany Literary Gazette*, John P. Jermain, editor; James D. Nicholson, publisher. November 21. *Journal and Telegraph*, Hosford & Wait. *Temperance Recorder*, monthly.

1832.—January 5. *Daily Craftsman*, Roberts and James, editors. *The Albany Quarterly*, 8vo, by Albany Historical Society; edited by J. R. & S. M. Wilson. One volume issued.

1833.—February. *American Quarterly Hemp Magazine*. Continued two years.

1834.—March. *The Cultivator*, conducted by Jesse Buel, J. P. Beekman, and J. D. Wasson. April 5. *The Daily News*, Hunter & Hoffman. *Albany Whig*, by J. B. Van Schaick & Co.

1834.—January. *American Temperance Intelligencer*, monthly.

1835.—October 12. *The Albany Transcript*, C. F. Powell & Co.; a penny paper.

1835.—*Albany Bouquet and Literary Spectator*, by George Trumbull; monthly.

1835.—May. *The Silk Worm*, monthly; two years; then changed to *The Silk Worm and Sugar Manual;* discontinued in 1858.

1836.—*The Zodiac*, Monthly, by Gen. De Coudrey Holstein. *The Common School Assistant*, by J. Orville Taylor.

1838.—January 6. *The Family Newspaper*, weekly, by Solomon Southwick. July 4. *Daily Patriot*, an anti-slavery paper, by J. G. Wallace.

1840.—*The Jeffersonian*, a campaign paper, by Horace Greeley. September 19. *The Unionist*, a daily campaign paper, by J. Munsell, C. Loveridge, and others. *Tomahawk and Scalping Knife*, short time. *Albany Patriot*, by J. C. Jackson, four years. *The Rough Hewer*, daily, campaign.

1841.—*Albany Atlas*, by Vance & Wendell. William Cassidy and H. H. Van Dyke became editors in 1843.

1842.—*The Irishman*, by H. O'Kane, seven weeks. *The Sunday Tickler*, by C. W. Taylor. *Albany Switch*, by H. J. Hastings; afterwards by E. Leslie. November 13. *Youth's Temperance Enterprise*, J. Stanley Smith; three years.

1843.—September 4. *Daily Knickerbocker*, by Hugh J. Hastings. *Weekly Knickerbocker*, June 8, 1857. *The Subterranean*, by James Duffy.

1844.—*Albany Spectator*.

1845.—April 9. *The Albany Freeholder*, a weekly anti-rent paper, by Thomas A. Devyr. *The Gavel*, by Joel Munsell. *The Scourge*, by Woodward & Packard. *Vesper Bell*, by Abbott & Crosby.

1846.—December 8. *Albany Herald*, by A. B. Van Olinda. *The Balance*. December 17. *Albany Morning Telegraph*.

1847.—*District School Journal*, by Francis Dwight. *The Castigator*, by M. J. Smith. September 13. *Albany Morning Express*, a penny paper, by Stone & Henley; discontinued March 22, 1856. *Albany Weekly Express*, issued February 1, 1851.

1848.—*Christian Palladium*, by Jasper Hazen; removed to New Jersey in 1855; was called *Christian Herald* from 1849. *The Busy Bee*, by E. Andrews, two years. *The Castigator*, by Mortimer Smith, editor.

1849.—May 15. *The Albany Daily Messenger*, a penny paper, by B. F. Romaine, editor. June 30. *Sunday Dutchman*.

1850.—February 16. *Albany Daily Times*, by Heron, Furman & Thornton. *Half-Dollar Monthly*, B. F. Romaine. *Journal of the New York State Agricultural Society;* published many years. *Albany Evening Atlas*.

1851.—September 1. *Albany Daily Eagle*, a penny paper, by John Sharts; four months. January 4. *American Mechanic*, by J. M. Patterson. *Carson League*, removed from Syracuse, by J. T. Hazen & T. L. Carson. *Albany Minor and Literary Cabinet*, by J. H. Carroll & W. M. Colburn. October 11. *The Cithren*, by Warner & Hooker. *Northern Light;* continued about three years; conducted by Messrs. Dix, Beck, Dean, Delavan, Hawley, Johnson, Olcott, and Street; a well edited literary paper, as its editors' names indicate.

1852.—*Temperance Recorder*. September 11. *Family Intelligencer*, by Rev. Jasper Hazen; then by J. T. Hazen. *The New York Teacher*, conducted by James Cruikshank, T. W. Valentine,

Francis Dwight, and other teachers, as the organ of the New York State Teachers' Association, for several years. *Albany Freie Blaetter*, by August Miggael.

1853.—February 1. *Evening Transcript*, first Albany penny paper, by Cuyler & Henley. *Prohibitionist*, organ of New York State Temperance Society; edited by Prof. A. McCoy; in 1857, united with *Journal of American Temperance Union.*

1854.—*Family-Dental Journal*, monthly, by D. C. Estes.

1855.—July 21. *State Police Tribune*, by S. H. Parsons & R. M. Griffin. Removed to New York.

1856.—March 23. *Albany Daily Statesman.* April 21. *Albany Morning Times*, by Stone & Co. September 8. *Albany Evening Union*, a penny paper; James McFarlane. *Albany Volksblatt*, by George Herb.

1857.—*Albany Microscope*, Charles Galpin. May 4. *Albany Morning Express*, J. C. Cuyler, editor; Stone & Henly, publishers. *Albany Evening Herald*, changed to *Albany Evening Union*, June 29, 1857.

1858.—*American Citizen. Evening Courier.* August. *The Hour and the Man*, daily and weekly, by George W. Clarke & John J. Thomas. October. *Mercantile Horn*, weekly, gratis. *Voice of the People*, campaign paper. December. *Evening Standard*, by R. M. Griffin & Co. *Independent Press;* only a few months. *Astronomical Notes*, edited by Prof. Brunow. *American Magazine*, monthly, by J. S. & B. Wood; about one and a half years. *The Gavel*, two years, by John Tanner. *State Military Gazette*, by C. G. Stone; removed to New York.

1863.—January 17. *Standard and Statesman.*

1865.—October. *Albany Evening Post*, a penny paper, by M. & E. Griffin.

1883.—*Outing*, by Outing Publishing and Printing Company, 59 North Pearl street. Removed to Boston.

1881.—*The Inquirer and Criterion*, weekly, by Charles S. Carpenter; February 20, 1882, by Burdick & Taylor. Discontinued January 5, 1884. Republished as *The Inquirer*, April 30, 1884. Now discontinued.

There are, doubtless, a great many others of ephemeral existence, inspired by personal ambition, or by matters of local and temporary interest, such as campaign issues, society organs, schoolboy discussions. The *cacoethes scribendi* has had a large development in this city. A collection of all these newspapers in some of our institutions would be interesting and valuable. Many of them are to be found in the State Library and Albany Institute. Some in old chests and garrets. Many more have been consumed by the tooth of time, the flames, or the grinding paper-mill.

NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN ALBANY AT THE PRESENT TIME.

The Albany Argus made its first appearance on Tuesday, January 26, 1813. It was published semi-weekly; Jesse Buel, editor and owner. On August 18, 1825, it issued its first daily paper. *The Daily Argus* and *The Albany Evening Atlas* were united February 18, 1856, under the name of *Atlas and Argus*, with Calvert Comstock and William Cassidy, publishers and editors. On April 6, 1865, they were succeeded by William Cassidy. It became *The Argus* again, Monday, May 15, 1865. On May 6, 1865, The Argus Company was organized. William Cassidy, editor; Daniel Manning and J. Wesley Smith, associates. S. C. Hutchins and St. Clair McKelway have been recent editors. James H. Manning is present editor. Sunday paper issued since May 13, 1877. Argus Building, southwest corner of Broadway and Beaver street.

Albany Evening Journal. B. D. Packard & Co. published the first number of *The Journal*, March 22, 1830. It was a strong Anti-Masonic paper. Thurlow Weed was the editor for over thirty years, and rendered it highly influential over the entire State. George Dawson succeeded him as editor. Weed & Dawson Co., and Dawson & Co. have been publishers. The Albany Journal Company published its first copy under the editorship of John A. Sleicher, March 17, 1884, with W. J. Arkell as President; J. W. Drexel, Secretary; James Arkell, Treasurer. The printing-house and office are at No. 61 State street.

Albany Evening Times, originally the *Albany Morning Times*, was started Monday, April 21, 1856, by Barnes & Godfrey; then published by Alfred Stone, David M. Barnes and Edward H. Boyd; later by Samuel Wilbor. March 1, 1861, the *Times* was consolidated with the *Evening Courier*, and was first issued as an evening paper September 25, 1865. *Albany Weekly Times* first appeared July 16, 1872. It was for a few years published by the Times Company. Since May, 1881, Theophilus C. Callicot has been the editor and proprietor, at No. 401 Broadway.

Albany Morning Express was started September 13, 1847. In 1854 it was published by Munsell & Co. In 1856 its name was changed to the *Daily Statesman. The Express* was revived by Stone & Henley, its original proprietors, May 4, 1857, with J. C. Cuyler, editor. In 1860, the publishers were Hunt & Co. *Albany Weekly Express*, issued August 4, 1881; Sunday edition, March 4, 1883. Albany Express Company: Edward Henley, J. C. Cuyler, Addison A. Keyes and Nathan D. Wendell. Printing-house, southwest corner Green and Beaver streets. A recent change has made Prof. Lewis, editor, and W. F. Hurcombe, publisher.

Daily Press and Knickerbocker. First number of *Sunday Press*, May 13, 1870; *Daily Press*, February 26, 1877; *Daily Knickerbocker*, September 4, 1843; *Press and Knickerbocker* united, August 10,

1877. *The Weekly Press and Legislative Journal* was issued for the first time, January 8, 1873. The Press Company is composed of John H. Farrell, Myron H. Rooker and James Macfarlane. Printing-house, 18 Beaver street.

Evening Post. First issued October, 1860, by R. M. & E. Griffin; editor, R. M. Griffin. Present publishers, M. & E. Griffin, No. 7 Hudson avenue.

Albany Evening Union. The Union Printing and Publishing Company first published this paper Monday, May 29, 1882, at their office in Beaver Block, South Pearl street. On Monday, July 16, 1883, John Parr became editor and proprietor, and published the paper from No. 28 Beaver street. Fred. W. White is now president and editor.

Freie Blaetter, started by Henry Bender & August Miggael in 1852; now and for many years conducted by August Miggael at No. 26 Beaver street. German daily paper. *Der Sontagsgast*, issued since 1882 as a supplement to the Saturday edition. Office, No. 44 Beaver street.

Taglicher Albany Herald. This German daily was first published by Jacob Heinmiller, Tuesday, October 10, 1871; was issued as *Der Albany Herold* on February 11, 1869. The present office is at No. 87 Westerlo street.

The Cultivator and Country Gentleman, a weekly paper since January 4, 1866. As a monthly it was first published as the *Cultivator*, in March, 1834, and conducted by Jesse Buel, J. P. Beekman and J. D. Wasson. It was subsequently published by W. Gaylord & L. Tucker, and by L. Tucker & Son, who united it with *The Country Gentleman*, which was started by Luther Tucker and John T. Thomas, January 6, 1853. It is ably conducted by L. H. & G. M. Tucker, editors and proprietors.

The Catholic Telegraph, first issued in Albany, January, 1880. Telegraph Publishing Company was incorporated June, 1882. M. J. Ludden, editor.

The Guide, I. O. O. F. D. H. Turner, editor. First published, February 15, 1881. Issued every two weeks. D. H. Turner & G. B. Powers, publishers.

Albany Law Journal. Monthly. First number published January 9, 1870. Isaac Grant Thompson, editor; Weed, Parsons & Co., publishers, Nos. 39 and 41 Columbia street. Present editor, Irving Browne.

Our Work at Home. Monthly. Was first published at the rooms of the City Tract and Missionary Society, September, 1875. Charles Reynolds, editor. The present editor is George Sanderson, Jr. Office, No. 9 North Pearl street. It is the organ of the City Mission and Tract Society.

The Voice was first published as a monthly, January, 1879, at 401 Broadway. Edgar S. Werner, editor and proprietor, No. 59 Lancaster street.

Forest, Forge and Farm. Published in Albany since June, 1882. H. S. Quackenbush, editor and publisher, Tweddle Building.

Poultry Monthly. First issued by the Ferris Publishing Company, November, 1879. Office, 481 Broadway.

The Medical Annals was first published in January, 1883, by a Committee of Albany County Medical Society. Burdick & Taylor, 481 Broadway, are the present publishers. Dr. F. C Curtis and others, editors.

NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN OTHER PLACES IN THE COUNTY.

Coeymans.

Coeymans Gazette; started in 1863 by Gilbert C. Vincent; sold to Willard Pond in 1864; then to Henry Brook; afterwards to McKee & Springstead. Professor Thomas McKee became sole editor and proprietor in December, 1869, and finally took it to Greenbush as the *Rensselaer Gazette.*

Coeymans Herald, weekly. S. H. & E. J. Sherman, editors and proprietors.

Cohoes.

The Cohoes Advertiser; started in February, 1847, by Ayres & Co.

The Cohoes Journal and Advertiser succeeded the above in January, 1848; continued by same firm until January, 1849.

The Cohoes Cataract succeeded the above; published by Silliman & Miller from June, 1849, to September, 1851; then sold to James H. Masten, who published it until January, 1867; then sold it to Anthony S. Baker, its publisher until January, 1870, when it was bought again by J. H. Masten.

Cohoes Daily News. J. H. Masten, proprietor.

Cohoes Regulator. Alexis Wager, publisher; weekly.

La Patrie Nouvelle. J. M. Authier, editor and publisher; weekly.

Green Island.

Green Island Review. Henry L. Gilbert, editor and proprietor; weekly.

Knowersville.

Knowersville Gazette; a local weekly, recently published.

Rensselaerville.

The Rural Folio, started in January, 1828, by C. G. & A. Polliner, and continued two years.

West Troy.

West Troy Advocate; started October, 1837, by William Hollands; continued by his widow and son, after his decease.

Watervliet Daily Democrat; started by Allen Carey, January 20, 1859.

Albany County Democrat; started in 1860. Allen Carey, editor; weekly.

Watervleit Journal. Treanor & Hardin, proprietors; weekly.

Shakers (P. O.)

Shaker Manifesto. Edited and published as a 4to monthly, by Rev. G. A. Lomas.

ENGLISH COLONIAL GOVERNORS OF NEW YORK.

NAMES.	SERVICE BEGAN.	TIME OF SERVICE. Y.	M.	D.	RANK.	CHARACTER.
Nicolls, Richard	Sept. 8, 1664	3	11	9	Colonel	Mild and prudent.
Lovelace, Francis	Aug. 17, 1668	4	11	25	Sir, Colonel	Arbitrary and oppressive.
Evertse, Cornelis Bencker, Jacob	Aug. 12, 1673		1	7	Council of War	
Calve, Anthony	Sept 19, 1673	1	1	21	Director-General	Prudent and energetic.
Andros, Edmund	Nov. 10, 1674	3	0	6	Sir, Knight	Arbitrary and odious.
Brockholles, Anthony	Nov. 16, 1677		8	21	Military Commander	
Andros, Edmund	Aug. 7, 1678	2	5	6	Sir, Knight	A hated tyrant.
Brockholles, Anthony	Jan. 13, 1681	2	7	14	Captain	
Dongan, Thomas	Aug. 27, 1683	4	11	14	Colonel	Liberal and politic.
Andros, Edmund	Aug. 11, 1688	0	1	28	Sir, Knight	Arrogant and selfish.
Nicholson, Francis	Oct. 9, 1688		7	24	Major	Brave, irascible, loose morals.
Leisler, Jacob	June 3, 1689	1	9	16	Merchant	Bold, honest and earnest.
Sloughter, Henry	March 19, 1691		4	7	Colonel	Intemperate and licentious.
Ingoldsby, Richard	July 26, 1691	1	1	4	Major	Haughty and insolent.
Fletcher, Benjamin	Aug. 30, 1692	5	7	13	Military Officer	Bigoted, weak, covetous and corrupt.
Coote, Richard	April 13, 1698	1	1	4	Earl of Bellomont	Energetic and discreet.
Nanfan, John	May 17, 1699	1	2	7		
Coote, Richard	July 24, 1700		7	11	Earl of Bellomont	A worthy officer.
Smith, William De Peyster, Abraham Schuyler, Peter	March 5, 1701		2	14	Councilor Councilor Councilor	Wise and true; friends of the people of the Colony.
Nanfan, John	May 19, 1701		11	14	Lieutenant-Governor	
Hyde, Edward	May 3, 1702	6	7	15	Lord Cornbury	Haughty, vicious, intolerant.
Lovelace, John	Dec. 18, 1708		4	18	Lord Lovelace	Weak and inactive.
Schuyler, Peter	May 6, 1709			3	Councilor	A true patriot.
Ingoldsby, Richard	May 9, 1709			16	Major	Arrogant and exacting.
Schuyler, Peter	May 25, 1709			6	Colonel	Vigilant and trusty.
Ingoldsby, Richard	June 1, 1709		10	9	Major	
Beeckman, Gerardus	April 10, 1710		2	4	Councilor	
Hunter, Robert	June 14, 1710	9	0	7	General	Liberal and just.
Schuyler, Peter	June 21, 1719	1	2	26	Councilor	Judicious and equitable.
Burnet, William	Sept. 17, 1720	7	6	28		
Montgomerie, John	April 15, 1728	3	2	16		Vain and useless.
Van Dam, Rip	July 1, 1731	1	1	0	Councilor	Upright and trustworthy.
Cosby, William	Aug. 1, 1732	3	7	9	Colonel	Universally detested.
Clarke, George	March 10, 1736	0	7	20		
Clarke, George	Oct. 30, 1736	6	10	2		
Clinton, George	Sept. 2, 1743	10	1	8	Admiral	Unreliable and unpopular.
Osborne, Danvers	Oct. 10, 1753			2	Sir, Baronet	Committed suicide.
De Lancey, James	Oct. 12, 1753	1	10	21	Lawyer	Decided and energetic.
Hardy, Charles	Sept. 3, 1755	1	9	0	Sir, Knight	
De Lancey, James	June 3, 1757	3	2	1	Lawyer	Loyal and influential.
Colden, Cadwallader	Aug. 4, 1760	1	0	4		Scientific, unpopular.
Colden, Cadwallader	Aug. 8, 1761		2	18		Honest, impolitic.
Monckton, Robert	Oct. 26, 1761			22	General	
Colden, Cadwallader	Nov. 18, 1761		7	22		Loyal, not popular.
Monckton, Robert	June 14, 1762	1	0	14		
Colden, Cadwallader	June 28, 1763	2	4	15		Learned, not gracious.
Moore, Henry	Nov. 13, 1765	3	9	29	Sir, Baronet	Genial and incompetent.
Colden, Cadwallader	Sept. 12, 1769	1	1	7		Lacked popular sympathy.
Murray, John	Oct. 19, 1770		8	20	Earl of Dunmore	Unscrupulous and infamous.
Tryon, William	July 9, 1771	2	8	28		Loyal, but not popular.
Colden, Cadwallader	April 7, 1774	1	2	21		Learned, esteemed, but hated.
Tryon, William	June 28, 1775	4	8	25		Respected, but not loved.
Robertson, James	March 23, 1780	3	0	24	Military Governor	
Elliott, Andrew	April 17, 1783	0	7	8	Military Governor	Amiable.

We have, partly in order to save space, given the above tabular history of the Colonial Governors. Dates often conflicting have been written down from sources considered most reliable. So far as Albany County is concerned, there is little more to be said about them. The official residence was in New York City, and they seldom came to Albany except for a recreation trip, or for making a show of their importance, and to receive demonstrative recognition from the well-to-do and loyal people of the second city in their government. Good policy made it best for them, sometimes, to meet the Indians here in council, to make presents and have a good talk with them. They came with pomp, dressed in blue and gold-trimmed coats, with gold-laced hats and showy ruffles. They expected processions and feastings, and every demonstration of joy and respect from the people. Policy granted

as much; but sensible men were glad when it was over and expenses paid.

These men were usually of intemperate and licentious habits; of weak or mediocre talents; given to their appetite; ruled by their mistresses and favorites. Dissolute in morals, they were often broken down in strength. They gave formal attention to the religion of the Church which best pleased the King.

They generally had no interest in the welfare of the people. All were foreign born; most of them incompetent pets or members of the English aristocracy. Penniless, useless and dependent at home, they were sent abroad to get rich by robbing the people, and to serve the King—whose sycophants they were—in any way to please him and aggrandize themselves. They sought to associate with themselves the wealthy and influential, from whom they received adulation and flattery, in order to secure favors in petty offices, sensual pleasures and land grants. They kept aloof as much as possible from the toiling people, and asked of them only taxes to pay exorbitant salaries and carry out selfish schemes.

The powers of these Governors were legislative and executive. Outside their favorites they sought no counsel. They had to do with forts, garrisons and all military matters in peace and war; with keeping the Indians on good terms; with church affairs; with the excise; with regulating trade; with granting lands; with appointing civil and military officers; with weights and measures; and even with licensing teachers and midwives and regulating marriage and divorce. Most were interested specially in making land grants, because most productive of wealth. No industries were encouraged. Rents were fluctuating; lands were at low value; trade was paralyzed; taxes high and oppressive during most of these years.

The official terms of most of these Governors were short, and marked by few incidents of importance as proceeding from them. They were often recalled on account of manifest incompetency or glaring dishonesty and fraud. In vain the public, as they gladly saw the departure of a ruling governor, hoped that the next would be a wiser and better man.

The constant call of the people for something better did not reach the ear of royalty except to irritate the selfish and heartless King or Governor. Despising the clamors of their subjects, they neither attempted to soothe them, nor understood how to do it. These colonial years were years of one long and grievous cry for relief from burdens, for heaven-born rights, for representation of their interests. It is easy to see what Albany thought of these matters by the class of men put forward to direct public affairs at home, or to represent them in the Assemblies when they were allowed. Though generally loyal subjects of the government, at the same time they were friends of popular representation and the advancement of the true interests of the colony. Aside from these remarks, we shall have little to say of individual Governors; of some, nothing.

There is no doubt that the influence of the English, particularly those from New England, many of whom resided in New York City, at that time engaged in commerce, had much to do with overriding the will of Peter Stuyvesant, and forced him to a reluctant and bloodless surrender of the Dutch power in 1664. These people, tired of the stubborn tyranny of the inflexible old Governor, were longing for the liberties allowed in New England. They expected them under Governor Nicolls, but they were disappointed. His administration was a mild one; he did not impair the city liberties of Albany, nor interfere with its trade. After its peaceable surrender, September 24, 1664, things went on as usual. During his time the "Duke's Laws" were framed, but no popular representative was allowed; no new franchises conceded. It was decided that the Dutch patents must be renewed as invalid, bringing wealth to the Governor by his enormous fees for granting new titles. The Mohawks made a fearful raid into Canada in 1666, which the French returned. But the colonists had peace.

The odious Lovelace listened to nothing asked by the people. He told them that their business was to work and pay their taxes. He ordered their remonstrance to be burned by the common hangman. His term came to a sudden end. New York was retaken by a Dutch fleet without firing a gun. Lovelace was away enjoying his ease; while Captain John Manning, in charge of Fort James, probably for a bribe, surrendered August 9, 1673, at the first summons. The disappointed Dutch were willing. No one cared except the King and his loyal adherents.

Anthony Colve, who was made Director-General, took possession. Old titles and officers were restored. Albany surrendered to the new government. Fort Albany was named Fort Nassau, and the village of Beverswyck was called Willemstadt. The Reformed Church was specially protected while other religions were tolerated, Andries Draeyer was made Commandant of the Fort. Gerrit Van Slechtenhorst, Cornelis Van Dyck, David Schuyler and Peter Bogardus were made Schepens of the village, and Martin Gerritsen, Pieter Vounen, and Hendrick Van Ness, Schepens of Rensselaerwyck.

But the restored Dutch dynasty was brief. At this time England and Holland were at war. Peace was settled at Westminster, and Governor Colve formally gave over the New Netherlands and its dependencies to Governor Andros, representing his Britannic Majesty, November 10, 1674, and English rule was restored before the Dutch system had fairly begun again. Duke James took out a new patent to save all controversy in relation to his title in America. and the old names of villages and forts were restored.

Andros held sway over a colony of unsubmissive subjects. He filled his position as Governor about five years and a half in all, and never secured confidence and respect. He visited Albany in 1675 and instituted a court to hold sessions every year, beginning in June, to decide civil causes under

500 guilders. Robert Livingston was clerk of this court. He established the Board of Indian Commissioners. In his time the bloody King Philip's War was raging in Massachusetts, which brought great alarm to Albany and Rensselaerwyck. He also made a new treaty with the Mohawks in August, 1675, to foil the designing intrigues of the French Jesuits with this tribe. At a second visit, in February, 1676, it was found that the Mohawks had just returned from a successful attack on King Philip's Indians, and thus allayed the fears of the people of Albany. They had no trouble with Philip, and rendered no aid to their New England neighbors in this direful war.

This year the old fort was so dilapidated that it was deserted—a new stockaded one, by order of Governor Andros, having been built near the present site of St. Peter's Church, so as to defend and command the whole town of Albany. It had four bastions and room for twenty-four guns. It was occupied in June, in command of Captain Sylvester Salisbury. During his time he was frequently called upon in settling church difficulties at Albany, and settling Indian questions, which he generally adjusted acceptably. Andros was loyal to his King, but oppressive. In 1689, he was arrested in Boston by the people, confined in the fort, and his under officers shipped to England.

Dongan called the first representative Assembly, which met at Fort James, October 17, 1683. The names of the two members from Albany and two from Rensselaerwyck are not known. This Assembly adopted a charter of liberties, and divided the province into counties, as stated in another part of this volume. During his time, the claim of the Patroon over the territory of Albany, neglected by Andros, was adjusted amicably and wisely, and Albany received its city charter July 22, 1686. King Charles II died February 16, 1685, and James II, Duke of York, Albany and Ulster, the King's brother, and proprietor of New York and dependencies, became King of England. His rule was fickle and arbitrary. The wishes of the people were not regarded by him. Dongan, though not in sympathy in religious views with a majority of the people, was a man of moderation and gentle manners, and attended faithfully to the interests of the colony in the matters of the French, who were still endeavoring, by religious influence, to seduce the Mohawks. He visited the new city several times, and advanced its policy by good counsel and good appointments. There was some feeling against him, chiefly on account of his religion, at a time of less liberality than now.

King James was forced to abdicate his throne, and William III was proclaimed King, February 16, 1689. Mary, a Protestant sister of James, was his wife, and Queen. This event led to great excitement throughout the colony, particularly in New York and Albany. The government and people of this city hailed the news of a new King and Queen with great demonstrations of joy. They met on the 1st of July, 1689, at the City Hall, and with "ye greatest solemnity that could be used in so short a time" marched to the Fort, where public proclamation was made in English and Dutch, guns fired, and loud acclamations of "God save King William and Queen Mary," were made, concluding with the "Ringing of ye Bell, Bonfyres, fyreworks, and all o^{yr} Demonstrations of joy."

The assumption of authority by Jacob Leisler, a merchant and militia captain of New York City, made much trouble in Albany. He held his position with the approval of the people. The aristocracy were opposed to him as a Commander-in-Chief of the Province. He was acting governor for the time. Lieutenant-Governor Nicholson had gone to England, and the colony had no governor. Leisler may have been ambitious, but he was honest and patriotic. He was brave and popular. It was his purpose to give up the trust committed him by the people as soon as a Governor appointed by William and Mary should reach New York. Meanwhile he proffered aid to protect the frontiers at Albany and Schenectady, now in danger of invasion from the French and Indians, and claimed possession of the fort at Albany and recognition of his right to command. He sent his son-in-law, Jacob Milborne, to persuade the people of Albany to yield to Leisler's government. Some of the people looked favorably upon the matter. But the city government regarded the course of Leisler and Milborne as without authority of William and Mary, and therefore seditious. The Mayor, Peter Schuyler, took charge of the fort, and successfully resisted all attempts of Milborne and his troops, who had been sent up from New York for that purpose, to take possession of it. The citizens were divided in their sympathies. They sent for aid to Connecticut, and aid came; to Massachusetts, and they were advised to yield to Leisler and have peace. This they did, because of their fear, especially after the burning of Schenectady, of invasion and devastation. Leisler at once prepared for defense, and sent forces, made up of friendly Indians, soldiers of Albany County and from Connecticut, against Canada. The latter, to the disgust of Leisler, returned August 20, 1690, having seen no enemy and effected nothing. Leisler imprisoned the commander of the expedition, General Winthrop, of Connecticut, and some other officers; established a local government for the City and County of Albany, to control affairs, and returned to New York City. The city was in great fear and disquiet during the winter of 1690–91.

Governor Sloughter came with a commission from the Crown, March 19, 1691. Leisler readily yielded the authority, claimed as from the people. He was no usurper. But the aristocratic haters of popular rule were not satisfied. They caused the immediate arrestof Leisler and Milborne, and had them cast in prison, tried and convicted on the charge of treason. Sloughter, during a drunken debauch, signed the sentence of execution, and they were hanged May 16, 1691. History writes the actors in this malicious murder as traitors against freedom and humanity.

Governor Fletcher, one of the most arrogant and covetous of the Governors, visited Albany as most of the Governors did, to display his authority, and

to hold a meeting with the Sachems. He planned in 1693, at this city, an unsuccessful expedition against Canada. His dishonest conduct, especially in the matter of giving grants of land to his favorites, caused him to be recalled in disgrace. Boastful of military skill, he was cowardly and imbecile in action. A hater of all religion, he was a professed Episcopalian, and made himself odious by an endeavor to make it the only sect recognized by the State and supported by general tax. The brief terms of the Earl of Bellomont were those of judicious management. They embraced the period of the famous piracy of William Kidd. Lord Cornbury left a record of unscrupulous villainy and licentiousness that puts his name in lasting contempt. Governor Hunter promoted the immigration of the Palatinates, kept peace with the Indians, and encouraged improvements.

Governor Burnet was interested in regulating trade with Canada; in cultivating friendly relations with the Indians; and making forts and other defenses more secure. Cosby was narrow in his prejudices and a petty tyrant. The famous Zenger libel case occurred in his time, in 1734. His triumph has been called "the Morning Star of the Revolution." It was, at least, one of the stars. Governor Clarke's administration covers the disgraceful negro plot of 1741, equal in folly to the Salem witchcraft. Governor Clinton's long term was not successful in pleasing the people. He was afraid to displease King George, and all his attempts in public matters displayed ignorance and timidity. Saratoga was destroyed by the French and Indians in 1747.

Governor James De Lancey was a man of liberal culture, an able lawyer, a French Protestant and a Loyalist. He understood the people and did not boldly oppose them. He was President of the notable Convention held at Albany in 1754. Cadwallader Colden, who, as President of the Council and Lieutenant-Governor, attended to the affairs of the province several years, and most of the time indeed between 1760 and 1774, was a friend of the interests of the colony, as he regarded them. As surveyor he did much in the settlement of land questions. But his inflexible adherence to the English government, his decided want of sympathy with popular feeling of the time, made him odious and his situation unpleasant. Governor Colden had his Majesty's service sincerely at heart, and looked upon all as rebels who questioned its wisdom. He was confident that all men of property and all pious people who had not been poisoned against the King by the Boston party would be true to him. He was, no doubt, honest in his sentiments. He was often at Albany, and was quite actively interested in his efforts to force the Green Mountain Boys to submit to the government of New York. He insisted upon Connecticut River as the eastern boundary of this colony. Sir Henry Moore spent much of his time socially at Albany. The most marked feature of his brief administration was his regranting of the townships in the New Hampshire Grants, as a part of Vermont was then called, and the exaction of large fees for these unjust transactions. William Tryon served his King well, and inflicted all the injuries he could upon the patriots of the revolutionary period, both before and after the declaration of independence. He was the last of the royal Governors, and went back to England in 1780.

THE COLONIAL MILITARY AFFAIRS AND WARS IN ALBANY COUNTY.

THE storms of rude war were ever beating about Albany during its colonial history. It was a city always under arms. Here were stockaded forts and garrisons. Soldiers were often billeted upon the people; military parade was frequent; the vices of the camp were seen in the street and carried their influence into families. Here was constant fear—fear of foreign foes, of treacherous savages, and of the very soldiers who were sent here to protect life and liberty.

We propose to give enough of the history of these wars to show the relations which the County of Albany sustained to them; the state of the public mind; the condition of the military service; and in general, what was done or borne in Albany by its inhabitants or the soldiers who centered here.

The French in Canada had much reason for unfriendly feelings towards the Mohawks dwelling along the Mohawk River, in fortified castles, approaching Albany. They were jealous of the Dutch and the English, because these Indians were on terms of amity and commerce with them; and there were suspicions that some of the hostile deeds of these savages were prompted by their rival traders at Albany. Hence, Albany was in great fear of the French and their Adirondack allies. We give the following account of the first experiences which our city had of these French invaders, in the language of the times.

In February, 1666, Monsieur Courcelles, Governor of Canada, made an unsuccessful expedition against the Mohawks, coming unwittingly "within two miles of a small village called Schenectade, lying in the woods beyond Fort Albany in the territoryes of his Royall Highness. He fell into an ambush and lost some of his men. Seven who were wounded were sent the next day to the village, where they were carefully drest and sent to Albany. The Dutch bores carryed to the camp such provisions as they had, and were too well paid for it;

especially peaz and bread, of wch. a good quantity was bought. He inquired what garrison or fort was at Albany. 'Twas told him a Captain and 60 English Soldyers with 9 pieces of ordinance in a small fort of foure Bastions, and that the captain thereof, Capt. Baker, had sent for 20 men from annother garrison of the King's at Sopes."

During the dire war of King Philip, 1674–76, when New England settlements were kept in continual alarm by the wanton cruelties of the Indians, the settlers had no help from New York except what was rendered by Mohawk raid against Philip. For two years, wherever were white settlements in the valleys of New England, there were confusion, desolation and death. They defended their own homes; they fought their own battles.

Governor Andros officially reports in 1678: "The Militia is about 2,000, of wch. about 140 horse in three troops, the foot formed in Companyes, most under 100 men each, all indifferently armed with fire-armes of all sizes, ordered and exercized according to law, and are good firemen. One standing company of Souldiers with gunners and other officers for the fforts New York and Albany alwayes victualled in October and November for a year." He adds: "Albany is a small, long stockaded fort with foure bastions in it, 12 gunns, sufficient ag^{t} Indians."

Governor Dongan in 1687, reports to the Committee of Trade:

"At Albany there is a Fort made of pine trees, fifteen foot high, and foot over, with Batterys and conveniences made for men to walk about, where are nine guns, small arms for forty men, four Barrils of powder with great and small Shott in proportion. The Timber and Boards being rotten were renewed this year. In my opinion it were better that fort were built up of Stone and Lime which will not be double the charge of this years repair, which yet will not last above 6 or 7 years before it will require the like again, whereas on the contrary, were it built of Lime and Stone it may bee far more easily maintained. And truly its very necessary to have a Fort there, it being a frontier place both to the Indians and French."

On Friday, September 9, 1687, information being received by Governor Dongan and Council, "That ye ffrench at Canada are providing 1,500 pairs of Snowshews;" it was ordered "that the Mayor and Magistrates of Albany send orders to the five Nations to bring Doun their Wives, children and old men least ye ffrench come uppon them in the Winter, and none stay in the Castles but ye young men." On the next Sunday, September 11th, it is stated that "letters from Albany giving account that the people there are in great consternation thro' apprehension that ye ffrench will come doun uppon them this winter." Whereupon it was "resolved, that every tenth man of all ye Militia troups and Companys within the Province, Except those that were out ye last yeare a whaling, be drawn out to go up hither."

In 1689, Chevalier de Callieres, Governor of Montreal and Commander of the Troops and Militia of Canada, planned an expedition of 2,000 men against Orange (Albany) and Manathe (New York). He writes: "The plan is to go straight to Orange, the most advanced toun of New York, one hundred leagues from Montreal, which I would undertake to carry, and to proceed thence to seize Manathe, the capital of that colony, situated on the Sea Side." He designed to take his picked soldiers by canoes and flat batteaux, by Richelieu River and Lake Champlain; thence to march along the Hudson direct to Albany, pillaging by the way. Of Albany, he says, "The town is about as large as Montreal, surrounded by picquets, at one end of which is an Earthen Fort defended by palisades & consisting of four small bastions. There is a garrison of 150 men of three companies in the fort, and some small pieces of cannon. Said town of Orange may contain about 150 houses and 300 inhabitants, capable of bearing arms, the majority of whom are Dutch, and some French Refugees with some English.

"After having invested the town and summoned it to surrender with promise not to pillage if it capitulate, I propose, in case of resistance, to cut or burn the palisades in order to afford an opening, and enter then, sword in hand, and seize the fort. These being only 14 feet high can be easily escaladed by means of the conveniences we shall find when masters of the town, or by blowing in the gate with a few petards or two small field pieces, which may be of use to me, and I shall find means of conveying there.

"After I shall have become master of the town and fort of Orange, which I expect to achieve before the English can afford it any succor, my intention is to leave a force of 200 men in the fort with sufficient supplies, which I shall find in the city, and to disarm all the inhabitants.

"I shall seize all the barks, batteaux, and canoes that are at Orange, to embark my force on the river, which is navigable down to Manathe, and I shall embark with the troops the necessary provisions and ammunition, and some pieces of cannon to be taken from Fort Orange to serve in the attack on Manathe."

But his plans failed. He never reached Albany.

The wars of the English colonial period were not provoked by any indiscretions of the colonists. They were not originated by them nor in their interest. They were forced upon them by the European government in the supposed interest of the King, for the increase of his wealth and power; or for some petty caprice; or for keeping the soldiers and the people occupied in other matters than in meddling with the prerogatives of kings and governors. The colonists preferred the peaceful pursuits of industry. In war these were endangered. In war their settlements were liable to pillage; their homes to murders and burnings; their every interest to ruin. They were to do the fighting, endure the suffering, and pay the expenses of these wars. This chiefly, and gain nothing. In all these wars the northern American colonies suffered, some of them greatly. Of New England this remark is especially true. Its whole northern frontier without defenses, was exposed to sudden

invasion from the savage. It had no well defended forts, but it had many growing villages and many farm-houses, filled with valuable booty for the plundering Indian. The blood-curdling story of their cruelties has been read in every family. They were encouraged in their deeds of cruelty by the Canadian French, a race with whose trade, politics, and religion the English had no common sympathies and interests. Besides murder and outrage, many women and children were led to a captivity worse than death. All small articles of worth that could sell for what the Indian valued more, were carried away and sold. Silver spoons and plates taken as plunder from New England homes, were offered for sale by these savages, not only in Montreal and Quebec, but in Albany and Schenectady. Although the Indians disliked all Europeans, they hated the English colonists of New England most. Their farms spoiled their hunting grounds, and their increase crowded out the Indians. Then the Indian had not forgotten the Pequod, King Philip, and other early destructive wars. The less aggressive and more seductive French pleased them better. The Iroquois were less friendly to the French. Champlain had taken sides with their Algonquin foe; and they had made terms of amity and trade with the early Dutch and later English. They had fallen upon La Chine in Canada, and committed terrible massacre, and done them all the mischief they could, in sundry places and at sundry times. Later, some of the Mohawks were seduced by French Jesuits, settled in Canada, and took sides against their old friends. But most of these people were true to the Dutch and the English during the whole colonial period, and took sides with the Tories during the Revolution, excepting a part of the Oneidas who had been brought under the influence of Rev. Samuel Kirkland, a New England missionary.

During the French and Indian wars in the eighteenth century, New York was the only northern colony which was virtually uninjured. Its territory was not invaded; few of its men went into the service. Farms continued to be taken up; trade prospered about as usual.

Albany County was subject to alarms, but it had no invasions. It had forts and garrisons, and many wise and prudent citizens to see that the city suffered no detriment.

There was contention among themselves as to matters of policy in government; there were social distinctions; there were cliques and parties. The Conservatives, the Loyalists, and the claimants for the rights of the people for popular representative government, were all busy. There were brains and mediocrity; wealth and poverty. But all agreed that wars were a luxury not to be desired.

Albany was the great center of trade to these Iroquois. Here they often met in business and in council. Here they had many friends. They had here bought many valued trinkets, received many politic courtesies and presents, and had many a drunken carousal. They had seen Albany's fort and stockades.

This statement is given to explain why this city, during all the wars, suffered no ravages from the Indians, who long remember favors and never rush into seen dangers.

The story of the burning of Schenectady has been told again and again. It is given in detail in the history of that county. We need not repeat it. It shows the character of the French and Indian mode of warfare at that time.

KING WILLIAM'S WAR.

James II, once Duke of York and Albany, and proprietor of the Colony of New York, was a Roman Catholic. While he was not generous to the territory named after him, he was especially cruel to New England. He became so odious at home that he was driven from his throne, and succeeded by William, Stadtholder of Holland and Prince of Orange, who had married Mary, eldest child and Protestant daughter of James. In November, 1688, William and Mary landed in England and were proclaimed joint sovereigns in February, 1689. This was an era in English liberty. Poor James fled to Louis XIV, Catholic King of France, who espoused his cause. This brought on open hostilities between England and France, which extended to the American colonies, and led to those seven years of dire conflict known as "King William's War," extending from 1689 to the treaty of Ryswick, in Holland, 1697.

There were constant fears in Albany. The Indians were known to be treacherous and revengeful. They were on every side, and often in the city, or very near it, in considerable force. The jealous French were using their influence against the Dutch and English, especially those of Albany, because of their advantage in trade. They feared the Iroquois, and wished, by cunning art, to gain them to their interests; they hated them, and wished to punish them for some remembered cruelties; and the English and French in Europe never loved each other.

To keep the Indians on good terms with the English, and in fighting trim against the French, it seemed necessary for every Governor to meet their Sachems at Albany, have a talk, and make presents. This was especially important when wars were impending.

The importance of Albany to the English crown is strikingly set forth by Governor Sloughter, on the eve of King William's war.

The preservation of Albany was regarded as of great importance as being the only bulwark and safeguard of the King's government on the frontiers of the colony. Says Governor Sloughter: "If the French should assault and gain Albany, all the English colonies on both sides of us would be endangered. For we have nothing but that place that keeps our Indians steady to us, and the loss of that must be the loss of all the King's interest on this continent."

But war had begun; something must be done.

A meeting was held at Albany, November 24, 1689, at which were present: "Y^e^ Commissioners

for ye Citty and County of Alb advysing with Sundrey officers of ye Militia There. where upon It is Resolved That ye following Persones be commissionated, vizt.: Captain Jochim Staets Comdr. of Fort Orange always to keep under command in s^d^ fort sixty men; Lieut. Jonathan wrigt; Ens: John Hater. For the city of albany, Pieter minne, Toune Major, Capt. Johannis wendel, Melgert Wynants, Ens: Regnier Barentse, Capt. Pieter van waggden, Leift. Robt. Sanders, Ens: Joh: Bleeker, Junr Capt. Barnet Liewis, Leift. Marte Klock, Ens. For the County of Albany, Capt. Martin gerritse, Lieut. Evert d'Ridder, Ens: Zymon van ness, Capt. Alexander glen, Leift. Johannis glen, Ens: douwe Aukus, Capt. Johannis Bensing, Leift. Andries Barrentse, Ens. Johannis Janse.

"Ordered That ye aforesaid Commissionated officers now are Established, and shall from this time forth Remaine and be in full Power & ye Authority, & ye Authority for ye Militia of this & County, To act & to doe in all matters and things relating Militarie affaires, according to ye Rules & decipline of war, until, further order from his Majestie King William of England, Scotland, French & Ireland, &c."

"In 1689," says Broadhead, in his history of the State, "the City of Albany was not much more than a large stockaded village, of which the two chief streets crossed each other at right angles. The one, 'Handelaer's Straat,' or Market street, ran nearly north and south, skirting the river, proverbially apt to overflow its banks in times of great floods.

"The other, running about east and west, a little way up a steep hill, was called 'Yonkheer's Straat,' now known as State street.

"About half way up the hill stood the fort, just outside one of the city gates."

At this time Albany was the center of the great internal traffic of the province with the Indians. Her importance was second only to that of the metropolis, and her city officers always maintained their official dignity and their loyalty to the Government.

In a Report on the State of the Militia in their Majesties Province of New York, made in April, 1693, by Governor Fletcher:

"The Militia of the County of Albany, commanded by Major Peter Schuyler, being five companies of Foot and one Troop of Horse, now formed into Dragoons by the Governor, consisting of 359." The aggregate in the Province was 2,932.

"In the List of the Officers of the Militia in the Province of New York," made in November, 1700, in the time of Governor Bellomont, the officers of the Regiment of Militia in the City and County of Albany, is given as follows: Field Officers—Peter Schuyler, Colonel; —— ——, Lieutenant-Colonel; Dyrck Wessels, Major.

Of a Foot Company in the City of Albany: Commissioned Officers—Johannes Bleeker, Captain; Johannes Rosebaum, Lieutenant; Abra. Cuyler, Ensign.

Of another Foot Company in the said City: Albert Rykman, Captain; Wessel Ten Brock, Lieutenant; Johannes Thomasse, Ensign.

Of another Foot Company in the said County: Martin Cornelisse, Captain; Andries Douw, Lieutenant; Andris Koyman, Ensign.

Of another Foot Company in said County: Gerrit Teunisse, Captain; Jonas Douw, Jochem Lamerse, Lieutenants; Volckhart V. Hoesem, Abra. Hause, Ensigns.

Of the Troop of Horse in ye said Regiment: Kilian Van Renslaer, Captain; Johannes Schuyler, Lieutenant; Bennone V. Corlaer, Cornet; Anthony Bries, Quartermaster. This Regiment consists of Three hundred and Seaventy-one men.

"The Governo^r^ hath established a Court Martiall att Albany, whereof Major Rich'd Ingoldsby is President & Robert Livingston, Judge Advocate, who, with other commissionated Captains at Albany, have power to exercise Martiall Law, being a frontear Garrison and in actuall Warr." M. Clarkson, Secry.

The people of Albany were in great alarm when they learned of the fearful fire and massacre that came upon the near City of Schnectady in 1690. The expedition was sent by Count Frontenac, Governor of Canada, and came so suddenly upon the doomed village on that gloomy winter night in February, and without provocation, that no people felt safe from savage invasion and cruelty.

An expedition was sent from New England and New York against Canada, under command of General Winthrop, of Connecticut, its purpose being punishment for wrongs inflicted on the borders, and for conquest of the troublesome French.

Some troops, from New York and Connecticut, with Indians of the Five Nations, placed under the command of Colonel Peter Schuyler, left Albany early in July, 1690, and pushed toward the St. Lawrence, where they met Frontenac in August, and were repulsed. Milborne, by direction of Leisler, furnished subsistence for this army. Feuds betweeen these motley and undisciplined troops caused the failure of the expedition. A part of the force under Winthrop went no farther than Wood Creek, at the head Lake Champlain. All returned to Albany where they met the amazed and indignant Leisler, who caused the arrest of Winthrop and some of his leading officers and put them in confinement.

In July, 1691, Governor Sloughter, after a visit to Albany, writes: "I returned from Albany on the 27th past, where I left all things in good posture, and with much difficulty have secured the Indians. I found that place in great disorder, our plantations and Schenectady almost ruined and destroyed by the enemys dureing the time of the late confusion there. I have garrisoned Schenectady and the Halfe Moon with some of the hundred fusileers raised by our Assembly; the remainder, with one of the King's Companys, are posted at Albany."

Major Peter Schuyler, then Mayor of the City, marched from Albany June 21, 1691, with a few soldiers and Indians. On the 1st of August he came upon a French Settlement near Montreal, and killed about 200 of the French and Indian inhabitants, with a loss of only 43, of whom 22 were Indians.

After this, Major Ingoldsby commanded at Fort Orange, while the county militia were placed by Governor Fletcher under command of Major Peter Schuyler, in all 359 men.

In June, 1693, the Governor held another Conference with the Five Nations at Albany, to counteract, if possible, the artful efforts of the French to excite them against the colony. By bountiful gifts and flattering words, the conference greatly delighted the Indians and secured their friendship.

The sum of £1,500 had been appropriated for the repair of Fort Orange. In September, 1693, 560 new palisades were collected and "sett up against the old Stockadoes." No effort was omitted that the defenses of the city might be kept in good condition and the soldiers on a war footing.

Bands of Canadian Indians often came near the city in 1696–97, causing great alarm to the inhabitants. Houses and barns were burned and cattle killed on the farms in the county, and many left their homes, so great was the fear of savage murder.

After the peace of Ryswick, ending this war, a census was taken, as given in the article on population, in which it was made to appear that the population of the county, as it then was, had been reduced from 662 men, 340 women, and 1,014 children in 1689, to 382 men, 262 women, and 805 children in 1698. There had left the city and county during the war, 142 men, 68 women, and 209 children; and 84 men had been killed, 38 had died, and 16 had been taken prisoners.

Early in July, 1698, a general peace was concluded at Ryswick. The Earl of Bellomont was then Governor-General of the Province of New York. The following paper was drawn up and presented at a meeting of the Common Council held in the City of Albany, the 2d day of August, 1698. It shows the public feeling at that time.

The Common Council are unanimously of the opinion to address his Excell. the Earl of Bellomont on the following heads:

1. To thank his Lordship for bringing ye joyfull news of ye Peace.

2. To acquaint his Lordship ye great hardships this poor Citty has labored under for these 9 years dreadful and bloody warr; during which time they have not only been at an Excessive Charge and Expense in quartering ye officers and souldiers sent hither from time to time, but have been obliged, for their own security, to fortify ye towne twice with Palesadoes, and build 5 block houses, all at their own charge, which hath so much impoverished ye Inhabitants y^t^ most have deserted.

3. That this Citty doth wholly rely and depend upon ye Indian Trade, upon which account it was first settled, and have obtained a Charter whereby ye Sole trade with ye Indians is confined within ye walls of s^d^ Citty, doth therefore humbly addresse his L^d^p to protect and defend them in there Rights and Priviledges, and doe thank his L^d^p for his great trouble and care in treating with ye 5 nations for ye Public good and advantage to this Citty, and doe further return there best thanks for ye good Instructions his L^d^p hes been pleased to give them, assuring his L^d^p that they will not be wanting in useing there utmost endeavors to unite all parties, and restore this Citty to its Priviledges and Rights; that they will also observe all ye oy^er^ articles Mentioned in his L^d^p's instructions.

QUEEN ANNE'S WAR.

When James II died, an exile in France, in 1701, his friend, the French King, proclaimed James Francis, his son, King of England. Anne, the second daughter of James, had been crowned the English Queen. She was a Protestant. War was declared against France in 1702, because of this affront to the sovereign of England. It was known as the War of the Spanish Succession in Europe, but as "Queen Anne's War" in America. It lasted until April 11, 1713, when a treaty of peace was concluded at Utrecht.

During this war, blood flowed in nearly every village and valley in New England. The atrocities of the French and Indians were so monstrous in New England, that the conquest of Canada at any cost, seemed to be looked upon as a necessity. And all that blood and treasure could do was offered by the northern colonies to accomplish this purpose. But help from England was an abortion, the causes of which we proceed to show.

During the time of peace that preceded Queen Anne's War, the soldiers who composed the garrison at Fort Orange were much neglected. In 1700, Governor Bellomont writes: "Some of the inhabitants of Albany who are now here [New York City] tell me the Soldiers there in Garrison are in that shameful and miserable condition for the want of Cloaths, that the like was never seen." Even the Indians were disgusted as they observed their situation. The Governor continues: "Persons assure me that some of the old crafty sachems of the Five Nations have asked 'em whether they thought 'em such fooles as to believe our King could protect 'em from the French when he was not able to Keep his Soldiers in a Condition as those in Canada are Kept."

In October of this year the Governor visited Albany to look after the Indians. While there he reviewed the two companies in the garrison under Major Ingoldsby and Captain Weems. Of them he writes: "I never in my life saw so moving a sight as that of the Companies at Albany; half the men were without breeches, shoes and stockings when they mustered. I thought it shameful to the last degree to see English soldiers so abused. They had like to have mutinied." He found the forts "scandalously weak;" and adds: "The inhabitants came all about me at my leaving Albany, and told me in plain terms that if the King would not build a fort there to protect 'em, they would, on the first news of war between England and France desert the place and fly to New York rather than they would stay there to have their throats cut." "There are half a dozen at Albany who have competent estates, but all the rest are miserable poor."

At this time the City and County of Albany furnished 371 militia men, under command of Colonel Pieter Schuyler, with Dirck Wessells as Major. In the colony there were 3,182 enrolled militia.

In 1702, Colonel Schuyler's regiment of the Militia of the County of Albany was pronounced in pretty good condition, owing to his care.

In July, 1702, when Cornbury visited Albany, just on the eve of another war, he found the fort "in a miserable condition, "the stockadoes about all roten to such a degree that I can with ease push them down." The garrison, still commanded by Major Ingoldsby, composed of 176 soldiers besides officers, was still in sad want of clothing and provisions.

It was heard at Albany that the French and Indians were making great preparations at Montreal, supposed to be against Schenectady and Albany. Something was done to repair the old fort in 1704, by putting up new palisades. The new fort was begun, but, for want of money, left incomplete. It was not finished until 1735.

A large number of soldiers and Indians were brought together at Albany in the summer of 1709, prepared to invade Canada. The command of these provincials was given to Colonel Francis Nicholson. Albany entered warmly into this scheme of conquest. The quota was furnished, and volunteer Companies were organized. Under the influence of Peter Schuyler, the Five Nations took up the hatchet and sent 500 warriors to join the expedition. The outrages upon Deerfield and other New England villages had aroused the northern colonies, and led the British Ministry to fall in with this plan for seizing the French possessions in America. It contemplated an attack upon Quebec by water, while the troops of New York and New England were to make an attempt on Montreal by way of Lake Champlain. New York had, at her own expense, opened a military road for the more easy movement of troops and supplies from Albany to the Lake, beginning at the present village of Schuylerville and running through dense forests by way of Fort Edward and Wood Creek. They had erected on the way, three wood forts, and built batteaux and canoes. All being ready, the army left Albany and encamped at the middle fort, named Fort Ann, waiting to hear from the naval expedition against Quebec. When it was learned that it was sent against Spain instead, the troops were discouraged; many were sick, and died with a malignant disease. They broke camp and returned to Albany.

Colonel Schuyler and other leading men of Albany, who saw that there could be no lasting peace until the French were driven out of Canada, were greatly chagrined at the failure of this expedition. In 1710 he took with him five Indian Sachems and sailed for England, hoping to interest the Crown in this matter.

Through his influence, a fleet with 5,000 troops was sent from England to help the provinces in another attempt to subject Canada. This was in 1711. On the last day of July, a fleet of twelve men-of-war and forty-six smaller vessels left Boston for the St Lawrence, having Montreal as its objective point. Here was to be a junction with a strong force mustered at Albany, under the command of General Nicholson. In the latter part of August, Nicholson, with an army of 2,000 English, 1,000 Germans, and 800 Indians, moved from Albany toward Lake Champlain. They took the Lake George route. Meanwhile the English fleet had, in a thick fog, struck upon rocks; lost eight transports and 800 men, and returned to England. Hearing of this disaster, General Nicholson ordered an immediate return to Albany, and Canada was safe for many years longer. Colonels Schuyler, Whitney, and Ingoldsby were in this expedition. The peace of Utrecht ended this expensive and foolish war, the French acknowledging the Five Nations as British subjects, and promising to let them alone. These two abortive attempts cost New York alone £30,000 sterling. The Colonists were disgusted and disheartened, and the Five Nations began to show signs of alienation from the English, whose failures they regarded as weak and cowardly.

The following record shows the military condition of Albany just on the eve of the preparation for this last expedition.

May 20, 1711, Robert Hunter, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Province of New York, called the troops from Albany to the Manor of Livingston, and directed that the Militia of Albany be called to arms to protect that city in the absence of the garrison. Accordingly, the Mayor and Aldermen met May 21, 1711, and sent the following letter to his Excellency.

"Albany, ye 21st of May, 1711.

"May it please your Ex'cy.

"Your Ex'cys Letter dated yesterday we rec^d^ ys. day, and in Obedience thereof, we have forthwith procured a Sloop for ye transportation of ye Troops here, and desired Peter Schuyler, Esqr., Collo of the militia Regiment of ye Citty & County, that he will emmediately order ye militia of this Citty to Come in Arms to take care of ye fort and this place during ye absence of ye s^d^ troops; who returned answer that he would comply therewith. So remain in all sincerity,

"May it please your Ex'cy,

Your Ex'cys most obedient and humble servants."

This was signed by the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen.

KING GEORGE'S WAR.

For over thirty years there had been peace in the colonies. A quarrel arose between George II, King of England, and the King of France, respecting the claims of Maria Theresa to the throne of Austria. The question at issue did not interest the American colonists. But these Kings were ready for a fight, and as things then were, their caprices involved the English and French colonies in America. War was declared March 15, 1744, by France against England, which is called in Europe the War of the Austrian Succession; in America, King George's War.

The news of another war, when received at Albany in June, three months after its declaration, naturally excited great apprehensions of the repetition of acts of cruelty and blood. Governor Clinton came to the city and held another success-

ful conference with the Sachems of the Six Nations, cautioning them against the treacherous French, and reminding them of the wrongs which their people in the past had suffered from that nation. The Governor sent to Albany six 18-pound cannons, with powder, balls, and other military supplies. He put on foot a scheme to reduce the strong fort at Crown Point. Meanwhile the alarm was increased by the attack of the French and Indians upon old Saratoga, now Schuylerville, burning its fort and about 20 houses, killing some 30 persons, and taking nearly 60 prisoners. Refugees came to Albany to spend the winter; soldiers were quartered there. There was general commotion in the county. Two companies of His Majesty's Fusileers were sent up to Albany, and the Indians were ordered to have their hatchets ready.

In August, 1746, the famous Colonel William Johnson, at the head of a company of Mohawks, all in war paint, came into the city. The Mohawks agreed, after some politic maneuvering, to take sides against the French. The truth is, the French best pleased them, but they secured more protection and other favors from the Dutch and English. Their fidelity was not to be trusted when war came, except by renewed gifts, promises, and appeals.

A militia sergeant had been killed by some Canadian scouts. Colonel Johnson was ordered to send out scouting parties to harass the French of Canada. But, while they brought back some scalps and prisoners, they demanded a good many extra favors to keep them in good temper, even under the skillful tactics of Johnson.

Later in the autumn of 1746, Governor Clinton sent five companies of soldiers to Albany. Massachusetts and New York resumed their preparations against Canada, and began, although winter was near, to collect men and munitions of war at Albany. But, by the wiser counsel of Connecticut, the expedition was given over, and nothing was done. Troops from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and other provinces were posted near by, with Albany as a center, in 1747, to guard the frontiers. Colonel Schuyler had command of the New Jersey troops. During this time a mutinous spirit manifested itself among all the troops but those of Colonel Schuyler, on the ground that they were poorly paid. The trading people of the city, who had but little to do (protected as they were) but to make gain out of these soldiers, are said to have incited this mutinous spirit against Governor Clinton, intimating that he withheld their pay for his own uses.

The war was ended by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, made October 18, 1748, in which all losses by either nation were restored. But the ancient hate and the memory of recent damaging contests had not died out. It was only a forced and temporary suspension of hostilities after a foolish war, with nothing gained. Some of the people of Albany County had suffered annoyance, but some, also, had made profit from the military placed here to keep off danger. They had not, however, left their own castles, and were none the worse off for King George's war.

THE OLD FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR, 1754 TO 1763.

The last of the four intercolonial wars in which the colonies were involved, and which ended the French rule in America, was declared against France by England, May 17, 1756, and reciprocated by the declaration of war against England by France on the 9th of June succeeding. It was a war made with the earnest determination on the part of England to put an end to the aggressions of the French in this country. It was a war to determine whether America should be New England or New France. The French had been encompassing the English colonies with forts from Lake Champlain to the mouth of the Mississippi, including the Great Lakes, the Ohio River, the streams that run into them, and the land that bordered them. Their aim was to shut in the colonists between the Atlantic and the Appalachian Hills, and then force them into submission.

The colonists were deeply interested in this war; those of the North, including New England and New York, especially. To it they gave their hard-earned possessions and their lives, and England was willing that her hardy, grown-up children here should do the fighting and pay the expenses.

But this war did for both the Old and New England far more than they then knew. It taught the hardy soldier how to use arms and plan battles; it taught the colonies that they were old enough and able to govern themselves. Its close was the morning of the Revolution of 1776.

This war was really a sequel to King George's War. The hate between England and France was not ended by treaty. Vexatious irruptions from Canadian Indians continued.

On the 28th of August, 1754, a party of French Indians invaded the Province of New York, and burned the houses and barns of some of the settlers at Hoosic, and took back with them to Canada the Schaghticoke Indians, about sixty in number.

Lieutenant-Governor DeLancey immediately ordered the fort at Albany to be repaired and put in order. He sent a company of soldiers from New York to Albany, and directed that 200 men from each regiment of militia near Albany, be ready to march to the city when needed.

Although kept in constant alarm, and seeing much of the "pomp and circumstance of war," Albany really suffered nothing from invasion, and but little from loss of money or men during its existence.

We find but little in the city records touching the conduct of this war, only a few doings of the Common Council which make complaint and ask for better defenses.

A meeting of the Common Council was held at the City Hall on the 29th day of May, 1753.

At this time James DeLancey was acting Governor of the Province. Albany was a frontier town. At this meeting, a petition was directed to Governor DeLancey, signed by the Mayor and Aldermen, setting forth:

That the City of Albany is a frontier town, and the defense thereof is of great consequence to the safety of the whole province in case of War with the French; that the city is altogether undefensable, exposed to the incursions of any enemy, and the corporation, by reason of the heavy debt they are under, occasioned by the great expense we were at during the late war, and no wise able to fortify the city unless assisted by a provincial Tax; and whereas, your Excellencies have prepared a petition to be laid before the General Assembly, praying they would be pleased to lay a tax of £6,000 on estates throughout this province to defray the expense of building a wall with bastions or batteries at convenient distances, for the defence of said city and security of the province.

The document closes with a prayer that

His Excellency will recommend to the General Assembly, in the most pressing terms that you think proper, to raise the sum of £6,000 for defraying the epxense of said Wall.

This petition was presented to the Legislature by Robert Livingston. At this time there was a wall around part of the city; and stockades, with block-houses at convenient distances, inclosed the city; and there was a fort bristling with cannon. But its exposure to the incursions of the French and Indians was so great, that its municipal government was urging the provincial authorities to afford greater security by building "a stone wall with bastions and batteries," around the city.

This petition for a stone wall and bastions around the city seems to have been disregarded by the General Assembly.

At a meeting of the Common Council held on the 22d of May, 1756, the matter was again taken up in a petition directed to Governor Charles Hardy, the preamble of which sets forth the defenceless condition of the city, praying for the erection of a wall, or at least for new stockades, and more cannon for the fort.

At this time there was encamped on the hill, about where the Old Capitol afterwards stood, a regiment of soldiers. An ordinance was passed by the Common Council forbidding all tavern keepers and all other persons selling any strong liquor to any of his Majesty's troops, or harboring or entertaining any of them after 9 o'clock P. M.

During this war many troops were encamped in and around Albany. Some were at Port Schuyler, as it is now called. Some were on the flat lands in Albany and Bethlehem, as well as at Watervliet, and on the opposite side of the Hudson. The Hudson itself bore many vessels laden with munitions of war and troops for its service. The music of the drum and fife, and the training of the provincial militia and the English soldiery, were daily events. When General James Abercrombie was here in 1756, it is estimated that about 10,000 troops were encamped on both sides of the river. Lords Loudon and Amherst also tented here, and disciplined their armies for war. The people of the city and vicinity were greatly interested in furnishing supplies and service. Indian warriors, with their squaws and papooses, added to the liveliness of the scene.

The expeditions of 1755 and 1756, from Albany to Oswego, to attack Forts Frontenac and Niagara, under Governor Shirley, included Albany soldiers, of whom we have the name of General (then Captain) Philip Schuyler, who assisted in forwarding large supplies to Oswego. The march was perilous and fatiguing. Two forts were built to strengthen the Old Fort Oswego, called New Fort and Fort Ontario; vessels were built and other preparations on a large scale were made against Fort Niagara. But the approach of winter and heavy rains suspended the attack, and, after garrisoning the forts, he returned to Albany and disbanded the rest of his troops. During the winter, further preparations were made at Albany to proceed against Niagara in the spring. Early that season General Winslow was at Albany with 7,000 men, waiting for the arrival of the ever-dilatory Lord Loudon, Commander-in-Chief. His delay until late in the summer proved a fatal one. Montcalm had the English forts at Oswego in his possession, and held them until 1757, when, once more, Fort Ontario again came into possession of the English, and so remained until the Revolution.

Plans were made in 1755 to attack the French fort at Crown Point. The command of the expedition was given to Sir William Johnson. Troops were gathered at Albany and Greenbush from different colonies. Among these was a regiment under Colonel Ephraim Williams, of Massachusetts, whose will, made here at that time, on the 22d July, 1755, laid the foundation of Williams College. On the 8th day of September following, while within four miles of the English army, to join which he was on the march, he was attacked by the bold French commander, Dieskau, valiantly opposing this assault. Colonel Williams was killed. Soon after, Dieskau, fighting against the main army, under Johnson, was fatally wounded and taken prisoner to Albany. He lived to reach England and there died.

General Johnson was greatly delayed in his movement on Crown Point. At this time he complained much of the people of Albany County, saying, among other severe things, that he had "great opposition from those Dutch traders at Albany;" and, again, "these people are so much devoted to their own private profit, that every other public principle has ever been sacrificed to it;" and, again he writes, under date of September 16th: "Our expedition is likely to be extremely distressed and, I fear, fatally retarded for the want of wagons. The people of Albany County and the adjacent counties hide their wagons and drive away their horses. Most of the wagoners taken into the service have deserted; some horses are quite jaded, and some few killed by the enemy, and several run away. Most of our provisions are at Albany."

All these delays discouraged the enterprise, and led Johnson, at the approach of winter, after having built Fort William Henry and left there a garrison of 600 men, to return to Albany and disband his troops. At the close of this fruitless expedition, King George II made him a gift of £500 and granted him a baronetcy, an honor which he had not fairly earned. The best service of the expedition was rendered by New England officers and men.

In 1757, the citizens of Albany were in great alarm at the advance of Montcalm. His attack

upon Fort William Henry in August of this year caused the greatest consternation, especially when the savage slaughter of the garrison by the Indians, as it left the fort, became known. An increasing army centered in the city; a large number quartered here during the fall and winter, and the place became a house of refuge to the frontier settlers.

It was during this winter that the sober people of Albany were scandalized by the social manners of the English officers and soldiery, many of whom gave themselves to theatrical plays and all the blandishments of dress, fashion, social flirtation and debauchery. The Anglomania of this season is graphically described by Mrs. Grant, in "The American Lady."

In the early summer of 1758, General Abercrombie and his several regiments of troops were encamped upon the "Pasture," or great flat lands on the south side of the city. Among his officers was the long-remembered and amiable Lord Howe. Great hopes were rested in this army, which, in July, was most crushingly defeated in its movement upon Ticonderoga, then called Fort Carillon. Albany soldiers accompanied the inefficient Abercrombie. The disheartened army retreated to Fort William Henry, and many of the wounded were conveyed to Albany. The brave Lord Howe was slain in this battle, and his body, in charge of Philip Schuyler, was entombed in this city, first in Schuyler's family tomb and finally under St. Peter's Church. His death was mourned in America and England, while the presumption and cowardice of Abercrombie made his name contemptible.

As a contribution to the local history of this period, indicative of the character of the people and the army, we give the following extract from the doings of the Common Council.

Whereas, Sundry complaints have been made, and in particular by the Right Honorable Lord Viscount Howe, of the great abuse in selling Rum and other strong Liquors to Soldiers, which, by means of their continual drinking, impairs and weakens their constitutions and renders them unfit for duty; and we being conscious of the justness of the complaint, as well as the mischiefs that may arise from the said abuse, and being willing to remedy it as much as in us lays, Be it therefore ordained by the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same, that no person whatsoever after publication hereof presume to sell any Rum or other strong liquors to any Soldier or Soldiers whatsoever, or to any other person for their use; and in case any person or persons shall be convicted before the Mayor, Recorder, or any of the Aldermen of selling any Rum or other distilled Liquor, as aforesaid, to any Soldier or Soldiers, she or they so offending shall, for the first offence, forfeit the sum of twenty shillings current money of New York, and for every like offense after, the sum of forty shillings, to be levyed by distress and sale of the offender's goods, one-half for the benefit of the informer, and the other half for the use of the City. Dated Albany, this Seventh day of December, 1756.

Among the expeditions in which soldiers of Albany were engaged, was the one against old Fort Frontenac, under Colonel John Bradstreet. This was a French fort and a fur-trading and missionary station, near where Kingston, Canada, now is. The fort was erected in 1673 by Governor Louis Frontenac, and was for many years regarded as one of the strongest and most important in America. After the defeat of Abercrombie at Ticonderoga, in 1758, Colonel Bradstreet, at his own request, went across the wilderness to Oswego, and advanced to the fort in three vessels. The approach was sudden and the fort was weak. It surrendered without a contest. His force consisted of New York and New England troops. Among the officers were Captains Peter Yates and Goosen Van Schaick, of Albany, the latter of whom became a Colonel in the New York revolutionary line. Colonel Bradstreet was Commissary-General in 1756, keeping up supplies between Albany and Oswego, with much annoyance from the French Indians, with whom he had several successful and bloody skirmishes.

On their return from Fort Frontenac, his small army aided in building Fort Stanwix, near where Rome is now situated. This fortunate expedition resulted in the exchange of the Commander of the fort for Colonel Peter Schuyler, then a prisoner in Canada, and turning over 9 armed vessels, 40 pieces of cannon, a great quantity of stores, the fort itself, and 110 men as prisoners of war. The name of Bradstreet is deserving of honor, as a brave soldier and an excellent man. He was an intimate friend of Philip Schuyler, whose counsel and aid he sought, not only at this time, but in subsequent service.

In May and June, 1759, Lord Jeffrey Amherst, an English officer of great merit, encamped about the City of Albany. In July, his army of New York and New England soldiers moved toward Ticonderoga and Crown Point. The French forces withdrew on their approach and both these strongholds came into the hands of the English.

The fall of Quebec, September 12th, and of Montreal soon after, gave Canada to the British and ended the French dominion in America. A definitive treaty was concluded at Paris, February 10, 1763.

Albany County had no more alarms from the French and Indians of Canada. The usual industrial pursuits of peace were resumed.

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD.

By Prof. J. TENNEY.

THE representative principle must be sought away back in the ages—in the first communities of men. Its growth, traced through all the forms of industrial, ecclesiastical and civil institutions, has never yet been carefully written out. It would be the work of a lifetime. It took deeper root and expanded more rapidly and vigorously in Anglo-Saxon Britain than among any other people. Its democratic element gradually acquired great distinctness and purity, and in this form was first brought over to the stormy coasts of primitive New England in 1620. Here it found congenial soil and skillful culture, and branched forth westward over a large territory, producing a growth of astonishing vigor on the 4th of July, 1776.

What Albany City and County had to do in the struggle that led to its establishment, we propose to set forth as fully as the scattered facts, dug out of the *debris* of one hundred years, and our limited time and space, will admit.

We regret that we have no record of the services rendered on the field of battle by individuals who were always ready "to do or die" for sweet liberty —men who occupied subordinate military offices or worked in the ranks—untitled men of strong convictions and brave hearts, who fought, not for fame, but for home and country, and now fill unlettered graves. Our questions in regard to their names and deeds have found no answer.

Much that transpired in the great struggle with England for American nationality is already lost in the graves of the actors in that drama.

We do not find that much field service was done by Albany County in that war. At first there was much apathy among the citizens generally. They were not men of war; they loved peace and productive industry. King George was far away and had done them no harm that they could see. The wrongs complained of in Boston, New York, and elsewhere, by men of trade and public men, they might have heard of, but they had not seen nor felt them. Who can wonder that such men were slow to leave their farms, and shops, and stores for strife and carnage; that some were not apathetic only, but decidedly opposed to a war that meant revolution? They preferred to endure the ills they knew than to fly to those they knew not of. Hence there were many Tories in Albany County. And, while the most brave and intelligent watched events, and pondered and feared, most put off the evil day, hoping that the unpleasantness with Old Mother England would be settled without blood.

Yes, Albany was slow to respond to the feelings so strongly manifested in the cities of the Atlantic coasts, in Philadelphia, and in Virginia.

But most of the men of mind and property in the city—the Schuylers, the Van Rensselaers, Gansevoort, Van Schaick, Nicolls, Douw, Ten Broeck, and others—were fully alive to the situation, full of the spirit of patriotism, ready for any sacrifice for the rights of the people. They were always on the side of wise counsel, and when the hour of action came, they were prepared.

There was no newspaper in Albany until 1771, and the publisher of that was a Tory. No telegraph then; no stage; no medium of rapid communication. News moved slowly; the common mind moved slowly. But, when the news of bloodshed on the plains of Lexington, April 19, 1775, was heard, all saw that war was inevitable. Patriot blood was stirred, and city and county began to get ready. Military companies were formed, and the bustle and confusion of getting ready for the worst was heard all around.

Albany, as important as it was, was a small village then. But it had long been a town of grim forts and warlike movements. It was used to soldiers and officers; to camps and marches. Its situation and its accidents had made it always a military center to which men came and from which men went with all the pomp and circumstance of dire war.

So it continued to be during the War of the Revolution. Here was Fort Frederick, with its garrisons and guns; here were officers' quarters, barracks, hospitals, and commissaries stores. Soldiers were billeted here. Here were fears and watchings. There were enemies at home and abroad. Here were prisons for bold traitors and gallows to hang them on. Of course there was much to be done to duly provide, keep, and distribute "the sinews of war." Here was much to be done by a strong "home guard," protecting the city and holding it as a place of safety and supply; a place not for the protection alone of citizens and their wives and children, but for the restraint of the rebellious Tory; for the hungry and ragged soldier in tent and field; for the sick and wounded in the hospital.

Such duties as these all important ones, necessarily occupied the patriotic inhabitants of Albany City and County, and made them less frequent in the march and bloody contest. They were not found, so far as we can learn, at Bennington, White Plains, Monmouth, Trenton, nor in any of the battles of the South. Nor was much fighting done by them after the surrender of Burgoyne.

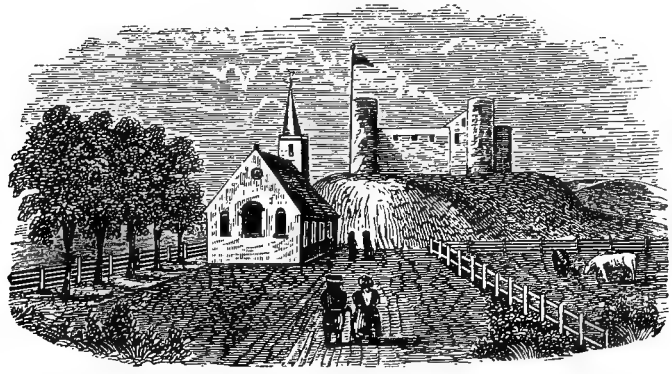
They went, probably, where Schuyler, Gansevoort and Van Schaick, and Ten Broeck and the Van Rensselaers went, or directed to go, to St.

Johns, Chambly, Montreal, and Quebec; to Crown Point and Ticonderoga; to Fort Ann and Fort Stanwix; to Stone Arabia and Saratoga.

Who some of them were who were enrolled ready for any duty, is told in the military rosters as we find them in the archives of the State, in the records of the Committee of Safety, and in certain local histories.

The City Records, and the Records of the Committee of Safety, from which we have made liberal extracts, show better than anything else the state of matters in this County and City.

Albany was always fortified, and fortified and garrisoned according to the needs of the place and the times. Its government was usually administered by prudent officers, supported by a discreet, peace-loving class of citizens. It kept friendship with the Indians. No battle was ever fought in the present Albany County; no invasion ever reached the city; no besiegers ever attacked its defenses. It had rumors of war, but no war. It always had fears of the savage, but fear was all. Its people were always forewarned and forearmed. The French of Canada, full of jealousy, often planned invasion of Albany, but never carried out their plans.



OLD ENGLISH CHURCH AND FORT FREDERICK.

An important convention of colonial delegates met at Albany June 19, 1754. It has often been referred to as having connection with the opening movements of the American Revolution. If this be so, it was quite remote. It was invited by Lord Holderness, English Secretary of State. Seven of the thirteen colonies were represented by twenty-six members. The New York Delegates were James Delancy, Joseph Murray, William Johnson, John Chambers, William Smith. Most of these were adherents of the English Crown, and remained so all their lives. The delegates were chosen by the colonial assemblies, and had for their leading object the formation of a closer political union for the purpose of better security against the encroachments of the French on the north, and for keeping the friendship of the Indians, the Six Nations especially, who seemed getting too much under the influence of the Jesuits and other French emissaries. The sachems of the Indians were particularly invited to meet this convention, and they were present in full numbers. Speeches were made on both sides, and much diplomacy was used. The sessions were held for twelve days. The meetings were in the old City Hall.

Benjamin Franklin was present from Pennsylvania, having a plan which he introduced for discussion, that looked to a permanent union for mutual counsel and defense in all matters of common interest. "Debate upon this and other plans proposed was taken up, hand in hand with the Indian business, daily." A plan, very much like that of Franklin, proposed a grand council of forty-eight members, to have, under limitations, the appointment of all civil and military officers, the general management of civil and military matters, and the entire control of Indian affairs. When the plan was submitted, as Franklin himself tells us, "the assemblies did not adopt it, as they all thought there was too much *prerogative* in it; and in England it was judged to have too much of the *democratic*." But the convention, no doubt, succeeded in its main purpose—that of keeping the Iroquois on friendly terms—after the usual presents, promises and flattery; and "the plan," which was not the main purpose, led the colonists to a better understanding of each other, and helped prepare them for more united action when the time came. This was largely due to the far-seeing sagacity and vigilant patriotism of Franklin.

Lieutenant-Governor Colden writes to the Earl of Hillsborough, under date of New York, February 21, 1770—"My Lord: It is my duty to inform you that a violent party continue their assiduous endeavors to disturb the Government, by working hard on the passions of the populace, and exciting riots, who in every attempt have hitherto been unsuccessful. * * * The persons who appear on these occasions are of inferior rank, but it is not doubted they are directed by some persons of distinction. They consist chiefly of Dissenters, who are very numerous, especially in the country. * * * The most active among them are Independents from New England, or educated there, and of Republican principles. The friends of the

administration are the Church of England, the Lutherans, and the old Dutch, with several Presbyterians." After this, he speaks of the confinement of Alexander McDougal in jail for writing a seditious political article, expressing the opinion that "he highly deserves punishment." McDougal was one of the "Sons of Liberty," and afterwards Colonel of the 1st New York Regiment in the Revolution and a Major-General in the service. He was a member of the Provincial Congress, and afterwards of the State Senate. He was a brave and trusted soldier and a valuable citizen. We note this to show what kind of men belonged to the early patriot party and the estimation in which they were held.

Albany was the center of supplies for the Northern Army. It would not do to leave the Northern Department uncared for by troops. The savages and the Tories were plenty about the upper Hudson and the Mohawk. They only wanted an opportunity to invade the City of Albany; to burn and plunder its homes; carry away its military stores and murder its inhabitants. Its soldiery was needed at home to protect what remained.

Did the women apply their hands to the distaff, the spinning-wheel and the loom, so that the soldiers might be sure of comfortable clothing in the camp and field? Did the "click of the loom and the hum of the wheel" make music harmonious with that of the drum and fife? Were there spinning matches and quilting bees among the mothers and daughters of Albany County from 1774 to 1781? There were no factories then to clothe the army by contract. We believe that much of it was done by noble women—the wives and daughters of that time.

Were the clergy eloquent in the pulpit against British aggression, and earnest in appeal to the spirit of patriotic doctrine? Did they urge the people, by zealous activity, to resist the wrongs done to the rights of property and personal freedom, and, like Rev. Mr. Allen, of Pittsfield, take the musket and go forth to pray and fight for heaven and our rights? This Rev. Thomas Allen left his home and visited Kinderhook, Canaan, Claverack, and other towns in Eastern New York, speaking to the people and advising the strongest measures against those who favored the King. He writes home to the leading Whigs of his town, "As yet there are plenty of arms to be sold at Albany; but no powder is to be sold there for the present." Again, "The spirit of liberty runs high at Albany, as you have doubtless heard by their own post at our headquarters." "The New York Government begins to be alive in the glorious cause, and to act with great vigor." From these statements we infer that he visited Albany to quicken and stimulate its citizens to some activity. It is also said that the sainted Westerlo, of the Dutch Church, the most influential pastor in the city at that time, was bold and zealous for the patriot cause in the pulpit and among the people.

Tories were arrested and committed to gaol in Albany, until they "humbly confessed their faults, asked forgiveness and promised reformation." Sometimes, after doing what harm they could to their Whig neighbors—hiding, meeting in secret conclaves, until discovered and threatened punishment—they ran away to Canada, Nova Scotia, or other safe place to await the end; which, to their mind, would be the discomfiture of the rebellious Whigs and the triumph of the loyal friends of King George III. A few of these returned and became good citizens. Others, self-banished, suffered confiscation of their estates. Some were banished; some were hanged. Everywhere the ban of society was upon them; and they were handled roughly when arrested.

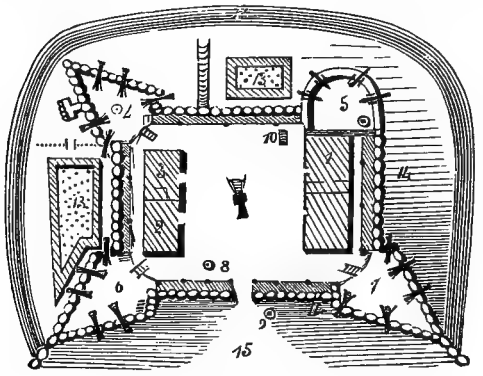
Tories were plenty in New York, not excepting Albany County. North Carolina and New York were, for a long time, regarded by the British ministry as loyal to the interests of the Crown, and distrusted by the patriots of New England and Virginia.

There were many Tories who were so from principle, and refused to take sides against the parent country from honest convictions of the wrongfulness of such a course. They looked upon the Whigs as rebels against their sovereign; condemned the war as unnatural; and regarded the final result as surely disastrous to those who had lifted up the arm of opposition. Their opinions were courteously, but firmly expressed; they took every opportunity to dissuade their friends and neighbors from participating in the rebellion; and by all their words and acts discouraged the insurgent movement. But they shouldered no musket, girded on no sword, piloted no secret expedition against the Republicans. They were passive, noble-minded men; and deserve our respect for their consistency, and our commiseration for their sufferings at the hands of those who made no distinction between the man of honest opinions and the marauder with no opinions.

There was another class of Tories governed by the footpad's axiom that "might makes right." They were Whigs when royal power was weak, and Tories when royal power was strong. Their god was mammon, and they offered up human sacrifices in abundance upon its altars. They became as relentless robbers and murderers of neighbors and friends as the savages of the wilderness.

For some time the Tories in the neighborhood of Albany were employed in capturing prominent citizens and carrying them off to Canada for the purpose of exchange. Such an attempt was made on General Gansevoort, and another on General Schuyler, under direction of the notorious John Waltmeyer, colleague of Joe Bettys. Among the men of this class was the notorious Thomas Lovelace, who, after he had run away to Canada, formed a company with five other persons and returned to abduct, plunder and betray his former neighbors in Saratoga, Schenectady and Albany Counties. His crimes were many. He robbed General Schuyler's house and attempted to carry off Colonel Van Vechten. He was captured, tried and hung by General John Stark, then in command of barracks near Fish Creek.

The story of taking old Fort Ticonderoga, the key to the gateway between the Colonies and the Canadas, May 8, 1775, is familiar to all. It was done under Colonel Ethan Allen, of Vermont, guided by the boy Nathan Beman, and aided by



Ground Plan of Old Fort.

Colonels Warner, of Vermont, Brown and Easton, of Berkshire. We have no evidence that Albany County had any men among the 150 who were engaged in this bold movement. The County had not then fully organized its military forces. Its mayor and many of the citizens were not then decided in their patriotism. The city had been called on for supplies, but not for men at this time. Connecticut had lately sent a delegation of two to Albany "to discover the temper of the people at that place." It was then in doubt.

On the 19th of June, 1775, George Washington received his commission as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. Four Major-Generals: Artemas Ward, Charles Lee, Philip Schuyler and Israel Putnam, were chosen; and eight Brigadier-Generals: Seth Pomeroy, Richard Montgomery, David Wooster, William Heath, Joshua Spencer, John Thomas, John Sullivan and Nathaniel Greene. To these was added Horatio Gates as Adjutant-General with rank of Brigadier.

In June, 1775, Philip Schuyler, on recommendation of the patriots of this district, having been appointed as one of the four Major-Generals of the Continental Army, was assigned to the command of the Northern Department.

His first movement was towards Ticonderoga, which he reached July 18th, where he found a garrison of 1,000 Connecticut troops under Colonel Hinman, and a few Berkshire troops under Colonel Easton. These troops were composed chiefly of militia, raw and undisciplined, but full of patriotism, courage and intelligence. The invasion of Canada was under favorable consideration by all officers and men. It was urged that it was necessary to cut off the approaches of British troops by St. Lawrence and the Lakes, and prevent the sudden attacks of savages and Tories on the borders, from Canada. It was understood, also, that many Canadians were favorably disposed toward the cause of the American patriots.

It was further understood that General Carleton, commander of the British forces in Canada, was planning an attempt to get possession of the forts upon the lakes, with the ultimate purpose of invading the valleys of the Mohawk and Hudson, and dividing New England from New York and the States south and west.

Immediate movements were demanded to anticipate Carleton. Major Brown, who had been sent to learn the situation at St. John's, Chambly, Montreal and Quebec, and to try the minds of the people of Canada, leaving July 24th, returned August 10th, feeling sure that "Now is the time to carry Canada."

But serious delays occurred in securing troops and supplies. New York was filled with Tories who needed watching; Boston was besieged; Connecticut was threatened with invasion of its coasts; self-protection must be secured before undertaking expeditions to Canada. But General Schuyler was hopeful of success, and eager to advance. Major Brown was placed in command of the flotilla on Lake Champlain. General Montgomery was at Crown Point as Schuyler's lieutenant. On September 6th, General Schuyler, with his little army, was besieging St. John's. It was a long and tedious siege.

Here General Schuyler began to manifest that irresolution and timidity in meeting the difficulties of the military situation which, in spite of his undoubted personal bravery, so often fatally marred his Northern campaigns, and led many patriots to distrust, not only his capacity, but his fidelity. Deceived into a belief of the strength of the fort and of the dangers around him, General Schuyler fell back to Isle Aux-Noix, and awaited reinforcements. As soon as September 16th, he was compelled by ill health to return to Ticonderoga, and commit the movements of the army to Montgomery. The attempt upon St. John's was retarded, and success was hindered in many ways. Among them were the lack of ammunition and the almost mutinous discontent of the army. But successful movements upon Fort Chambly by Major Brown, to whom it was surrendered October 19th, imparted new vigor, and led to the surrender of St. John's, November 2d. After this Montreal capitulated to Montgomery, November 17th. Montgomery, with the beggarly remnant of his army of St. John's, was at Quebec December 1st. Here he was joined by Arnold with his New England troops, sent on from Cambridge by Washington. Here were Easton and Brown, from Berkshire; Wooster, from Massachusetts; Van Rensselaer, Livingston, and Lamb, from New York.

The disastrous assault on Quebec, made December 31, 1775, which resulted in the lamented death of Richard Montgomery and the end of the Canada invasion, needs no further detail here. Every bright schoolboy has read the sad story. Let Montgomery's name ever be revered. He was a pure patriot, ready to do or suffer anything for country. His courage was impetuous and forgetful of self; while that of Schuyler, just as true, had more of caution in it. In this expedition everything was

unfavorable to Montgomery except his own brave and generous soul.

It is true that Arnold kept up a useless siege during the winter of 1775–76, and that recruits were sent on to reinforce the American army, which still remained in Canada, in the hope of accomplishing the conquest of that territory in the coming spring and summer. But a leader was wanting; discipline was imperfect; and sickness was weakening the strength of men who suffered from lack of clothing, food, and other supplies.

Burgoyne came early in May with succor for Quebec, and succeeded Carleton in the command. The Americans were compelled to entirely evacuate Canada. The remnant arrived at Crown Point in June, "disgraced, defeated, discontented, dispirited, diseased, naked, undisciplined; eaten up with vermin; no clothes, beds, blankets; no medicine; no victuals but salt pork and flour." Thus writes John Adams, under date of July 7, 1776, concerning our Northern Army at Crown Point.

Thus resulted the first movement of the Army of the Northern Department under General Schuyler. His policy as commander had given great dissatisfaction to most of the officers and men in his command.

Horatio Gates, a new and less manly commander, supplanted Philip Schuyler in the Northern command for a brief time in 1776.

During the winter of 1776–77, many of the officers of the Continental Army, including General Gates, Colonel Morgan Lewis, Colonel Benedict Arnold, Colonel John Brown, had their winter quarters in Albany. It was during this winter that Colonel Brown wrote of Arnold: "Money is this man's God; and, to get enough of it, he would sacrifice his country." Three years after, John Brown fell, fighting for his country; while Arnold was a branded traitor and a fugitive in the British army.

The year 1777 was marked by events that demanded unusual exertions and sacrifices from the people of Albany County. The summer was one of intense anxiety. An army of disciplined and veteran British troops was on the march to Albany with hostile intent. To the peace-loving population of the city, their progress spread the wildest terror; to the loyal Tories ecstasies of hope and bold impudence; to the patriotic friends of liberty, anxiety and dread. From mid-spring to late autumn all was excitement, alarm, and activity. The city was threatened with all the horrors of savage butchery and the invasion of an unscrupulous soldiery. John Burgoyne, with loud-mouthed threats to the enemies of Great Britain, and promises of protection and favor to the weak and doubting, was on his way from Canada with his 12,000 men, made up of bloody Indians, mercenary Hessians, and war-trained Scotchmen and Englishmen. He considered his march sure to end in triumph. His aim was to cut off New England with all its supplies of men and means, from the south, and thus make the divided and weakened armies a sure prey to the British Crown. In Albany he expected to meet Clinton moving up the Hudson from New York, and St. Leger with his victorious forces from Oswego and Fort Stanwix, coming down the Mohawk. With ambitious and able commanders and splendid soldiership and appointments, with well laid plans, the result seemed certain.

Early in July, old Fort Ticonderoga, garrisoned by St. Clair and his scarcely 3,000 men, most of them poorly provided for defense, was found to be untenable. It was found that Burgoyne's skilled engineers had it entirely at their mercy, and it was consequently hastily evacuated.

Although Colonel John Trumbull had, in 1776, with characteristic sagacity, explained to Generals Gates and Schuyler the weak points in the defense of that fort, nothing was done. Schuyler and St. Clair had expressed themselves confident that the post was secure from any attack which Burgoyne could bring to bear upon it. They had accumulated stores, and rested in apparent security. But the commanding battery upon Mount Defiance made retreat the only alternative. Scarcity of ammunition and danger of reinforcement did not chiefly decide the question of retreat. Nor did want of courage. It was forced discretion. One division of the retreating army, under Colonel Long, was overtaken at the head of Lake George, now Whitehall, and after suffering loss of artillery and stores, pushed on to Fort Ann, where, turning upon its pursuers, a gallant stand was made near that fort. The importance of the battle fought here under General Schuyler, with 500 men from Rensselaer Manor, has never been duly estimated in history. Many Albany men were killed and wounded here, and a decided check was put upon the advance of the British army, much to the advancement of the patriot cause.

St. Clair's division, after severe fighting and heavy losses, made its way through woods and swamps, and over streams to Fort Edward, where Schuyler had fixed his headquarters. Here he was met by Colonel Long and his division.

The loss of Ticonderoga, the traditional stronghold to which they and their fathers had looked for protection, naturally filled the patriots of New York and Massachusetts with the most serious apprehension. There was consternation everywhere. The way was considered open to Burgoyne for easy attainment of all his aims. Nothing but desolation and death stared the people in the towns and villages along the Hudson in the face. Unjust charges of cowardice were laid at the door of St. Clair; and treachery, incompetence, or inefficiency in Schuyler were outspoken by many, especially by the New England troops.

The evacuation of Fort Ticonderoga filled General Schuyler with discouragement. On the 26th of July he dismissed half the Militia of New England and of Albany County. A month later he sent away the greater part of the remainder. This he did while the enemy were marching toward Albany, and he never had greater need, not only of keeping the men he had, but of increasing their number. His excuse for this singular course was, first, that

he dismissed a part lest he might lose the whole; and, then, having sent away about one half, he might as well send home the other half. He alleged that his militia, men of Berkshire and Albany Counties, were very impatient to get home to their farms. Bancroft tells us that Schuyler was importuning Washington to send him Southern soldiers, alleging that one of them was worth two from the Eastern States. It is well known that the Militia of Albany and Berkshire held the Commander of the Northern Department at this time in great distrust; and they well knew the slight regard in which they were held by him. The state of feeling between General Schuyler and his troops was very unfortunate at this time. Rude and uncultivated as many of these men were, they had brave and honest hearts, which they proved soon on the fields of Bennington and Saratoga under leaders that knew them.

No battle of the Revolution took a more powerful and permanent hold upon the hearts of the people of that day than that of Bennington on the 16th of August, 1777. Its results were disappointing to Burgoyne. Almost unopposed had been his march upon Albany until that day. His army was one of terror to the friends of liberty. They could see nothing but the union of Clinton, coming up the Hudson, with Burgoyne coming down to Albany, thus making a complete armed barrier, dividing the East from the South and West. The course of the proud army was stayed by the arms of a militia, gathered from the hills of New England for the occasion. Their boasting was changed to doubt and fear by the event. There were no soldiers from New York in this fight. Many were men who had once been led by Ethan Allen, of the Green Mountains. They were led by John Stark, a born soldier, of determined independence and energy, who refused to be trammeled by Schuyler or the Continental Congress.

This should be said in regard to the attitude of the New York and New England Indians during the Revolution:

The Mohawks were always at war with the Mohegans, on the east bank of the Hudson, who bore their yoke with uneasiness and frequent outbreaks. These New England Indians had no friendly feelings toward the Dutch, whom they looked upon as allies of their Iroquois enemies.

Forced, as these Eastern red men were, by the trading Dutch and the jealous Mohawks, back over the western slopes of the Hudson into the valleys of the Housatonic and the Connecticut, they seldom met during the colonial period after the first years. When they did, there was only a renewal of contention and bloodshed, the result of which always asserted the superior power of the Western savages.

All efforts to bring together the Iroquois under the influence of the Christian religion or civilization were only partially successful, except with the Oneidas and Tuscaroras, of whom the Stockbridge Indians came to speak of as brothers. Both had been taught Christianity and freedom by New England Puritan missionaries.

They united in the War of the Revolution in the cause of the colonists against the Crown, and thus again met in battle their ancient foes, the Mohawks, who, under the influence and lead of the Johnsons and Butlers, did deeds of indescribable cruelty in every northern battle where they had opportunity; and, in conjunction with the Tories, carried the firebrand, the tomahawk, and the scalping-knife to many a peaceful home and village along the Mohawk, the Schoharie, and the Susquehanna.

All the efforts of General Schuyler and other delegates from Albany, in conferences with the Six Nations in 1774, when they pledged neutrality, and at Guy Park in May, 1775, were overborne by the money and promises of the British crown and the artful intrigues of Guy and John Johnson, with the alliance of Joseph Brant and the Tory Butlers.

The worst cruelties inflicted by these savage Indians, and worse than savage whites, fell upon the peaceful homes of Old Tryon County. Albany County was so well defended that it was left alone by them. The only exception happened in the town of Berne, of which a good account is given in the history of that place.

PETER GANSEVOORT was born in Albany, July 17, 1749. He was among the troops which accompanied Schuyler, in 1775, in his movement toward Canada, and accompanied Montgomery, with the rank of Major, in his unfortunate assault upon Quebec in December of that year. The next year he was appointed a Colonel in the New York line, and took command of Fort Schuyler, previously called Fort Stanwix, situated where is now the City of Rome, in the spring of 1777. For his gallant defense of this post against St. Leger, in his attempted march from Oswego down the Mohawk, to meet Burgoyne at Albany, he received the thanks of Congress.

In 1781 he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General by the State of New York. He was, for many years after the war, military agent, and held other offices of trust. He was held in high esteem as a soldier for bravery and good judgment, and as a citizen, for intelligence and uprightness. He died at the age of 62 years, July 2, 1812.

When Colonel Gansevoort took command of Fort Schuyler, in early summer of 1777, the fort was unfinished and feebly garrisoned. The patriotic citizens of Mohawk valley were paralyzed with fear. They saw nothing but defeat and ruin should the disciplined army of St. Leger fall upon Fort Schuyler. They knew no way of successful resistance should he attempt to march down the valley to Albany. Many timid and wavering ones became Loyalists, or, at best, weak and passive patriots. But Colonel Gansevoort was vigilant and hopeful, appealing for aid to General Schuyler and the Provincial Congress, and putting forth every possible effort to be ready for the enemy. On the 1st of August, St. Leger, with his Tory rangers and his bloodthirsty Indians under Brant, were ready to invest the fort with a force 1,700 strong. Gansevoort had only 750 men, among whom were the brave and sagacious Colonel Marinus Willett and his regiment,

A few other recruits, and ammunition and provision for a siege of six weeks soon came. The siege began August 4th. The British commander sent a pompous manifesto into the fort, and a dispatch to Burgoyne assuring him that he expected they would soon meet at Albany as victors.

We are not called upon to detail the carnage of Oriskany, August 6th, where the brave Nicholas Herkimer and his 800 Mohawk Valley men fell into an ambuscade of Tories and savages, while on their march to relieve General Gansevoort. Herkimer, badly wounded, did his duty with wonderful endurance and coolness until the battle was over, and then was borne to his home to die with the unskilled surgeon's knife, as many a noble soldier has done before and since; nor need we dwell upon the sortie of Colonel Willett, in which this man of daring courage suddenly and furiously attacked the enemy, put them to rout, made an end to this bloody struggle at Oriskany, and brought his force back to the fort without loss of a man; nor need we repeat the particulars of the reinforcement sent by Schuyler from Stillwater, under Arnold, and the stratagem that frightened St. Leger's Indians, leading him to raise the siege before Fort Schuyler on the 23d of August, and make a hasty flight toward Wood Creek to join Burgoyne.

The courage of Gansevoort held out during this siege of twenty days, although it looked like ultimate surrender because ammunition and food had nearly given out, and many of his men advised surrender. Herkimer, Willett, and Arnold deserve all praise for the part they acted in preventing St. Leger from carrying out the plan of meeting Burgoyne at Albany. We have reason to believe that there were Albany County men with Gansevoort and with Arnold; but we have not found their names.

After the departure of St. Leger, General Gansevoort and his regiment had charge of repairing Fort Plain and erecting the block house near it, where they were stationed for some time to take charge of the large quantity of stores destined for Fort Stanwix; to watch the movements of the Indian and Tories; and to be ready to render services in case of any attacks made by them in the vicinity.

The report of the designs of Burgoyne and St. Leger, seemed at first to paralyze, not arouse, the Whigs of Mohawk Valley. They began to regard the patriot cause as almost hopeless. They hesitated whether to prepare for defense against disciplined British soldiers or to supinely await the course of events. The event awakened new confidence and effort.

The story of Saratoga and the taking of Burgoyne is too familiar to require repetition here. Indeed, our space is too limited to give it in satisfactory detail. It is well known that the patriotic Philip Schuyler was superseded a few days before the battle by Horatio Gates, an experienced, trained military officer of English birth; good at making plans; inferior to Schuyler as a man; selfish, and ambitious; not remarkable for any deeds of patriotism or of daring bravery, either at this time or any other.

Schuyler was cautious, and in such an emergency as that in which he was placed by the advance of Burgoyne and his proud army, and his own ill-appointed and uneasy troops, he might well be so. But Schuyler was not the man for the occasion. He was not a man for his soldiers. He was too dilatory; he did not understand his men, nor did they understand him. His conduct, after he was superseded, was worthy of all praise. No doubt he felt the seeming degradation, but at no point could he be accused of neglecting his duty as a patriotic citizen. His wise counsels and his means were at the command of his country. No doubt some of his movements in falling back before Burgoyne's march seemed then cowardly. It is doubtful if his final stand, taken near the forks of the Mohawk, where he entrenched himself and his small army as well as he could, on Van Schaick and Haver Islands, was well taken. The people of his own county began to fear that he was not equal to the emergency, and the feelings of the New England troops was very bitter against him. It was difficult to enlist men to fight under him. These facts, not forgetting his really worthy character as a man and as a patriot, seemed to justify the course pursued by Congress in superseding him. After this was done, a new spirit seemed to pervade the Northern Department, and all possible efforts were cheerfully made to prevent the advance of Burgoyne.

The magnanimity of Schuyler was shown after the battle, by his treatment of Burgoyne and his suite at his own house in Albany; his gallant treatment of the amiable Madame Riedesel; and his humane aid in behalf of the sick and wounded soldiers. More than a thousand of them were taken to the hospital and even into the houses of Albany, including friends and foes, and there had the best of care.

We feel justified in this connection, in making an extract from Smith's "History of Pittsfield," as giving a fair estimate of the character of General Schuyler in connection with the cause that led to his being superseded by Gates. It also aids much in understanding the state of feeling at that period:

"The calamitous termination of the invasion of Canada brought to its culmination the opposition to Schuyler, which, in King's District, the County of Berkshire, and in the New Hampshire Grants, had been growing ever since his appointment to the Northern command.

"An unblemished patriot, a gallant soldier, and no mean statesman, Schuyler was yet distinguished by qualities, both positive and negative, which rendered him, if qualified for any departmental command, remarkably ill-adapted to that which was assigned him, between a majority of whose people and himself there existed an incompatibility which resulted in an antagonism fatal to the public interest. An aristocrat of aristocrats, he hated the robustious democracy of Massachusetts, and the still ruder independence of the settlers upon the Grants. A New Yorker of New Yorkers, jealous of the rights of his Province, he participated

to the full in the feeling excited by the alleged encroachments of the New Englanders upon her eastern borders, and was prepared to resist, at any cost, the new invasion of her territory, under pretense of patents from New Hampshire. Intimate, socially and personally, with many of the higher class of Loyalists in King's District, he could not be made to believe them guilty of the secret plots against their country and the violation of their solemn pledges, of which they were popularly accused. Annoyed by the evil deeds of the Tories, he was opposed to them; but he was indignant at the harsh treatment with which the Sons of Liberty treated his friends, the Van Schaicks, and others of suspected Toryism, and was not in favor of a certain class of Whigs. This led to ill-blood and bitter opposition to his promotion.

"Coming to his command with a nervous horror of partisan warfare, he attributed that character to the proud-spirited and ambitious militia of the hills, who, used to hardy and independent enterprise, were not easily controlled, but kept him in perpetual terror of some rash adventure, while they failed him in executing his best-laid schemes of falling back for an indefinitely postponed advance. And he refused to renounce his prejudices against them, even when he found that they alone won victories in his department, and, having won them, showed a regard for the amenities of honorable warfare, and observed its laws with a scrupulous nicety which put to shame the regulars whom they encountered. He failed to perceive a courtesy which was not expressed in courtly phrase, or to recognize chivalry except in those of gentle blood —as gentility went in provincial America. As a soldier, his courage was proved; as a general, few in the American armies could better set a squadron in the field, or were more familiar with the rules of their art. As a commander of a department, none labored more arduously, or gave themselves with more untiring zeal and industry to the unthankful task of providing material of war; none did so more unselfishly, as was grandly shown in his ceaseless exertions to supply the northern army when forbiden to hope for any large share in the glory of its anticipated achievements. But he was destitute of that great element in generalship which, given a certain soldiery with which to accomplish a specific end, takes them as it finds them, with all their faults and with all their excellences, wins their confidence, and makes the most of what is in them. Schuyler, on the contrary, fretfully magnified the imperfections of the men committed to him, and was perversely blind to their good qualities as soldiers. Assigned to a position surrounded by innumerable difficulties, he possessed nothing of the spirit which delights to encounter obstacles; the energy which turns them to its own account; and, least of all, that calm strength which endures without complaint what cannot be avoided or changed."

Much of that which was to be regretted in him was the result of the depressing influence of ill-health; and, reviewing his career, we cannot fail to recognize the true patriot and statesman, and the general, whose abilities would have given him perhaps, brilliant success in almost any other field than that in which he was placed.

The radical Whigs, who controlled the politics of his department, were hardly to be expected so clearly to perceive his merits. Between the revolutionary committees of that region and such a man as we have described, conflict was inevitable. Of political and social sentiments, the very reverse of those which characterized Schuyler, the committees were also extremely unlike him in temperament and habits of thought. Impetuous, sometimes even to rashness, in their zeal, they and their followers were ever ready to rally in sudden emergency, or for the execution of dashing enterprises; but, if the opportunity to meet the enemy was not speedily accorded them, they grew impatient of the necessary restraint of military discipline. In their theory of the art of war, retreat was omitted from the list of contingencies. As a general, Fabius was by no means a model in their esteem. Judging the readiness of all men to make sacrifices for their country by their own, they underrated the impediments which Schuyler found in raising armies and accumulating stores. Intolerant of the lukewarmness of moderate Whigs, as well as of the misdeeds of the Loyalists, they denounced the former in no measured terms, while they advocated and practiced the most rigid discipline of the latter. Many of them, of narrow experience in affairs, and wanting that liberality towards opponents which contact with the great world brings, they could not explain the perhaps over-generous sentiments of Schuyler towards some of those whom they classed indiscriminately as the enemies of American liberty, except upon the hypothesis of his sympathy with their Toryism.

When, therefore, information came to Berkshire and King's district of the sad aspect which affairs wore in Canada and finally, that all which had been gained there at such great cost was wrested from the Americans—smarting under the disappointment of hopes which with them had been more sanguine than elsewhere, the people of those districts were ready to charge the commander who, although not long personally in the field, had from the first been nominally at the head of operations, with the responsibility for their miserable failure. Among its prime causes, they ranked the brief delay before St. John's, to which he had been persuaded by the report of a treacherous informer to the neglect of the truthful representations of John Brown and James Livingston. Other missteps of the expedition were attributed to him, oftenest unjustly, through the malignancy of his enemies, who played upon the popular feeling through unscrupulous emissaries, who found powerful auxiliaries in Schuyler's unfortunate peculiarities.

The disaster to St. Leger, and the unexpected check made by the brave Stark at Bennington, fell like an incubus on Burgoyne's army. Indians deserted and Loyalists were less confident.

We need not tell what was done by Gates. What he did was well done, as events proved. But it has well been said that the blunders of Burgoyne

were quite as helpful to the patriot cause as was the skill of Gates. Around him came Lincoln, Poor, Scammell, Woolcott, Cilley, Putnam, Dearborn, Brooks, Glenn, Nixon, Whipple, Warner, Hull, Fellows, Hale, Bailey, and other brave commanders, with their full brigades from New England, full of the patriotic fire long kept alive among those sons of the Puritans. They were men who "trusted in God and kept their powder dry." Indeed Gates himself says: "My New England troops did the fighting at Saratoga." But we must not fail to do justice to the daring Arnold, who was one of the bravest men, and did some of the most effective fighting in the battle. Nor do we forget the brave Morgan, of Virginia, with his unerring marksmen. The bravest men of Albany County, too, were there under Abraham Ten Broeck. Soldiers from the lower Hudson were there under Henry and James Livingston, members of a family that was always on the side of freedom, learning and public progress. Van Courtland was there too, with his brigade, and Morgan Lewis was also there. It would take a volume to tell all that was done, and give appropriate praise to all who did it.

When all was over, and the army of Burgoyne had left the country, Albany County was safe. Its soldiers were in no more important battles. The war was carried to the south. Albany was kept on the home guard.

After the surrender of Burgoyne, so far as we have learned, the troops from Albany County generally retired to their homes.

The fighting was done in the more southerly departments—in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and States further south. The painful marches and the pestilential encampments were made there mostly. The troops in the service were from New England and the Atlantic States south of New York.

This, well called one of the decisive battles of history, was fought in our territory, almost at the gates of our city, and aided by the services and resources of the brave men that once made their homes in our own county.

Following this there was much fear from the lurking Indians and Tories; there was much watching and guarding, and not a little skirmishing.

The council held at Johnstown on the 9th of March, 1778, to try once more to secure the neutrality, if not the co-operation of all the Six Nations, was represented on behalf of Congress by Volkert P. Douw, and, perhaps, General Philip Schuyler. But it resulted in no change of policy. Only the Oneidas and Tuscaroras pledged abiding friendship.

Early in the spring of 1779, upon the urgent entreaty of General Schuyler made to Congress, and under the direction of General James Clinton, an expedition was undertaken against the Onondaga Indians, under command of Colonel Van Schaick, with 558 strong men selected from his own regiment and that of General Gansevoort. Its object was to punish that bloodthirsty tribe, and deter its warriors from future cruelties. The expedition lasted six days, and returned to Fort Stawnix without the loss of a man. The little army had scattered the tribe, destroyed three of its villages, horses and cattle, a large quantity of provisions, killed twelve Indians and taken thirty-three prisoners. This punishment was deserved, but of doubtful policy. It led to the destruction of Cobleskill, attacks upon Canajoharie, Stone Arabia, and other places soon after; and finally compelled the fearful and effective chastisement under General John Sullivan, of all the savage tribes in Western New York.

In the spring of 1780, Colonel Van Schaick, in command of 800 militia, was sent from Albany by Governor Clinton to pursue Sir John Johnson, who was making destructive inroads upon the small settlements along the Mohawk Valley. Sir John left his pursuers behind and escaped to Canada. Colonel Van Schaick was a valiant officer, and did good service in a military and civil capacity. A portrait and memorial of his life, prepared by Miss Jane Van Schaick, of Albany, appears in this history.

In the latter part of 1784, while our troops had little to do but to watch and wait, certain regiments of General Gansevoort's brigade were stationed between the Battenkill and the Hoosick, waiting further orders. This was near the New Hampshire Grants, in which dwelt some of the boldest men in the States, and particularly ready to resist any aggressions from the State of New York, which claimed jurisdiction over these Grants. Since there were no British troops to fight, the old animosities broke out, and the Green Mountain Boys who had fought at Bennington and Saratoga, were declared in a state of insurrection. This broke out in the regiments of Colonels John and Henry K. Van Rensselaer and Peter Yates. Indeed, the militia in this vicinity seemed generally to take sides with the people of the Grants, with whom they became in sympathy in the alliance of the battle-field and the camp. General Gansevoort, on the 5th of December, ordered Colonels Yates, Van Vechten and Van Rensselaer to march to St. Coych and quell the insurrection. Governor Clinton directed General Robert Van Rensselaer's brigade to assist General Gansevoort with all necessary troops. General Stark, stationed at Saratoga, being solicited, refused to interfere unless ordered by General Heath, his superior officer. The sympathies of the New Englanders were with the brave Vermonters. Gansevoort, with what volunteers he could raise, advanced to St. Coych, where he found a force of 500 men ready to support the insurgent militia, Having only 80 men, General Gansevoort retired five miles, and attempted, by writing to the leaders, to induce them to lay down their arms, but in vain. The so-called rebels were left undisturbed. After this, a conciliatory letter from General Washington to Governor Chittenden, had the effect to put an end to disturbances that were made in defense of what were considered honest rights. Ten years after this Vermont became all its citizens asked—an independent State. The controversy was an old

and bitter one; and, from its vicinity to the New Hampshire Grants, Albany County had much to do with it.

THE VAN SCHAICK FAMILY.

The family of Van Schaick is one of the earliest of the many prominent early families of Albany. Colonel Gozen Van Schaick was born in January, 1737, and died July 4, 1789. His wife was Mary Ten Broeck, of the celebrated New York family of that name. He served with great distinction in the colonial army during the revolutionary struggle, having previously had military experience in the service of the Crown under General Amherst. He was in command of the American forces in Albany, then a military point of great importance, and was the leader of the memorable expedition against the Onondagas in 1779, for the successful conduct of which he received the thanks of Congress. In this connection, Washington, writing to Clinton, expressed himself as follows:

"The enterprise commanded by Colo. Van Schaick merits my approbation and thanks, and does great honor to him and all the Officers & men engaged in it. The issue is very interesting.—I have written him a line upon the occasion."

The following flattering testimonial to Colonel Van Schaick from General Schuyler, sums up the Colonel's soldierly character most completely:

"ALBANY, June 15th, 1782.

"SIR,—I lament the occasion which renders it incumbent on me to afford you a testimonial of the sense I entertain of your conduct. I sincerely wish I could communicate it in words equal to my feelings, and to my experience of the propriety of it during a series of years.

"The early decisive and active part which you took in the favor of your country in the present contest, justly entitles you to the attention of its Friends. We are not less indebted to your exertions as an Officer. Your service, whilst I had the honor of commanding the military in this Department, were such as attracted my notice; your close attention to the discipline of your Regiment afforded a beneficial example to officers less experienced in the duties of their offices. The alacrity with which you executed every order; The propriety of your conduct when left to act Independently, and judge for your self; The prudence which you exhibited on occasions when the line of conduct to be held was delicate and important, evinsed a clearness of judgment, and a mind capable of resource, and created a confidence of which I never had occasion to Repent. Upon the whole, Sir, I esteem you a valuable Officer and a faithfull servent of the Public, and should have been rejoiced to have learnt your merit rewarded in a promotion to that military Rank which you claim as your due.

"Delicacy would have prevented my saying thus much in a Letter to you, but to have said less, when I intend you should exhibit this to any person or persons whom you conceive may wish to be advised of the opinion I entertain of you as an Officer and a citizen, would have been injurious to truth.

"Wishing you a speedy and an Honorable extrication from the embarrassments which distress you,

"I am, Sir,
"Very sincerely,
"Your obedient
"Humble servant,
"P. SCHUYLER."

Colonel Van Schaick was afterwards a general in the regular service, and held that rank at the time of his death. He left a quantity of papers and letters, private and official, a large portion of which were lost or destroyed after his death by accident, as is supposed. Those that were fortunately preserved, consisted of letters from the Clintons, a large number of autographs from General Washington, of the most confidential and flattering character, showing that he held him in high estimation as a man of sound judgment as well as a gallant soldier, and others from officers under whom he served when in the provincial service, such as Sir Jeffrey Amherst, which are a beautiful specimen of chirography, and to whom he owed his first commission in the British army. Among them is a characteristic letter from General Montgomery containing the most humane and generous sentiments, and quite a number of commissions with ponderous seals, with the autograph of George III, and communications from Generals Gates, Schuyler, Clinton and others. What remain of this once valuable collection are carefully preserved by his grandson, Henry Van Schaick, and other descendants.

General Van Schaick had five sons and a daughter. Some of the former were well known in business circles in Albany and New York, and all-until their death, moved in the most distinguished society of the Empire State. One of these, Tobias Van Schaick, was born in Albany, December 9, 1779, and married Jane Staats, daughter of the old Albany merchant, Henry Staats, November 2, 1811. This lady was born May 16, 1783, and died April 23, 1823. She bore Mr. Van Schaick several children, all of whom died in infancy except the Misses Ann and Jane Van Schaick, the former of whom died June 22, 1861. Early in life Mr. Van Schaick was a merchant, and carried on an extensive trade at 447 and 449 Broadway, from which he retired while yet a comparatively young man to assume the care of the Van Schaick estate in Albany, which had been under the management of his mother for some time preceding her death. Following this retirement, he never afterward engaged in active business; but he took a deep interest in the growth and prosperity of Albany, and in the conduct of public affairs. Politically he was a Whig, but his tastes were such that he never permitted himself to become actively involved in politics. He attended and was a most liberal supporter of the North Reformed Dutch Church. He was a quiet, unostentatious man, going little abroad, and enjoying the comforts of his home.

Disliking all vain-glorious pomp and show, he lived simply for one of his means and position, always finding most pleasure at his own hearthstone and in the society of those he loved, though mingling socially with the most prominent families of Albany, and was always a welcome guest wherever he went.

He was a man who talked little, especially about himself, and because of that reserve much that might interest the readers of this work has been lost, for reminiscences of such a man, could they be procured, would be a valuable contribution to any history of Albany. He died April 21, 1868, aged 88 years 4 months and 11 days.

THE MILITIA OF 1775-76.

Albany County, as it existed at the time of the Revolution, first organized Seventeen Regiments of Militia, under the law of 1775. We give the officers of such as belonged wholly, or in part, to the present Albany County. They were numbered and officered, as found in the Historical Records of the State, as follows:

First Regiment, City of Albany.

Jacob Lansing, Jr., Colonel; Dirck Ten Broeck, Lieutenant-Colonel; Henry Wendell, First Major; Abraham Cuyler, Second Major; Volckert A. Douw, Adjutant; Ephraim Van Veghten, Quartermaster.

First Company.—John Barclay, Captain; John Price, First Lieutenant; Abraham I. Yates, Second Lieutenant; John Scott, Ensign.

Second Company.—Thomas Barrett, Captain; Matthew Vischer, First Lieutenant; Abraham Eights, Second Lieutenant; John Hoagkirk, Ensign.

Third Company.—John Williams, Captain; Henry Staats, First Lieutenant; Barent Van Allen, Second Lieutenant; Henry Hogan, Ensign.

Fourth Company.—John M. Beeckman, Captain; Isaac De Freest, First Lieutenant; Abraham Ten Eyck, Second Lieutenant; Teunis T. Van Veghten, Ensign.

Fifth Company.—Harmanus Wendell, Captain; William Hun, First Lieutenant; Jacob G. Lansing, Second Lieutenant; Cornelius Wendell, Ensign.

Sixth Company.—John N. Bleecker, Captain; John James Beeckman, First Lieutenant; Casparus Pruyn, Second Lieutenant; Nicholas Marselis, Ensign.

Third Reg't, First Rensselaerwyck Battalion.

Abraham Ten Broeck, Colonel; Francis Nicoll, Lieutenant-Colonel; Henry Quackenbush, First Major; Barent Staats, Second Major; John P. Quackenbush, Adjutant; Christopher Lansing, Quartermaster.

First Company.—Henry Quackenbush, Captain; Jacob J. Lansing, First Lieutenant; Levinus Winne, Second Lieutenant; John Van Woert, Ensign.

Second Company.—Abraham D. Fonda, Captain; Henry Oothoudt, Jr., First Lieutenant; Levinus T. Lansing, Second Lieutenant; Jacob J. Lansing, Ensign.

Third Company.—Peter Schuyler, Captain; Abraham Witbeck, First Lieutenant; Henry Ostrom, Second Lieutenant; Peter S. Schuyler, Ensign.

Fourth Company.—Barent Staats, Captain; Dirck Becker, First Lieutenant; John Van Wie, Second Lieutenant; George Hogan, Ensign.

Fifth Company.—Gerrit G. Van der Bergh, Captain; Peter Van Wie, First Lieutenant; Wouter Becker, Second Lieutenant; Abraham Slingerland, Ensign.

Third Regiment—New Organization.

First Company.—(See Third Company, First Organization.)

Second Company.—Abraham D. Fonda, Captain; Henry Oothoudt, Jr., First Lieutenant; Levinus T. Lansing, Second Lieutenant; Jacob J. Lansing, Ensign.

Third Company (at first 5th Company, 4th Regiment).—Jacob Ball, Captain; John Warner, First Lieutenant; Peter Dietz, Second Lieutenant; Joshua Shaw, Ensign.

Fourth Company.—Jacob J. Lansing, Captain; Levinus Winne, First Lieutenant; John Van Woert, Second Lieutenant; Peter Dox, Ensign.

Fifth Company (at first organized as 4th Company, 4th Regiment).—Jacob Van Aernam, Captain; John Groot, First Lieutenant; George Wagoner, Second Lieutenant; Frederick Crantz (Crounse?), Ensign.

Sixth Company.—Abraham Veeder, Captain; James Burnside, First Lieutenant; John Voorhuyse (Voorhees?), Second Lieutenant; Andries Ten Eyck, Ensign.

Fourth Regiment.

Second Rensselaerwyck Battalion.—Killian Van Rensselaer, Colonel; John H. Beeckman, Lieutenant-Colonel; Cornelius Van Buren, First Major; Jacob C. Schermerhorn, Second Major; Jacobus Van der Poel, Adjutant; John A. Lansing, Quartermaster.

First Company (1st Company, 5th Regiment, New Organization).—Conrad Ten Eyck, Captain; Peter Witbeck, First Lieutenant; Albert H. Van der Zee, Second Lieutenant; John L. Wilbeck, Ensign.

Second Company (2d Company, 5th Regiment, New Organization).—William P. Winne, Captain; John De Voe, First Lieutenant; Philip C. Look (Luke?), Second Lieutenant; Cornelius Van der Zee, Ensign.

Third Company.—Volckert Veeder, Captain; Abraham Veeder, First Lieutenant; Jacob La Grange, Second Lieutenant; Andrew Truax, Ensign.

Fourth Company. (See 5th Company, 3d Regiment, New Organization.)—Jacob Van Aernam, Captain; John Groot, First Lieutenant; George

Wagoner, Second Lieutenant; Frederick Crantz (Crounse?), Ensign.

Fifth Company.—(See 3d Company, 3d Regiment.)

FOURTH REGIMENT.

(As Newly Organized, February, 1776.)

First Company.—Isaac Miller, Captain; Hendrick Schaus, First Lieutenant; Johannes Lodewick, Second Lieutenant; Johannes Miller, Ensign.

Second Company.—Ichabod Turner, Captain; Joel Pease, First Lieutenant; Jonathan Niles, Second Lieutenant; Joel Curtis, Ensign.

Third Company.—Luke Schermerhorn, Captain; James Magee, First Lieutenant; Reuben Knap, Second Lieutenant; Aaron Hammond, Ensign.

Fourth Company.—James Dennison, Captain; Stephen Niles, First Lieutenant; Obadiah Vaughan, Second Lieutenant; Oliver Bentley, Ensign.

Fifth Company.—Nicholas Staats, Captain; Obadiah Lansing, First Lieutenant; Philip Staats, Second Lieutenant; Leonard Wilcox, Ensign.

Sixth Company.—Jacobus Cole (Koole?) Captain; Anthony Bries (Brice?) First Lieutenant; Harpent Witbeck, Second Lieutenant; John Van Hagen, Jr., Ensign.

Seventh Company.—Abraham J. Van Valkenburgh, Captain; Daniel Schermerhorn, First Lieutenant; John J. Van Valkenburgh, Second Lieutenant; Martin Van Buren, Ensign,

FIFTH REGIMENT.

Third Rensselaerwyck Battalion.—Stephen Schuyler, Colonel; Gerrit G. Van der Bergh, Lieutenant; Peter P. Schuyler, First Major; Volckert Veeder, Second Major; Maas Van Vranken, Adjutant; Francis Marshall, Quartermaster.

First Company.—Cornelius Van Buren, Captain; Nicholas Staats, First Lieutenant; Obadiah Lansing, Second Lieutenant; Philip Staats, Ensign.

Second Company.—John H. Beeckman, Captain; Jacob C. Schermerhorn, First Lieutenant; Abraham I. Van Valkenburgh, Second Lieutenant; Jacobus Vanderpoel, Ensign.

Third Company.—Valckert Van Veghten, Captain; Gerrit T. Van den Bergh, First Lieutenant; John Amory, Second Lieutenant; Jacob Van Schaick, Ensign.

Fourth Company.—(See 1st Company, 4th Regiment.)

Fifth Company.—Philip De Freest, Captain; Ryneer Van Alstyne, First Lieutenant; Peter Sharp, Second Lieutenant; David De Forest, Ensign.

Sixth Company (1st Company of 6th Regiment, new organization).—John J. Fonda, Captain; John P. Fonda, First Lieutenant; George Berger, Second Lieutenant; George Sharp, Ensign.

SIXTH REGIMENT.

Fourth Rensselaerwyck Battalion.—Stephen J. Schuyler, Colonel; Henry K. Van Rensselaer, Lieutenant-Colonel; Philip De Freest, First Major; John Fonda, Second Major; Volckert Oothoudt, Adjutant; Jacob Van Alstyne, Quartermaster.

First Company.—Henry H. Gardinier, Captain; Jacob Van der Heyden, First Lieutenant; Adam Beam, Second Lieutenant; Henry Tinker, Ensign.

Second Company.—Cornelius Lansing, Captain; Lodewyck Snider, First Lieutenant; Andries Stool, Second Lieutenant; Jacob Weiger, Ensign.

Third Company.—(See 3d Company, 4th Regiment.)

Fourth Company.—(See 2d Company this Regiment and 4th Regiment.)

Fifth Company.—Caleb Bentley, Captain; Samuel Shaw, First Lieutenant; David Hustes, Second Lieutenant; Thomas Crandall, Ensign.

Sixth Company.—(See 4th Company, 4th Regiment.)

SIXTH REGIMENT.—(New organization.)

First Company.—(See 6th Company, 5th Regiment.)

Second Company.—(See 1st Company, 6th Regiment; first organization)

Third Company.—John Lautman, Captain; Peter Vosburgh, First Lieutenant; John Schurtz, Second Lieutenant; Conradt Best, Ensign.

Fourth Company.—(See 2d Company, first organization, 5th Regiment, and 1st Company in 6th Regiment, first organization.)

Fifth Company.—(See first organization in 6th Regiment.)

Sixth Company.—Jacob De Freest, Captain; Martinus Sharp, First Lieutenant; Andries Miller, Second Lieutenant; John Crannell, Ensign.

Seventh Company.—Florus Banker, Captain; Christopher Tillman, First Lieutenant; Abraham Ten Eyck, Second Lieutenant; Jonathan Sever, Ensign.

Among these officers were men who did valiant service in the War of the Revolution, and acquired promotion. A few left the patriot cause and preferred to remain subjects of Great Britain. We are sorry not to be able to give the names of many who did, no doubt, faithful service in the ranks. Concerning many such even tradition is dumb, though doubtless their services were appreciated and probably rewarded.

The distribution of the regiments as first formed, in 1775 and 1776, was as follows:

First, City of Albany; Second, Schenectady District; Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Rensselaerwyck; Second, Schenectady District; Seventh, Kinderhook District; Eighth and Ninth, Claverack; Tenth Livingston Manor; Eleventh, Coxsackie and Groot Imtrocht; Twelfth, Half Moon and Ballston District; Thirteenth, Saratoga District; Fourteenth, Hoosic and Schaghticoke; Fifteenth and Sixteenth, Schoharie and Duanesburgh; Seventeeth, Kings District (now Columbia County).

THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL.

At the beginning of the disturbances that led to the separation of the American colonies from Great Britain, the County and City of Albany were far from being in sympathy with the patriotic cause. The Mayor and a majority of the Common Council were loyal friends of the English crown.

The skirmishes at Lexington and Concord, the menaces against Massachusetts—particularly against Boston—and the arrival of British troops for the avowed purpose of crushing out the incipient rebellion, awakened and intensified the spirit of resistance even in colonies comparatively passive before. Most of the leading citizens of Albany soon took a decided stand with the patriots in the Atlantic cities. The course pursued will best be made to appear by extracts from their proceedings. We first give what was said and done by the City Government of Albany.

The position of the Mayor and Common Council in regard to the approaching struggle of the colonies with England, is seen in the following resolution, adopted July 18, 1772.

"*Resolved by this Board*, That his Excellency, William Tryon, Governor General of the Province of New York, be presented with the freedom of this City in a golden box; also

"*Resolved*, That this Board do address his Excellency on his arrival to this City."

Governor Tryon was one of the most aggressive enemies to the rights of the colonists, and had many friends in Albany at this time. It does not appear that his Excellency made the intended visit. Matters in the City of New York, at that time, between the patriotic colonists and his Excellency, were getting too warm to allow him to make this visit.

The election for Members of the Common Council, held in the city in September, 1773, was one of the most exciting that had ever taken place. The difficulties with the mother country entered largely into it, the patriots supporting one set of candidates, and the loyal subjects of Great Britain another.

Thomas Hun and John Ten Broeck, loyal candidates for Aldermen in the Third Ward, were elected; but their election was contested, on the ground that it was gained by illegal votes. After a long and bitter contest before the board, it was decided that they were legally elected, and they took their seats.

The rupture between England and her colonies was, at the opening of 1775, rapidly approaching a crisis. The last charter-election for the choice of Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen under colonial laws, took place September 29, 1775. The Aldermen chosen were as follows:

First Ward.—Aldermen: Peter W. Yates, Gerrit Van Sante. Assistants: Jacob Roseboom, Aries La Grange.

Second Ward.—Aldermen: Guysbert G. Marselis, John J. Beeckman. Assistants: Cornelius Van Schelluyne, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer.

Third Ward.—Aldermen: Thomas Hun, John Ten Broeck. Assistants: Abraham Schuyler, Abraham Ten Eyck.

Abraham C. Cuyler was still Mayor.

The last meeting of this board under the provincial government, the Mayor and all the members being present, took place at the City Hall in Albany on March 25, 1776.

After this meeting, the provincial government and the British laws were superseded for a time by the Continental Congress and the various State governments.

There was no meeting of the Common Council in the City of Albany from March 25, 1776, until April 17, 1778.

John Barclay was appointed Mayor by Governor George Clinton, September 27, 1777.

The Aldermen were John Roorbach, John Price, Jacob Lansing, Jr., Abraham Cuyler, John M. Beeckman, Harmanus Wendell. Assistant Aldermen: Abraham I. Yates, Matthew Visscher, Isaac D. Fonda, Jacob Bleecker, Cornelius Swits, Abraham Schuyler.

Matthew Visscher, Esq., was appointed Town Clerk, Clerk of the Mayor's Court of the City, and Clerk of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for the City and County, and Clerk of the Peace and of the Court of Sessions of the Peace of the said City and County. Thomas Seger was appointed Marshal, and Henry Bleecker, Chamberlain.

The change from the Provincial to the State laws did not take place, however, without much difficulty; and much doubt concerning the Corporation of the City, to remove which, the State Legislature passed several acts.

On the 17th of February, 1778, the Legislature passed an Act to remove doubts concerning the Corporation of the City of Albany, as follows:

Whereas, The inhabitants did not at the proper period, owing to the confusion the times occasioned by the Calamities of War, elect their aldermen in strict conformity with the charter, nor appoint their officers; and on account of the establishment of Independency, and the change of government in this State in consequence thereof, the members of the said corporation could not take the usual oaths, by reason whereof doubts might arise, as well to the prejudice of the estates, rights, etc., of the inhabitants, as concerning the validity of the election and the authority of the magistrates; for the removal whereof, and to the end that all and singular the said estates, etc., may remain as good, valid and unimpeached in the law as the same were, at, and immediately before the 19th day of April, 1775; and that the said magistrates and other members may exercise their several offices and functions without any legal or other let, hindrance or impediment whatsoever; the Charter and all the rights of the Corporation, which they held on the 19th day of April, 1775, were confirmed, notwithstanding non-user or misuser between the 19th of April, 1775, and the first of March, 1778; and all the magistrates and members of the Corporation were declared able to exercise their several offices, and to appoint such officers as ought to have been appointed on the anniversary day prescribed in the Charter, notwithstanding the want of conformity in the elections or appointments.

By the Act of the Legislature of 1778, the Mayor and other officers were required to meet at the City Hall, or some other convenient place in the city, to qualify, by taking the oath of allegiance prescribed by the laws of this State, and their respective oaths

of office prescribed by the City Charter. Accordingly, the Mayor and Aldermen, and other city officers, did meet at the City Hall on the 17th of April, 1778, and took the oaths required, and proceeded to business.

During the two years from March, 1776, to April, 1778, the Committee of Safety appointed by the first Legislature of the State, discharged the duties of Mayor and Common Council.

By the Acts of Legislature, the original Colonial Charter of the City, granted in 1686, with a few amendments made by the Provincial Government, was adopted, except in so far as it conflicted with the new State Government.

In April, 1778, the seat of government of the State was temporarily at Poughkeepsie, no permanent place having yet been assigned. The War of the Revolution was then raging, and Albany was constantly threatened from the incursions of the enemy. The city was filled with continental troops, who were at times riotous and disorderly. The duties of the city government were difficult and responsible; but managed under Mayor Barclay with wisdom and firmness.

On the evening of May 5, 1778, the troops stationed in the city created great terror and confusion among the citizens, compelling them to put candles before their windows. The next day the Mayor and Common Council took the matter in hand, and reported it to General Conway, then in command, who published a military order preventing a recurrence of such disorder.

In this same month the citizens of Albany were greatly excited and alarmed by an order removing a large part of the troops, leaving the city nearly unprotected from rioters and law-breakers. There were ten prisoners under sentence of death in the city, and threatened rescues of them were made; whereupon Mayor Barclay and the Common Council wrote General Stark, to whose command the troops were to be removed, remonstrating against their removal.

This letter shows the situation in which Albany was placed by reason of the war. It says:

> The Common Council would beg leave to observe, that the many robberies, murders and other dreadful crimes committed on the inhabitants of this City and County by deserters and prisoners from Burgoyne's Army, and by the disaffected of our own Country, who are drove to desperation, and some of them almost to starvation, renders it indispensably necessary to have a large body of regular troops to keep the villains in subjection, or go in quest of them; for, unless the militia can remain at home this year, and properly manage their summer crops, little or no support of flour and other things can the Continent derive from these parts. Last year, more than one-half of the crops were destroyed by the Army-marauders, and not more than half the usual quantity sold. If the British prisoners could be moved to another place, it would break up the alarming connection kept up between them and the Tories and the negroes.

About this time the British prisoners, the Tories and negroes, formed a plot by which they were to rise, murder the guards, rob and burn the city. It was fortunately discovered in time to prevent it. Seven of the leaders were seized and executed on Gallows Hill.

On May 30, 1778, a regiment of militia and a body of continental troops stationed at Cobleskill were attacked by the Tories and savages. They were cut to pieces and Cobleskill burned. The enemy threatened to attack and burn Albany; but the British prisoners were removed to Poughkeepsie and reinforcements arrived by which order was maintained.

In the autumn of 1778, the Common Council and the citizens of Albany were greatly agitated by a report that the Commander of the American Forces for the Northern Department had made an order directing that over 2,000 continental troops were to be billeted on the inhabitants for the ensuing winter.

On the 12th of September, the Mayor and Common Council united in a letter to Governor Clinton, praying him to unite with them in a protest against this oppression, in which they set forth the hardships, sufferings and privations, the cruelties and insults which the inhabitants of the city had endured during the war; stating that they had, for nearly three years past, undergone innumerable inconveniences attending the operations of the war. That they were among the first who stepped forth in the cause of their country, and had submitted to every privation possible; that in their contest with the Tories, more bitter than those with the savages, and their other public services to their country, they had so wasted their substance that many of them are now reduced to the most necessitous circumstances. That the fences surrounding their grounds had been used for fuel by the continental troops, throwing their lands into commons, thus exposing their crops to destruction, while the great drought of that summer greatly diminished the necessaries of life among the citizens. That there is also a greater scarcity of fire-wood than was ever known in the city, owing to the consumption there by the troops that were last winter billeted on the inhabitants. To those who supplied them therewith, no recompense has been made. They further say, "that however willing we have been, and still are, to risk our all in supporting the freedom and independence of our blessed country, we feel compelled to ask that in the distribution of the troops for winter quarters, due respect may be had for the former distresses and present sufferings of the inhabitants of Albany and its suburbs; and that, at any rate, no more troops may be allotted to us than the barracks and hospital may contain; that the strictest orders may be issued regarding stealing, pilfering, and insulting the inhabitants; and that the officers be enjoined in punishing the refractory and disobedient."

This letter, signed by the Mayor, John Barclay, the Common Council and other city officers, is of itself a touching history of the sufferings of Albany in the cause of freedom. It was listened to with consideration and respect by the commander of the troops, and had the desired effect.

The troops stationed at Albany, and the war, continued to distress the citizens, increasing the difficulties and responsibilities of the Common Council. In September, 1781, the alarming news reaching the city that the British were about to

march on it and destroy it by fire. The prompt measures adopted by the Common Council to protect the city, exhibit their patriotism, ability, and bravery. But the enemy were not permitted to reach the city.

It was during General John Stark's command of the Northern Department, about 1781, having his headquarters at Albany, that he wrote to Governor Clinton: "I am fully confident that George III, of Great Britain, has many subjects in this city who would willingly lay down half, even the whole, of their estates in his service, and trust in his royal clemency for the repayment of the money so profitably laid out." Again he says, "Albany is a very dangerous place to put men into." And again, "I have no hopes of any assistance from Albany; it is not their inclination to fight away from their own castle."

On June 28, 1782, General Washington visited Albany, and was received by an address of congratulation by the Mayor and Common Council, and with every possible demonstration of respect from the citizens. He was presented with the freedom of the city in a gold box, and was invited to dine with the board.

His arrival was announced by the ringing of bells and the roar of artillery. In the evening the city was brilliantly illuminated.

The surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown convinced the English Government of the impossibility of conquering the United States.

November 3, 1782, Articles of peace between the two countries were signed at Paris. On April 19, 1783, a formal proclamation of the cessation of hostilities was made throughout the army. This treaty, acknowledging the independence of the United States, was formally signed on the 30th of September following. Nowhere were these events received with more joy than at Albany. On the 18th of July, 1783, information was received that General Washington and Governor Clinton would visit the city the next day. Every preparation to receive them in an appropriate manner was made by the citizens and Common Council. Their Excellencies were invited to a public dinner. Alderman Yates and Mr. Visscher were appointed to prepare addresses of welcome, and every possible demonstration of respect was made.

Washington closed his reply as follows:

While I contemplate with inexpressible pleasure the future tranquillity and glory of our common country, I cannot but take a particular interest in the anticipation of the increase in prosperity and greatness of this ancient and respectable City of Albany, from whose citizens I have received such distinguished tokens of their approbation and affection.

Governor Clinton's reply was as follows:

To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of Albany: I receive with the highest satisfaction your congratulations on the return of the blessings of peace, and the final establishment of our independence. It gives me the most sensible pleasure that my general conduct in the station in which my country has been pleased to continue me, meets with your approbation. The generous sentiments which you express in my favor demand my warmest acknowledgments, and it shall be my first wish and endeavor to answer the expectation of my constituents in my future administration.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY AND CORRESPONDENCE.

First Ward.—Jacob C. Ten Eyck, Henry I. Bogart, Peter Silvester, Henry Wendell, Volkert P. Douw, John Bay, Gysbert Marselis.

Second Ward.—John R. Bleecker, Jacob Lansing, Jr., Jacob Cuyler, Henry Bleecker, Robert Yates, Stephen De Lancy, Abraham Cuyler.

Third Ward.—John H. Ten Eyck, Abraham Ten Broeck, Gerrit Lansingh, Jr., Anthony E. Bradt, Samuel Stringer, Abraham Yates, Jr., Cornelis Van Santvoordt.

The records of the Committee are well preserved in the State Library, and we think nothing can better exhibit the state of public feeling than extracts from them. We here see the trials, the needs, the vigilance, the firmness, activity, energy and sacrifices of the patriots of that day, expressed in their own words and acts as no historian, after more than a century has passed, can express them.

The Committee was appointed under the general advice of the Continental Congress of September, 1774, held in Philadelphia. We give names of the first Albany City Committee appointed soon after hearing of the bloodshed at Lexington, April 19, 1775. The whole county was soon divided into districts, and the Committee enlarged by representation from each district. We confine our extracts, on account of limited space, chiefly to transactions of general interest, or relating to Albany County as it now is.

Changes were made in the Committee by new elections, as will appear, and continued by filling vacancies, because some of its members preferred to be neutral, while others went over to the enemy. All these last do not appear. Those who remained, and worked so bravely and constantly, deserve a place beside the signers of the Declaration of Independence. To those who are *intelligently* familiar with the history of those days no further explanations are necessary.

The meetings of this Committee were usually held in the Old Stadt Huys, used as City Hall, County House and Gaol, and afterward as State House and place for all indoor public assemblies of great importance. The city government having been suspended from March 25, 1776, to April 17, 1778, all affairs of the city and county were transacted by this Committee, with the advice and approval of the State Assembly.

1775.—First meeting of the Committee of Correspondence was held at the house of Richard Cartwright, January 24, 1775.

Officers elected were: Abraham Yates, Jr., Chairman; John N. Bleecker, Clerk. Committees were appointed to draft and send circular-letters to the Supervisors of the several districts, urging them to call meetings, appoint committees, and select delegates to co-operate with the central committee.

March 21.—Committee met and adopted the following, among other resolutions:

Resolved, unanimously, that Abraham Yates, Jr., Walter Livingston, Esq., Colonel Schuyler, Colonel Ten Broeck and Colonel Peter Livingston, are appointed deputies to represent the City and County of Albany, at the intended Provincial Congress, to be held at the City of New York the 20th day of April next, for the purpose of appointing delegates to represent this colony at the next Congress, to be held at Philadelphia the 10th day of May next.

Resolved, That the donations for the poor at the Town of Boston be delivered into the hands of Jacob C. Ten Eyck, Jacob Lansing and Henry Quackenbush, and that they buy wheat for the money and send the same in proper time.

Meetings of the Committee were held on the 12th, 26th and 29th days of April, at which letters from Massachusetts Committees were answered, and more letters were sent to the different districts of Albany County, earnestly requesting prompt expressions of the sense of the people.

The date of the following appears to be just after the battle of Lexington and before Bunker Hill—and is entered in the book of records of the Committee of Correspondence and Safety.

"A General Association agreed to and subscribed by the Members of the several Committees of the City and County of Albany.

"Persuaded that the salvation of the Rights and liberties of America depends, under God, on the firm Union of its Inhabitants in a Vigorous prosecution of the Measures necessary for its Safety; and convinced of the necessity of preventing the Anarchy and Confusion which attends a Dissolution of the Powers of Government, We, the Freemen, Freeholders and Inhabitants of the City and County of Albany, being greatly alarmed at the avowed Design of the Ministry to raise a Revenue in America, and shocked by the bloody scene now acting in the Massachusetts Bay, Do in the most Solemn Manner resolve never to become Slaves; and do associate under all the Ties of Religion, Honor and Love to our Country, to adopt and endeavor to carry into Execution whatever Measures may be recommended by the Continental Congress, or resolved upon by our Provincial Convention for the purpose of preserving our Constitution, and opposing the Execution of the several Arbitrary and oppressive Acts of the British Parliament until a Reconciliation between Great Britain and America on Constitutional Principles (which we most ardently desire) can be obtained: And that we will in all things follow the Advice of Our General Committee respecting the purposes aforesaid, the preservation of Peace and good Order, and the safety of Individuals and private Property.

"John Barclay, Chairman; Walter Livingston, John Bay, James Magee, Tyrans Callans (?), Isaac Van Aernam, Gysbert Marselis, Philip P. Schuyler, George White, John McClung, Gershom Woodworth, Bastyaen T. Vescher, Florus Baricker, John Knickerbacker, Junior, Barent Vanderpoel, William Van Bergen, John Abbott, Jacobus Williamson, Samuel Van Vechten, Peter Becker, Ebenezer Allen, Simeon Covel, Asa Flint, James Parrot, Henry Leake (his ⋈ mark), Andries Watbeck, Matthew Visscher, Samuel Stringer, Gerrit Lansing, Junior, John Ten Broeck, Robert Yates, Henry I. Bogart, John Van Loon, Henry Van Veghten, Joseph Young, Richard Esselstyn, Othniel Gardner, Baret Dyne, Abraham Cuyler, Robert McClullen, Henry Wendell, Cornelius Van Santvoordt, R. Bleecker, Henry Bleecker, John H. Ten Eyck, Jacob Bleecker, Junior, John T. Beeckman, Harmanus Wendell, Matthew Adgate, Abraham Yates, Junior, John Taylor, Rutger Lansingh, Henry Quackenboss, John M. Beeckman, John D. Fonda, John Van Rensselaer, Junior; John Price, Anthony Van Schaick, Dirck Ten Broeck, Reitzert Bronck, Frederick Beringer, Reynard Van Alsteyn, Philip Van Veghten, Joshua Losee, Anthony Van Bergen, Albertus Van Loon, Mynderse Roseboom, Abraham Ten Eyck."

At a meeting of the Committee, May 1st, it was ordered that Luke Cassidy be paid 3/ for beating the drum, and John Ostrander 3/ for going about and ringing the bell to notify the people.

One of the first acts of this new Committee was the following letter to the Committee of Correspondence at Boston dated May 1, 1775, fitly supplementing the act of association given above.

"GENTLEMEN,—While we lament the mournful event which has caused the Blood of our Brethren in the Massachusetts Bay to flow, we feel that satisfaction which every honest American must experience at the Glorious stand you have made, we have an additional satisfaction from the consequences which we trust will [ensue] in uniting every American in Sentiments and Bonds, which we hope will be indissoluble by our Enemies. This afternoon the Inhabitants of this City convened and unanimously renewed their former agreement, that they would co-operate with our Brethren in New York and in the several Colonies on the Continent in their opposition to the Ministerial Plan now prosecuting against us, and also unanimously appointed a Committee of Safety, Protection and Correspondence, with full power to transact all such matters as they shall conceive may tend to promote the weal of the American Cause. We have the fullest Confidence that every District in this extensive County will follow our Example. On the twenty-second Instant a Provincial Congress will meet, when we have not the least doubt but such effectual aids will be afforded you, as will teach Tyrants and their Minions that as we were born free, we will live and die so, and transmit that inestimable Blessing to Posterity. Be assured, Gentlemen, that nothing on our Parts shall be wanting to evince that we are deeply impressed with a sense of the necessity of Unanimity, and that we mean to Co-operate with you in this arduous struggle for Liberty to the utmost of our Power. * * * We are, Gentlemen, with the warmest wishes and most fervent Prayers for your

Success, safety and the success of the Common Cause, your Most Humble Servts.

"By order of the Committee,

"ABRAHAM YATES, JR., *Chairman.*"

May 2d—Jeremiah Hasely and Captain Stevens from the Boston encampment, appeared before the Committee disclosing secret plans under consideration by the New England forces for capturing Fort Ticonderoga, which, on information was said to be furnished with several pieces of brass cannon and many fine stands of arms, a quantity of gunpowder and other military stores. Aid was requested for our countenance and small assistance with a supply of flour in the execution of the proposed plan.

May 3d—A letter was addressed to the Committee in New York, advising them of the visit and disclosures of these gentlemen, and requesting their sentiments.

The letter makes this statement: "From the many applications that have been and are daily made from the eastward, we are very scant of powder, arms, and warlike stores, and the city is in a very defenseless situation; not a piece of artillery in it."

A letter from the Committee in New York, dated April 28th, urges the necessity of a Provisisonal Congress to be held in that city May 22d, to be composed of delegates from each county in the Colony.

A committee was appointed to wait on Colonel Guy Johnson, to know the truth of the report prevailing about the disposition of the Indians being unfriendly to the Colony, relative to the present commotions.

Colonel Johnson informs the Committee that on his honor there is no ground for the reports that he knows of, but says that he has it from good authority that the Canadians were to come down upon the back of the Colonies, and which he believes to be true.

Therefore *Resolved*, "That Abraham Cuyler and Hendrick Wendell be a Committee to apply to Mr. Dirck Ten Broeck for two hundred Stand of Small Arms of the parcel he is possessed of, to be prepared and made fit for immediate service." "From the present State and turbulance of the County, from the alarm arisen by suspicion of the Negroes, from the information from Col. Johnson respecting the Canadians, we conceive it prudent to have a strict and strong watch, well armed and under proper discipline, and the Corporation declining to undertake the same, Therefore, for the peace, good order, safety, and protection of this City, ordered that copies of the following advertisement be fixed up in the proper places in the different wards.

"'Notice is hereby given to the inhabitants of the City of Albany that it is the opinion of their Committee that they assemble and meet together in the different wards of this City at the usual places of election, to-morrow, at one o'clock in the afternoon, to form themselves into Companies from the age of sixteen to sixty, each Company to consist of a Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Serjeants, four Corporals, one Drum and fifty-one privates. Dated 3d May, 1775.—By order of the Committee. "'ABRAHAM YATES, *Chairman.*'"

Meeting of Committee, May 4, 1775—The following is the return of the officers chosen this day by the people in consequence of our advertisement—to wit:

FOR THE FIRST WARD.

First Company—John Barclay, Captain; John Price, Stephen Van Schaaik, Lieutenants; Abraham Yates, Ensign.

Second Company—John Williams, Captain; Henry Staats, Barent Van Allen, Lieutenants; Henry Hogan, Ensign.

Third Company—Thomas Barret, Captain; Abraham Eights, Matthew Visscher, Lieutenants; John Hoogkerk, Ensign.

For the Third Ward—Captains: John Beeckman, Harmanus Wendell; Lieutenants: Isaac De Freest, Abraham Ten Eyck, William Hunn, Peter Gansevoort, Junior; Ensigns: Cornelius Wendell, Teunis T. Van Veghten.

At Committee meeting of May 5th, a letter from Barrington was read requesting aid, which was declined until advices should be received on the subject from the New York Committee.

Committee Chamber, 10th May, 1775, City Hall of the City of Albany.

Present, Nineteen Members of Committee. District of Grote Imboght, 2 delegates; Sinkaick and Hosick District, 3 delegates; Bennington District, 8 delegates; Corporation of Cambridge, 8 delegates; Manor of Livingston, 5 delegates; Schagtekoeke, 8 delegates; Kings District, 3 delegates; German Camp, 2 delegates; Cambridge District, 3 delegates; District of Cocksackie and Katskill, 5; Schoharry and Duanesborough, 6 delegates; Claverack, 5 delegates; Kinderhook, 4 delegates; Manor of Rensselaerwyck, 22 delegates; Saratoga, 10 delegates; Schenectady, 10 delegates; Half Moon, 7 delegates.

Adjourned to 3 o'clock this afternoon.

May 5th—The following delegates were chosen by ballot to meet in General Congress at New York the 22d instant. Abraham Yates, Dirck Swart, Volkert P. Douw, Robert Van Rensselaer, Peter Silvester, Francis Nicoll, Robert Yates, Henry Glenn, Jacob Cuyler, Abraham Ten Broeck, Walter Livingston.

Resolved, That the Committees of the different districts recommend to the people to form themselves into Companies, properly equipped and disciplined, and that they make report to the Chairman of the Committee for the time being.

May 11th — Sixty-six members present. Another request for supplies for the use of the people gone against Ticonderoga," was voted in the negative.

May 12th—"We received a letter signed Ethan Allen by the hands of Mr. Brown, acquainting us of the taking Ticonderoga. Upon which we wrote a letter to the committee of New York by Captain

Barent Ten Eyck, Express, and each of us paid him a Dollar a piece for going."

May 13th—Received letter from New York confirming previous decisions not to furnish aid to Ticonderoga expedition until some action of the Provincial or Continental Congress.

May 16th—Samuel Stringer, Chairman *pro tem.*

Resolved, That any Person in this City County who has arms, ammunition or other articles necessary for our Defense to dispose of, shall not within ten days after the publications of these resolutions inform this Committee of the quantity and quality of the same, shall be held up to the Public as an Enemy to this Country.

Resolved, That any person who shall dispose of any aforesaid articles to any person, knowing or having reason to believe such person to be inimical to the liberties of America, he shall be held up as an enemy to this Country. Ordered, that the same be published in Hand Bills.

Committee Chambers, 22d May—John H. Roseboom delivered a speech from an Indian called Little Abram, a chief of the Mohawks. "They hear that Companies and troops are coming to molest us, that a large body are hourly expected from New England to take away by violence our Superintendant and extinguish our Council Fire, for what reasons we know not. We have no purpose of interfering in the dispute between Old England and Boston; the White People may settle their own quarrels; we shall never meddle in those matters if we are let alone. But should our Superintendant be taken away from us we dread the consequences. We are so desirous of maintaining peace, that we are unwilling the Six Nations should know the bad Reports spread amongst us. Brothers, We desire you will satisfy us as to your knowledge of those reports and what your News are and not deceive us in a matter of so much importance.

"ABRAHAM, *Chief.*

"Interpreted by Samuel Kirkland, Missionary.
May, 1775."

A committee of two was appointed to go with an answer to the Indians.

May 25th—The first communication from the Congress then in session at Philadelphia, received. It was a request that the Albany Committee send provisions and supplies to Ticonderoga, with a sufficient number of men and mechanics to build and manage scows with which to bring cannon and military stores from the conquered fort.

A resolution was at once passed to act accordingly—to raise a company of one hundred men and march as soon as possible to Ticonderoga. Cornelius Van Santvoordt was chosen commissary of stores by ballot, and Henry I. Bogert was appointed to go to Fort George in charge of the stores and building of the scows for lake transportation.

May 26th—The following was passed:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the physicians and others of this city and county who are in the practice of inoculation for small-pox, be requested immediately to desist from inoculation until the sense of this Committee be signified to the contrary.

May 29th—A letter was received from the Provincial Congress at New York, dated 25th May, 1775, inclosing instructions to Messrs. John N. Bleecker, Henry Bogert, George Palmer, Peter Lansing, and Dirck Sevant, who were by said Congress appointed commissioners or agents to superintend and put in execution the recommendation of the Grand Continental Congress of the 10th May, 1775, relative to Ticonderoga.

Peter W. Yates, John N. Bleecker, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, and John Taylor, the Committee appointed to draw up an instrument to bind those in their duty who shall enlist in the Provincial Service, brought an instrument in the words following, to wit:

"WE, the subscribers, being well convinced of the absolute necessity of raising a body of Provincial Troops for the defense of the Constitution and the preservation of our just rights and liberties, when the same are in the most imminent danger of being invaded, have therefore voluntarily enlisted into the Provisional Service, and do hereby promise and agree that we will severally do, execute, and perform all and every such instructions, directions, orders, military discipline, and duties as our officers, or either of them, shall from time to time give or send to us during the time that our service is required in the unhappy contest between Great Britain and the Colonies; and we do severally promise and engage not to go from or quit the said service until we shall be discharged or dismissed from the service by the Continental or Provisional Congress, or by the General Commitee of the City of Albany, under the penalty of forfeiting our wages, and being deemed in the eye of the Public as enemies to our Country."

Resolved, That the Captains of this City call out their Companies once every two weeks in the afternoon for the purpose of pefecting themselves in the military discipline, and that Saturday, the third of June next, be appointed for the first time of mustering.

Resolved, That John Ostrander be appointed under the denomination of Town Serjeant, who shall keep a regular Roster of all the officers of the different wards in the City, and that he warn the officer not on duty, every morning preceding the night he is to watch, and that every officer so warned shall order his Serjeant to warn the men who shall attend to the watch house at the appointed hour with proper arms, ammunition and accoutrements, and that every person capable of doing his duty Shall attend in person.

8th June—We received a letter from Colonel Phillip Schuyler, dated Philadelphia, 3d June, 1775, in these words, to wit:

"The conduct of the Albany Committee has given great Satisfaction to the Congress. You cannot wonder that I should be pleased with every Transaction that reflects honor on my dear Countrymen. The article of powder is under serious consideration; but, difficult as it is to procure that

essential commodity, I hope we soon shall have a supply. May indulgent Heaven smile propitious on the endeavor of the Americans to remain a free and a happy people; may my Countrymen stand distinguished in the glorious Struggle, and may an All directing Providence guide us safely through the dangers of this unhappy Contest."

June 17th—Received a letter from Colonel Benedict Arnold, dated Crown Point, 12th June, 1775.

"Gentlemen,—Your letter to Captain White with orders for the Companies from Albany County to return to Fort George he has just received, in consequence of which they are now embarking for that place. Their departure leaves us in a very defenseless Situation, as we have only 100 men left here, but could not advise them to go contrary to their orders, tho' the men are much wanted. Had you known our present Situation, I believe you would not have given orders for their removal.

"Your Most Humble Servant.

"BENED^CT ARNOLD."

Received a letter from the Committee of Schenectady, dated 16th June, 1775, requesting that fifty Stand of Arms be sent them by Mr. Wendell's Servant.

Resolved, That John N. Bleecker deliver to Mr. Wendell's Servant fifty guns for the use of Captain Cornelius Van Dyck's Company at Schenectada.

Resolved, That John N. Bleecker, Commissary, Send to Fort George four barrels of New England Rum, to be delivered to Henry I. Bogert or any others of the Commissaries at that Post. To be Charged to the Soldiers at the rate of Six Shillings per gallon.

June 22d—Present, twenty-two members.

On motion, the question being put whether or no it is necessary that some money be raised to pay the troops raised for the use of this colony.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Resolved, That five hundred pounds be raised, by bills of credit, as follows:

1,000 of	1/	£ 50
750 of	2/	75
500 of	5/	125
500 of	10/	250
		£500

Resolved, That the bills for the above sums be of the following tenor, to wit:

"This Note shall entitle the bearer to the sum of ——— ——— ——— New York Currency, payable by us, the Subscribers, on or before the first day of September next, pursuant to a Vote of Credit of the Sub-Committee of the City and County of Albany. "By order of said Committee."

Resolved, That Messrs. Jacob C. Ten Eyck, Jacob Lansingh, Jun., and Samuel Stringer, subscribe their respective names to the several notes, to be issued as aforesaid, and number the same; and the respective members of this Committee do hereby engage to save and keep harmless and indemnified the said Jacob C. Ten Eyck, Jacob Lansingh, Jun., and Samuel Stringer, for all sums of money which they or either of them may be compelled to pay in consequence of their signing the said notes, exclusive of their proportional part as members of this Committee.

Resolved, That Messrs. Robert Yates, John Bay, Abraham Cuyler, Gosen Van Schaick, Cornelius Van Santvoordt, John Ten Broeck, Henry Quackenbush and Lucas Van Veghten, or any two of them, superintend the printing of said bills.

At the Committee meeting June 23d, a note was sent to Boston, as follows:

"We are at a loss to know what must be done with the Donations collected in this City for the Poor of Boston, and beg to be informed by you, as the Chief Contributions was in Grain, whether we shall dispose of it here and convert it into Cash, or otherwise. Waiting your directions, we are,

"Brethren, your very humble servants."

June 26th—*Resolved*, That there be struck in Bills of Credit, in addition to what has already been ordered, Five Hundred Pounds of the following tenor, to wit: Two hundred and fifty of twenty shillings and one hundred and twenty-five of forty shillings.

Committee Chambers, June 29th—Samuel Stringer, Chairman *pro tem.*

Upon the whole, we are of opinion, *First.*—That as the safety of our Persons, and the Preservation of our Properties depends upon the due administration of Justice, that the course of Justice ought not to be obstructed, but that the Same Continue in the usual Course, and in the King's Name, as our allegiance to him is not denied; and that we are to Wait the resolution of the Provincial or Continental Congress on this Subject and abide by their determination, otherwise we Conceive the whole Country will be reduced to a State of the Greatest Anarchy and Confusion.

Second.—Appeals are still admitted, at least in this Government, in all cases where they always have been Allowed; in this the law has not been altered, and the Subject in this Province has the Same Liberty of a fair and impartial trial, as usual on Constitutional principles; and we do not object against any Acts of Parliament, except the late Unconstitutional and oppressive ones which have been Noticed by the Continental Congress in their Session last Fall.

Third.—We are neither Rebels or Traitors, nor have we forfeited our Estates, neither are there any acts of Parliament of that nature in force to our knowledge against any persons in this Province; nor do we conceive the application of Traitors and Rebels justly applied to Subjects who refuse to comply with requisitions of unconstitutional Acts of Parliament.

July 3d—Mr. Leonard Gansevoort reports that he had paid Captain George White the sum of £100 14s. New York currency for himself, the officers and privates of his Company, which this board does approve of.

Resolved, That Mr. Leonard Gansevoort, Treasurer, pay unto Captain Hezekiah Baldwin, the sum

of £71, in behalf of his pay as Captain, and for and on behalf of the rest of his officers and privates of his Company.

July 5th—Received letter from Phillip Schuyler, of which the following is a part:

"I have received advice that some Oneida Indians are now at Albany. Your prudence will suggest that the kindest treatment is necessary to these People, and I beg of you not to let them return without some liberal presents or tokens of our friendship, nor without assurances that they will speedily be called to a Conference at Albany, or some other convenient place, in that or Tryon County. What money you may disburse for presents I shall immediately see repaid."

July 5th—Mr. Henry Glen produced to this board warrants and instructions for the following persons from Albany County:

Captain, Stephen J. Schuyler; First Lieutenant, Barent Roseboom; Second Lieutenant, Dirck Hansen; Captain, Joel Pratt; First Lieutenant, Benjamin Chittenden; Second Lieutenant, Israel Spencer; Captain, Elisha Benedict; First Lieutenant, Samuel Fletcher; Second Lieutenant, Alexander Brink: Captain, Joseph McCracken; First Lieutenant, Moses Masten; Second Lieutenant, John Barns; Captain, John Visscher; First Lieutenant, Benjamin Evans; Second Lieutenant, Joseph Fitch; Captain, Hezekiah Baldwin; First Lieutenant, Nathaniel Rowley; Second Lieutenant, Roswell Beeby; Captain, Peter Yates; First Lieutenant, Henry Van Veghten; Second Lieutenant, Gideon King.

Mr. Henry Glen also informs this Board that the Congress have approved of the following field officers:

Colonel, Myndert Roseboom; Lieutenant-Colonel, Goosen Van Schaick; Major, Lucas Van Veghten; and that they had appointed John M. Wendell, Quartermaster, and Barent J. Ten Eyck, Adjutant.

Received a letter from the Deputies of the Province in Continental Congress, dated 30th June, 1775, in which they announce:

"The Military Arrangement within the Department of New York is entrusted to Major-General Schuyler, to whom we refer you for the money which you request, not doubting but his hands will be strengthened so as to enable him to do everything necessary for the Protection of our Frontiers.

Signed,

"PHILIP LIVINGSTON,
"JAMES DUANE,
"WILLIAM FLOYD."

Resolved, That Robert Yates, Abraham Ten Broeck and Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, Esqs., be appointed to prepare an address to be presented to General Philip Schuyler on his arrival.

July 6th—New York Provincial Congress.

Resolved, That ten shillings shall be allowed to every soldier that shall enlist in the Continental service in this Colony for the present Campaign, who shall furnish himself with a good musket, to be approved by the Muster-Master and Armorer of each Regiment.

July 12th—Abraham Yates, Chairman.

Resolved, That Jeremiah Van Rensselaer be furnished with the sum of ——— out of the Paper Emission of this Committee, and that he go up to Lake George, Ticonderoga and Crown Point and make a final settlement with those Companies, and declare to them that they for the future must look for their pay and necessaries to the Officers appointed by the Continental or Provincial Congress for that purpose.

It being intimated to this board by Mr. Peter Vrooman, that some tavern-keepers in this county sell spirituous liquors too freely to the Indians, from which evil consequences often happen, therefore

Resolved, That it be recommended to all Tavern-keepers and others in said County, to sell spirituous liquors to the Indians as sparingly as possible, so as to prevent their getting drunk.

"CANAJORHARY, July 13.

"GENTLEMEN,—We are informed by good authority that Col. [Guy] Johnson was ready with eight or nine hundred Indians to make an invasion of this County; that the same Indians were to be under the Command of Joseph Brandt and Walter Butler, and that they were to fall on the inhabitants below Little Falls, in order to divide the people in two parts, and were to march yesterday or day before. From this and other circumstances we have too much reason to think that all our enemies in this County will appear against us as soon as the Indians are nigh to us.

"Our ammunition is so Scant, we cannot furnish 300 men so as to be able to make a stand against so great a number.

"This is the more alarming to us, as we shall within a few days be obliged to begin with our harvest. In these deplorable circumstances we look to you for assistance.

"By order,

"CHRISR P. YATES."

Resolved, That a letter be prepared for General Schuyler, enclosing a copy of this, and sent by express to Saratoga.

July 15th—Received a letter from General Philip Schuyler, dated Saratoga, Friday evening, three-quarters past eleven, July 14, 1775, in the following words, to wit:

"SIR,—The letter you have enclosed me is of a truly alarming nature, and requires the most vigorous and immediate efforts. I would advise that not only Captain Van Dyck and his company, but also such others as you can possibly get, should immediately march into Tryon County with the Albany and Schenectady Militia, who should also be requested to march to the relief of that County.

"Your obedient servant,

"PH. SCHUYLER."

Resolved, That 150 pounds powder be transmitted to the Committee of Tryon County, they paying for the same at the rate of five shillings per pound, and that 25 pounds be forwarded to Schenectady for the use of Captain Cornelius Van Dyck's Company.

A paper was handed to this Board, supposed to contain reflections on this Board, which is as follows, to wit:

"The Mode of a late very Extraordinary and very Grand Procession.

"I. The Congressional General.

"II. The Deputy Chairman, and who is only Chairman *Pro Tempore*.

"III. Mr. Ten Broeck—through a mistake.

"IV. The Chairman.

"V. The Committee.

"VI. The Troop of Horse, most beautiful and grand; some Horses long taild, some bob Taild, and some without any tails, and attended with the Melodious Sound of an incomparable fine Trumpet.

"VII. The Association Company.

"A SPECTATOR."

The above caused much indignation and commotion among the Committee and the Citizens, as the occasion alluded to was the public reception of General Schuyler.

A few days later, Peter W. Yates, a member of the Committee of Correspondence, wrote an acknowledgment of being the author, and asked to be forgiven, as he meant no injury to the Board or to the Cause of Liberty, still being a friend to both; also sending in his resignation, which was accepted, together with apology.

Mr. Yates, however, stood well with the people, for he was re-elected to the membership he had vacated, as appears from the following entry of July 26th:

"In pursuance of a resolve of the 22d instant, of the inhabitants of the First Ward of this City, to proceed to an Election of a Member in the room of Peter W. Yates, Esq., the Clerk of this Board files a return of the Poll, by which it appears that the said Peter W. Yates was again elected."

July 27th—Peter W. Yates, Esq., declined serving, on his being elected on the 23d instant. An election was again held on the 26th instant, agreeable to a resolve of this Board, when Doctor Joseph Young was elected.

July 29th—Extract from a letter to General Philip Schuyler, from the Committee:

"We have the Pleasure to inform you that the apprehensions of the inhabitants of Tryon respecting the Indians is entirely removed, and the unhappy dispute between the inhabitants of the upper Part of the County with Sir John Johnson and the Sheriff of that County amicably accommodated upon the two following Points:

"*First.*—The Sheriff is to leave the County and not return to it again.

"*Second.*—Sir John Johnson is not to take any active part against the People in the Disputes at Present Subsisting between Great Britain and the American Colonies."

Mr. Benjamin Baker laid before this board proposals for making Salt Petre.

Resolved, To forward the said proposal to the Provincial Congress in the following words:

"GENTLEMEN.—You will find enclosed, proposals from Mr. Baker, and think it may be worth your while to give him encouragement. Doctor Young (one of our board) has examined the Nitre he has made as a sample, and considers it as good as the Nitre from Europe."

August 1st—Ensign Daniel Lee petitioned for his pay while serving in Captain Joel Pratt's Company. Granted.

August 5th—Letter from General Philip Schuyler:

"GENTLEMEN,—I have directed the Commissary-General, Mr. Livingston, to pay you £1,000 New York Currency to call in the Bills you have emitted. As you must ultimately account to the public for this money, you will please to take the proper Vouchers from the People, and when the bills are called in you will proceed, jointly with Mr. Livingston, to cancel them."

August 8th—Letter from Provincial Congress dated New York August 2, 1775:

"We have the pleasure to inform you that this Congress have made an allowance to each Officer of One Dollar for every man that may or has already inlisted in the Service, in order to reimburse them for the expense of said inlistment.

August 9th—Received letter from Governor Jonathan Trumbull, dated Lebanon, July 21, 1775, on Onedia Indian affairs.

Robert Yates writes from New York that Congress had just examined a Soldier who deserted from the Army in Boston and fought with the British at Lexington and Charles Town. He says they pay their men weekly, but their pay is only 14 coppers each.

August 16th—*Whereas*, Complaint has been made to this board by an Indian, that he was beat by some person in this City and his Shirt taken away or lost; for the sake of maintaining peace with the Indians,

Resolved, That Mr. John W. Bleecker furnish the said Indian with a new Shirt of the value of ten Shillings.

August 19th—Received the following letter dated German Flats, August 16, 1775:

"SIR,—We beg the favor of you to Supply the 55 Onedia Indians at Albany with provisions till we come, and we will be answerable for the expense. We have about 500 of the Six Nations here, who all Seem in good Temper, and we hope will proceed from here to Albany and there await the arrival of the Indians from Canada to hold a General Treaty.

"We are, with Respect,

"VOLKERT P. DOUW,
"TURBUTT FRANCIS."

August 21st—Received a letter from the Committee of Safety for Pennsylvania, dated Philadelphia, August 12, 1775, in these words, to wit:

"GENTLEMEN,—With this you will receive 2,400 pounds of Gun powder sent by us for the use of General Schuyler, to whom we make no doubt you will forward it by first opportunity.

"This Committee has heard that a great and Superfluous quantity of Lead was taken at Ticonderoga. It is an article much wanted here. If that lead should be with you and you can conveniently load this Wagon back with a parcel of it we shall be much obliged and will be accountable for the Same.

"We are, Gentlemen,
"Your Most Ob^{t} Humble Servants.
"Signed, by order of Committee,
"B. FRANKLIN, *Pres^{t}.*"

Resolved, That the following order be sent to the Captain of the City Watch for this night, to wit:

"SIR,—On your watch this night you are to take in Charge Alexander White and three other persons in Confinement with him and to order that strict care be taken that said prisoners do not escape."

The Committee, about half an hour after ten, received a note from the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, that they are to open the Treaty with the Six Nations about eleven o'clock in Yonkers Street, back of the Dutch Church, and request our attendance and that of the principal gentlemen of the Town. This Committee, though taken by surprise, Resolved immediately to attend, and the Bell man was sent to apprise the inhabitants who might wish to attend.

Long Speeches by an Oneida Chief in behalf of the Six Nations were made, declaring their good feelings and intentions, and their purpose to live up to the old Treaties of Peace.

Arvin Montague Morris was brought before this board, suspected to be inimical to the American Cause; and, upon examination, he could not give a proper account of himself; therefore

Resolved, That he be sent to the Camp and there remain till further orders.

Received a letter from the Committee of Tryon County, expressing Satisfaction that White, Clement and Brown were held as prisoners, as there is much evidence that they are enemies to the Common Cause.

Henry Ten Eyck, Sheriff of the City and County of Albany, being called before this board to tell who was the plaintiff in the suit upon which Alexander White, Esq., is in custody, said that Abraham C. Cuyler was the Plaintiff, and John Hansen the Attorney.

By a return of the Field Officers for the District of Rensselaerwyck, the following persons were recommended for the four Battalions, to wit: Abraham Ten Broeck, Colonel-in-Chief; Francis Nicol, Lieutenant-Colonel; Henry Quackenbush, Barent Staats, Majors; John Quackenbush, Adjutant; Christopher Lansingh, Quartermaster.

Second Battalion.—Killian Van Rensselaer, Colonel; John H. Beeckman, Lieutenant-Colonel; Cornelius Van Beuren, Jacob C. Schermerhorn, Majors; Jacob Van Der Poel, Adjutant; John A. Lansingh, Quartermaster.

Third Battalion.—Stephen Schuyler, Colonel; Gerrit Van Der Bergh, Lieutenant-Colonel; Peter C. Schuyler, Volkert Veeder, Majors; Maas Van Vranken, Adjutant; Francis Marshall, Quartermaster.

Fourth Battalion.—Stephen J. Schuyler, Colonel; Henry K. Van Rensselaer, Lieutenant-Colonel; Philip De Freisto, John J. Fonda, Majors; Volkert Oothout, Adjutant; Jacob Van Alstyne, Quartermaster.

The above persons were Approved of by this Board.

The Officers appointed by this Board to the City Regiment are as follows:

Jacob Lansingh, Colonel; Derck Ten Broeck, Lieutenant-Colonel; Henry Wendell, Abraham H. Cuyler, Majors; Volkert A. Douw, Adjutant; Ephraim Van Veghten, Quartermaster.

The Provincial Congress dissolved October 14, 1775, recommending the Election of Deputies to form a new Congress. The General Committee of the City and County of Albany also resolved that they be dissolved the 21st day of December, 1775.

An Election was accordingly held on Tuesday, November 7, 1775, at which the following persons were Elected as Delegates to the New Provincial Congress: Leonard Gansevoort, Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Yates, Jun., Jacob Cuyler, Francis Nichol, Robert Yates, Henry Glen, Peter Sylvester, Peter B. Livingston, John J. Bleecker, Henry Oothout, and Robert Van Rensselaer.

This Committee do hereby declare the said persons to be duly elected, and that they, or any five of them, represent this City and County in the next Provincial Congress.

January 20, 1776—The Committee to enquire for a proper place to confine such persons as are inimical to American Liberty, Report that there are two rooms in the Fort in this City which might be repaired with little expense for said persons; therefore

Resolved, That General Schuyler be requested to fit the upper room in said Fort.

Resolved, That the Committee of this County Condole the Death of the brave General Richard Montgomery, by wearing each a crape around their arms for six weeks from this day successively.

February 7th—Fifty-eight members present. John Barclay, President *pro tem.* George Ramsey having been sent from Schenectady, charged with calling persons in favor of American Liberty, Rebels:

Resolved, That the said Ramsey be disarmed and Stand Committed until he enter into Bond in the Sum of £200, with sufficient sureties, for his future good behavior. Joseph Kingsly was also charged with the same offense, and was dealt with in the same manner.

March 14th—*Resolved*, That no person or persons be permitted to move into or settle in this County, unless he or they bring a Certificate from

the Committee of the County or district from which they claim that they had, prior to this resolve, signed the association recommended by Congress, and had in all things behaved in a manner becoming to Friends of American Freedom.

April 11th—The following is the form of parole in use at this time.

"I do promise, on the word and honor of a Soldier and gentleman, that I will hold no manner of correspondence or conversation on Political Matters with any person or persons that are inimical to measures now pursued by the United Colonies of America; and that I will not depart the bounds of the District of Coxackie without leave of the Committee of the said district.

"JAMES HEWETSON."

May 3d—Messrs. Rutger, Bleecker and Dr. Joseph Young were named a Committee to encourage the culture of Hemp, Flax and Wool; also the making of Sturgeon Oil to supply the place of Whale Oil, in view of the Stoppage of the Whale Fisheries.

May 8th—John Boyd Confessed to selling Bohea Tea for 7/6 per pound, Contrary to Resolution of Continental Congress. That others did it, was his excuse.

Resolved, That the said John Boyd has violated the Resolution, and ought to be considered an Enemy to the American Cause; and it is recommended that all persons break off all intercourse with said Boyd.

Absalam Woodworth was also convicted of same offense, and was punished in the same manner.

A Resolution passed some weeks ago to disarm all disloyal persons. The following is the Warrant for so doing:

"SIR,—You are hereby required and Commanded forthwith to proceed to the houses of Abraham C. Cuyler, John Van Allen, Stephen De Lancey, Gysbert Fonda, John Monier, and William Shepherd, there to receive and take all their Arms and Ammunition, Side arms excepted; for which arms, etc., you are to give a receipt. And bring said arms, etc., to the Chairman of this Committee without delay. And for so doing this shall be your Warrant."

The number of troops furnished by Albany County for General Schuyler, in Canada, was:

East Manor, Rensselaerwyck, 75; West District, Rensselaerwyck, 75; Claverach and King's District, 150; East Camp and Grote Imboght, New York, 75; Half Moon, Balston and Saratoga, Canada, 75; Albany, Schohary, Coxackee and Kinderkook, 75.

Henry Marselis was made Captain of Company raised in Albany City, Schenectady, Coxackee and Schohary, to reinforce Continental Army in Canada; Benjamin C. Dubois, First Lieutenant; John Van Antwerp, Second Lieutenant.

Resolved, That Henry K. Van Rensselaer be appointed Major of the Company of Militia for the County for Service in New York.

Peter Van Rensselaer was appointed Captain of Company raised in Claverack; Christopher C. Miller, First Lieutenant; Wilhelmus Philips, Second Lieutenant.

July 1st—Committee appointed Officers of Battalion, raised in Albany, Tryon, Charlotte, Cumberland and Gloucester Counties as follows: Cornelius Van Dyck, Colonel; Barent S. Ten Eyck, Major; John Shepardson, Lieutenant-Colonel.

July 17th—Received a letter from Abraham Yates, Junior, Robert Yates and Matthew Adgate, dated White Plains, 14th instant, enclosing the Declaration of the United States of America; declaring the Said United States free and independent; also the resolutions of the Representatives of the State of New York, in consequence thereof.

Received a letter from John Rogers, one of the Committee of Saratoga, dated 11th instant, complaining that the Small Pox is very prevalent in said district.

July 18th—*Resolved*, That the Declaration of Independence be published and declared in this City to-morrow at Eleven O'Clock at this place, and that Colonel Van Schaick be requested to order the Continental Troops in this City to Appear under Arms at the place aforesaid; and, further, that the Captains of the Several Militia Company in this city be requested to Warn the Persons belonging to their respective Companies, to appear at the place aforesaid, and for the purpose aforesaid.

Much of the time of the Committee during their Sessions was consumed in the apprehension, conviction, and punishment of disaffected and disloyal persons, of whom there was a great number. The "Tory Gaol" in the City Hall was filled with them, and the list was constantly increasing.

Expenses increased rapidly for arms, ammunition, and supplies, and it was found difficult to pay the soldiers with sufficient regularity to prevent great discontent. The labor of the Committee was very perplexing and arduous at this time.

August 3d—Samuel Stephenson is hereby discharged of being Keeper of the Tory Gaol, and Volkert Dawson is appointed in his room.

Resolved, That John A. Bratt and Alexander Baldwin be appointed Captain for the Ranger Companies; and Marte Van Beuren, John B. Marselis, Michael Jackson and John Jost Sidney, Lieutenants for said Company and Stephen Lush, Captain for the Company to guard the stores in Albany, and Gerritt Staats and Jacob J. Lansing, Lieutenants.

August 17th—The Association Company elected Andrew Douw, Captain, and Peter Van Bergen, Ensign.

Rev. Harry Munro, Rector of St. Peter's, Albany, requested a pass to New York and Philadelphia, which was refused by the Committee in the following words:

Resolved, That the Chairman acquaint you, the said Munro, that this Board cannot, consistent with their duty, grant his request, as the very Idea of a pass is to recommend the person having it to the public as a Friend to the Cause and right of America, and that they extremely lament that they

have it not in their power to give him such a recommendation, as they are ignorant that he has ever manifested himself such a friend in any one instance since the Commencement of the present unhappy Contest.

Captain John Williams was appointed Captain of a Company of 75 men to be drafted out of the Militia of this County to reinforce the Fortresses in the Highlands.

September 29th—This board being informed that a Company of Colonel Van Dyck's Regiment had deserted.

Resolved, that a letter be prepared for General Schuyler on the subject, which was done.

Resolved, That there be allowed Eight Shillings for the three first pair of two-threaded Stockings that shall be knitted in one family.

October 22d—Jonathan N. Mallory is hereby appointed Surgeon to Colonel Peter Van Ness, Regiment of Militia.

Resolved, That any Negro Man Slave within the Manor of Rensselaerwyck, who shall be found from his Master's house after Six o'clock in the Evening without a permit from his master or mistress, he shall be immediately apprehended and receive Corporal punishment.

November 26th—*Resolved*, That John Barclay be appointed Chairman of this Committee, Matthew Visscher, Clerk, and Jacob Kidney, Messenger.

Pursuant to a resolvent of the 8th instant, it appears that the following persons are duly Elected for the space of Six months from the first day of December next, unless sooner disbanded by the Convention of this State.

The resolution of the 8th instant was as follows:

Whereas, The time limited by the good people of this County for the present Committee to serve, expires in the County this 4th Tuesday of this month; and

Whereas, The Representatives of this State in Convention have been inevitably prevented from forming a Government for this State, it is necessary that another Committee be elected in this County for the Space of Six months:

Resolved, That the Election in the several districts in this County be held on the 3d Tuesday of November.

There were elected from the First Ward, 9 members; Second Ward, 9 members; Third Ward, 9 members; Manor of Rensselaer, 20 members; Schoharry, 6 members; Grote Imboght, 5 members; Ballston, 5 members; Hosick, 12 members; Coxackie, 6 members; German Camp, 4 members; Schagtikocke, 10 members; Manor of Livingston, 10 members; Half Moon, 7 members; Saratoga, 7 members; Schenectady, 11 members; Cambridge, 9 members; Kings, 8 members; Claverack, 12 members.

Resolved, That the Committee of the County meet every Fortnight in the City Hall, on Tuesday, and that at least one member from each District attend.

Resolved, As the opinion of this Committee, there be allowed one Shilling per day for the first five days the militia supplied themselves with provisions on the late alarm to the northward, and that for the remainder no more than eight pence half penny be allowed.

November 30th—General Gates laid before this Board a letter from the President of the Convention of this State to the Honble Major-General Schuyler, desiring him to take the management of obstructing Hudson River, which the Committee had resolved upon, desiring the opinion of this Board whether same ought to be forwarded by Express to His Honor, which is hereby ordered to be done.

December 10th—*Resolved*, That a permit be granted to Lady John Johnson to go to Fish Kills, in order to apply for a pass to New York.

December 31st—General Schuyler applies to this Board for assistance in procuring blankets for Colonel Van Schaick's and Colonel Gansevoort's Regiments. Committees were appointed to obtain the same from the inhabitants of Albany and Schenectady.

January 21, 1777—*Resolved*, That every person who shall offer anything for Sale for a less sum in Gold or Silver than in Continental or other paper money now passing currently, shall be considered as a Depreciator of the paper Currency, and treated accordingly, and that any Person who shall refuse to take the same shall be treated in like manner.

February 3d—*Resolved*, That the Deputies of this County in Convention, be instructed to use their influence to have General Schuyler appointed one of the Delegates to represent this State in Continental Congress.

February 10th—*Whereas*, The great number of persons keeping taverns or Tipling houses, many of whom are disaffected and there is reason to believe they have influenced many Soldiers to quit the Service: be it

Resolved, That no person or persons shall continue or set up a Tavern in any District in the City or County of Albany without a license or permit for the same, under penalty of £50 fine.

March 4th—*Resolved*, That the Committee of each respective District within this County do appoint and assign fit and suitable places in their said Districts for Inoculating Hospitals, and that the said Committee use all the precautions to prevent the spreading of the Small Pox.

The Committee are informed that Mr. Waters, who has hired the house now occupied by Colonel Philip P. Schuyler, intends to inoculate his family upon his having moved them to said House. The Committee being sensible that by such conduct the infection will spread among the Continental Troops; therefore

Resolved, That the said Waters be strictly forbid to inoculate his family as aforesaid, on pain of forfeiting the sum of £500.

Ordered, That Jacob Kidney is hereby appointed Gaoler in place of Samuel Loadman.

Resolved, That all officers in this County belonging to the Crown of Great Britain, at either full or half-pay, be sent for; and, on their appearance, that they be sent to the Convention of this State, Requesting them to have them exchanged, or ordered to such place that they may do no injury in this country.

March 17th—*Resolved*, That Marten Halenbeck be and is hereby ordered to desist, from the receipt hereof, from Keeping Public House.

Jacobus Houghtaling, who, some time since made his escape from Jaol, being now busy enlisting men for the service of the Enemy, and being a dangerous person to the Liberties of America:

Resolved, That Major Volkert Veeder be requested to order the said Houghtaling to be arrested and put in Close Confinement till the further order of this Committee.

April 11th—*Resolved*, That Jacob Kidney be and he is hereby ordered every Sunday during Divine service to Patrol the Streets of this City and quell all riots and disturbances, and keep the inhabitants of this City and others to behave decent, for which services he shall be allowed 4/ per day.

Ordered, That Colonel Van Schaick be requested to desire Captain Finch to send out a scouting party towards the Salt Springs, in order to discover a plot which it is conceived is making head in that part of the Country.

April 18th—Colonel Schuyler reported that a certain person who had given information against certain disaffected persons, was threatened to such a degree that the Committee of the Manor of Rensselaerwyck had agreed to remove him and his family to a place of safety, and that they also engaged to repay the man any damages he might sustain.

Unanimously approved.

Christian Smith, a person who has been employed in discovering the designs of our internal Enemies, having discharged his duties with faithfulness and success:

Ordered, That the Treasurer pay said Smith Eight Pounds for his Services.

May 4th—The Committee having undoubted evidence that Peter S. Van Alstyne and Isaac Van Der Pool are the Ringleaders of the Conspiracy at Kinderhook, and that the said Van Alstyne and Van Der Pool have lately headed a party who fired upon and wounded, a certain Gose Van Beuren, who had in his custody a prisoner:

Resolved, Thereupon, that a reward of one hundred Dollars shall be paid by this Committee to such person or persons who shall take the said Van Alstyne, or Van Der Pool, dead or alive.

Resolved, That an order issue to the Treasurer to pay unto Edward Davis, or order, one hundred dollars, for his services in discovering a number of Conspirators.

May 19th—Abram Yates having received from the Committee of this State the sum of five thousand pounds:

Resolved, The same be paid to Gerrit Lansing, Junr, the Treasurer to this Committee.

June 3d—The names of the new Committee Elected were announced.

Resolved, That John Barclay be appointed Chairman; Matthew Visscher, Secretary; Gerrit Lansing, Junr, Treasurer; James Kidney, Messenger, and be paid 6/ per day.

Resolved, That the Keepers of the Gaols in this City be immediately ordered to make out lists of the names of the prisoners confined therein, and deliver the Keys of the said Gaols, with the lists aforesaid, to Henry J. Wendell, the Sheriff of this County.

June 19th—*Resolved*, That the public records of this City and County be delivered into the hands of Leonard Gansevoort, Esq.

Abraham C. Van Allen having, since taking the oath of allegiance, declared himself a subject of the King of Great Britain; therefore

Resolved, That the said Abraham C. Van Allen be immediately apprehended and put in Close Confinement.

From a letter of David McCarthy and William Adamson, it appears that Conradt A Ten Eyck, after taking the oath of Allegiance, has drank Damnation to the Congress, and beat and abused the wife of the said Adamson. The said Ten Eyck upon his appearance confessed the same; therefore

Resolved, That he be confined till Monday next.

The foregoing are given as specimens of the work that largely engaged the Committee; from one to a score of such disloyal persons being arrested and brought before them almost every day.

Colonel Hay, Deputy Quarter Master, appeared before this Committee and informed them that the public business is impeded for want of a bellows to carry on the Black Smith's business, and suggested that Harmen Van Der Zee had one he seldom or never used.

Resolved, That if said Van Der Zee does not comply with the request to sell the same, Colonel Hay shall seize the Bellows, and have the same apprized by two indifferent persons, and pay such value to the said Van Der Zee.

Owing to the great want of lead and the scarcity of the same, the Committee resorted to the following as one source of supply:

Resolved, That Mr. Isaac D. Fonda be requested to attend the Quarter Master General, or any of his Deputies, in taking all the lead out of the Cesh Windows in the houses in and about this City, and that he use all the Caution in his power to prevent any Damage being done to the Window Ceshes, etc., etc., by the means aforesaid.

July 30th—Daniel Campbell and John Sanders, of Schenectady, were arrested for refusing to take continental money.

August 4th—*Whereas*, The approach of the Enemy to the northward has caused a number of families from this County to move into this City, and a number having Milch Cows and no pastures to put them in, and it being suggested to this Board that

Edward and Ebenezer Jessup (who are gone over to the Enemy) have a large tract of pasture land near the City:

Therefore, The said families are hereby empowered to put their Cows into the said pasturage, under the inspection of Cornelius Van Deusen, who will permit families of eight or more persons to put in two cows; of less than eight, one cow.

August 10th—*Resolved*, That all inhabitants of this State, who have fled to this City for protection, and have no houses to put their families in, are hereby empowered to use such empty houses in this City as they can find.

Messrs. Jeremiah Van Rensselaer and Matthew Visscher, the Committee appointed to examine the accounts of Gerrit Lansing, Junr, Treasurer, report, That he has produced Receipts for the Sum of £8,658.18.3 and that said Treasurer ought to be discharged therefrom.

The said report is hereby confirmed, and the said Treasurer may retain in his hands the sum of £85.11.3, as a compensation for his trouble.

Adam Helmer, having, at the risque of his life, come out of Fort Schuyler to give information:

Resolved, That he be paid ten pounds as compensation.

Colonel Myndert Roseboom is hereby appointed to provide and issue provisions to such Persons—Refugees—who are not able to support themselves.

August 14th—By minutes of this date, it appears that Leonard Gansevoort was directed by a resolution of the 1st instant to proceed to Kingston, and there deposit the Records of the City and County of Albany.

Resolved, That two Companies of Rangers be raised and put under command of Captains Robert Woodworth and George White, to quell Robberies and disloyalty in different parts of this County, the officers to receive Continental pay.

August 21st—Patroon's Island and the farm of Courtlandt Schuyler, deceased, were designated as pasture land for cattle of refugees.

August 27th—The house of James Mather, who was ordered to leave the city, and take his family and affects with him, was this day rented to Abraham Bloodgood, a good and loyal citizen.

August 30th—John Abbott was appointed to keep the town clock in repair.

September 2d—*Resolved*, That the following persons, with their families, be sent to the Enemy in case General Gates should approve of the measure. [Mrs. Abraham C. Cuyler, Henry Cuyler, and several others are named.]

Whereas, The Legislative Body of this State are ordered to Convene at Kingston, and a Council of appointment will be chosen by ballot from the Senate to appoint persons to fill the different civil offices in this State; and as the Council may not be fully acquainted with capable persons in the different parts of this County to fill the different offices:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committees of the different Districts to consult with their Constituents, and inform the Council of the names of such persons as they think most suitable, that if they meet with the approbation of the Council they may be appointed accordingly.

September 22d—A letter from General Gates states that he expects General Burgoyne will speedily endeavor to come to Albany.

September 29th—*Resolved*, That Doctor Malachi Treat be empowered to take into his possession the house of Abraham C. Cuyler for the Wounded and Sick Officers.

October 9th he was authorized to use any untenanted houses for hospital purposes.

Captain McAlpine having gone over to the Enemy, his furniture, farming utensils and Cattle were seized and sold for the public good.

September 22—Mrs. Cuyler, wife of Abraham C. Cuyler, formerly Mayor of this City, applied for a permit to move to New York City.

Resolved, That said permit be granted on condition that she goes at her own expense and delivers an inventory, under oath, of all the effects she was in possession of at the time her and husband went over to the Enemy, and where such effects can be found.

Resolved, That the Revd Samuel Swertteger be liberated from confinement upon his entering into Bond in the sum of $500 for his future good behavior.

November 6th—*Whereas*, This Committee stands indebted to many persons who are in great Distress for want of the money, and as the State Treasury is in a low state:

Resolved, That application be made to the Commissioners for Sequestering the Assetts of Persons gone over to the enemy in the Middle District of this County, for the said sum of £2,000.

Resolved, That Philip Van Rensselaer, Esq., be requested to replace the Lead taken from the windows of the different houses in and about this City.

Resolved, That one hundred Dollars be paid unto Major Ezekiel Taylor for apprehending one Jacob Miller.

Resolved, That such persons who require to speak with any of the prisoners Confined in Gaol, be permitted to do so through the hole in the Door, in the presence and hearing of the Gaolers, and that the Gaoler be allowed by the person desiring to Speak aforesaid, ¼ as compensation for his trouble.

November 19th—*Resolved*, That a list be made of the well affected persons in this District, and that said list be sent to Peter R. Livingston, with request to deliver to the order of the Chairman of this District a quantity of salt, not exceeding two quarts per Head.

Pay roll of Captain William Winne's Company was laid before this board, amounting to £20.17.-6⅓, which is allowed and ordered to be paid for services performed in apprehending a number of disaffected persons.

November 29th—Harmanus Ten Eyck brought in a charge of £3 10s. for freight on an Iron Stove sent to Fish Kill for the use of the Convention of this State. Ordered to be paid.

December 7th—Jeremiah Vincent having some time ago received from this Committee the sum of ten pounds to perform certain secret services, instead of doing which he went over to the Enemy:

Resolved, That one of the two Cows left on the farm of said Vincent be sold and a return made of the said ten pounds, and a return made of the overplus to the wife of the said Vincent, and that this Committee dispose of the other cow.

December 15th—*Resolved*, That William Gilliland be remanded to prison, as proof has this day been made before this Board of his further Inimical Conduct to the United States.

1778—Election of New Committee was held throughout the County of Albany, January 2, 1778.

January 6th—It appearing to this Committee that Daniel David and David Gibson, under the sanction of power given them by the Committee of Sequestration, have taken to their own use, not only the property of Persons gone over to the Enemy, but also such persons as reside amongst us; therefore

Resolved, That the said David Gibson and Daniel David be apprehended and put in Close Confinement, unless they find sufficient surety for their appearance before any Court of Jurisdiction to answer said Complaint.

The following Officers are hereby appointed to serve the New Committee, just elected: John Barclay, Chairman; John M. Beeckman, Deputy Chairman; Matthew Visscher, Secretary; Jacob Kidney, Waiter.

In regard to holding a New Election in the District of Cambridge, The Committee are of opinion that a new Election be held, and will appoint a day for that purpose. In respect to the Discrimination of such as are entitled to vote, this Committee would rather submit it to the inhabitants of that District; at the same time they are of opinion that many persons went over to the Enemy through fear, some through the persuasion of artful and designing persons, others through the allurements of gain and the prospect of seeing their oppressed country in the hands of its base Invaders. However, such conduct, be their motives what they may, it is a conduct that will ever be held in detestation by every man that is fired with the love of Liberty or attachment to his injured Country. Notwithstanding the most vigorous efforts of those wretches, many of whom have plunged Their Daggers in the breasts of many of Their Bosom friends, we would remind our Countrymen that the God of Justice has declared Victory in our favor and put many of our Enemies in our Power. The Brave are ever Humane. Let us now Convince our Enemies that we seek not to spill their blood, and that we fight only for that Liberty which God hath conferred upon us. Let us now exercise Mercy (one of the Attributes of Heaven), as far as is consistent with the good or safety of our Country, and by acts of Clemency forgive our offending Brethren, provided they show Signs of Contrition for their past offenses and promise of amendment in future. Those who have taken the oath of allegiance and perjured themselves, or such as have seduced others from their allegiance to the State, we are of opinion ought not to interfere in our Elections.

January 7th—*Resolved*, That a subscription be set on foot for the use of the Ruined Settlers of our Frontiers.

January 15th—The Committee appointed in the Second Ward delivered to the Chairman £97. 14. 8, being the Collection made in that Ward for the use of the poor.

February 19th—The military authorities having authority to impress Teams and Sleighs wherever found, when they would not hire voluntarily for that purpose, the farmers of the Surrounding Country feared to come to the City, with Wood and other Supplies; therefore

Resolved, That no sleighs or horses by which fire wood and other necessaries are brought to this City shall be seized or impressed in coming to or going from said City.

March 16th—Moses R. Van Vranken confessed that he had bought Butter for one shilling per pound in Specie, and Sold it for 6. 8. in Continental Currency, for which he was deemed to be dangerous to the State, and put in confinement till further orders.

March 18th—Remembrance Smith Complained to the Board that he had been fined £50 for selling about two gallons of Rum Without License.

March 24th—*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Board that £3 per barrel for tar, delivered at Albany, is reasonable, when the persons making the same are excused from Military Duty.

The last entry in that part of the Journal of the Committee that has been preserved, is under date of June 10, 1778, as follows:

Resolved, That Gerrit Lansing, Junr, John J. Bleecker, and Stewart Dean, or any two of them, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to examine and audit the Accounts of this Board, and that they be allowed each 20/ per day, while in actual service, for their trouble and expense; and it is further

Resolved, That the said Committee enter upon this necessary business with all dispatch, and that, immediately on the Completion thereof, they Report to this Board.

COLONIAL, PROVINCIAL AND CONTINENTAL ASSEMBLIES.

We deem it appropriate to this history to give the names of the officers in these assemblies, of whatever class, that represented Albany County, and some of the local transactions in connection with them.

COLONIAL CONFERENCES.

The first movement in New York State, looking toward the union of the colonies against the aggressions of the Crown, was made by the New York Assembly, October 17, 1764. It adopted resolutions approving the resolutions of the New York City merchants relative to the oppressive legislation of Parliament, and directed that a memorial be

forwarded to the Court of Great Britain, assuming the expense of urging it upon the home government. A committee of six was appointed to take the matter in charge, of which Philip Livingston, of Albany, was Chairman.

In 1690, 1754 and 1765, Colonial Conferences were held. The Conference of 1765 was called to meet in the City of New York on the first Tuesday of October then next, to consult together on the present circumstances of the colonies, and the difficulties to which they are and must be reduced by the operation of the Acts of Parliament for levying duties on the colonies. Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and South Carolina were represented.

The Conference adopted a petition to the King, prepared by Philip Livingston; another to Parliament, by James Otis; and also published a "Declaration of Rights and Grievances," claiming the right of taxation themselves, the right of trial by jury, and the right of petition, by John Cruger.

Albany was represented in this Conference by Philip Livingston.

THE PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.

In March, 1775, the several counties in the province of New York elected deputies to a Provincial Convention, to be held in the City of New York on the 20th of April, 1775, for the purpose of choosing delegates to represent the colony in a Continental Congress. This Convention met at the Exchange, in New York City, on the day appointed. Albany was represented in this Convention by Peter R. Livingston, Walter Livingston, Philip Schuyler, Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Yates, Jr. Philip Livingston, of Albany, was President. This Convention elected delegates to the Continental Congress, to concert and determine upon such measures as shall be judged most effectual for the preservation of American rights and privileges.

STATE OR PROVINCIAL CONGRESSES.

These bodies were what the Assembly subsequently became, the members being elected in the same manner. There were four of these Congresses. The first began in New York, May 22, 1775, and had three sessions, May, July and October. The last session adjourned November 4th.

The Second Congress began November 14, 1775, and adjourned *sine die*, May 13, 1776.

The Third Congress convened May 14, 1776, and adjourned *sine die*, June 30, 1776.

The Fourth Congress convened July 9, 1776, and adjourned *sine die*, May 13, 1777.

The Delegates to these Congresses from Albany were:

First Congress.—Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Volkert P. Douw, Jacob Cuyler, Peter Silvester, Dirck Swart, Walter Livingston, Robert Van Rensselaer, Henry Glen, Abraham Ten Broeck, Francis Nicoll.

Second Congress.—Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Yates, Jacob Cuyler, Francis Nicoll, Robert Yates, Henry Glen, Peter Silvester, Peter R. Livingston, John James Bleecker, Leonard Gansevoort, Henry Oothoudt, Robert Van Rensselaer.

Third Congress.—Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Yates, Leonard Gansevoort, John Tayler, Mathew Adgate, John J. Bleecker, Peter R. Livingston, Christopher Yates, John Ten Broeck, Henry Glen, Francis Nicoll.

Fourth Congress.—Abraham Yates, Jr., Robert Yates, Robert Van Rensselaer, Matthew Adgate, John Tayler, John Ten Broeck, Abraham Ten Broeck, John James Bleecker, Jacob Cuyler, Leonard Ganesvoort, Peter R. Livingston.

CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

The Delegates from Albany County were: Session, April 20, 1775, Philip Schuyler; Session, April 13, 1777, Philip Livingston, Philip Schuyler; Session, March 25, 1778, Philip Schuyler; Session, October 16, 1778, Philip Schuyler; Session, October 18, 1779, Philip Schuyler; Session, September 12, 1780, Philip Schuyler; Session, October 26, 1781, Philip Schuyler; Session, February 3, 1784, John Lansing, Jr., Walter Livingston; Session, October 26, 1784, John Lansing, Jr., Walter Livingston; Session, March 29, 1785, Peter W. Yates; Session, February 27, 1786, Peter W. Yates; Session, January 26, 1787, John Lansing, Jr., Peter W. Yates, Abraham Yates, Jr.; Session, February 2, 1788, Abraham Yates, Jr., Leonard Gansevoort; Session, January 30, 1788, Abraham Yates, Jr.

CONVENTION TO FORM THE CONSTITUTION.

The Convention to form a Federal Constitution met May 14, 1787. It was composed of delegates from all the States, with the exception of Rhode Island. Its proceedings were secret, but an account of them was afterwards drawn up from Mr. Madison's notes. George Washington was President. At last a constitution was agreed upon, but only 39 of the 55 delegates signed it. On September 17, 1787, the new constitution was transmitted to Congress, and by it referred to Conventions of the several States for adoption or rejection.

On June 17, 1788, a Constitutional Convention, called for the purpose of deliberating upon the adoption of the Federal Constitution, assembled at Poughkeepsie. It was one of the most important bodies that ever met in this State. George Clinton, Governor of the State, was elected President. The delegates from Albany were John Lansing, Jr., Henry Oothoudt, Dirck Swart, Anthony Ten Eyck, Israel Thompson, Peter Vrooman, Robert Yates. The adoption of the Constitution was violently opposed, and the Convention was a scene of animated and at times angry discussion. But on July 26th, the Convention adopted and ratified the Constitution by a vote of 30 to 27, seven members of the Convention not voting. The following members from Albany voted against it: John Lansing, Jr., Henry Oothoudt, Israel Thompson, Robert Yates. The other members from Albany did not vote.

Governor Clinton, President of the Convention, was also opposed to the Constitution.

The intelligence of the adoption of the Constitution was received with great rejoicing by the people at Albany, and by a vote of the Common Council it was unanimously resolved to celebrate the event in an appropriate manner. The 8th day of August was set apart for the occasion. Every trade and profession united in the jubilee, forming an imposing procession. A description of the procession and the proceedings occupied two pages of the *Albany Gazette* of August 28th. It was in charge of James Farley, Marshal, and moved through Watervliet, Market (now Broadway), to the Federal Bower, a commodious building prepared for the occasion, standing on the Hights west of Fort Frederick, and commanding an extended view of the city. The edifice was 154 feet long, 44 feet wide, and raised on four rows of pillars fifteen feet in hight, close wreathed with foliage. Eleven arches were built in front. Above the arches, embowered in festoons of foliage, were white oval medallions, with the names of a ratifying State on each. In this beautiful structure the dinner took place. This over, the procession re-formed and moved down State Street to Pearl, to Columbia, to North Market, to Court Streets, and into a large field south of old Fort Orange, where it was dismissed, by the marching away, at intervals, of the respective divisions.

When the procession reached Green Street, a party of opponents to the Constitution made an attack upon it, and a skirmish ensued. They had procured a loaded cannon and brought it to bear upon the procession. One of the assailants was in the act of discharging it, when Jonathan Kidney sprang from the procession and succeeded in spiking the gun. A company of cavalry in the procession then charged upon the assailants and dispersed them.

There were several outbreaks in the city growing out of the adoption of the Federal Constitution, among which was a general *mêlée* in State Street. Among the combatants were some of the most eminent men of the times; canes, clubs, and cobblestones were used with great freedom, and many persons were more or less injured, but fortunately none fatally.

THE WAR OF 1812.

This war has been called the Second War with Great Britain, the Last War with Great Britain, and the Second War for Independence. It is usually denominated as written at the heading. It was formally declared June 19, 1812, and closed with a treaty of peace, signed at Ghent December 24, 1814. The brilliant battle of New Orleans, fought under Andrew Jackson, January 8, 1815, occurred after the treaty was made. It was not a day of cablegrams, and the news of peace did not reach this county until February 12th.

The English government was not satisfied with the issues of the revolutionary war; and was disposed to make encroachments upon what were deemed national rights. Among other things it claimed the right to board and search American vessels for deserting British soldiers and sailors. This claim was exercised in a manner so obnoxious, as to call for most decided remonstrance from our Government. Continued abuses of this kind led to open war.

The public feeling in regard to the expediency of this war was far from unanimous. Indeed, those who took opposite sides in the matter were very bitter towards each other. No such bitterness probably has existed in regard to any other political question, unless it be that of slavery, since the days of the Revolution of 1776. The Democrats, as a party, favored the war; the Federalists opposed it, mostly for commercial reasons. They were called the war party and the peace party. Both, no doubt, were influenced by honest love of country.

The Albany press was divided—Solomon Southwick conducting the Democratic paper, called the *Albany Register*, and Charles R. Webster, the Federalist paper, called the *Albany Gazette*. It is stated that, as an exhibition of party feeling, the office of the *Gazette* was threatened with destruction by the more violent and ignorant democracy of that day. The public were notified by the *Gazette* that every man connected with that office was armed against any mob, and ready for resisting attack at any moment. No attack was made. But many a war of bitter words was fought at street corners and in public places, sometimes resulting in blows. The skirmish on State street, April 21, 1807, when the war controversy was raging, between those two eminent citizens, Governor John Tayler, Democrat, and General Solomon Van Rensselaer, Federalist, shows something of the spirit of parties before and during this war. The trial that followed was published in a pamphlet, and is mentioned in Munsell's edition of Worth's "Random Recollections."

We are sorry to be able to give so little explicit information concerning the military transactions in Albany County during this war. Our examination of the newspapers of the time gives little help; and the Adjutant-General's office does not contribute anything in regard to the formation and officering of companies and regiments for service. This explains the fragmentary condition of this article.

It is quite certain that Albany County was deeply interested in this war, and furnished many officers and men. We insert here an alphabetical list, taken from the "Index of Awards on Claims of the Soldiers of the War of 1812, as audited and allowed by the Adjutant and Inspector-Generals," pursuant to the State Laws of 1859, Chapter 176, in the hope that it may lead some of their descendants to give us reliable information in regard to their services. This is supposed to contain the names of most of the militia from Albany County who enlisted in this war.

Orrin Abbott, Albany; John Adams, Jr., Bethlehem; Joseph Arkles, Bethlehem; Michael Artcher, Albany; Chester Atherton, Albany; Ammiel Bar-

nard, Albany; Asabel S. Beens, Albany; Orange Beeman, Berne; Michael Belle, Berne; Henry Benn, Rensselaerville; George Benn, Rensselaerville; Daniel J. Beyea, Jerusalem; Harmanus Bleecker, Jr., Albany; Nicholas Bleecker, Jr., Albany; Adam Blessing, Guilderland; Garritt H. Bloomingdale, Albany; Henry Bunzer, Knox; Matthew Boom, by widow, Albany; William Bunzey, Knox; Cornelius Bounds, Albany; Joseph Bradley, Berne; Adrian Bradt, Albany; Henry P. Bradt, New Scotland; John C. Bradt, Albany; Salvo Brintnall, Albany; John Bussy, Albany; Asa Brown, Jerusalem; Richard Brownell, Berne; Stewart Bull, Coeymans; Abraham Balson, Albany; Calvin Butler, Albany; Henry Cacknard, Coeymans; Daniel Carhart, Coeymans; John Carr, Coeymans; Henry Carroll, Berne; Daniel P. Clark, Albany; William Campbell, Watervliet; Henry Chadwick, Watervliet; Elisha Cheesebro, Guilderland; Jeremiah Clute, Albany; David Cole, Watervliet; Peter Colburn, Albany; James Cole, Cohoes; John Cole, South Jerusalem; Peter M. Conger, Watervliet; William Crandall, Rensselaerville; Edward P. Crary, Knox; Frederick J. Crounse, Guilderland; Philip DeForest, Albany; James W. Dubois, West Troy; Martin Easterly, Albany; Ebenezer S. Edgerton, Albany; Peter V. B. Elmendorf, New Scotland; Ethel Enos, Watervliet; C. Ertzberger, Albany; Ralph Farnham, Albany; Richard Filkins, Berne; Thomas Fish, Albany; William Forby, Albany; John Fraligh, Westerlo; Christopher Frederick, Guilderland; Luther Frisbie, Albany; William Fuhr, Albany; John J. Fulton, Albany; Joseph Gallup, Knox; Abiel Gardner, Westerlo; Thomas S. Gillet, Albany; Nathan B. Gleason, West Troy; Jonathan Goldwaite, Albany; Daniel Green, Coeymans; Isaac F. Groesbeck, Albany; Abraham Hagaman, Albany; Oliver Hastings, Watervliet; Aaron Hawley, Bethlehem; George Hawley, Albany; Ezra Haynes, Watervliet; Charles Hazleton, Jerusalem; Jesse Helligus, Berne; Josiah Hinckley, Jr., Westerlo; Isaac Hitchcock, West Troy; William Holdridge, Rensselaerville; Elias Holmes, Coeymans; John D. Houghtaling, Albany; Reuben Hungerford, Berne; Walter Huyck, Westerlo; Elisha Ingraham, Berne; Moses Jay, Albany; James Johnson, Watervliet; John Johnson, Albany; Daniel Joshlin, Berne, Albany County; Daniel Joslin, Berne; Sylvanus Kelley, Albany; John Lamoreux, Albany; Nicholas I. Lampman, Albany; Henry Lasee, Watervliet; William Latta, New Scotland; Daniel D. Lawyer, Albany; Jacob Lewis, Albany; Aaron Livingston, Albany; Jacob Loatwall, Albany; Charles Low, Albany; Jeremiah Luther, Albany; Robert McGill, New Scotland; Daniel McIntosh, Albany; John McMicken, Albany; Abraham Martin, Albany; Derrick Martin, Berne; Jacob Martin, New Scotland; Henry T. Mesick, Albany; Thomas Mitchel, Albany; Moses Mowers, Jerusalem; William Muir, Albany; John Myers, Albany; John Newbury, Westerlo; Benjamin Northrop, Albany; Nicholas Osterhout, Berne; Peter Osterhout, Albany; Henry Ostrander, Jr., Guilderland; Henry Paddock, Albany; Aaron Palmer, Albany; David D. Palmer, Berne; Stephenson Palmer, Berne; Anthony Pangborn, Bethlehem; John Parker, Bethlehem; Robert Patten, Albany; John Pier, 2d, Berne; Jacob Place, Albany; Jonas D. Platt, Albany; John Pruyn, Albany; Adam Relyea, Guilderland; Simon Relyea, Albany; William Rhinehart, Berne; Jesse E. Roberts, Watervliet; James Robinson, Albany; John I. Schermerhorn, Berne; Henry I. Schoonmaker, Bethlehem; Courtland Schuyler, Albany; Jacob Scott, Albany; John Scovell, Watervliet; William Scrafford, Bethlehem; Abraham Severson, Albany; John N. Severson, Guilderland; William Seymour, Albany; Israel Shadbolt, West Troy; John F. Shafer, Coeymans; Jacob Sharp, Albany; Peter Shafer, Guilderland; John Shouts, Albany; Stephen Simpson, Watervliet; John Skinkle, Albany; James Sloan, Berne; James Sloan, West Troy; William J. Smith, Albany; Peter H. Snyder, Albany; John Spoor, Albany; Lewis Stiman, Bethlehem; John Stenkle, Albany; Cyrus Stone, Westerlo; John Stone, Albany; George W. Swartwout, Westerlo; Peter Ten Eyck, Albany; Francis E. Thompson, Albany; Thomas Tibits, Rensselaerville; William Truax, Berne; John Turk, Coeymans; Conrad Turner, Jerusalem; David Turner, Watervliet; Henry Turner, Albany; Jacob Turner, West Troy; John Uran, West Troy; Cornelius Van Aiken, Rensselaerville; John Van Antwerp, Albany; Garret I. Vanderberg, Albany; Garret Vanderpool, Bethlehem; Cornelius Van Derzee, Guilderland; Peter Van Olinda, Albany; Cornelius W. Vedder, Albany; Ebenezer C. Warren, Albany; Samuel Warner, New Scotland; Joseph Werden, Watervliet; Jacob White, Albany; John Wilda, Berne; Hezekiah Wilks, Bethlehem; Benjamin Williams, Knox; Henry Williams, Knox; Christian Willmon, Berne; George Wilson, West Troy.

The war was largely fought at our own doors. Stephen Van Rensselaer, known as the "Old Patroon," a Federalist, but a firm patriot and of resolute bravery and great wealth, was appointed Major-General of the Volunteer Militia, by Governor Tompkins. He proceeded, in the autumn of 1812, as ordered, to the invasion of Canada on the Niagara frontier. A strong force of British troops was posted, under General Brock, on Queenstown Hights, opposite Lewistown. A great battle was fought here, October, 13, 1812. The first attack was made by Colonel Solomon Van Rensselaer, with 225 men, in the morning of that day. Bravely advancing, Colonel Van Rensselaer was severely wounded at the outset. Captain John E. Wool, afterwards General Wool, of West Troy Arsenal, pressed on as leader, and gained the Hights by a vigorous assault of the battery. The British were repulsed, and the brave General Brock was killed in attempting to retake the battery. All the efforts of General Van Rensselaer to bring reinforcements across the river were resisted by a majority of his troops, who pleaded that this was not a war of invasion. About a thousand, many of them raw and undisciplined, went over, and were badly cut up or taken prisoners. The General, disgusted by such cowardice, and by the inefficiency of the service

everywhere, resigned his command October 24, 1812, and returned to Albany.

Among the discouragements of this first year of the war, was the surrender of General Hull, at Detroit, August 9th. He was tried by court martial at Albany, in 1814, and convicted of cowardice, and sentenced to be hung; but was pardoned on account of former valiant services in the Revolution, and from a conviction that his surrender was more the result of over-estimating the force of the enemy, and a humane desire to save his men from threatened Indian butchery, than of cowardice.

There were many battles fought along the northern frontier through the war, some of them over the Canada borders. It seemed to be a leading purpose of the Government then in power to subject Canada, as well as to defend our northern lakes from the invaders. Much service was done, much blood shed. The full record would tell of much daring bravery and noble patriotism. We have reason to believe that Albany County soldiers were in most of these engagements. Among them, besides that of Queenstown, were the battle of Ogdensburgh, February 22, 1813; the capture of York, now Toronto, April 27th; capture of Fort George, May 27th; battle at Sackett's Harbor, May 29th; battle at Stony Creek, June 6th; naval battle of Lake Erie, under Commodore Perry, September 10th; battle on the Thames, October 5th; battle of St. Regis, October 23d; battle of Chrysler's Farm, November 11th; burning of Newark, December 12th; capture of Fort Niagara, December 26th; retaliating destruction of Fort Niagara, at Lewiston, Black Rock, Youngstown, and other frontier settlements, December 18th to 30th. In 1814, we record the capture of Oswego, May 5th; Fort Erie, July 3d; battle of Chippewa, July 5th; battle of Lundy's Lane, July 25th; battle of Fort Erie, August 15th; sortie at Fort Erie, September 17th; battle of Plattsburgh, September 6th to 11th.

From old newspapers, and other sources, we gather the fragmentary items that follow, relating to the soldiers of 1812.

When General Stephen Van Rensselaer returned, October 31, 1812, to Albany, after the battle of Queenstown, a large concourse of private citizens and dignitaries turned out to escort him to the city. Major John Lovett was his Secretary, and Colonel Solomon Van Rensselaer, one of the bravest men that Albany ever produced, was his Aid. He was long disabled by four bullet wounds received in this battle. One of the balls he carried in his flesh until his death.

November 8, 1812, Commodore Perry was met by a large body of citizens between Albany and Schenectady, and escorted to Douw's Tavern. From this point he was taken to the Capitol, accompanied by a large procession. Here he was presented with the freedom of the city in a gold box, and with an elegant sword. Then the procession conducted him through the principal streets. On the way, the Hero of Lake Erie was hailed with loud acclamations. At the close of the march, at the Eagle Tavern he was received by the Mayor and other public officials and assigned apartments. A brilliant ball was held in the evening; houses were illuminated; and the motto, "We have met the enemy, and they are ours," displayed. On the next day an elegant public entertainment was given. He continued his journey to his family, residing in Newport, R. I. The news of Perry's victory was first received in Albany, September 17th, with great demonstrations of joy.

About this time, Captain R. C. Skinner, of the artillery in the Albany Volunteer Regiment, had a recruiting office at Ladd's Coffee House, corner of Green and Beaver streets, for the purpose of completing five companies of infantry, two of riflemen, and one of artillery, which he reported as filling up in the city and county with wonderful success. He stated that the city had raised a fund of many thousand dollars for the benefit of the soldiers who should enlist.

November 28, 1812, the local papers report the return, after an absence of three months on Staten Island, of Captain Bulkley's company of Albany volunteers and Captain Walker's company of artillery. Their soldier-like appearance is highly commended.

Colonel John Mills, of this city, fell in the battle at Sackett's Harbor, May 29, 1813. He commanded the Republican artillery in that battle, with as many militia as he could enlist. He was given a conspicuous place in the line of battle, and fell gallantly in brave, but vain, endeavors to stop his men, who ingloriously fled after the first fire. So says General Jacob Brown, in his report. Many of the men assigned him were raw troops, unaccustomed to subordination. His remains were removed to the city and interred in Capitol Park, May 29, 1844, and finally, with military honors, put to rest, a few years ago, in the Rural Cemetery.

August 15, 1813, the arrival of two hundred British prisoners at the encampment in Greenbush is reported; also, of British deserters from Canada; and the arrival and departure of General Wilkinson on the same day (Sunday), on his way to the frontier.

The British flag taken by Lieutenant Wm. L. Marcy, afterward Governor Marcy, at St. Regis, October 23, 1812, was presented to the State of New York as a trophy of war, January 5, 1813. The act was accompanied with much ceremony; with processions, bands, and speeches, in which were joined the military of Troy and Albany.

At the battle of Ogdensburgh, fought October 12, 1813, under Colonel Forsyth, mention is made of the distinguished bravery of a single company of Albany artillery.

Among the honored names of men who have had homes in Albany County, and who are mentioned as having done service in this war, are found those of Stephen Van Rensselaer, Solomon Van Rensselaer, John Lovett, John E. Wool, John Mills, Colonel Forsyth, and William L. Marcy, already mentioned; also, William J. Worth, John O. Cole, Thurlow Weed, Lieutenant Gansevoort, Lieutenant Rathbone, and Ambrose Spencer, Jr. We shall be

very grateful to any one who may, hereafter add to this list.

On the reception of the news of peace, the whole city was illuminated.

The surviving soldiers of the campaign of 1812, about one hundred in number, residing in New York City, came to Albany by railroad, February 1, 1853, and marched through the city under Colonel Haight, escorted by the Republican artillery. Here, on the next day, they were joined by thirty-eight of their old companions belonging to Albany, and escorted to the Capitol, where they were addressed by Governor Seymour.

A corps of about fifty veterans of the War of 1812 joined in the celebration of American Independence, July 4, 1854, under General John S. Van Rensselaer. After the procession was dismissed, they met in convention at the Capitol and passed a series of resolutions.

THE WAR WITH MEXICO.

Texas was a part of the domain of Ancient Mexico. When Mexico became a republic, in 1824, it was made one of its united states. It had been claimed by our Government as a part of the Louisiana purchase in 1803; but this claim was not pressed. Texas began to be settled by Americans as early as 1821. It rebelled against the government of Santa Anna, and declared itself an independent state, March 2, 1836. This independence was not admitted by Mexico. On the 4th of July, 1845, it was, with its own consent, admitted as one of the States of our Union. This act caused an immediate rupture between the United States and Mexico. Added to this, our Government had a series of complaints against Mexico for aggressions upon our vessels in the Gulf of Mexico, confiscations, in its own territory, of the property of American merchants, violations of treaty, and other acts of injustice, extending back for a period of nearly forty years. General Taylor was sent at once, with an army of occupation, to Texas to hold and defend it. On the 24th of April, 1846, the first blood was shed in the War with Mexico. The contest, under Taylor, Scott, Wool, Worth, and others, was short and sharp. The treaty of peace was signed February 2, 1848, which gave to the United States, Upper California, New Mexico and adjacent territory, and conceded Texas. The distance of the field of strife was so great, that Albany County had only a small part in the contest, but that part belongs to our history.

An Act of Congress was passed providing that 50 regiments of volunteers should be raised in the United States for this war. Under the enactment, seven regiments were allotted to the State of New York, but only two were furnished.

The first regiment was raised by Colonel Stevenson in 1846. In this, one company of about 80 members was recruited in Albany, commanded by Captain John B. Frisbie and Lieutenant Edward Gilbert. This regiment, soon after it was formed, proceeded to Governor's Island and remained there about one month, when it was sent to Mexico, by way of Cape Horn, in sailing vessels.

Arriving at its destination, it joined General Scott's division of the army, and participated in all of his marches and battles till the close of the war.

November, 1846, the second regiment of New York volunteers was raised, commanded by Colonel Ward B. Burnett. In this regiment was a company of Albanians, commanded by Captain Abraham Van O'Linda and Lieutenant Adison Farnsworth.

In December of this year, this regiment went to Fort Hamilton, and there remained until the following January, when it proceeded to Mexico by way of the gulf. Landing at Vera Cruz it was joined to General Scott's command, and participated in all his engagements, from the battles of Vera Cruz to the capture of the City of Mexico.

By an Act of Congress in 1847, ten regiments of regular troops were called for from the State of New York.

Under this call the Tenth Regiment of Infantry was formed of ten companies. This regiment was credited to Albany, and contained many soldiers from this city and county, although the greater number were recruited from outside of the county. It was commanded by Colonel Robert E. Temple and Lieutenant-Colonel James McGown. This regiment was joined to General Taylor's division of the army, and remained with him until the close of the War.

The Third Regiment of Dragoons contained a number of soldiers recruited in this section, but no distinct company of Albany men. Such was the case with a number of regiments which served in the Mexican War.

The soldiers from this county, so far as we are able to learn, did good service. A few of them still remain to tell the story of entering the Halls of the Montezumas. Among them is Mr. William L. Burgess, to whom we are under obligations for most of the facts here presented.

The brave Generals John E. Wool and William J. Worth, who were among the most prominent and successful leaders in the Mexican service, were formerly residents of this county.

WAR OF THE REBELLION.

THIS was a war between citizens of the same country, and has, hence, been sometimes called The Great Civil War. But our heading best expresses its character. It came after a long and exciting controversy between the slave-holding and non-slave-holding States, involving the questions of the moral right or wrong of slavery; the political policy of its extension and perpetuation; and of State rights generally. There was also a bitter jealousy between the Southern and Northern States as to the balance of power between those States, shown in a constant struggle to secure the public offices and patronage. The South was not improving by slave labor; the North was rapidly increasing in wealth and power by free labor.

The Southern States began to secede from the Union and form a Southern Confederacy when they found Abraham Lincoln elected President of the United States. South Carolina was the first in the secession, December 20, 1860. Ten other of the slave States followed. Their artful leaders had accumulated in the forts and arsenals on their borders, a large quantity of the public munitions of war—seized those forts, and put them in the hands of fellow-conspirators.

The attack of the rebels upon Fort Sumter took place April 11, 1861. This overt act was the actual beginning of the war.

Its record is a story of fratricidal strife unparalleled in the world's history, whether we consider the malignity of the seceders, or the determined self-sacrificing patriotism and bravery of the friends of the Union of all the States; or whether we attempt to count the suffering and loss of human life, or estimate the devastation made and the treasure expended. But its results showed the superior value of grand free labor, when conducted by heads educated in free schools and hands addicted to habits of productive industry.

The war practically closed with the surrender of the rebels under General Lee to General Grant, April 9, 1865. What follows is only the merest outline of the part borne by Albany County in this war.

The ladies and citizens of all classes, under different voluntary organizations, did a vast amount of labor, and expended great sums of money for the comfort, encouragement, and relief of the soldiers and their families during the whole time of the war.

The Citizens' Military Relief Fund contributed $20,479.

The Ladies' Army Relief Association was organized in Albany, to co-operate with the U. S. Sanitary Commission, as early as November, 1861, to aid sick and wounded soldiers. Similar societies existed in Coeymans, Rensselaerville, Knox, and other towns in the county. Useful articles were made or purchased, and forwarded in barrels and boxes continually. At one time 287 were sent; at another about 600. Fruit, vegetables, and cordials, and delicacies of every sort were gathered from farm-houses, grocers, and families, and included in the benefactions. This local association of ladies raised also $19,212.30 in money during the four years ending January 1, 1866, for disabled soldiers and their families.

The Army Relief Bazaar was erected in the Academy Park, and kept open as a great Sanitary Fair of Albany, Troy, Schenectady, and other places in the State, during the months of February and March, 1864. It was a building remarkable for size and fitness. It was filled with articles of utility and beauty on sale. Everything was conducted with order, zeal, and energy. It was a grand success. The net proceeds, amounting to $81,908.50 were paid into the treasury of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

The Albany Auxiliary to the U. S. Christian Commission, between April 1, 1864, and January 1, 1866, received $23,740.20 in money, besides a great amount of books, papers, provisions, delicacies, and minor articles of convenience made in sewing circles, which were contributed for the spiritual, social, and physical needs of the soldiers.

A Refreshment Committee fed 16,709 soldiers as they passed through Albany in coming or going. Their expenses were over $7,600.

Besides these, much time was spent and thousands of dollars in money were given by private citizens. And the deeds of heroic patriotism and Christian charity done by gentlewomen, never can be fully expressed in words.

The War Expenses of the County of Albany are stated as follows:

For County Bounties	$3,100,700.00
For Recruiting and Enlistments	225,125.39
Total	$3,325,825.39
Raised by County Taxes	$641,441.47
Raised by County Loans	2,889,552.00
Total	$3,930,963.47

We now give a brief record of military service organized in the county. We would be glad if we could give the names and services of every soldier.

On April 16, 1861, the day following President Lincoln's call for 75,000 men to suppress the rebellion, the Legislature of New York State passed an Act to authorize the embodying and equipment of a volunteer militia, and to provide for the public defense. One week later, 155 companies were recruited in this State, and ready for acceptance into service. The number of men furnished by the State under each call was as follows: Call for

militia, April 15, 1861, 13,906; call for volunteers, July 22, 1861, 120,231; July 2, 1862, 59,705; August 4, 1862, 20,980; October 17, 1863, and February 1, 1864, 75,751; March 14, 1864, 44,435; July 18, 1864, 83,843; December 19, 1864, 32,965; militia for 100 days, 5,640; for less than 100 days, 15,987. Whole number militia, 35,533; whole number of volunteers, 437,910. Total, 473,443.

The first regiment in Albany County to respond to the Governor's order, issued on the evening of April 21, 1861, to move on to Washington next morning at nine, was the Twenty-fifth Regiment, N. Y. State Militia. It was officered as follows: Michael K. Bryan, Colonel; James Swift, Lieutenant-Colonel; David Friedlander, Major; John M. Kimball, Adjutant; Cornelius B. O'Leary, Surgeon. Captains: Company A, Jacob Fredendall; B, Timothy McDermott; C, John Gray; D, Frank Marshall; E, J. J. Huber; F, M. H. Kenneally; G, H. Mulholland; H, — Godfrey; K, Hale Kingsley; L, F. Newdorf. With 479 men all told, the regiment proceeded to Washington, arriving on the morning of the 29th, and was quartered near the Capitol. Ordered to Arlington Hights, the regiment built Fort Albany, and after three months' service, returned to Albany, numbering 575 men. May 31, 1862, the regiment was again mustered into the United States service for three months, and ordered to Suffolk, Va. On its return, Colonel Bryan and many of its officers and men enlisted in the volunteer service. Colonel Michael K. Bryan, born in Ireland in 1820, came to Albany in 1827, and was educated in the public schools. He was for many years in the employ of his cousin, Colonel John McCardle, but became proprietor in 1853 of a restaurant and hotel. In 1850 he was Captain of Albany Worth Guards; and was successively Major, Lieutenant-Colonel, and Colonel of the 25th N. Y. S. M., which he led twice in his country's service. He afterwards raised the 175th Regiment, N. Y. Volunteers, and was made its Colonel, and proceeded to Louisiana early in the winter of 1862. He was mortally wounded in a charge at Port Hudson, La., June 14, 1863, and died at the head of his command. He was a noble patriot.

Third Regiment Infantry, N.Y. S. V., was organized in Albany, May 7, 1861, and was composed of ten companies, of which five were recruited from Albany, viz.: C, Captain E. G. Floyd; E, Captain J. W. Blanchard; F, Captain H. S. Hulbert; G, Captain J. H. Ten Eyck, Jr.; I, Captain E. S. Jenny. May 8th, Frederick Townsend was elected Colonel, S. M. Alford, Lieutenant-Colonel, and George D. Bayard, Major. Alexander H. Hoff was made Surgeon, and Jonathan O. Moore, Adjutant. The regiment left Albany May 18, 1861, with 796 officers and men; was in the engagement at Big Bethel, and afterwards stationed at Fortress Monroe, until its term of enlistment expired. May 8, 1863, it went into service as a veteran command, with 800 men; received 700 conscripts, 200 recruits, and, by consolidation, the 112th N. Y. Volunteers. It did distinguished service at Fort Wagner, Charleston, Bermuda Hundred, Petersburg, Fort Gilmer, Fort Fisher, Wilmington, and in many skirmishes. Colonel Townsend resigning July 2, 1861, the regiment continued in service under Colonel Alford, and was mustered out August, 1865. Colonel Townsend has since been Adjutant-General of the State, and still resides in the city, one of its most esteemed citizens.

The Forty-third Regiment, New York Volunteers, was organized at Albany and mustered into the United States service between August 25 and September 21, 1861, when it reached the field, with the following commissioned officers: Francis L. Vinton, Colonel; Charles H. Pierson, Lieutenant-Colonel; Benjamin F. Baker, Major; James H. Thompson, Surgeon; James H. Bogart, Adjutant. Captains: Company A, John Wilson; Company B, I. R. Van Slyke; Company E, E. Cass Griffin; Company D, Charles H. Clark; Company E, Jacob Wilson; Company F, James C. Rogers; Company G, William H. Mathews; Company H (Yates Rifles), Edwin C. Drake; Company I, George W. Reed; Company K, Harvey S. Chatfield; Captain Charles B. Mitchell, 1862; Captain John L. Newman, 1862; Captain David Burhans, 1862; Captain James D. Visscher, 1862. The regiment left Albany September 16, 1861, with 706 men; received 1,621 recruits, and returned in July, 1865, with 290 men and 13 officers. It was at the front all through the war; was distinguished for dash and courage; and was in the following engagements: Lee's Mills, Warwick Creek, Siege of Yorktown, Golding's Farm, Seven Days' Battles, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Mary's Hights, Salem Church, Banks' Ford, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Rappahannock Station, Locust Grove, Mine Run, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna, Coal Harbor, Petersburg, Fort Stephens, Charleston, Opequam, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, Petersburg (two engagements), Sailor's Creek.

Among those who fell was Major (afterwards Colonel) James Henry Bogart, who was born March 24, 1839, in Albany; was educated at Albany Academy. Enlisted under Colonel Vinton as Adjutant; was Major in the 162d, and was killed by a shell while advancing with his regiment at Port Hudson, June 14, 1863. Captain (afterwards Colonel) John Wilson, born in Albany December 29, 1838; educated at Albany Academy; was proficient in scholarship; raised Company A of the 43d in a week, and marched to the barracks August 3, 1861. He was commissioned as Major, July 17, 1862; Lieutenant-Colonel, September 24, 1862; Colonel, February 1, 1864. May 6, 1864, his right knee was shattered by a rifle ball; his leg was amputated next day; and he died May 8th, greatly lamented.

Captain (afterwards Major) William Wallace; born in Albany January 8, 1835; educated in public schools; was foreman in Weed, Parson & Co.'s office; active in the Fire Department; raised Company F for the 43d Regiment in September, 1862; was confined in Libby Prison in May and June, 1863, until exchanged. He was commissioned Major, April, 1864. While leading a charge at the Battle of the Wilderness, May 6, 1864, was shot through

the head. In the same engagement Lieutenant Colonel Fryer was mortally wounded. Both sleep among the bravest of the brave.

Captain David Burhans, Company H, was born in Bethlehem June 24, 1840; became mail agent from New York to Troy. In September, 1862, he raised a company for the 43d, and was with his regiment until he fell, fighting at the front, at Po River, May 10, 1864. He was esteemed for exalted virtues.

Captain (afterwards Colonel) James D. Visscher was born in Albany March 26, 1829; was in employ of Weed, Parsons & Co.; was member of the Burgesses Corps and went with them, and 25th Regiment New York State Militia, in April, 1861, to Washington for three months' service. He enlisted and took command of Company G, 43d Regiment, September 4, 1862; was promoted Colonel of the regiment after the battle of the Wilderness, May 12, 1864; and was killed at Fort Stevens, Washington, July 12, 1864. He was beloved for his Christian virtues and soldierly conduct.

Captain Douglass Lodge, son of Mr. Benjamin Lodge, born in Albany September 22, 1842; attended public schools, the Academy, and Annapolis Naval School. He enlisted in Company B, 25th New York State Militia, in April, 1861; re-enlisted in 43d Volunteers; Third Sergeant, Company A. He was promoted, for bravery, to Quartermaster-Sergeant, September, 1861; Second Lieutenant, April, 1862; First Lieutenant and Captain, November 3, 1862. At the charge on Mary's Hights, May 3, 1863, Captain Lodge planted the regiment's colors on the enemy's works. On the following day he received his death wound. This young soldier died, greatly beloved and honored, May 5th.

The Tenth Regiment National Guards was organized at Albany in 1861, early in the rebellion, and performed guard and other duty at the call of Governor Morgan. It tendered for the third time its services for nine months; went into service November 21, 1862, with 864 men, officered as follows: Ira W. Ainsworth, Colonel; Frank Chamberlain, Lieutenant-Colonel; David M. Woodhall, Major; Richard M. Strong, Adjutant; William H. Craig, Surgeon. Captains: Company A, Lionel U. Lenox; Company B, Charles E. Davis; Company C, Stephen Bronk; Company D, James Dodds; Company E, James McFarland; Company F, James R. Harris; Company G, Morgan L. Filkins; Company H, Harmon N. Merriman; Company I, E. H. Tomlinson; Company K, William H. Brandenburg. It was assigned to General Banks, Department of the Gulf, as the 177th New York Volunteers. It served in the campaigns from New Orleans to Port Hudson, and did some of the best fighting at the latter place, suffering severely.

On the fall of Port Hudson, and at the close of its nine months' service, it returned home and resumed its original position in the Ninth Brigade National Guard.

Among those of the 177th who fell in the field were—

Adjutant Richard M. Strong, son of Anthony M. Strong; was born in Albany June 10, 1835, and died at Bonnet Carré, La., May 12, 1863. He had graduated with honor at Albany Academy and Princeton College; was admitted to the Bar in 1856; was Judge Advocate of the Ninth Brigade National Guard, and Adjutant 177th Volunteers, at the time of his death.

Lieutenant John Peter Phillips, Company F; born in Fishkill July 25, 1820; when 16 removed to New York, afterwards to Albany. Went with the Tenth Regiment to Louisiana; contracted fever, and died September 4, 1863, four days after his return home.

Sergeant Charles H. Frederich, born in Albany October 23, 1841; attended public schools. Enlisted in Company B, Tenth National Guard; died of typhoid fever at Bonnet Carré, La., March 10, 1863.

Sergeant Joseph C. Vanderhoop, born July 25, 1843, in Albany; was a marble cutter. Joined Company B, 25th Militia, and went with that regiment to Washington, April, 1861. May 23d, Sergeant Vanderhoop captured two prisoners, supposed to have been the first taken in the War for the Union. He enlisted in the 177th Regiment, and died of typhoid fever in Louisiana.

Sergeant William Crounse, born in Guilderland, September 19, 1830; came to Albany in 1855. Enlisted in the Tenth National Guard; went to Bonnet Carré, La., where he died June 28, 1863.

Forty-Fourth or People's Regiment.—After New York's quota under the first call had been filled, it was deemed advisable to ask each town and ward to be represented by furnishing one man, armed and equipped by voluntary subscription, to form a Zouave regiment to avenge the death of Colonel Ellsworth, and serve during the war. It was organized October 16, 1861, and left October 20th for the seat of war, 850 strong, composed largely of Albany City and County men. Its officers were as follows: Stephen W. Stryker, Colonel; James C. Rice, Lieutenant-Colonel; James McKown, Major; William Frothingham, Surgeon; Edward B. Knox, Adjutant. Captains: Company A, Edward P. Chapin; Company B, L. S. Larrabee; Company C, William H. Revere, Jr.; Company D, Freeman Conner; Company E, Michael McN. Walsh; Company F, Campbell Allen; Company G, William L. Vanderlip; Company H, William N. Danks; Company I, A. Webster Shaffer; Company K, William H. Miller. Captain Rodney G. Kimball, 1862; Captain B. Munger, 1862. The regiment was mustered in September 24, 1861, and served at Yorktown, Hanover Court House, Gaines' Mills, Turkey Island, Malvern Hill, Groveton, Antietam, Fredericksburgh, Chancellorsville, Aldie, Gettysburg, Jones' Cross Roads, Rappahannock Station, Mine Run, Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court House, North Anna, Bethesda Church, Petersburg, and the Weldon Railroad. The regiment was mustered out September 24, 1864, and returned 170 in number. During its service upwards of 700 recruits joined its ranks.

The following, among others in the regiment, died in service—

Lieutenant-Colonel (afterwards Brigadier-General) James C. Rice; born in Worthington, Massachusetts, 1828; graduated from Yale College, 1853; studied law; enlisted April, 1861; did brave service and was transferred to the 39th New York Volunteers Garibaldi Guards; commissioned First Lieutenant, then Adjutant; he was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the Forty-Fourth; went to the front; was promoted Colonel; and finally was made Brigadier-General for gallant conduct at Gettysburg. He was killed at Spottsylvania, Va., May 10, 1864. A devoted patriot, a sincere Christian. His last words were, "Turn me over that I may die with my face to the foe." Sergeant Walter H. Angus, born June 10, 1845; enlisted October 21, 1861, in the Forty-Fourth; was in all engagements with his regiment, escaping unhurt until the fatal shot. Was promoted Second-Lieutenant October 9, 1863; killed at Petersburgh June 21, 1864.

Ninety-first Regiment, New York Volunteers, was raised in the autumn of 1861, mostly in Albany, and was called into the United States' service for three years, December 16, 1861, with 847 names on the roll. It left Albany December 20th, and Governor's Island January 8, 1862; arriving at Key West, January 20th. The officers were as follows: Jacob Van Zandt, Colonel; Jonathan Tarbell, Lieutenant-Colonel; Charles G. Clark, Major; Robert F. Keeven, Adjutant; Robert Morris, Surgeon. Captains: Company A, John W. Felthousen; Company B, George W. Stackhouse; Company C, J. G. McDermott; Company D, Henry Crounse; Company E, William Lee; Company F, John Cooke; Company G, Allan H. Jackson; Company H, J. B. Collins; Company I, Charles A. Burt; Company K, Henry S. Hulbert. The Ninety-first was stationed at Pensacola seven months; went to New Orleans under General Banks. Was in three engagements at Port Hudson, Irish Bend, Bayou Vermilion, Gonzales' Plantation, and many skirmishes. It suffered severely. Returned home July 19, 1864. Nearly all re-enlisted. It was stationed six months near Baltimore, and recruited 1,600 strong. In February, 1865, it was assigned to First Brigade, Third Division, Fifth Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, before Petersburgh. Was in the battles of White Oak Ridge, Five Forks and many minor engagements.

The following are among those who fell in battle:

Major George W. Stackhouse, enlisted 1861; Second Lieutenant, Company A, 25th New York; promoted Captain and Major 91st New York, March, 1863. Died June 19, 1863, from gunshot wounds. His two brothers, James and William, were with him at Port Hudson.

Captain John A. Fee, born in Albany, January 16, 1837. Enlisted October, 1861; appointed Orderly-Sergeant; promoted Second-Lieutenant 48th New York. Was Commandant at Tybee Island until April, 1863. Promoted Captain, April, 1863; ordered to Army of the Potomac. Was in battles of Chester Hill, Drury's Bluff, Coal Harbor. He was wounded in the arm June 30, 1863, and died July 15th.

Lieutenant William P. Clark, born in Watervliet, January 27, 1835; educated in common schools of Albany. Enlisted in April, 1861; served three months with 25th New York State Militia; re-enlisted in September, 1861; served until April 14, 1863, when he was shot through the head at Irish Bend, La.

Lieutenant Sylvester B. Shepard, born in Albany, July 25, 1841. Was in Burgesses Corps, and with 25th New York State Militia, in its three months' service. Recruited Company C, 91st New York Volunteers. Appointed Second-Lieutenant, promoted First-Lieutenant, and appointed Adjutant. He was killed at Port Hudson, June 14, 1863, while in command of his Company.

Eleventh New York Havelock Battery was organized at Albany, October 26, 1861; mustered in January 6, 1862, with 158 men and the following officers: A. A. Von Puttkammer, Captain; R. A. Warrington, First-Lieutenant; James Rodgers, First-Lieutenant; G. A. Knapp, Second Lieutenant; John E. Burton, Second Lieutenant. The battery left Albany January 17, 1862. Was engaged in the following battles: Second Bull Run, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Mine Run, Spottsylvania Court House, North Anna River, Tolopotony Creek, Coal Harbor, Petersburg, and Deep Bottom. It was engaged about every day, from September, 1864, till Lee's surrender, April 9, 1865.

The following are among those who fell in action:

Lieutenant Henry D. Brower, born in Albany November 12, 1839. Raised first installment of men for Havelock Battery; mustered in as private, October 1, 1861; transferred to 12th Battery as Corporal; promoted Lieutenant, March 30, 1863. Was killed at Reams' Station, August 25, 1864. Sergeant John R. Warmington was killed at Chancellorsville, May 3, 1863. Corporal William H. Van Gaasbeek was killed at Coal Harbor, June 6, 1864. Corporal William H. Broughton was killed at Petersburg, September 28, 1864.

One Hundred and Thirteenth Regiment, N. Y. Volunteers, or Seventh Regiment, N. Y. Volunteer Artillery, was organized as the Albany County Regiment in the 13th Senatorial District, under the auspices of the following committee, appointed by Governor Morgan, viz.:

Hon. Eli Perry, General J. F. Rathbone, Hon. Lyman Tremain, J. Tracey, T. W. Olcott, George Dawson, Hon. C. B. Cochrane, Hon. J. V. L. Pruyn, Hon. Franklin Townsend, Samuel Anable, W. M. Van Antwerp, Hon. George H. Thacher and Hon. Henry A. Brigham. The first man was enlisted July 24, 1862. Over 1,100 men were mustered in August 18, 1862, with the following field and staff officers:

Colonel, Lewis O. Morris; Major, Edward A. Springstead; Adjutant, Frederick L. Tremain; Quartermaster, E. Willard Smith; Surgeon, James E. Promfret; Assistant Surgeons, J. W. Blaisdell,

George W. Newcomb; Chaplain, Humphrey L. Calder. Captains: Company A, Joseph M. Murphy; Company B, Samuel E. Jones; Company C, John A. Morris; Company D, Charles McCulloch; Company E, Norman H. Moore; Company F, Robert H. Bell; Company G, Francis Pruyn; Company H, John McGuire; Company I, William Shannon; Company K, Samuel L. Anable.

Lieutenants: Company A, A. Sickles, 1st, John B. Read, 2d; Company B, J. Kennedy, 1st, William E. Orr, 2d; Company C, H. N. Rogers, 1st, M. Bell, 2d; Company D, C. Schurr, 1st, H. C. Coulson, 2d; Company E, A. V. B. Lockrow, 1st, J. F. Mount, 2d; Company F, N. Wright, 1st, R. Mullens, 2d; Company G, S. McEwan, 1st, C. W. Hobbs, 2d; Company H, H. C. Ducharme, 1st, F. Pettit, 2d; Company I, J. O. Hair, 1st, J. M. Ball, 2d; Company K, M. H. Barckley, 1st, G. Krank, 2d.

The regiment left Albany August 19, 1862. Was stationed in the defenses of Washington. Changed, December, 1862, from infantry to artillery, and designated as Seventh N. Y. Volunteer Artillery. It was recruited to 152 men in each company. It built, reconstructed and cleared timber before the following works, and garrisoned them: Forts Reno, De Russey, Kearney, Gaines, Bayard, Ripley, Franklin and Alexander; Batteries Smead, Reno, Cameron, Vermont and Martin Scott.

In spring of 1864, two companies were added, with officers as follows—Captains: Company L, James Kennedy; Company M, George H. Treadwell. Lieutenants: Company L, F. W. Mather, 1st, C. C. McClellan, 2d; Company M, G. B. Smallie, 1st, E. S. Moss, 2d.

May 17, 1864, the regiment joined the Army of the Potomac, near Spottsylvania Court House, Virginia. Was engaged in the battles of the Po River, North Anna River, Tolopotony Creek, Coal Harbor, Petersburg, Deep Bottom and Ream's Station. It suffered severely, and was greatly reduced in numbers. February 22, 1865, the remnant was ordered to Baltimore, till mustered out June, 1865.

Colonel Lewis Owen Morris, born in Albany, August 14, 1824; studied at Albany Academy. In 1847 was commissioned Second Lieutenant in the First Artillery, U. S. A., and went out to Mexico. Afterwards he was in constant service in Florida, or on Texan frontier. May, 1861, he was in command of Fort Brown, Texas. Refused to surrender or give up United States property to the Southerners. Was in service at Roanoke and Newbern, and captured Fort Macon. In 1862 he took command of the 113th N. Y. Volunteers, which he retained until killed by a rebel sharpshooter, June 3, 1864.

Major Edward A. Springsteed, born in Albany, January 31, 1840. Commissioned First Lieutenant 43d N. Y. Volunteers, August 17, 1861; Captain, 113th N. Y. Volunteers; promoted Major. Commanded at Forts Kearney and De Russey. Commanded 2d Battalion at Lauren's Hill, Spottsylvania, North Anna, Coal Harbor, Milford Station. Had been promoted Colonel. He was killed, while leading his men, at Ream's Station, August 25, 1864, before his commission reached him.

Captain James Kennedy, born in Albany, February 15, 1833. Was commissioned First Lieutenant, Company B, 113th Volunteers, August 4, 1862; promoted Captain, Battery L, February 12, 1864. Wounded at Coal Harbor, June 3d, at Ream's Station, August 25th, and captured. Died in Libby Prison of typhoid fever, September 10, 1864.

Captain John A. Morris, a native of Albany, born August 31, 1835. Was member of Company B, Washington Continentals; mustered into United States service August 7, 1862, as First Lieutenant, Company C, 113th Volunteers; promoted Captain, August 19th. Was in constant service until May 19, 1864, when a bullet pierced his heart at Spottsylvania Court House.

Captain Nathaniel Wright was a native of Kirtland, O. When seventeen, came to Albany as clerk. Enlisted in the 113th; mustered in, August 11, 1862, as First Lieutenant. Sent to Albany to recruit regiment, 1863; returned to field and was shot dead at Ream's Station, August 25, 1864.

Captain Robert H. Bell, born in Lancashire, England; came to America when nineteen. Was foreman of Company No. 8, Albany Fire Department. Served three months with 25th N. Y. Militia; raised company for the 113th, and was commissioned Captain. Was wounded May 19, 1864, at the Wilderness, and died June 20th.

Lieutenant William Emmet Orr, born in Albany, September 12, 1841; studied at Rochester University. Was commissioned Second Lieutenant, Company B, 113th N. Y. Volunteers, August 7, 1862; promoted First Lieutenant, Company F, January, 1864. A. A. A. G., on Colonel Morris' staff. Died June 2, 1864, from wound received at North Anna River.

Lieutenant James H. Morgan was a native of Albany; studied law. Commissioned First Lieutenant, Company G, 18th N. Y. Volunteers, 1861; re-enlisted in Seventh N. Y. Volunteer Artillery. Taken prisoner at Ream's Station, August 25, 1864. Died at Salisbury, N. C., November 21, 1864.

Lieutenant Michael H. Barckley, born in Knox, November 15, 1840; graduated Union College, 1862. Raised a Company in Knox and was commissioned First Lieutenant Company K, 113th Regiment. He went with his regiment through all its engagements. Was wounded at Coal Harbor, and died July 6, 1864.

Lieutenant Charles S. Evans, born in Rensselaerville, November 10, 1840. Enlisted, August 2, 1862, Company K, 7th Volunteer Artillery; promoted Lieutenant Company I. June 5, 1864, he was killed at Coal Harbor, buried there, and his body never found afterwards.

Lieutenant Charles L. Yeardsley was born in West Troy, May 19, 1843. Enlisted August 13, 1862, Company H 113th New York Volunteers; was promoted Orderly Sergeant and Lieutenant April 15, 1864. He was killed at Petersburg, Va., June 3, 1864, while leading the charge of Company G.

Lieutenant John B. Read, Adjutant 7th New York Volunteer Artillery; was born October

8, 1830, at Stuyvesant, N. Y. Helped raise a Company for 113th Regiment, and was commissioned Second Lieutenant Company A, August 4, 1862. Was wounded at Coal Harbor, and left within the enemy's lines.

Sergeant James S. Gerling was born in England October 7, 1845. Came to America when nine years old. Enlisted July, 1862, in the 113th Regiment; promoted Corporal and Sergeant. Wounded in the Wilderness June 3, 1864, again August 24th, and died October 8, 1864.

Sergeant George Sanders was a native of England; came to Albany when fourteen years old. Enlisted August 1, 1862, Company D 113th Regiment. He was wounded in the head by a shell at Coal Harbor, and died in hospital June 18, 1864. He was promoted Corporal, April 11, 1863, and Sergeant, January 24, 1864.

Sergeant William H. Bell was born in Berne March 28, 1841. Enlisted August 18, 1862, Company K, 113th Regiment. He died in the service, March 15, 1864.

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTICES.

Colonel Edward Frisby was born in Trenton, N. Y., August 3, 1809. When seventeen, came to Albany; was a hatter. At eighteen he was Corporal in a Militia Company; promoted Ensign, 89th Infantry, September 2, 1831; Captain, August, 1833; Major, March, 1835; Lieutenant-Colonel, September, 1839; Colonel, August, 1841. He was Colonel of 25th Militia Regiment, and Brigadier-General 11th Brigade, N. Y. S. M. He went to the front with the 25th Militia Regiment, April, 1861; returned and raised the 30th New York Volunteers, and was commissioned Colonel. The Regiment left Albany June 27, 1861. He was killed at Second Bull Run battle, August 28, 1862.

Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick Lyman Tremain, son of Hon. Lyman Tremain, was born in Durham, N. Y., June 13, 1843. He attended Albany Academy, Anthony's Classical Institute, and Hobart College. He enlisted in 113th Regiment, raised a Company and was promoted Adjutant; he was transferred to First Brigade, Third Division of the Cavalry Corps; afterwards to Second Cavalry Division, Second Brigade. He was in all the engagements with his division under General Sheridan in the Wilderness, Todd's Tavern, Childsburg, Meadow's Bridge, Richmond Heights, Haw's Shop, Spottsylvania, St. Mary's Church, Ream's Station, Malvern Hill, Lee's Mills, and others. He was made Lieutenant-Colonel of 10th New York Cavalry, and was wounded at Dabney's Mills February 5, 1865, and died three days later.

Captain Harmon N. Merriman, born in Franklin, Pa., September 19, 1819; was a lawyer. Helped raise the Tenth Regiment; was Captain Company H; was wounded at Port Hudson May 27, 1863, while leading his company, and died on his way home July 15, 1863.

Captain John McGuire was born in Ireland in 1829. Came to Albany in 1845; was Sergeant of the Albany Worth Guards; enlisted in 25th New York Militia and served with the Regiment in 1861 and 1862. September, 1862, he joined 175th New York Volunteers; was appointed First Lieutenant and promoted Captain. He served with Regiment at Port Hudson, in Shenandoah Valley, and North Carolina, where he was killed by guerrillas April 15, 1865.

Lieutenant James Williamson was born in Scotland October 2, 1829. Was First Lieutenant 10th Regiment, New York State Militia, July 8, 1861. When the Regiment was changed to 177th New York Volunteers, he was appointed First Lieutenant Company H. He was in battles of Ponchatoula and Port Hudson. At the latter he was killed May 27, 1863, while leading a charge.

Orderly-Sergeant Peter M. Shaler was born in Scotland March 11, 1842. Came to America at the age of 10 and to Albany in 1858. He joined 10th Regiment, New York State Militia. Went to war with this Regiment. Was wounded March 24, 1863, at Ponchatoula, La., and died July 18, 1863.

Sergeant Alexander D. Rice was born in Albany April 10, 1837. Enlisted August 6, 1862, in Company C, 7th New York Heavy Artillery, and promoted Sergeant. He was wounded June 3, 1864, at Coal Harbor, and died June 28th.

Sergeant Andrew T. Hotaling, Company A, was born in New Baltimore July 23, 1838. Enlisted in Company A, 7th New York Artillery, November 7, 1862; promoted Corporal, December 1, 1862; Sergeant, May 1, 1863. He was wounded at Petersburg June 22, 1864, and died in hospital July 26, 1864.

Sergeant Paul Quay was born in Knox July 30, 1841. Enlisted in the 7th Regiment August 1, 1862; taken prisoner June 16, 1864; sent to Andersonville, afterwards to Milan, where he died in prison.

Our space admits of no more extended notice of the noble part acted by Albany County in the cruel War of the Rebellion. We are indebted to Dr. Clark's "Heroes of Albany" for most of our facts, which we have been obliged to express here in a very condensed form.

In the history given in this volume of the Lew Benedict Post, George S. Dawson Post, and Lewis O. Morris Post, of the G. A. R., will appear honored names of some other men of patriotic hearts and brave deeds, who came back from that fearful struggle to dwell with us, and carry on still longer the battle of life as useful citizens. Some others will also appear in the history of our local military organizations.

To one who wishes to know more of these men, and to keep their names and deeds in lasting remembrance, we commend the observance of Decoration Day, when soldiers and citizens unite in processions, and proceed to decorate with flowers the soldiers' graves in Rural Cemetery and other last resting places of the dead patriots in this vicinity. May this custom, and the other appropriate ceremonies of the day, long be annually observed!

WEST POINT CADETS.

The following list, obtained from the Adjutant-General in the War Department at Washington, under date of June 18, 1855, contains, so far as can be ascertained from the records of this department, the names of cadets admitted to the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, from Albany County, N. Y., since 1815:

*Dudley W. Allanson, 1818; William Bloodgood, 1819; Stephen V. R. Ryan, 1821; Horace Smith, 1821; John R. B. Gardenier, 1823; Abraham Van Buren, 1823; *Isaac P. Van Antwerp, 1823; *Burritt Shepherd, 1824; Chileab S. Howe, 1825; Henry Van Rensselaer, 1827; Daniel P. Whitney, 1828; *Richard Ten Broeck, 1829; *Edward Elliott, 1829; Archibald Campbell, 1831; John Bratt, 1833; John Hillhouse, 1838; Egbert L. Viele, 1842; Albert J. S. Molinard, 1847; *Thomas E. Collins, 1851; *Henry S. Hulbert, 1853; *George T. Peckham, 1854; William H. Harris, 1857; James F. Gregory, 1861; Leonard G. Hun, 1865; Henry P. Walker, 1869; *Theodore P. Bailey, 1875; Daniel E. McCarthy, 1877; Frank De W. Ramsey, 1881; †William G. Thompson, 1885.

The establishment of a U. S. Military Academy at West Point was recommended by George Washington in 1793. It was established by Act of U. S. Congress, March 12, 1802, and organized in 1812.

SPECIAL OFFICERS CONNECTED WITH SOME OF THE INDUSTRIES OF ALBANY COUNTY.

Chapter XL, Laws of 1784, enacts that no pot or pearl-ashes shall be shipped for exportation until inspected by a properly appointed inspector, who shall start the same out of the casks and carefully examine, try and inspect the same, and sort the same in three different sorts if necessary; to be placed in separate casks, well hooped and coopered, and branded with the quality, weight, place of inspection, and name of inspector. His fees were sixpence per hundredweight.

In case of any dispute between inspector and owner, any magistrate within the county may issue a warrant to three indifferent judicious persons of skill and integrity—one to be named by the owner, one by the inspector, and one by the magistrate—to be viewers to view and search the said pot or pearl-ashes and report of the quality thereof as soon as conveniently may be. The fees and costs were to be paid by the party against whom the report was made.

By the Laws of 1788, General Inspectors of Lumber were authorized, and by Chapter LIX of the Laws of 1801, an inspector for the City of Albany was authorized to inspect all timber, boards, plank of every kind, scantling or shingles, before they are exported out of this State, and mark with a marking iron on each board, plank, or piece of timber the initial letters of his Christian name and surname, with the number of feet in each board, plank, or piece of timber; and no board shall be marked as merchantable and good but what is at least six inches wide, clear of sap, and shall be of the actual thickness sold for. Provided, however, that all plank and boards which are less than six inches wide, clear of sap, may be exported as sap-plank and boards, if they be of the thickness of merchantable plank and boards and marked with the letter "S" in addition to the inspector's mark. The inspectors were not to trade in lumber, and received 37½ cents for each thousand feet, superficial measure, inspected; fourteen cents per ton of forty cubic feet for square timber; and twenty cents per bundle for shingles.

Chapter 152, Laws of 1829, authorized the person administering the government of this State to appoint Inspectors and Admeasurers of Wood and Timber for Albany County, for the term of three years, whose fees were 12½ cents for every 100 feet of timber inspected and measured; four cents per cord for parcels of wood containing less than ten cords, and three cents per cord for parcels of ten cords and upwards; besides his traveling fees of six cents per mile. These fees to be paid jointly by the buyer and seller.

BOARD OF CHARITIES.

ONE of the most beneficent of the departments organized by the State and doing service for the whole State, is the State Board of Charities. It is not in our plan to give a detailed history of this Board, nor a statement of the important service it is rendering; only enough in a general way to make known its organization, its object, and the nature of its work; and then to exhibit, in abridged tabular form, what it is doing for Albany County Institutions of Charity.

A State Legislative Act was passed May 23, 1867, providing that "the Governor, with advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint eight persons, one of whom shall reside in each judicial district of the State, to be designated as the Board of State Commissioners of Public Charities." Their term of office was to be eight years; but the first appointed were to be classed so that one should go out each year, the place to be filled by the appointing power as above. In 1870, the Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller and Attorney-General were made members of the Board, *ex-officio*.

The Commissioners, by this statute, have full power to inquire into the financial condition of the institutions under their care; to examine into the methods of instruction and management of

* Left the Academy before graduation. † Present cadet.

inmates; the conduct of officers; condition of buildings; and all other matters pertaining to their usefulness. Under this aspect of its duties the Board is constituted the "moral eye" of the State, and its adviser in relation to the condition and care of the unfortunate classes under its guardian care. For these services the members of the Board receive no compensation other than reimbursement for actual expenses.

The first Board of Commissioners were duly appointed and confirmed in January, 1858, and were as follows: First District, Nathan Bishop; Second District, Harvey G. Eastman; Third District, John V. L. Pruyn; Fourth District, Edward G. Foster; Fifth District, Theodore W. Dwight; Sixth District, Samuel F. Miller; Seventh District, Martin B. Anderson; Eighth District, F. H. James. Two of these commissioners, Messrs. Foster and Miller, are members of the present Board.

Little was accomplished during the brief term of Henry C. Lake, the first Secretary. Dr. Charles S. Hoyt, who was chiefly instrumental in the legal establishment of this Board, was made Secretary of the Board, June 5, 1868. The wisdom of this choice has been proved by the remarkable fidelity and success with which he has discharged the duties of the office ever since. The work of the Secretary had so much increased, that in 1874 the present Assistant-Secretary, Hon. James O. Fanning, received his appointment. It was a most fitting selection, as a faithful service of eleven years has shown. Much of the out-door work has come upon him; and nearly all of those arduous duties connected with the office, such as correspondence, collecting facts, and preparing and distributing reports and other documents, have been his special charge.

Hon. John V. L. Pruyn, of Albany, a noble man, one of the originators of this Board, and its first President, died November 2, 1877. Rev. Dr. M. B. Anderson succeeded him only a short time, when Hon. William P. Letchworth, the present devoted and judicious President, was elected.

By the statutes of May 21 and June, 1873, the name of the Board was changed to The State Board of Charities. Its membership was increased to eleven, and additional powers were conferred upon it. The right of supervisory visitation was extended to all charitable, reformatory or correctional institutions, except prisons. Even private asylums are included. By this act any person or association is prohibited from establishing any asylum or institution of any sort for the custody or treatment of the insane without obtaining a license therefor from this Board. It provides, also, for the appointment of a State Commissioner of Lunacy, who is, *ex officio*, a member of this Board.

When, in 1873, the act relating to State paupers was passed by the Legislature, Albany was selected as one of the five counties of the State for their reception, support and care. It thus came to have a State Alms-house. The accommodations offered were for two hundred persons, and $2.50 per week was to be the price of support. At first seventeen males and one female were assigned. Of these, one died, the 1st of January, 1874, two absconded, and nine were removed from the State as not belonging. This policy of determining the legal residence of paupers and relieving the State of the burden of their support by the removal of non-residents, has ever since been carried on.

December 31, 1874, there were in Albany County Alms-house, thirty-five children born in that institution during the year. Only three of these now remain. The dependent children in this county are, as fast as possible, placed in various asylums in Albany. In 1875, the whole number was between three and four hundred. The price paid for their maintenance is $1.50 per week.

Much might be written concerning the vast amount of saving of expenditure by the judicious oversight and management of this Board in regulating the lavish out-door relief; in the organization of productive labor in the poor-houses; in remanding to their own country large numbers of foreign paupers; in relieving our own citizens from the burden of their support, and transferring them to those persons or places upon whom it in equity should devolve.

It is also justly claimed that, by the watchfulness and care of this Board, there has come to be a greatly improved condition of the poor-houses, a better understanding of the objects and purposes of orphan asylums, hospitals, and like charities; a general improvement in the treatment and care of the insane and idiots; an equitable law carefully carried out relating to the settlement of paupers; in short, more intelligence, more economy, less taxation and less wrong-doing in the management of our unfortunate classes than before this State Board was established.

We close our brief article with a tabulated statement of the names of the institutions in the County of Albany under the supervision of the State Board of Charities, and giving the principal items of general interest, so far as figures can give them, at intervals of five years.

We take occasion here to put on record that the New York State Asylum for Idiots was first located in Albany County. It commenced its useful work in the City of Albany, October, 1851, and was removed to Geddes, near Syracuse, in September, 1855. The number of pupils admitted during that period were, in 1851, 23; in 1852, 26; in 1853, 17; in 1854, 8.

TABLE I.

ALBANY CITY HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

Year.	Real Estate.	Personal Property.	Total Receipts.	Total Expenditures.	Total Under Treatment During the Year.	Total Discharged During the Year.	Total Remaining at End of Year.
1870							
1875	$10,057 00		$3,000 00	$10,428 00	23	17	6
1880	21,000 00		5,790 42	5,437 71	82	68	14
1885	1,000 00		6,230 72	5,983 04	131	118	13

ALBANY HOSPITAL.

1870	$48,000 00	$5,000 00	$22,913 25	$22,457 26	432	393	39
1875							
1880	75,000 00	2,500 00	30,701 00	30,373 00	482	439	43
1885	100,000 00	12,000 00	30,070 02	27,682 02	808	754	54

CHILD'S HOSPITAL.

1870							
1875							
1880							
1885	$30,500 00		$92,710 57	$10,931 45	131	83	48

ST. PETER'S HOSPITAL.

1870							
1875	$100,000 00		$18,329 16	$18,252 26	376	350	26
1880	100,000 00		12,437 76	12,432 43	509	449	60
1885	55,000 00	$1,000 00	12,909 77	12,565 56	477	434	43

TABLE II.

ALBANY GUARDIAN SOCIETY AND HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS.

Year.	Real Estate.	Personal Property.	Total Receipts for the Year.	Total Expenditures.	Number Supported During the Year.	Number Discharged	Number Remaining at End of Year.
1870	$35,988 77	$3,000 00	$32,625 04	$32,206 00	34	4	30
1875	35,000 00	27,500 00	3,420 02	3,345 80	53	8	45
1880	40,000 00	39,150 00	4,086 70	3,289 39	47	6	41
1885	35,000 00	46,300 00	9,250 75	5,053 05	57	5	52

ALBANY ORPHAN ASYLUM.

[For Children Between Ages of 3 and 12. Incorporated March 30, 1881.]

1870	$15,000 00		$12,456 69	$10,020 24	148	46	102
1875	30,000 00	$76,463 20	30,694 65	29,157 90	193	44	149
1880	45,000 00	90,000 00	33,066 41	32,116 49	308	84	224
1885	50,000 00	95,000 00	27,448 77	26,824 61	421	113	308

BABIES' NURSERY.

1870							
1875							
1880							
1885	$800 00	$2,200 00	$2,474 47	$2,461 83	29	11	18

CHILDREN'S FRIEND SOCIETY.

[First opened December 1, 1856.]

1870	$3,500 00	$200 00	$5,527 43	$3,627 65			
1875	4,200 00	3,400 00	2,882 20	2,475 24			
1880	4,200 00	14,800 00	3,137 67	3,196 09			
1885	16,000 00	15,200 00	17,377 20	16,850 20			

HOME FOR THE AGED OF LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR.

1870							
1875							
1880	$43,700 00		$3,005 00	$2,750 00	130	24	106
1885	80,000 00		3,500 00	3,500 00	160	10	150

HOME FOR AGED MEN.

1870							
1875							
1880	$35,000 00		$4,233 53	$3,993 68	15		15
1885	35,000 00	$12,641 61	4,124 44	4,117 58	24	6	18

HOUSE OF SHELTER.

[Incorporated January 4, 1869.]

1870							
1875							
1880	$20,000 00	$3,550 00	$3,455 64	$2,623 42	78	50	28
1885	20,000 00	4,050 00	4,904 78	4,178 56	165	128	27

OPEN DOOR MISSION.

1870							
1875							
1880							
1885		$10,600 00	$2,597 84	$2,096 04	58	38	20

ORPHANS' HOME OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

1870	$6,000 00		$1,839 96	$1,575 19	18	3	15
1875			1,246 15	1,141 41	29	12	17
1880	10,000 00	$1,375 00	1,697 05	1,206 24	27	4	23
1885		9,786 56	12,118 77	1,953 10	19	5	14

ST. JOSEPH'S INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

1870							
1875							
1880							
1885							

ST. VINCENT'S FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

[Opened in 1845.]

1870	$75,000 00	$3,000 00	$8,752 90	$8,745 90	136	10	126
1875	83,116 00	2,000 00	10,877 84	10,089 42	160	33	127
1880	116,198 40	2,000 00	15,483 65	14,197 86	301	44	257
1885	127,289 00	1,000 00	22,480 49	22,326 63	315	62	253

ST. VINCENT'S MALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

1870	$16,000 00	$2,400 00	$13,762 23	$13,641 60	193	59	134
1875	45,000 00		10,154 18	10,126 31	145	35	110
1880	58,000 00		8,508 22	8,391 58	142	25	117
1885	32,000 00		12,046 24	11,983 03	157	29	128

TABLE III.

ALBANY COUNTY POOR-HOUSE.

Year.	No. Persons Supported.			Numbers discharged.	Absconded.	Died.	Insane.	Idiots.	Blind.	Deaf Mutes.	Epileptics.	Children under 16.	Native.	Foreign.	No. acres land.	Value of Poor-house Establishment.	Amount expended for support.	Average weekly expense each person.
	Male.	Female.	Total.															
1870	945	563	1,508	1,033	81	63	172	7	3	3	8	272	554	954	120	.....	.....	$ 2.86
1875	674	884	1,561	1,160	30	50	71	10	8	3	4	27	509	1,052	116	$300,000	$21,700.00	1.90
1880	517	389	906	479	78	55	59	....	5	1	16	13	291	615	115	250,000	23,068.00	1.45
1885	486	247	733	411	62	64	35	3	3	1	3	....	280	453	112	145,000	27,897.43	2.50

UNITED STATES OFFICERS, PUBLIC BUILDINGS

AND

OTHER INSTITUTIONS IN ALBANY COUNTY.

Prof. J. TENNEY, Editor.

THE UNITED STATES ARSENAL is in the township of Watervliet, within the boundary of the village of West Troy; having the Hudson River on the east, the Watervliet Turnpike and horse railroad passing through the grounds on a line with the river, and the Erie Canal running through the depot inclosure, between the front and rear buildings, over which are two bridges. The local position is distant northeast from the new Capitol, Albany, six miles; nearly opposite the City of Troy; and in latitude 42 degrees 43 minutes and 9 seconds, and longitude 73 degrees 42 minutes and 7 seconds.

The establishment was located here in 1813, upon about 12 acres of land which was the original purchase, and was commenced in 1814 under the direction of Colonel George Bumford, of the ordnance department; after which it was under the supervision of Major Daliba, an officer of the same department, who matured many of its details, and introduced an excellent system of economy and police regulations. These first officers have been succeeded by the following:

Colonel Talcott, General W. J. Worth, Major Baker, Major Symington, Major Mordecai, Colonel Thornton, Colonel Hagner, Brevet-Captain O. E. Michaelis, Colonel Buffington, Colonel Mordecai, Captains Michaelis, Metcalfe and Young.

The area of territory has been enlarged by several purchases, and cessions from the State. At this time the reservation contains 109 acres, the whole inclosed by a wall eight feet high, except on the east front, where there is an iron fence which allows an open, clear outlook to the river.

The river front is 1,600 feet long, 800 feet of which is finished, at a cost of $50,000, as a stone wharf, where vessels as large as any navigating the upper Hudson can unload. From the river it extends westward, with a width of 1,700 feet to the Erie Canal, which passes through about 600 feet from the river, and thence in triangular shape to a point about 1,000 feet from the canal, and within 200 feet of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Co.'s railroad.

The area within the inclosure now unoccupied is arranged with taste, and skill has been exercised in combining the useful with the agreeable. All the appointments and construction of buildings are nearly perfect. The roadways are substantial and made of gravel interlaid with flag-stone walks, while the spaces, or portions unoccupied, are kept in lawns and garden-plats, which, with the many shade trees, add to the general attractiveness.

The present permanent buildings required to meet the demands of the various branches connected with the Arsenal, as well as offices, residences and quarters, are arranged with admirable skill with reference to their convenience and special purpose of economic adaptability. They are constructed of brick and iron, in plain, solid masonry, without elaborate architectural design, and present a military appearance, increased by the war supplies, and ornamented with many memorial trophies of former victories on land and sea, distributed over the vacant spaces within the inclosure. The buildings, more than thirty in all, are painted and kept in repair.

During the Rebellion this arsenal employed 1,500 men, and in some departments work was continued day and night to fill the requisitions for ordnance supplies for our armies during their continuous engagements. The quantity, variety and quality of the issues made and forwarded day by day, for many months, demonstrates the special advantages of this site for rapidly manufacturing military supplies, and shipping them in all directions and at all seasons. Since that time the erection of a new system of store-rooms and shops, with increased motive power, improved machinery of many kinds, and other facilities of recent introduction and modern invention, have greatly enlarged the capabilities and relative completeness of the establishment, which will now accommodate a larger force of workmen and insure greater promptness.

The more recent improvements are a completed range of two-story shops, inclosing three sides of a square, 465 feet front and 300 deep; this block, built of brick and iron, is of the most approved style for working purposes, and supplied with double steam engines as well as with water power from the canal, the use of which is secured by perpetual grant, for privileges granted to the State. Connected with this valuable system of convenient shops, the permanent quarters, barracks, store-houses, timber and carriage stores, and all other fixed structures are well supplied with every necessary modern convenience, and many improvements which contribute to the health, comfort and well-being of all, have received careful attention.

Independent of the extensive iron manufacturing establishments in the immediate vicinity, there are advantages in the geographical location and facilities for transportation of materials and supplies which command consideration from the general Government, to permanently establish this depot on

a scale of national magnitude and importance, commensurate with the resources and demands of a people who are proud of their ability to maintain public improvements creditable to the military department of this Republic.

This establishment is under the Ordnance Bureau of the War Department at Washington, and in all its arrangements, and in every detail, reference has been thoroughly represented in the construction of permanent improvements as to elegance, durability and order; and the general working force is most admirably selected with regard to their actual value and capacity for substantial results.

This is one of the national arsenals ranking as first-class, and is designed to be the principal depot for military stores, arms and equipments in the Northern States; also for the manufacture, repair and storage of war material and military equipages, and supplies for every branch of the infantry and cavalry service, including fortification munitions.

The cost of the buildings for arsenal purposes, including all necessary structures, machinery, improvements, manufactures, and stores, are estimated at $1,500,000, and value of raw material used during the year, $30,000; average number employed, 130, including 4 officers and 30 soldiers. The original cost of all the land is about $57,000. Under proper regulations the public have access to this establishment, and it is well worthy of a visit.

Upon a map of the arsenal grounds in 1878 there were the following buildings:

Guard-house; office; Quartermaster's office and engine-house; iron store-house; workshops, containing eight departments; turbines, boiler and engine-rooms; arsenals, two; laboratory; officers' quarters, two; commanding officers' quarters; artillery store-house; cottages for enlisted men, four; brick stables, two; hospital; barracks; ice-houses, two; nitre store; timber store-houses, six; carriage sheds; proof-house; tank-house; magazines, two; carriage sheds, 12.

In the year 1813 the United States purchased two lots of land from James Gibbons and wife, upon which were located the first buildings of the arsenal. The deed to these lands is recorded in the County Clerk's office, in Book of Deeds No. 29, pages 23, 24, and 25. The following extracts are given:

"This Indenture, made the 14th day of July, in the year of our Lord, 1813, Between James Gibbons and Esther, his wife, of the first part, and the people of the United States of the second part, Witnesseth, That the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of two thousand five hundred and eighty-five dollars, current lawful money of the United States, do grant, bargain, sell, demise, release, and confirm unto the said party of the second part, and to their successors and assigns forever, All that certain lot, piece, or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the village of Gibbonsville, in the town of Watervliet, in the County of Albany, in the State of New York, and * * * containing one acre and fourteen perches of land. Also all that one other certain lot, piece, or parcel of land situate, lying, and being in Gibbonsville aforesaid and * * * containing eleven acres three roods and fourteen perches."

The first cession of lands by the State to the United States, is found in 5th edition R. S., page 93, in pursuance to the act passed March 31, 1815, as follows:

"And also all that certain piece or parcel of land situate in the town of Watervliet, in the County of Albany, and State aforesaid, at a place called Gibbonsville, on which is also erected an Arsenal and other buildings belonging to the United States, bounded as follows, to wit: * * * The United States are to retain such jurisdiction so long as said tract shall be applied to the use of providing for the defense and safety of the said State and no longer. The jurisdiction so ceded does not prevent the execution on said tracts of any process, civil or criminal, under the authority of this State, nor prevent the laws, not incompatible with the purpose for which such cession was made, from operating within the bounds of said tract."

Included in this Act is the following: "The United States have also jurisdiction over a tract of land in the town of Watervliet, in the County of Albany, such jurisdiction having been ceded for the defense and safety of this State by the Commissioners of the Land Office, pursuant to the act passed March 20, 1807."

Second cession.—Chapter 332 of the Laws of 1830, cedes to the United States of America, "for the purpose of erecting and maintaining thereon arsenals, magazines, dockyards, and other necessary buildings, jurisdiction of the State over all that certain tract, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the town of Watervliet, in the County of Albany, and bounded as follows: * * * together with all the land under water lying opposite and westerly of the described premises, which has been heretofore granted by letters patent to James Gibbons by the people of the State of New York, but always excepting and reserving, out of the lands above described, the land occupied by the Erie Canal, one rod on each side thereof, and also the public highway."

The State retains concurrent jurisdiction for the execution of all civil process therein, and of criminal process for offenses committed without the said tract of land. The United State are to retain jurisdiction only so long as the ceded lands are used for the purposes named in the act.

Third cession.—Chapter 96 of the Laws of 1833, cedes jurisdiction over an additional tract in said town "bounded as follows, to wit: * * * containing thirty-eight and one-tenth of an acre, excepting and reserving out one rod in width along the west side of the Erie Canal, subject to the same conditions as the tracts first conveyed."

Fourth cession.—Chapter 337, Laws of New York, April 14, 1859. "An Act vesting in the United States of America jurisdiction over a certain piece of land in the village of West Troy, in the County of Albany, bounded as follows, to wit:"—With the same conditions as previous conveyances.

In 1825, James Gibbons agreed to sell to the State forty acres of land, at three hundred dollars per acre. He failed to give a deed before his death, and April 28, 1828, the property was obtained from Esther Gibbons, his widow and executrix. Some additions have been made by the purchase of several contiguous lots.

GOVERNMENT BUILDING.

The Government Building is a granite structure, located on Broadway, corner of State street.

The marked progress of Albany, with its increased business, largely due to the concentration here of river, canal, and railroads offering almost unparalleled facilities for inland transportation of every variety of merchandise, was brought to the consideration of the general Government. Influence of prominent citizens was successful in securing the erection of a building for the transaction of Government business. The Post-office and other Federal offices had for all past years depended upon rented apartments.

The first definite action was taken by Congress, March 21, 1872, when an act was passed, having for its object the erection of a building at Albany for Government purposes, the cost of which was limited to $350,000. At this time no appropriation was made, as it was required that the site be given by the City of Albany.

After viewing several locations selection of the Exchange Building and lot was made, and purchased by the city at a cost of $100,000, and accepted by the Government; but the area of this lot was considered too small for the purposes. The act of March 3, 1873, appropriated $150,000 for the purchase of the Mechanics' and Farmers' Bank property on the north, separated by Exchange street. Again, June 3, 1874, Congress appropriated $5,000 additional for the site. This made the total cost to the city and Government $225,000. In December, 1875, the work of razing the Exchange Building was commenced, and continued until March, 1876. Work was then suspended because Congress had failed to set a limit to the cost of the contemplated building. In March, 1877, an act was passed limiting the cost to $500,000. This necessitated a new plan; and the present, which is Italian Renaissance, was adopted in place of the original design, which was an elaborate Gothic.

In June, 1877, work was resumed, and the corner-stone laid with Masonic ceremonies, May 7, 1879. The appropriation having been used, work was discontinued in November, 1883, leaving some portions incomplete, but with many apartments ready for occupancy.

The revenue officials were the first to take possession of the new building in December, 1883. Then followed the Post-office, January 1, 1884.

Other Government officials took possession of their several apartments during 1884.

The walls of the building are of cut granite, which is fire-proof in construction and material. It measures 113 feet front, on Broadway; 126 feet rear, on Dean street; and 150 feet on State and Exchange streets. It is three stories high, with mansard roof and towers on each corner carried up an additional story. The main tower, on the corner of Broadway and State, is appropriated to the United States Signal Service or Weather Bureau.

The basement, which extends under the whole building, is used for heating purposes, receiving and shipping mail matter, and bonded warehouse.

The roof is constructed of iron, copper and tin. The stairways are of iron and slate, with oak hand-rails. The corridors are spacious, well lighted, with floors covered with tiles. All doors, casements and moldings are solid white oak. The ventilation and heating arrangements are most admirable in every apartment. All the rooms are spacious, elegantly finished, and splendidly lighted. Every office is supplied with all needed accommodations for comfort and convenience; while the furniture, desks and book-cases are of walnut and oak, made substantial and for service.

The different floors are reached by easy stairways or elevators. The approaches to the building are cut granite, and the side-walks smooth patent slabs. The building is a model in all its details.

The total cost thus far is $627,148. The superintendents of construction have been resident architects. Edward Ogden was the first superintendent, who had charge after removing the old Exchange Building and the building of the foundation. Mr. George H. Sear had charge of putting up the basement. Mr. Walter Dickson was then placed in charge, and under his superintendence the building was completed. Colonel William E. Fitch was clerk, and Mr. John E. Todd, master mechanic.

THE ALBANY POST-OFFICE

Is located in the Government Building, and occupies the first floor and part of the basement.

There is no reliable evidence that any general mail or postal service was instituted or maintained by the colonial government at Albany, nor was it a postal point, and during the Revolution each party was dependent upon its own methods for conveying information or communicating with distant points.

The earliest traveled route from Albany was to New York, by the Hudson River, and at the commencement of hostilities the settlements near Albany were only outposts and centers for the collection of trade and traffic. Modes of communication and conveyance were primitive and conducted by parties directly interested. This condition was somewhat improved or modified during hostilities by opening new roads or avenues for conveying supplies and communicating with the army. These in time became post roads, and were extended to more distant settlements, reaching many miles from Albany.

The introduction of practical improvements and the rapid development of the country, necessitated some method by which the people could communicate with distant places; and the new Government was prompt in establishing the post-office department for the rapid transmission and safe delivery of mail matter to all available settlements.

The following facts and records connected with the early history of the general post-office are gathered from the acts of the Provincial Congress. At the sesion held July 26, 1775, it was

"*Resolved*, That a Postmaster-General be appointed for these United Colonies, to hold office for one year, and to hold his office at Philadelphia, and he shall receive a salary of one thousand dollars a year."

Benjamin Franklin received the first appointment.

"*Resolved*, That a line of posts be appointed under the direction of the Postmaster-General, from Falmouth, in New England, to Savannah, in Georgia."

July 8, 1776.—"*Resolved*, That the postmasters, while in office, be excused from military duty;" and August 8, 1776, it was "*Resolved*, That the post-riders be exempt from military duty."

In 1777 three new routes were established: from Casco Bay to Philadelphia; from Philadelphia to Edenton, N. C.; and from Edenton to Savannah. In 1780, packets, and other vessels in the Continental Service, were to carry letters and deposit them in the nearest office to the post where they shall arrive.

October 18, 1782, ordinance was made for regulating the post-office in the United States of America. All postmasters were to subscribe to a general oath; post-riders were appointed. Postage was established at the following rates in pennyweights and grains of silver, estimating each pennyweight at five-ninetieths of a dollar, or five and five-ninth cents: for any distance not exceeding 60 miles, one pennyweight, eight grains; less than 100 miles, two pennyweights; 100 to 200 miles, two pennyweights, sixteen grains. Sixteen grains for every additional 100 miles—for single sheets. A packet of one ounce was equal to four letters. Post-riders could carry newspapers, if licensed.

September 7, 1785.—"*Resolved*, That the Postmaster-General be and he is hereby authorized, and instructed, to enter into contract for the conveyance of the mails by the stage-carriages from the City of New York to the City of Albany, according to the accustomed route.

"No paper money to be received for postage."

The history of the Albany Post-office, as a Government institution, dates from 1783, when Abraham Yates was the first postmaster under the Provincial Congress.* The records previous to this time give very little information on the subject. It appears that postal facilities were limited to in-

* It is said that Colonel Henry Van Schaack served as postmaster in Albany previous to 1775.

dividual enterprise, and messages were sent by river conveyance to New York, and post-riders to other points. This method for the distribution of public or private correspondence with neighboring counties was continued for several years, and to some parts of this county as late as 1820.

These riders met at certain points and interchanged letters and papers. The shrill blast of the postman's horn gave notice to the waiting maiden at the farm-gate that he had something for her or the family, after delivering which, he hastened on his journey. When the business was not remunerative, subscriptions were made among the citizens who were interested in their continuance.

Post-riders were, in time, followed by stage-coaches; these by steamboats. The introduction of railroads made a marvellous change in the transmission and rapid conveyance of all postal matter, as well as in an increase in the post-offices. At this date only a few offices in the county receive their mail by the antiquated stage-coach. The several lines of railroads which leave Albany traverse the county in many directions, and pass through nearly all the post villages, distributing mails daily.

In 1785, Albany served for Greenbush, Schenectady, Cherry Valley, Orange and Dutchess Counties, and letters were advertised for Vermont.

In 1776 post-mails were received twice a week from New York. At this time a mail was received once a week from Springfield, Massachusetts. Other routes and extensions were made in 1789 and 1790, reaching west, the post leaving Albany on Monday for Schenectady, Johnstown, Canajoharie, Fort Plain, Fort Hunter, and arrived at Warrensbush on Friday; returning to Albany on the following Monday.

About this time mails were sent to Vermont and other towns as far as Hoosic, and in 1791–92 the Postmaster-General extended the post-routes from Albany to Bennington and Burlington, Vt. In 1794 there were five post routes from Albany. The first on the east side of the river to New York once a week; the second, north, by way of Lansingburgh, Bennington, Manchester, Rutland and Middlebury, to Burlington, Vt.; the third went to New Lebanon, Pittsfield, Northampton and Brookfield, Mass.; the fourth passed, via Kinderhook and Stockbridge, to Springfield, Mass. On these lines the mail was carried once a week. The fifth route extended east to Schenectady, Johnstown, Canajoharie, German Flats, Whitestown, Old Fort Schuyler, Onondaga, Aurora, Scipio, Geneva, and Canandaigua, once in two weeks. In 1796, mails were established between Albany and Philadelphia, a distance of 260 miles, and delivered in three days. In this year the mail facilities were extended to Genesee County, which was then the far west. Post-riders traversed the county in 1797, distributing letters and papers, and in 1800 a post was sent to Duanesburgh. Other offices were established soon after. Mails were delivered and collected by post-riders as late as 1820 in this county; after this date stage-coaches were brought into use, and the gradual development of agriculture and other resources demanded increased postal facilities. There are now fifty-seven post-offices in Albany County, as shown in another part of this volume. The first postman or letter-carrier for the Albany post-office was William (Billy) Winne, celebrated as the captor of the Pye robber, in December, 1806. He served from 1800 until his death in 1848.

The post-office in Albany has been located in different places. The earliest known was in 1784, a few doors above Maiden lane on the east side of Market street, now Broadway; Abram Yates, Postmaster.

May 2, 1861, the building on the southeast corner of State and Broadway was taken down, to give place for the present more substantial structure now occupied by P. V. Fort & Son. During the war of 1812, in this old corner was a drug store, kept by Jacob Mancius, and in the rear of it, in a room seven by nine, was kept the city post-office. The postmaster employed but one clerk, who attended the drug store and assisted in opening and putting up mails, and the delivery of letters and papers. During the season of river navigation, sailing vessels brought the mails to and from New York City. In the winter they were conveyed by land carriage. The post-office was a one-horse concern; but then, as now, everybody was anxious to learn the latest news.

In 1823, the post-office was located on North Market street, a little north of the Government Building, nearly on the present site of George A. Birch's store.

The post-office was taken to the Exchange Building in 1840, and remained there till 1862, when it was temporarily moved to State above Green street, in the building now occupied by Smith, Covert & Co. After repairs were made in the Exchange, it was removed in 1863 to its former location, where it remained until 1873. In this year it became necessary to vacate the building, and the office was again obliged to occupy new quarters. This time it was on the east side of North Pearl, south of Columbia street, in the Little Building, now occupied by A. B. Van Gaasbeeck. Another change followed in 1877, when the post-office was transferred to the Delavan Block on Broadway. Here it remained until January 1, 1884, when it took possession of its assigned location in the new Government Building, as a fixed institution, with all modern improvements, appliances and conveniences.

In 1799, the rates of postage were as follows: for a single sheet, 40 miles, more or less, 8 cents; 40 to 90 miles, 10 cents; 90 to 150 miles, 12½ cents; 150 to 300 miles, 17 cents; 300 to 500 miles, 20 cents; 500 miles or more, 25 cents. These rates were continued until about 1825, when they were changed to 6, 10, 12½, 18¾ and 25 cents, and were the established rates up to 1845. Then the 5 and 10-cent rates were adopted by Act of Congress; for every single letter under 300 miles, 5 cents, and for any distance over 300 miles, 10 cents for each half-ounce. Postage stamps were first used in 1847 of the denomination of 5 cents. June 31, 1851, the act took effect reducing postage to 3 cents

on all letters less than half an ounce and not exceeding 3,000 miles in distance, prepaid; and double this rate for over 3,000 miles. This year envelopes were introduced. In 1852, Government stamped envelopes were issued. In 1855, another modification was made; on single letters, 3 cents prepaid for any distance less than 3,000 miles, and 10 cents over 3,000 miles. In 1863, the law was enacted making the rate of postage within the United States 3 cents, and prepayment by stamps. October, 1883, the two-cent stamp became the law for every half-ounce or less; and on the first of July, 1885, the law took effect making the prepayment of two cents by stamp the legal rate of postage on all letters weighing one ounce or less.

Postal cards and money orders were first issued in 1872, and about the same time the registration of letters was introduced

Since Abraham Yates, who served till 1795, the following have performed the duties of postmaster in the Albany office. The dates of their respective appointments are given from the best available data :

1795, George W. Mancius, Jacob Mancius; 1812, James Mayer; 1815, Peter P. Dox; 1816, Gerrit L. Dox; 1821, Solomon Southwick; 1822–29, Solomon Van Rensselaer; 1839–40, Azariah C. Flagg; 1842–43, Solomon Van Rensselaer; 1843–49, James D. Wasson; 1849–50, Lewis Benedict; 1850–58, James Kidd; 1858–61, Calvert Comstock; 1861–65, George Dawson; 1865–69, Joseph Davis; 1869–71, Morgan L. Filkins; 1871–77, John F. Smyth; 1877–85, William H. Craig; and on June 1, 1885, Dr. D. V. O'Leary entered upon the duties of the office. Nineteen different men have been postmasters in the past one hundred years, represented by twenty appointments.

The salary of the postmaster is $3,500 per annum. The working force of the Albany office at this time is composed of 65 persons. Their duties are divided as follows: 32 letter carriers, salaries from $600 to $1,000 per annum; 8 general delivery clerks; 2 stamp clerks; 4 registry clerks; 2 money order clerks; 8 letter distributors; and 9 baggage clerks; salaries from $350 to $1,100. The office is also represented by a deputy or assistant. Albany is one of the important distributing offices. Mails are dispatched to all parts of the United States and British America. The business of this office by the carriers for the month of May, 1885, was : Delivered mail letters, 286,490; local letters, 37,655; registered letters, 973; mail postal cards, 48,671; local postal cards, 33,682; newspapers, 172,202; collected letters, 196,746; postal cards, 50,049; newspapers, 20,804. For the year, total letters 1,335,720; papers, 607,800.

There are 217 mails distributed daily at this office. At the present time there are only five mail stage routes from Albany.

THE UNITED STATES CUSTOM HOUSE.

The collection of customs at Albany was established in the year 1803, in connection with the New York Custom House, and the first Deputy-Collector was William Seymour. The first license entered is dated July 12, 1833. At this time only two vessels were trading regularly to Boston—the schooner Visscher and sloop George Washington, owned by Davis & Center.

As early as 1770, the sloop Oliver Bronk, Captain Bloodgood, was sent from Albany to the West Indies. In 1771, the number of sloops running between Albany and New York was about 125. In 1785, the sloop Experiment, 80 tons burden, Captain Stewart Dean, fitted out at this place for China, and sailed from New York, December 18th.

After the completion of the Erie and Champlain Canal, followed a few years after by the introduction of railroads, new avenues of trade were opened which necessitated the establishment of an office for the collection of customs at the terminus of the canals and at the head of tide-water at Albany. Since 1833 the following persons have performed the duties of Deputy Collector and Surveyors: William Seymour, Albert Gallup, Dennis B. Gafney, and William Bruce. March 2, 1867, Congress passed an act making Albany a port of entry, with Surveyor of Customs as the chief officer. The following have served under that act: Peter M. Carmichael, 1867; Isaac N. Keeler, 1870; John C. Whitney, 1875; William N. S. Sanders, 1879; John A. Luby, 1882; Addison D. Cole, 1885; Orrin A. Fuller, Special Deputy.

There are also connected with the office two Deputies and four Inspectors. The revenue from this office yields about $150,000 annually, at an expense of less than $11,000. The receipts for May, 1885, were $1,832. The Custom House is located in the Government Building.

THE UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE OFFICE

Is located in the Government Building. It was established in 1862, with a Collector as chief officer, assisted by nine Deputies. The district is known as the fourteenth, and originally comprised the following counties: Albany, Schenectady, Schoharie, Montgomery, Fulton, Hamilton, and Saratoga. It now also includes the counties of Greene, Ulster, Orange, Sullivan, and Rockland, which were added to the district August 1, 1883. The collections in the original district from 1862 to 1879 aggregated about $21,453,803. The average collections per annum do not vary much from $600,000. The receipts for May, 1885, were $133,716. The Internal Revenue Collectors for this district have been Theodore Townsend, John M. Bailey, Ralph P. Lathrop, James W. Bentley, and Isban Hess.

STEAMBOAT INSPECTORS.

The Local Board for the District of Albany, which comprises the Hudson River above Milton, was established in July, 1871. The office is in the Government Building. Charles S. Hervey and Leonard Brainard were the first appointees, and have not been superseded. Captain Frank A. Shepard has filled the position of Clerk to the

Board since September, 1872. The duties of the officers are to inspect hulls, engines, and boilers, and license masters, mates, pilots, and engineers. There are about 200 steam vessels in the district, comprising passenger, towing, freight, and ferry-boats. The boats of the People's Line belong to the New York District.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT.

This is known as the second circuit, and includes Vermont, Connecticut, and New York. It was organized September 24, 1789. A term is held on the third Tuesday in January annually, in the Government Building.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.

This is designated as the Northern District of New York, and Albany is one of the forty-six counties of which it is composed as organized April 9, 1814.

The District Attorneys are appointed for a term of four years, at a salary of $6,000 per year. The present incumbent is Honorable Martin I. Townsend, of Troy. Alden Chester, of Albany, is Assistant District Attorney.

Masters and Examiners in United States Circuit Court: William Lansing, J. Hampden Wood.

Masters and Examiners in United States District Court: Worthington Frothingham, William Lansing, J. Hampden Wood.

Commissioners: Worthington Frothingham and J. Hampden Wood.

Deputy-Marshal: James H. Kelley.

Board of Pension Examining Surgeons.—The following physicians of Albany have served as examining surgeons: S. D. Willard, S. H. Freeman, George T. Stevens, J. Savage Delavan, William H. Craig. The present Board consists of Drs. Charles H. Porter, William H. Bailey, Herman Bendell.

Alonzo B. Voorhees was appointed Registrar in Bankruptcy in 1867.

SIGNAL SERVICE.

The United States Signal Service was established in Albany in December, 1873, and located in the Dudley Observatory under the direction of Sergeant Myers. March 13, 1880, the office was removed to Gray's Building, Nos. 42 and 44 State street. October 1, 1884, the rooms on the upper floor of the Government Building, which are admirably arranged for this special purpose, were placed in care of Sergeant J. O. Barnes, the officer in charge. There have been stationed at the Albany office since its commencement, Sergeants Myers, Danhauser, Beal, and Barnes.

The whole service is conducted by the War Department under Chief Signal Officer General W. B. Hazen, at Washington. Observations are taken at the Albany office at 7 A. M., 3 and 11 P. M., and the reports are forwarded to Washington by telegraph. Local observations are taken at 11 A. M. and 7 P. M., and a sudden fall in the temperature is indicated by hoisting a black flag from the roof of the building.

The *Farmer's Bulletin*, containing weather indications, is sent from this office to about three hundred and eighty postmasters in this vicinity, and to several business firms and other persons in the city. Reports are received from about fifty-six stations, which are furnished to newspapers for publication, and posted in many public places about the city.

The office is open during the usual business hours, and any information as to reports and the general work of the service is freely given through the kindness of Sergeant J. O. Barnes.

The temperature of Albany, as observed at this station for the past ten years, has an extreme range from 93° above to 18° below zero, and an average yearly range from 92.5° above to 11.8° below zero. The mean for the seasons is: winter, 25.6°; spring, 45.6°; summer, 70.5°; autumn, 51.2°. Average for the year, 48.2°.

In the winter of 1790, the thermometer marked 24° below zero; February 9, 1807, at sunrise, 20° below zero; February 12, 1809, Sunday morning, 8 o'clock, 17° below zero. July 13, 1853, the thermometer at Albany indicated 94° above zero. These are recorded by Joel Munsell as remarkable for this city.

The average yearly rainfall, as computed from observations at this station for the years from 1874 to 1884, is 36.97 inches, and is distributed throughout the year as follows: winter, 8.07; spring, 8.69; summer, 10.95; and autumn, 9.26 inches. For the year 1853, the rainfall was 45.79 inches, and for 1850, 50.97 inches. The lowest record was in 1851, 31.79 inches. The average rainfall at Albany, as determined at the Boys' Academy, from 1826 to 1852 was 40.64 inches. Compared with the past ten years the rainfall appears to be diminishing.

A code of weather signals has been adopted at the service station for Albany. In accordance with the recommendation of General Hazen, the following signals are used at this station: The red and blue sun, star and crescent, displayed on flags. The blue sun indicates general rain or snow; blue star, local rain or snow; the blue crescent, clear or fair weather; the red sun indicates higher temperature; the red star, stationary temperature; the red crescent, lower temperature.

UNITED STATES OFFICERS.

This list comprises the names of men who are or have been citizens of Albany County and held very prominent offices in the United States Government.

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.—Martin Van Buren, elected in the fall of 1836. Sworn into office March 4, 1837. He was a native of Kinderhook; but resided and practiced law in Albany many years.

VICE-PRESIDENT.—Daniel D. Tompkins, elected in 1817. Though Mr. Tompkins was not one who might be called a permanent resident of Al-

bany County, he spent many years of his life in the City of Albany, and was at the time of his election as Vice-President, residing in this city as the Governor of the State.

UNITED STATES SENATORS.—The Constitution of the United States provides that the Legislature of each State shall choose two senators, who shall hold their office six years. Vacancies during the recess of the Legislature are filled by the Governor until the sittings of the next Legislature. At the first session they were divided into three classes, that one-third might be chosen every second year. A Senator must be an inhabitant of the State which chooses him, and must have been a citizen of the United States nine years.

Philip Schuyler, chosen July 16, 1789, serving till 1791; Philip Schuyler, chosen January 24, 1797, serving one year. Martin Van Buren, elected February 6, 1821; Martin Van Buren, elected February 6, 1827; Charles E. Dudley, elected January 15, 1829; William L. Marcy, elected February 1, 1831; John A. Dix, elected January 18, 1845; Ira Harris, February 5, 1861.

U. S. CABINET, JUDICIAL AND DIPLOMATIC OFFICERS.

Alexander Hamilton, who studied law and married in Albany, and spent much time in this city, was Washington's Secretary of the Treasury; John C. Spencer also held this office, to which Daniel Manning has recently succeeded. Martin Van Buren and William L. Marcy held the office of Secretary of State; Smith Thompson, Secretary of the Navy; John C. Spencer, John A. Dix, Secretary of War; Benjamin F. Butler, Attorney-General.

John J. Bradley, a native of Berne, and Smith Thompson, once a resident of Albany, have adorned the Bench of the United States Supreme Court.

Martin Van Buren, Daniel D. Barnard, Harmanus Bleecker, Henry G. Wheaton, Bradford R. Wood, John A. Dix, Henry A. Homes, Robert H. Pruyn, Alfred Conkling, Bret Harte, E. G. Squier, S. G. W. Benjamin, J. Meredith Read, John M. Bailey, and probably some others whose names do not now occur to us, have gone from this county to hold various important diplomatic positions abroad.

Besides these, we record Roscoe Conkling and Leland Stanford, ex-United States Senators, as natives of Albany County. Aaron Burr, who read and practiced law in Albany, where, also, was born his daughter, Theodosia, held the office of United States Senator, and Vice-President under Jefferson.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS.

The Constitution of the United States provides that the President and Vice-President shall be chosen by Electors appointed in such a manner as the Legislatures of the States shall direct, the number to be equal to their number of Senators and Representatives in Congress. In this State the electors were originally appointed by the Legislature. Subsequently, by an act passed March 26, 1796, the Legislature convened in Special Session quadrennially, on the first Tuesday in November, at Hudson, in place of the Electoral College. They continued to hold their Special Sessions there till 1812, since which time, by an act passed May 26th of that year, the Electors have met at Albany. By the Act of March 15, 1825, the District System was adopted; but this existed for only one election, when the Legislature, by an act passed April 15, 1829, adopted the present system. In making up the general ticket, one person is selected from each Congressional District, and two to represent the State at large. The Electoral College meets at the State Capitol the first Wednesday of December of the Presidential year, and casts its votes for President and Vice-President; makes a list thereof; and forwards it, under seal, to the President of the United States Senate, who announces the result.

Electors from Albany appointed by the Legislature under the Act of 1792.—1796, November 7, Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Van Vechten; 1800, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer; 1804, Henry Quackenboss; 1808, Ambrose Spencer, Henry Yates, Jr.; 1812, Simeon De Witt, Archibald McIntyre; 1816, Charles E. Dudley; 1820, Benjamin Knower; 1824, Elisha Dorr.

Electors elected by Districts.—1828, Abraham Van Vechten; 1832, John M. Quackenbush; 1836, Peter Wendell; 1840, Archibald McIntyre; 1844, John Keyes Paige; 1848, Clarkson F. Crosby; 1852, Cornelius Vosburgh; 1856, Henry H. Van Dyck; 1860, Jacob H. Ten Eyck; 1864, John Tweddle; 1868, John Loew (did not attend and Cornelius Armstrong was appointed.). From the adoption of the Constitution down to 1872, an elector was always taken from Albany. 1876, Eli Perry; 1884, Erastus Corning.

REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS.

The House of Representatives is composed of members elected by districts; they hold their office two years; must reside in the State which they are chosen to represent, and have been seven years citizens of the United States, and have attained the age of twenty-five. Each new Congress commences on the 4th of March every odd year. The elections are held during the year preceding.

The Constitution of the United States directs that a census be taken every ten years, which has been fixed at those years ending with a cipher. After each enumeration, Congress apportions the representation among the several States. There are now thirty-three Congressional Districts in the State. The County of Albany comprises the sixteenth district.

The following shows the names of the Representatives that represented Albany County, with the Congresses in which they served.—Jeremiah J. Van Rensselaer, 1st Congress; James Gordon and Peter Silvester, each a part of the second Congress; Henry Glen, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th; Killian Van Rensselaer, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th; Harmanus Bleecker,

12th; John Lovett, 13th, 14th; Rensselaer Westerlo, 15th; Solomon Van Rensselaer, 16th; Stephen Van Rensselaer, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th; Ambrose Spencer, 21st; Gerrit Y. Lansing, 22d, 23d, 24th; Albert Gallup, 25th; Daniel D. Barnard, 26th, 27th, 28th; Bradford R. Wood, 29th; John I. Slingerland. 30th; John L. Schoolcraft, 31st, 32d; Rufus W. Peckham, 33d; Samuel Dixon, 34th; Erastus Corning, Sr., 35th, 37th, 38th; John H. Reynolds, 36th; Charles Goodyear, 39th; John V. L. Pruyn, 40th; Stephen L. Mayham, 41st; Eli Perry, 42d, 43d; Charles H. Adams, 44th; Terence J. Quinn, 45th; John M. Bailey, 46th; Michael M. Nolan, 47th; Thomas J. Van Alystyne, 48th; John Swinburne, 49th.

In some instances the districts represented included portions of territory adjacent to Albany County.

STATE OF NEW YORK.

ITS BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC OFFICERS IN ALBANY COUNTY.

Prof. J. TENNEY, Editor.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS.

1801.—THIS Convention was held at Albany from October 13 to 27, 1801, pursuant to an act passed April 6th of that year, to settle a controversy that had arisen regarding the relative powers of the Governor and Council of Appointments respecting nominations for office, and to consider the expediency of altering the Constitution in regard to the number of Senators and Assemblymen, with power to reduce and limit the same. The Convention unanimously decided that the Council of Appointment had equal powers of nomination of officers with the Governor. The number of Senators was fixed at thirty-two, and Assemblymen at one hundred, to be increased after each census, at the rate of two yearly, until they reached the number of one hundred and fifty. Aaron Burr was President. The delegates from Albany were: Johan Jost Dietz, Leonard Gansevoort, Daniel Hale, John V. Henry, Josiah Ogden Hoffman, Abraham Van Ingen, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Peter West.

1821.—The Legislature of 1820 passed an act recommending a Convention of the people of this State. Objections were made to it by the Council of Revision. These objections were referred to a select committee, which submitted its report January 9, 1821, in opposition to the opinion of the Council, which was adopted by the Assembly. But the bill did not receive a two-thirds vote and failed to pass.

A new bill was immediately drafted, received the sanction of the Council of Revision, and passed both Houses March 13, 1821.

The Convention assembled in Albany, August 28, and adjourned November 10, 1821. Daniel D. Tompkins was President. The Delegates from Albany were James Kent, Ambrose Spencer, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Abraham Van Vechten.

These gentlemen all refused to sign the Constitution as revised by this Convention.

1846.—The Constitution of 1821 grew in disfavor owing to a feeling that the power in the hands of the Governor and Senate had become too great. Other strong objections were made to it.

Agreeably to the popular will, expressed at the general election November 4, 1845, an act passed the Legislature, April 22, 1846, calling a Convention at Albany, June 1st following. It met on that day, and adjourned October 9, 1846.

The new Constitution limited the discretion of the Legislature in regard to some of the great concerns of the State, extended the elective franchise, gave the people the selection of most of the local officers which had been appointed by the Legislature, erected an independent Court of Appeals, and made other changes in the Judiciary and Courts of the State. John Tracy, of Chenango, was President. This Constitution was submitted to the people November 3, 1846, with the question for the repeal of the property qualifications for colored citizens separately. The result was: Constitution—Ayes, 221,528; Noes, 92,436. Equal Suffrage to Colored Persons—Ayes, 85,306; Noes, 223,834. The delegates from Albany were: Ira Harris, Peter Shaver, Benjamin Stanton, Horace K. Willard.

1867.—According to the provisions of the Constitution and the will of the people, the Legislature of 1867 "provided for the election of delegates to revise the organic law of the State, which was held April 23d of that year." The election resulted in a majority in favor of the convention. Thirty-two delegates at large were chosen, voters being restricted to sixteen names upon their ballots. Thus were secured equal representations, so far as these delegates were concerned, of the two leading political parties of the day.

The Convention met in Albany June 4, and adjourned November 12, 1867.

William A. Wheeler was President. Delegates from Albany County were Ira Harris, at large, and William Cassidy, Erastus Corning, Amasa J. Parker.

CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION.

The Constitution framed by the Convention of 1867 contained several provisions, the essential principles of which were felt to be desirable in the organic law. Among these was the clause forbidding the Legislature to audit claims, and the sections relative to the Public Works and Prisons. Governor Hoffman, in his annual message of 1872, recommended that a commission of thirty-two eminent citizens, taken from the two great political parties, be created for the purpose of effecting a thorough revision of the Constitution. The Legislature acted upon this suggestion, empowering the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to designate thirty-two persons—four from each judicial district—to constitute a commission for the purpose of proposing to the Legislature, at its next session, amendments to the Constitution, provided that no amendment shall be made to the sixth article thereof.

Commissioners from the Third District, including Albany County, were Robert H. Pruyn, Albany; William Cassidy, Albany; George C. Burdett, Troy; Joseph B. Hall, Catskill; Cornelius Tracy, Troy. Robert H. Pruyn was chosen Chairman.

The Commission assembled in Albany December 4, 1872, and adjourned March 15, 1873. Their deliberations were submitted to the Legislature of 1873, by which, after some modifications, the proposed amendments were referred to the Legislature of 1874, pursuant to Article 13, Section 1, of the Constitution. This Legislature submitted to the people at the general election to be held in 1874, the amendments to which it agreed. The fifth article, as proposed by the Commission, provided for the appointment, by the Governor and Senate, of Secretary of State, Attorney-General, State Engineer and Surveyor, Superintendent of Public Works, and Superintendent of Prisons. This article was not approved and was not submitted to the people.

The disagreement in the Legislature upon this article, resulted in the postponement of the important amendments relating to the Superintendent of Public Works and Superintendent of Prisons, and providing for their appointment by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. These amendments were submitted to the people in 1876, and adopted by them.

PUBLIC OFFICERS.

GOVERNORS OF THE STATE.—John Tayler, elected 1816. Mr. Tayler was elected Lieutenant-Governor January 29, 1814, under a special act of the Legislature, passed April 11, 1811, after the death of John Broome, Lieutenant-Governor, who died August, 1810. At that time Daniel D. Tompkins was serving his second term as Governor. In 1816 Daniel D. Tompkins was again elected Governor, and John Tayler, Lieutenant-Governor. The next year Mr. Tompkins was elected Vice-President, and Mr. Tayler became Governor.

Martin Van Buren, elected 1828. Mr. Van Buren was appointed Secretary of State under President Jackson, March 12, 1829, and resigned the office of Governor, and Enos T. Troop became Governor.

John A. Dix, 1872.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNORS.—Stephen Van Rensselaer, April 28, 1795; Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, April 28, 1801; John Tayler, January 29, 1814; John Tayler, April 27, 1816.

STATE SECRETARIES OF STATE.—Daniel Hale, March 24, 1793; Charles D. Cooper, April 17, 1817; John Van Ness Yates, April, 1818; John Van Ness Yates, February 13, 1823; John A. Dix, February 1, 1833.

STATE TREASURERS.—This is an ancient office. It was first known as Receiver-General when the State, as New Netherlands, was under the Dutch Government; under the English Colonial Government, as Receiver and Collector-General. These last officers were also Collectors of the Port of New York. They were always the keepers of the people's money. They were appointed under the English laws by the Crown. The Provincial Congress continued the office. The first State Constitution directed the appointment to be made by an act of the Legislature, to originate with the Assembly. Under the present Constitution the State Treasurer, elected by popular vote, receives the public funds, and pays drafts upon the warrants of the Comptroller, the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Secretary of the State Board of Charities. He is also, *ex officio*, Commissioner of the Land Office and of the Canal Fund, the State Board of Equalization, of Assessments, of the Board of State Canvassers and a Trustee of the Union University. He is chosen every two years. The salary is $5,000 per annum. He has a deputy, bookkeeper and clerks.

Robert McClallen, March 16, 1798; Abraham G. Lansing, February 8, 1803; Abraham G. Lansing, February 18, 1810; Charles Z. Platt, February 10, 1813; Gerrit L. Dox, February 12, 1817; Benjamin Knower, January 29, 1821; Stephen Clark, November 7, 1855; Nathan D. Wendell, November 4, 1879.

ATTORNEYS-GENERAL.—This is another very ancient office in the State of New York. Under the Dutch, in the Province of New Netherlands, the office was known as "Schout-Fiscal." He was both Attorney-General and Sheriff. He arrested persons and examined and prosecuted them. In very important cases, where there were reasons for strong suspicions, but no direct evidence, of the prisoner's guilt, he subjected him to the most cruel torture. This was done to obtain a confession of guilt. He, with one magistrate, were witnesses of the torture, deciding when to begin and when to suspend. As Sheriff he executed the judgments of the Supreme Courts in Criminal and Civil cases, and was allowed deputies. He had a voice in the enactment of all laws and a seat in the Council, except when officiating as prosecuting officer.

Under the English Colonial Government he was appointed by the Colonial Governors until 1702, after which he was commissioned by the Crown and held the office during its pleasure. As law officer of the State his duties have been about the same. Under the first Constitution he was commissioned by the Council of Appointment and was a Commissioner of the Canal Fund and of the Land Office. Under the second Constitution he was a Commissioner of the same Boards as the Secretary of State. He is now elected every other year by the people, and is, *ex officio*, Commissioner of the Land Office and of the Canal Fund, a member of the Canal Board, the Board of State Canvassers, the State Board of Health, the State Board of Charities, the State Board of Equalization of Assessments, a Trustee of the University and of the New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home.

John Woodworth, February 3, 1804; Abraham Van Vechten, February 2, 1810; Abraham Van Vechten, February 13, 1813; Martin Van Buren, February 17, 1815; Samuel A. Talcott, February 12, 1821; Samuel A. Talcott, February 8, 1823; John Van Buren, February 3, 1845; Lyman Tremain, November 3, 1857; Charles S. Fairchild, November 2, 1875.

COMPTROLLER.—The Comptroller is now the Auditor of Public Accounts, except those payable from the Free School Fund. He manages the funds of the State, loans its moneys, superintends the collection of its taxes and the payment of current expenses of the State. He is also at the head of a Bureau of Canal Affairs. He is, *ex officio*, Commissioner of the Land Office and of the Canal Fund, a Member of the Canal Board and of the Board of State Canvassers, a Trustee of the Idiot Asylum and of Union University, and of the State Board of Equalization of Assessments. He is elected every other year.

John V. Henry, March 12, 1800; Archibald McIntyre, March 25, 1806; William L. Marcy, February 13, 1826; Azariah C. Flagg, January 11, 1834; Azariah C. Flagg, February 7, 1842; Frederick P. Olcott.

SURVEYOR-GENERAL AND STATE ENGINEERS.—The Surveyor-General and State Engineer is, *ex officio*, Trustee of the Union University, a Commissioner of the Land Office, and a member of the Canal Board and the Board of State Canvassers. He is elected every other year. He has a deputy and necessary clerks. The State Engineer and Surveyor supervises the canal engineering department. He appoints three division engineers and three resident engineers.

Philip Schuyler, March 30, 1781; Simeon DeWitt, May 13, 1784; Simeon DeWitt, February 8, 1823; Orville L. Holly, February 5, 1838.

STATE ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS.—William J. McAlpine, November 4, 1851; Sylvanus H. Sweet, November 4, 1873; Elnathan Sweet, November, 1883.

CANAL COMMISSIONERS.—The Constitutional Commission of 1874 recommended, among other things, the appointment of Superintendent of Public Works. This was adopted by the Legislature of 1875. The office of Canal Commissioner was abolished on the appointment of the Superintendent of Public Works, which took place February 8, 1878. Stephen Van Rensselaer, April 17, 1816; Asa Whitney, February 22, 1840; Stephen Clark, February 8, 1842; Stephen Clark, November 4, 1844; Charles H. Sherrill, November 5, 1856.

GOVERNORS' MANSIONS.

The Legislature of the State fixed the seat of government at Albany in 1797. Its session that year was held in the Stadt Huys, commencing January 3d, and ending April 3d. The law making Albany the State capital is dated March 10th. John Jay was then Governor. He occupied "Mr. James Caldwell's elegant house in State street," situated where Walsh's hat store is now located. George Clinton, who was the first Governor of the State, from 1777 to 1795, was again elected, and followed Mr. Jay from 1801 to 1804. The same house occupied by Governor Jay was occupied by Governor Clinton and family. We do not find where Morgan Lewis (1804 to 1807) had his mansion. Governor Daniel D. Tompkins (1807 to 1817) resided a portion of his term, if not the whole of it, at 99 Washington avenue, where George B. Steele now resides. De Witt Clinton (1817 to 1823, and 1826 to 1828) had his residence corner of North Pearl and Steuben streets, on the site now occupied by Johnston & Reilly's store. Here he died, February 11, 1828. Martin Van Buren (1828 to 1829) resided at 92 State street, on the site of J. H. Simmons' auction-rooms. Enos T. Throop, who filled out the term of Governor Van Buren (who resigned March 12, 1829, to become Secretary of State under Andrew Jackson), and was afterwards Governor from 1831 to 1833, had his mansion at No. 1 Elk street, where the late Harmon Pumpelly resided.

William L. Marcy (1833 to 1839) occupied No. 2 Elk street, where General Rufus H. King now resides.

The Kane mansion, on the site of the Ash Grove Church, was the mansion of William H. Seward during his gubernatorial career (1839 to 1843).

William C. Bouck (1843 to 1845) lived at 119 Washington avenue, now the residence of General John F. Rathbone.

Silas Wright (1845 to 1847) resided at 133 North Pearl street.

John Young (1847 to 1849), at 111 State street, where now resides Mrs. John Tweddle.

Hamilton Fish (1849 to 1851), at 15 Elk street, the residence of the late Hon. John V. L. Pruyn. Washington Hunt (1851 to 1853), at 1 Elk street; as also did Horatio Seymour (1853–54) during his first term, the same as formerly occupied by Governor Throop. Governor Seymour, during his second term (1863–64), had his executive mansion in "Dudley Row," 65 Hawk street.

Myron H. Clark (1855–56) occupied 132 State street, where now is the Christian Brothers' Academy.

John A. King (1857–58), 881 Broadway, corner of North Ferry, now St. Peter's Hospital.

Edwin D. Morgan (1859 to 1862), and Reuben E. Fenton (1865 to 1868), four years each, made 144 State street, late the residence of Dr. S. O. Vanderpoel, their home in this city.

John T. Hoffman (1869 to 1872) made the old Congress Hall, east of the new Capitol, his residence.

John Adams Dix (1873–74), 123 Washington avenue, north of the new Capitol.

Samuel J. Tilden (1875 to 1877), Lucius Robinson (1877 to 1879), Alonzo B. Cornell (1880 to 1882), and Grover Cleveland (1882 to 1885), resided in the Executive Mansion, 138 Eagle street, bought by the State of the late Robert L. Johnson.

This is also the residence of David B. Hill, the present Governor, and is intended as the permanent gubernatorial mansion.

STATE LEGISLATURES.

The Legislature meets annually, on the first Tuesday in January, at the Capitol in Albany. The Senate consists of 32 members, elected biennially; the Assembly of 128 members, elected annually. Salaries, $1,500. Albany County now constitutes the Seventeenth Senatorial District. It sends four members to the Assembly, elected by Districts. The First District is composed of the First, Second, Third and Fifteenth Wards of Albany, and the towns of Bethlehem, Berne, Coeymans, Rensselaerville and Westerlo; Second District: Tenth, Eleventh, Fourteenth, Sixteenth and Seventeenth Wards of Albany, and towns of Guilderland, Knox and New Scotland; the Third District: Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Twelfth, Thirteenth and part of the Ninth Wards of Albany; the Fourth District the remainder of the Ninth Ward of Albany, Cohoes and Watervliet.

A list of the Albany County Members appears in the County history.

The first session of the New York Legislature under that Constitution began in September, 1777, holding two subsequent meetings that year at Poughkeepsie. The second session was held continuously at Poughkeepsie; but the third began at Kingston, August 18, 1779, and adjourned October 25th, to meet at Albany, January 27, 1780; adjourned March 14th, to meet at Kingston, April 22d; and adjourned July 2, 1780.

The session of January 27, 1780, was the first legislative session held in Albany after the Revolution. The January term of 1781—the fourth session—began on the seventeenth of that month, and was held at Albany in the old Stadt Huys. After this, the legislative sessions were held at Poughkeepsie, New York and Albany until January 3, 1798, since which time they have been regularly held at Albany. They were mostly held in the old Stadt Huys, until the completion of what is now spoken of as the Old Capitol in 1808.

The sessions close or adjourn *sine die* by concurrent vote of Assembly and Senate. We give the dates of closing the regular sessions from 1831 to 1885:

April 26, 1831; July 2, 1832; April 30, 1833; May 6, 1834; May 11, 1835; May 26, 1836; May 16, 1837; April 18, 1838; May 7, 1839; May 14, 1840; May 26, 1841; April 12, 1842; April 18, 1843; May 7, 1844; May 14, 1845; May 13, 1846; May 13, 1847; April 12, 1848; April 11, 1849; April 10, 1850; April 17, 1851; April 16, 1852; July 21, 1853; April 17, 1854; April 14, 1855; April 9, 1856; April 18, 1857; April 19, 1858; April 19, 1859; April 17, 1860; April 16, 1861; April 23, 1862; April 25, 1863; April 23, 1864; April 28, 1865; April 20, 1866; April 20, 1867; May 6, 1868; May 10, 1869; April 26, 1870; April 21, 1871; May 14, 1872; May 30, 1873; April 30, 1874; May 22, 1875; May 3, 1876; May 24, 1877; May 15, 1878; May 22, 1879; May 27, 1880; July 23, 1881; May 2, 1882; May 4, 1883; May 16, 1884.

OLD STATE HALL.

On February 14, 1797, a bill to erect a public building in the City of Albany, with a view of rendering it the permanent seat of government for the State, passed both branches of the Legislature and became a law.

A site for this building was selected on the corner of Lodge and State streets. It was the first public building erected by the State of New York in Albany after the Revolution.

Ground was broken for the building early in 1797, and pushed forward with such speed that it was completed in the spring of 1799. It is said that several sessions of the Legislature were held in it before the completion of the State Capitol in 1808.

The building is still standing and in a perfect state of preservation, presenting nearly the same external appearance it did when first built. It is built of brick, four stories high, fronting on State street, with a wing extending back on the west side of Lodge street.

In the eastern wall of the lower hall, there is a white marble tablet, bearing the following inscription:

Erected for State Purposes,
A. D. 1797.

John Jay, *Governor.*
Philip Schuyler, Abraham Ten Broeck, Teunis T. Van Vechten, Daniel Hale, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, *Commissioners.*
William Sanders, *Arch't.*

In this building were the State departments—Secretary of State, Comptroller, State Treasurer, Attorney-General, State Engineer and Surveyor, and Surveyor-General. And here, for a time, was the Executive Chamber. It continued to be occupied by those officers until 1840, when they were moved to the new State Hall, under the recommendation of Governor Seward. The State Museum, organized in 1836, was placed in this building. This

museum embraces nearly all the natural productions of the State of New York, in the several departments of botany, zoology, geology, and mineralogy. The Old State Hall was thus made the depository of the collections in these departments.

The internal arrangement of the building has been subjected to such changes as were necessary to render it convenient for the purpose to which it was devoted after it ceased to become a hall for legislative and executive purposes.

At a later period the State Agricultural Society was authorized by law to occupy a part of the building. The two organizations—the State Museum and the State Agricultural Society—occupied so much space that the building was inadequate to their accommodation; whereupon the Legislature made appropriation for a new building, to be erected in the rear of the Old Capitol; and the libraries, antiquities and other collections, especially those of a literary and art character, were removed to it in 1858.

In 1865 the Legislature passed resolutions, recognizing the importance of making the State Cabinet of Natural History a museum of scientific and practical geology and comparative zoology. In 1870 the Legislature passed a law organizing the State Museum of Natural History, and providing an annual appropriation for its support.

This old hall, occupied for the purposes we have described, has been known from that time as Geological Hall.

GEOLOGICAL HALL

Has become one of the most interesting and instructive places in the City of Albany.

The following from the "Albany Hand-book for 1884," compiled by H. P. Phelps, gives a very adequate description of the internal arrangement of Agricultural and Geological Hall:

The wing on Lodge street, in the rear of the building, is three stories high. On the ground floor is a large lecture-room, while in the other stories is the Museum, containing the agricultural implements and products in the stories above. On the lower or basement floor, and on the same level as the lecture-room, at the east end of the main building, are two rooms occupied with the work of cutting and preparing thin sections of fossils of minute structure for the purpose of microscopic study in the Museum. The machinery and appliances for this work are of superior character, and the results are of great importance and interest to the Museum and to science. The first floor of the main building is occupied by the offices and libraries of the State Museum and of the State Agricultural Society; and, in the rear of the former, a large working room is furnished with about 300 drawers for the reception of collections in process of preparation and arrangement. The main entrance hall exhibits a collection of dressed blocks of granite, marble, freestone, etc., the products of New York and adjacent States.

The second floor is occupied by the collections illustrating the geology and paleontology of the State. The wall cases, and a single series of table-cases around the room, are occupied by the rock specimens, whether fossiliferous or otherwise, and are arranged in such order that in going from left to right they show the geological superposition of the formations, each right-hand case containing specimens of the rock or formation lying next above the one on the left. This is supplemented by a colored geological section extending around the room above the cases, and so arranged that each formation shown in the section is represented by characteristic specimens in the case below. Besides this illustration, there are enlarged figures of the characteristic fossils placed in the part of the cases above each formation. The entire arrangement is simple, instructive and easily understood. The collection of fossils (paleontology) occupies the tables, the table cases in the central portion of the floor, and also a large number of drawers beneath the table cases. This collection is arranged in the same simple and systematic order as the geological formations. Under each formation is a natural history arrangement of the genera and species of the fossils. This collection of rock specimens and fossils presents the most complete geological series of the older rocks to the base of the coal measures of any in the world; the older or paleogic rocks of the State of New York being more complete in their order of succession. Also along the west side of the room are arranged a series of large blocks of magnetic iron ore representing the principal mines of Northern New York and Orange County.

Geological Hall.

The third floor is occupied by collections from geological formations above the coal measures, both American and European, and by the mineralogical collection. The fossil series represents the period from the new red sandstone to the pleistocene. The pleistocene of North America is represented by the Cohoes mastodon skeleton, and other remains of mastodon and fossil elephants from different points. The pleistocene of South America by the cast of the gigantic megatherium and other forms of that age; and the same of Europe by the skeleton of the *Megaceros Hibernicus*. The wall cases are in part occupied by a collection of the minerals of the State, and in part devoted to a general collection of minerals from all parts of the world.

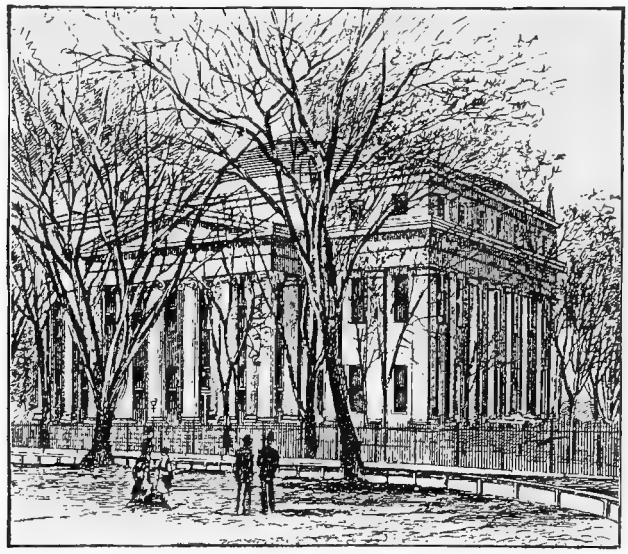
The fourth story is occupied by the zoological collection. The western part of the room is devoted especially to the New York fauna, which is represented in its mammals, birds, reptiles, fishes, crustaceans, and shells. The eastern part of the room is occupied by a case containing a large collection of birds, with some mammals, which were presented to the Museum as a special collection by Mr. de Rham, of New York, and is known as the De Rham collection. The ethnological and historical collections occupy some wall cases on the north side of the room, and the central north side by cases of corals, etc. The center of the room contains the two double ranges of table cases, comprising the Gould collection of 6,000 species of shells, of more than 60,000 specimens. Since 1866 the collections in the Museum have been more than doubled in every department. At present every available space in the Museum is filled. All the collections are arranged for study and comparison, and the museum is strictly an educational institution.

Being a State institution it should be considered as cosmopolitan. Its institutions are to cover the whole field of natural research, and to be a center for the dissemination of a technical and popular knowledge of the products, fauna and flora of the Empire State. With this view, it should be an object of interest for the remote portions of the State as well as the immediate locality.

NEW STATE HALL.

This edifice, located on Eagle street, was completed in 1842, and was occupied by the officers of the various State departments, who removed thither from the Old State Hall.

After the adoption of the Constitution of 1846, which created a Court of Appeals in place of the old Court for the Correction of Errors, a part of this hall was appropriated to the Clerk of that Court. He is the custodian of all the legal documents, records, and books kept in the four Supreme Court Clerk's offices in the State, and in the offices of the Clerks in Chancery. All of these offices were abolished by this Constitution. He was also the custodian of the vast sums of money, which for nearly a century had been accumulating in those Courts. The rooms devoted to the Clerk of the Court of Appeals are in the southwest corner of the second story of this building. As these State departments have most of them been removed, or will soon be, to the New Capitol, a further description of them will be found in what we have to say in regard to that edifice.



NEW STATE HALL.

This State Hall is still a very substantial and handsome building. Until the beauties of its architecture were eclipsed by the elegant and commodious City Hall, which stands directly south of it, it was regarded as one of the finest buildings in the city. It cost the State $350,000. It is built of the white stone from the quarries at Sing Sing. The quality of this stone is the perfect manner in which it resists the vicissitudes of weather. It is more beautiful than marble and as enduring as granite. The building is 138 by 88 feet, and is 65 feet in height. A spiral stone stairway, with an artistic iron railing, leads from the floor to the attic. The whole building is surmounted by a low, well-formed dome, which furnishes light to the stairway below. The building is fire-proof. The principal stories have what are called groined arches. It is one of the first fire-proof buildings erected in Albany.

This State Hall, so long the depository of the State Records, and the place where State dignitaries most did congregate, has had its day, so far at least as the purposes for which it was erected are concerned. Few of the State officials, with their subordinates are now seen there. Their offices are mostly in the New Capitol. It is understood that the State cabinets in Geological Hall will soon be placed here.

THE OLD CAPITOL.

The City and County of Albany prides itself on the fact that its generous contributions aided largely in the erection of the Old Capitol.

In 1803, the Common Council of the city adopted a resolution requesting the Legislature to pass an act authorizing the erection of a State House and Court House, and appointed a committee to prepare a petition and map, and to report an estimate of the cost. The committee consisted of John Cuyler, Charles D. Cooper, and John V. N. Yates. This committee submitted their report March 7, 1803, and the Legislature authorized the erection of the building, then known as the New Capitol, by an act passed April 6, 1804.

The Capitol Commissioners appointed on the Old Capitol were John Taylor, Daniel Hale, Philip S. Van Rensselaer, Simeon De Witt, Nicholas N. Quackenbush.

This act is a characteristic specimen of the legislative methods of that day. The bill for its erection was entitled: "An Act Making Provisions for the Improvement of Hudson River below Albany, and for Other Purposes."

After providing for some improvement in the Hudson at Troy and Waterford, above Albany, it appoints John Taylor, Daniel Hale, Philip S.

Van Rensselaer, Simeon De Witt, and Nicholas N. Quackenbush, Commissioners for erecting the New Capitol Building. It required the Supervisors of Albany County to raise by tax $12,000 for such purposes, and it contained the following provisions:

VI. And be it further enacted, that the managers of the Lottery hereinbefore mentioned shall cause to be raised by Lottery the sum of $12,000, in such manner as they, or a majority of them, shall think proper, which sum the said managers shall pay to the Commissioners aforesaid.

At that day the State lotteries held intimate relations with the finances of this State. These lotteries were authorized by law. Upon their managers devolved the raising of funds for the opening of roads, improving rivers, building bridges, and the advancement of great enterprises generally, now thrown upon the taxpayers.

The lotteries were originally established to aid in the endowment of schools under an act for the "encouragement of literature." The early colleges of the States depended largely upon the lotteries. During the legislative session of 1812, a law was passed giving $200,000 to Union College, and smaller sums to Hamilton and Columbia Colleges, and other institutions, upon the lottery plan.

At length the lottery system became corrupt and unpopular. The provision abolishing lotteries, in the Constitution of 1821, was supplemented by a provision, now in force in the Constitution of to-day (Article I, Section 10), which reads thus: "Nor shall any lottery hereafter be authorized, nor any sale of lottery tickets allowed, within this State." The original appropriation for the Capitol was but $24,000, added to the proceeds of the sale of the old Stadt Huys, whatever they might be; but the building cost the sum of $110,688.42. This included the furnishing of the Council Chamber. Of this sum the City of Albany paid $34,200, the County of Albany $3,000, and the State $73,485.42. This was hardly sufficient to pay for painting and plastering the new building.

The Commissioners chose Pinkster's Hill as the site of the Capitol. On April 23, 1806, the corner-stone was laid with impressive ceremonies. Philip S. Van Rensselaer was then Mayor of Albany, and to him was assigned the duty of placing the stone in position. A large concourse of people were assembled, among whom were John Lansing, Jr., Chancellor of the State; Morgan Lewis, Chief-Justice; Ambrose Spencer, Smith Thompson and Brockholst Livingston, Justices of the Supreme Court; the Members of the City Corporation and other dignitaries.

The building was first occupied by the Senate and Assembly at a special session of the Legislature, convened November 1, 1808. It was considered a magnificent edifice, an object of as much curiosity and interest as is the new Capitol to-day. People from all parts of the State and nation visited it. In 1813, Professor Silliman, of Yale College, visited it and wrote an elaborate description of it, in which he said: "It is a large, handsome building, the furniture exhibiting a good degree of taste and splendor."

H. G. Spafford, describing the building, said of the Senate and Assembly Chambers, which were on the same floor: "In the furniture of these rooms there is a display of public munificence. The American eagle assumes almost imperial splendor. It stands at the head of State street, 130 feet above the level of the Hudson. It is a substantial stone building, faced with freestone taken from the brown sandstone quarries on the Hudson, below the Highlands. The walls are 50 feet high, consisting of two stories, and a basement story of 10 feet. The east or main front is adorned with a portico of the Ionic order, tetrastile, the entablature supporting an angular pediment in the tympanum of which is to be placed the Arms of the State. The ceiling of the wall is supported by a double row of reeded columns; the floors are vaulted and laid with squares of Italian marble; the building is roofed with a double hip of pyramidal form, upon the center of which is a circular cupola, 20 feet in diameter. On its dome is a statue of Themis, facing eastward—a carved figure of wood, 11 feet in height, holding a sword in her right hand and the balance in her left."

The above is a good description of the Old Capitol as it appeared in 1883, when it was taken down, with the exception of some few additions which had been made in its rear. The interior, with some exceptions, was at that time about the same as it was when first occupied. We give below the changes which were made.

To the Executive Chamber there was made, during the Rebellion, an additional room, extending into the main hall. In other respects it was the same in 1883 as in 1808. To the departments occupied by the Adjutant-General, previous to the removal of the building, was added another room during the war. This room was devoted to the Common Council of the City of Albany. Various additions have been made from time to time in the rear of the Assembly Chamber. The Senate Chamber was originally to the left of the Assembly on entering from the main hall. It was, however, removed to the large room on the second floor, and the old Senate Chamber was used by the Department of Public Instruction, and latterly as the Post-office and cloak-room of the Assembly. When the Senate Chamber was removed to the second floor, a floor was constructed and additional rooms were added to the building. In one of these the Supervisors of Albany County held their meetings. On the upper floor the Supreme Court originally occupied the main room. It was afterwards occupied by the Court of Appeals, and one winter by the Senate. The other rooms were occupied by the Court of Chancery, the Court of Common Pleas, the Court of Sessions and the Mayor's Court. The Mayor's office was in the attic, as were also the rooms of the Society of Arts, the State Library and the State Board of Agriculture. The basement was devoted to the offices of the County Clerk, City Marshal and the rooms of the Keeper of the Capitol.

It is singular that there was not a committee room in the entire building. It can hardly be conceived that the building could ever have rendered

accommodations for such a number of public offices; but this arrangement continued till the completion of the City Hall in 1831, when the city and county officers were removed to that building. After that time various changes took place. A new State library was built, under the law of 1851, and large additions were made to the rear of the building; but it was not even then rendered adequate to the needs of the State.

Congress Hall stood almost adjoining the Old Capitol on the north, a famous hotel of the past. For many years it was the resort of senators, assemblymen, lobbyists, judges and lawyers.

Owing to the overcrowded state of the Capitol, a part of this hotel, a private house, and many rooms in the Delavan House, were used for committee rooms.

The Governor's room, to which we have alluded, was on the south side of the Capitol, its windows opening on State street, its entrance being from the south side of the hall of the Capitol. Over its door appeared the well-remembered words: "Executive Chamber." This door led into a room occupied by the Governor's clerks; to the left, folding-doors opened directly into the Governor's room. The addition made during the war was occupied by the Governor's Military Secretary. The room had few decorations; a portrait of Lafayette, by Charles Ingham, was about the only embellishment the room contained. It is a full-length portrait, a fine work of art, and represents very correctly the features of its illustrious original. It now hangs in the Executive Chamber of the new Capitol.

A large table, the office desk of the Governors, stood in the center of the room. A desk for the Private Secretary, book-cases, sofas, and some easy chairs, made up its furniture.

The old Senate Chamber, a very handsome room, exceedingly appropriate for legislative purposes, was embellished with portraits of three distinguished men—Christopher Columbus, George Clinton and Stewart L. Woodford. The first of these was presented to the Senate, in 1784, by Maria Farmer, a descendant of the honest Jacob Leisler, once *de facto* Colonial Governor of New York, murdered by his enemies for high treason while guilty of no crime. The picture of Clinton is painted from life, and is an artistic work. The portrait of Woodford was presented to the Senate by his friends in the Senate of 1868.

The doorways of the Senate Chamber were ornamented with a sculptured cornice familiar to the architecture of seventy years ago. A tall Dutch clock, that for nearly a century noted the official hours of assembling and adjourning, was a main feature of the chamber. The galleries were a fiction of language, being on the same level as the main floor.

JAMES W. EATON.

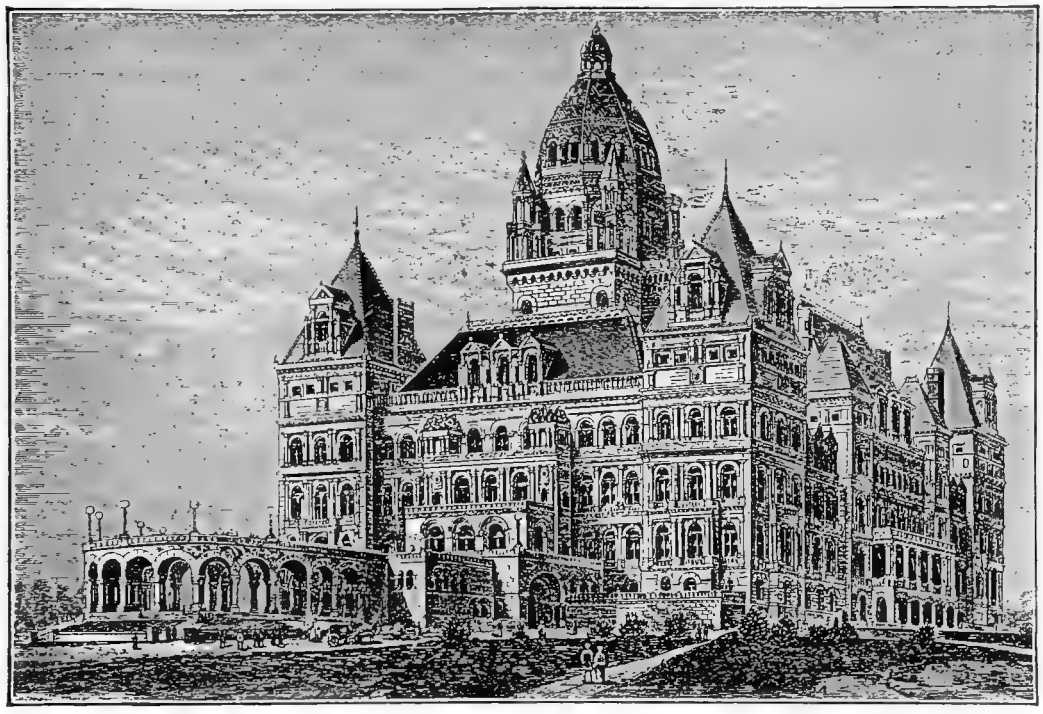
The subject of this sketch, James Webster Eaton, was born August 22, 1817, at Summerville, N. J. His father, Josiah Eaton, came from Keene, N. H., and was descended from old Puritan stock which had taken root in the Massachusetts Bay Colony in the early days, whence the descendants had spread out over New England. His mother, Gertrude MacEaton, was of Scotch-German parentage and was born in New Jersey. Both were intelligent, industrious, God-fearing people. In 1828, young Eaton removed with his parents to Albany, where, not long after, he began to learn the trade of his father, that of a stonemason. Born with the heritage of respectable poverty, which has been the spur of ambition to so many, he diligently laid hold of every opportunity for self-improvement, and while he spent the summer working at his trade, in the winter he attended the old Lancaster School and a private school kept by Mr. Fitch, both of which are names familiar to many old Albanians, who gained there that modest, but efficient education which has been so great an element in their subsequent success. In 1840, Mr. Eaton married Eliza M. Benner, who is still living. By this marriage there were three children, two of whom survive: Calvin Ward, who is a member of the firm of Van Santford & Eaton, wholesale lumber dealers, and James Webster, Jr., who is a recent graduate of Yale and the senior partner of the law firm of Eaton & Kirchwey. About the time of his marriage, Mr. Eaton embarked in the building business which he has since followed. His sterling integrity, indomitable purpose and business sagacity, slowly, but surely, won for him the victory over adverse circumstances. The histories of such lives would be interesting commentaries on the influence of character over fortune, if they could be written out; but such a history must usually be read in the tangible achievements of painstaking effort. In his business career, Mr. Eaton has probably done as much as any other one man to beautify the city of his residence. Over five hundred of the most noteworthy of the public and business buildings, and the most elegant of the private residences in Albany, have been erected by him, and his reputation as a builder is unsurpassed. In 1874, he was appointed by Governor Dix, Superintendent of Construction of the New Capitol, an office which he held during four successive administrations until the position itself was abolished in 1883. This magnificent structure, most of which was erected under his supervision, and over the practical details of which he had control, is an enduring monument to his administrative capacity as well as mechanical skill. In these days of political jobs, it is a significant and gratifying fact, that men of all political faiths who are conversant with the management of this great work, unite voluntarily, asserting that no suspicion of unfairness or undue partizanship has ever clung to him. Whatever may be the criticisms made upon the design of the Capitol, or the materials used in it, or the method of administration under the old Commission—for which Mr. Eaton was of course in no way responsible and over which he had no control—it is safe to assert, without fear of contradiction, that the State never had a more honest, fearless, and efficient servant. So far as the appointments made by him, personally, were concerned, his administration was an

James W. Eaton

admirable exemplification of practical Civil Service reform.

Since his retirement from the Capitol, Mr. Eaton has devoted himself principally to the management and improvement of his real estate, of which he has a considerable amount in and about the city.

During the greater part of his life, Mr. Eaton has been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and for many years President of the Board of Trustees of the Hudson Avenue Society, now known as the First M. E. Church. Mr. Eaton has always enjoyed, in very large measure, the esteem, confidence and respect of his fellow citizens; but only to those who have known him intimately has it been given to fully appreciate the genial kindliness, the large-hearted sympathy, and unobtrusive generosity which has endeared him to many. As a loving husband and father, as an upright official, as a useful and successful member of society, and above all, as a good man in the highest sense of the term, it has seemed to us that the history of Albany would be incomplete without this little sketch of his life, especially in connection with the New Capitol.



THE NEW CAPITOL.

From Osgood's "Public Service of the State of New York."

THE NEW CAPITOL.

The seat of government of New York, during the colonial period, was in the City of New York. There the Colonial Legislature generally held its sessions, at first, at the fort. It sometimes convened in Jamaica, L. I. At length it met regularly in the New York City Hall.

New York City was regarded as the capital during the revolution; but when the British Army took possession of it, the Legislature was compelled to meet at places regarded most safe from the attacks of the British—as at White Plains, Albany, Kingston and Poughkeepsie. After the British evacuated New York, the Legislature assembled at these places or in New York. The places designated for each session were fixed by a vote of the Legislature, or by the Governor. Since 1798 the legislative sessions have been held entirely at Albany.

As the growth of the State had rendered the Old Capitol too limited for legislative and other purposes, the subject of erecting a New Capitol at Albany began to be agitated. But it took no definite form until April 24, 1863, when, on motion of Hon. James A. Bell, Senator from Jefferson County, the Senate referred the subject to the Trustees of the Capitol and the Committee on Public Buildings.

In 1865, the Senate appointed a committee of three to receive propositions from various cities of the State, as to what action they would take in regard to the removal of the capital of the State from Albany. The question of its removal at that time was considerably agitated. No satisfactory results were reached by the action of this committee, except in response to the circular issued by it. Albany proposed to convey Congress Hall Block, or any other lands in the city, required for the purpose of

a New Capitol. This proposal was at once accepted, and, on May 1, 1865, an act authorizing the erection of a New Capitol, at Albany, passed the Legislature. The grand structure now known as the New Capitol was, by excavating and laying foundations, begun July 7, 1869.

It was not until early in the summer of 1871 that the superstructure was ready to receive the corner-stone. June 24, 1871, was designated as the day. The exercises attending this work were grand and imposing. An introductory address was delivered by the Hon. Hamilton Harris, followed by reading a list of the documents placed in the corner-stone, by Hon. William A. Rice; an address by Governor John T. Hoffman; and Masonic ceremonies conducted by Most Worshipful John Anton, Grand Master of the Grand Masonic Lodge of the State.

The liberal spirit of the citizens of Albany was exhibited in a marked manner in the erection of the New Capitol. To Hon. Hamilton Harris, President of the Board of Capitol Commissioners, and to his exertions in the Senate, the State and the City of Albany are largely indebted for the successful manner in which the work was from the first pushed forward. By a concurrent resolution adopted May 14, 1878, the Legislature declared the new building to be the Capitol of the State of New York, and it was formally occupied as such January 7, 1879. The same evening the citizens of Albany gave a reception in honor of the event, and commemorative exercises were held under authority of the Legislature on the 12th of February following.

New Capitol Commissioners.—Hamilton Harris, May 3, 1866; John V. L. Pruyn, May 3, 1866; Obadiah B. Latham, May 3, 1866; James S. Thayer, May 19, 1868; William A. Rice, May 19, 1868; James Terwilliger, May 19, 1868; John T. Hudson, May 19, 1868; Alonzo B. Cornell, May 19, 1868.

Second Board.—Hamilton Harris, April 26, 1871; William C. Kingsley, April 26, 1871; William A. Rice, April 26, 1871; Chauncey M. Depew, April 26, 1871; Delos De Wolf, April 26, 1871; Edwin A. Merritt, April 26, 1871.

Architects —Thomas Fuller, August 12, 1868; Eidlitz, Richardson & Co., September 12, 1876.

Superintendents.—John Bridgeford, September 10, 1868; William J. McAlpine, June 11, 1873; James W. Eaton, June 12, 1874.

The Second Board was superseded by Act of the Legislature of 1875, and the Lieutenant-Governor, Attorney-General, and Auditor of the Canal Department were constituted Commissioners of the New Capitol. An Advisory Board to the Commissioners was appointed July 15, 1875, consisting of F. Law Olmsted, Leopold Eidlitz and Henry Richardson. This board was superseded by the appointment of architects in 1876. An Act passed March 30, 1883, authorized the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint an officer to be known as the Commissioner of the New Capitol, who shall have charge of the work of constructing and finishing the building. He is authorized to employ labor, purchase material and make contracts, which, in all cases, must be awarded to the lowest *bona fide* responsible bidder. He is required to give a bond for $50,000, conditioned for the faithful performance of the duties of his office. His term of office is the same as that of the Governor, from whom he receives his appointment. His salary is $7,500 per annum. The same Act abolished the office of Superintendent of the Capitol.

A subsequent law of the same year designated the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor and Speaker of the Assembly, *ex officio*, trustees of the finished parts of the building, and of several other public buildings of the State at Albany, for which they are to appoint a Superintendent at an annual salary of $3,500.

After the laying of the corner-stone, the work on the building was continued with more or less rapidity, according to the appropriation of funds.

There were times of entire cessation from work for lack of funds. In 1874 no work was done upon it for six months.

It is now occupied by the Senate and Assembly, the Court of Appeal, and nearly all the State Departments.

The Foundation.—To receive the foundation, the earth was excavated to an average depth of 15-$\frac{43}{100}$ feet below the surface. Then concrete to the thickness of four feet was first laid down. The material for this was of a nature that indurates with the lapse of time, so that a stone floor now exists which is every year approaching the hardness and duration of granite. The sub-basement extends down nineteen feet four inches, and contains 935,000 cubic feet of stone. The brick walls are from thirty-two inches to five feet thick, containing between ten and eleven million bricks. The foundation of the main tower is one hundred and ten feet square at the base, tapering to seventy feet square at the basement floor, The sub-basement is divided into one hundred and forty-four different appartments, and is utilized for heating, storing and ventilating purposes.

The immense boilers in the sub-basement used for propelling machinery for heating, lighting and ventilating purposes have long been regarded as dangerously located. They were considered liable to explode. They were also the source of other inconveniences. A proposal to remove them to a building adjacent to the Capitol, to be constructed by the State for this purpose, has been agitated for several sessions of the Legislature. The Legislature of 1885 passed an Act providing for the erection of a building for a boiler-house with chimney-stack, having a conduit running from the boiler-house to the Capitol.

The foundation of the boiler-house is seven feet below the sidewalk at the corner of Lafayette and Hawk streets, the walls three feet wide. From floor levels to the water tables the walls are two feet thick, faced with dressed stone. Water tables blue stone, and the wall above faced with pressed brick, tower included. The roof is supported by iron trusses, peaked aud slated. The floor is bricked or flagged. The chimney is 100 feet high, built of hard brick;

at the base it is fourteen feet square and ten and one-half feet in diameter at the top. The conduit comprises cast-iron tubes in lengths of six feet, clearing six feet in the diameter and an inch thick. Two ten-inch steam-pipes must run through it to connect the Capitol with the battery of boilers. The return pipes are four inches in diameter. For 270 feet the Washington avenue drains are lowered three feet, and for 300 feet the Lafayette street drains are lowered eight feet. There are five boilers, each 150-horse power. The plates are made of the best quality of Otis homogeneous steel, with tensile strength of 60,000 pounds to the inch of area.

The responsibility of making this construction and the removal was committed to Hon. Charles B. Andrews, Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds in Albany belonging to the State.

The Capitol is now lighted by magnificent electric lights. The Senate, Assembly and Court of Appeals and other larger rooms are illuminated by the incandescent light. The effect of these lights can scarcely be described, but must be seen to be appreciated.

The Capitol is magnificently situated in what will be hereafter known as Capitol square, including the land between Eagle street on the east, Capitol place on the west, with Washington avenue on the north, and State street on the south. The length is 1,034 feet, the width 330, containing in all $7\frac{84}{100}$ acres.

Capitol place is 155 feet above the level of the Hudson, and the land slopes to the east 51 feet. State street leads directly up from Broadway to the Capitol.

One of the first impressions of the traveler as he beholds the building is its immense proportions. It occupies $3\frac{7}{8}$ acres of land. It is 300 feet from north to south, and 400 feet from east to west. The walls are 108 feet high from the water-table, and are composed of granite, most of it from Hallowell, Maine.

The Central Court is 137 by 92 feet, extending an open space to the sky and admitting much needed light and air. Above the six dormer windows that open on the Court that are above the fourth or gallery story, are sculptured the arms of six families more or less distinguished in the history of the State. The Stuyvesant Arms are on the north side, west; Schuyler arms on the north side, middle; the Livingston arms on the north side, east; the Jay arms are on the south side, west; the Clinton arms are on the south side, middle; the Tompkins arms are on the south side, east.

The carvings descriptive of these arms, with the mottoes, are beautifully wrought, and blend with fine effect in the whole entablature on which they appear.

We take the following description of the Capitol from H. P. Phelps' admirably compiled work, "The Albany Hand-book."

The first or ground story, which is nearly on a level with Washington avenue and State street, is devoted to committee rooms and offices elsewhere specified. Ascent to the other stories may be made by elevators, but visitors will generally prefer to walk up one or the other of the grand staircases.

THE ASSEMBLY STAIRCASE, on the north side, is of Dorchester freestone of soft drab color; its ascent is easy; its design vigorous and scholarly. The views of it so often seen give a better idea of its majestic proportions then words can do.

THE GOLDEN CORRIDOR.—On arriving upon the second floor by the Assembly Staircase will be seen the Golden Corridor, 140 feet long by 20 wide and about twenty-five feet high, extending along the whole court side of the north center. Seven large windows opening upon this court divide the corridor into bays, twenty feet square. Each bay is flanked by piers, between which arches are turned, and these arches sustain a low and ribless groined vault.

Mr. Montgomery Schuyler says:

"The piers are covered with a damask of red upon umber. The angle moldings are solidly gilded. The crimson wall screen on both sides is overlaid with a simple reticulation of gold lines framing ornaments in yellow. The whole vault is gilded, and upon its ground of gold traversing each face of the vault, is a series of bands of minute ornament in brown, scarlet and deep blue. The method—this close mosaic of minute quantities of crude color—is entirely Oriental in treatment and effect. The varying surfaces of the vaulting, each covered with fretted gold, give a vista, lengthened by the dwindling arches, alive with flashing lights and shimmering shadows. Opening out of the corridor to the right is the room originally intended for the Court of Appeals, but declined by the Judge as unsuitable for their purpose. It is sixty feet square and twenty-five feet high, subdivided into parallelograms, one twice the width of the other, by a line of red granite columns carrying with broad, low arches a marble wall. The walls are of sandstone, visible in some places, but covered in most with a decoration in deep red, and with the tall wainscoting of oak, which occupy the wall above the dado of sandstone. The ceiling is a superb construction in carved oak, carried on a system of beams diminishing in size from the great girders supported by great braces, and finally closed by oaken panels, profusely carved. The Senate occupied this room previous to the completion of the Senate Chamber, and it has been used for various purposes. At the time of the scare, in relation to the ceiling of the Assembly Chamber, in 1882–83, it was hastily fitted up for the occupation of the Assembly with gallery, etc The members sat there one day and returned to their quarters. When the State Library Building was razed, this room and the Golden Corridor were utilized temporarily for library purposes.

THE ASSEMBLY CHAMBER.—Ascending another flight of the staircase we come to what is, without doubt, the grandest legislative hall in the world—the Assembly Chamber—84x140 feet by including the galleries, although the chamber proper is but 84 by 85 feet. Four great pillars, 4 feet in diameter, of red granite, sustain the largest groined stone arch in the world, the key-stone being 56 feet from the floor. These pillars, and the arch which springs from them, are the most striking features

of the room, but it will bear a world of study. While all admit the grandeur of the work, its vastness is also its defect; for as a debating hall it is far from perfect. With the Assembly in perfect order (a condition rarely observed for ten consecutive minutes) a good speaker cannot be heard without difficulty, but the Statesman with weak lungs, poor voice, uninteresting manner, or threadbare subject, is apt to complain bitterly of the acoustics. It had been found necessary, in order to keep the key-stone in place, to weight it very heavily; this extra weight upon the sandstone caused some of the defective stones to crack. Small pieces fell, and there was much apprehension that the building was settling unevenly, and that the tons upon tons of stone in and about the ceiling would some day come down with a crash. A commission of experts reported that it was best to take the ceiling down. The architects protested and offered to repair it at their own expense; they were allowed to do so, replaced the defective stones, and all anxiety appears to have subsided.

THE ALLEGORICAL PICTURES.—No one feature of the Capitol has caused more comment than the pictures that occupy the upper portions of the north and south walls of this chamber. They were painted by the late William M. Hunt, one of the greatest of American artists, and possess a melancholy interest from the fact that they are the only work of the kind he ever did. He received for his services fifteen thousand dollars. The space covered by each is fifteen by forty feet. That on the northern wall represents the allegory of Armujd and Ahriman, or the flight of Evil before Good; or, as is more frequently interpreted, The Flight of Night. The Queen of Night is driving before the dawn, charioted on clouds drawn by three plunging horses, one black, one white, one red, without other visible restraint than that of a swarthy guide, who floats at the left of the picture, and whose hand is lightly laid upon the head of the outermost horse. At the right of the goddess, and in deep shade, is the recumbent figure of a sleeping mother with a sleeping child upon her breast. The picture on the southern wall represents the Discoverer standing upright in a boat, dark against a sunset sky. Fortune erect stands behind him trimming the sail with her lifted left hand while her right holds the tiller. The boat is rising to a sea, and is attended by Hope at the prow, with one arm resting on it, and one pointing forward; Faith, whose face is buried in her arms, and who is floating with the tide: and Science unrolling a chart at the side.

We are told that since Mr. Hunt's melancholy death on the Isle of Shoals, that the fifty-five days devoted by himself and his assistant to the painting of these pictures, by no means represented all the labor bestowed upon them. The Discoverer was first drawn in charcoal in 1857. The Flight of Night had been put on paper ten years earlier, and had been designed simply for an easel picture. After accepting the commission, Mr. Hunt's preparatory work in his studio in Boston was of nearly five months' duration. For the Flight of Night, the heads of the horses, their legs and feet were all freshly painted from life. The Queen was painted from a model. Sleep and the child were painted from life; also the dusky guide. For the other picture, the Discoverer, Hope, Science, and Fortune were painted from life models. The heads, hands, and arms of these figures were also drawn and colored as separate studies. In all, thirty or more careful charcoal drawings and more than twelve pastels were made, besides nineteen complete copies in oil—seventeen, twelve by thirty inches, and two, six by eight feet. The work itself had to be done by a specified time, and this involved much anxiety. Each morning the artist and his assistant were up to catch from the rising sun a fresh impression to carry to the work upon the Flight of Night. Every evening they watched the waning daylight, and noted the effect of figures and objects against the setting sun, as a study for the Discoverer. Later on in the work, Mr. Hunt obtained from his assistant a solemn promise that if their effort proved a failure, he would paint out both pictures in a single night.

THE SOUTH SIDE CORRIDOR.—The Executive Chambers, or the Governor's rooms, are in the southeast corner on the second, or entrance floor. On the way to this portion of the Capitol, one is struck by two very important differences in construction between the southern corridors and the corresponding passages on the north side of the building. These differences consist in the use of colored marbles here for wainscoting, and in the admission of light by windows rising from the top of the wainscot above the level of the eye and surrounding the doors leading into the various committee rooms that receive direct light. The effect of the wainscot is of great richness and variety, and it also seems substantial and enduring. The richness and variety of color is truly wonderful, and it contains in low tones more combinations than the most elaborate palettes of a painter could reach in a lifetime. The most prominent tints are shades and hues of red, and these are relieved by numberless colder tones, grays and browns predominating. The marble has been selected upon a harmonious scale of color, and is put together in simple slabs, the joining edges of which are beveled perpendicularly, and are held in place by a slightly convex string molding and a cap of brownstone, which, where they abut upon doors, are daintily carved into terminal bosses, while the whole rests upon a molded base of brownstone. This wainscot is more pleasing than any combination of tiles could be, but its effect would be entirely thrown away were it not for the means adopted for lighting the corridors through the windows above mentioned.

THE GOVERNOR'S ROOM is sixty feet long by forty wide; the walls are wainscoted to a height of fifteen or sixteen feet with mahogany, arranged in square panels surmounted with a band of carving and a carved molding above. The space between this and the ceiling of mahogany is covered with

hangings of Spanish leather, which harmonize, in its soft tones of golden-brown, and red, and olive, with the mahogany. On one side of the room is an enormous fire-place having a shelf and several emblematic panels of elaborate carving about it. The ceiling is composed of beams, which divide the space into panels, having rails perforated in the form of a quatrefoil surrounding the panel. There are convenient arrangements to connect with the offices of the executive attendants and the bill room by small doors in the paneling, and altogether the room is well adapted to the reception of persons having business to transact with the Governor and his assistants.

THE CORRIDOR OF COLUMNS.—Ascending from this floor by the commodious and easy running elevator, we find ourselves in a corridor similar to that previously described, which leads into a broader one, running east and west along the north side of the Senate Chamber. This last-named corridor, which is after plans furnished by Mr. Eidlitz, is entirely lined and vaulted with sandstone, and has a row of columns in the center, above which there is a double-arched vault extending to either wall. Upon this spacious corridor open the main doors leading to the Senate Chamber.

THE SENATE CHAMBER, in the richness and variety of its decoration, is equaled only by the famous St. Mark's Cathedral in Venice. Its treatment was assigned to Mr. Richardson, and of his success there can be no question. The space in which he had to work was sixty feet in breadth, nearly one hundred in length, and about fifty in height. He has reduced the plan of the room to a nearly square form, cutting off from either end of it the lobbies, above which are placed the galleries, opening on the chamber proper. These lobbies, opening from the corridors, are simple in treatment. Yet by a slight similarity in detail they, in a measure, prepare the eye for the Senate Chamber itself. They are wainscoted with a light marble, arranged panelwise in slabs and rails, and are ceiled with quartered oak. From the west lobby opens the Lieutenant-Governor's room, comfortably fitted up with a carved and polished mahogany wainscot and fire-place, and an oak ceiling supported on corbels of marble. By the arrangement of the galleries over the lobbies, the actual floor space of the Senate Chamber proper is reduced to about sixty feet by fifty-five. Entering on this floor by the main doorway from the vaulted corridor above described we first see the south wall, from which the chamber is lighted by three large openings rising from a level with the floor and six lesser openings near the ceiling. Two of the large windows are filled with disks of stained glass, which shade from browns and rubies near the floor through olives and golden hues to the semicircular tops, which are filled with varied iridescent and opalescent tints. The central window is obscured by the reredos behind the president's desk, which rises to the spring of the window arches, but does not cover the semicircular window-head, which, like the others, is filled with many-hued opalescent glass. The stained glass has been used not only to add brilliancy of color, but to avoid the glare of light that has proved so objectionable in some of the other rooms. These windows are arched, and the stone moldings above and below them are carved with intricate and delicate patterns of interwoven lace-like forms, and a carved band of stone divides the lower part of each window from the semicircular upper light. The capitals of the angle columns are more heavily cut into conventional forms taken from oak leaves and other foliage. The wall space between the windows, as far up as the spring of the arches, is of Knoxville Tenn., marble, a reddish-gray stone not highly polished, though having a smooth finish.

THE MEXICAN ONYX PANELING.—Above the three arches of the lower windows for about twelve feet (perpendicular), the wall is paneled with Mexican onyx. These panels are cut into slabs three feet square and are separated, or rather framed, by slightly convex rails of Sienna (Italy) marble, the mottled reds, yellows, and browns of which contrast with the tints of the onyx. For additional support the slabs are backed up with slabs of ordinary marble. The variety of color displayed in the onyx is very remarkable, the prevailing tints being mottled and semi-translucent whites, cream colors, sea-water, olive and ivory. These tints are broken and waved by lines, striæ and splashes of raw Sienna coloring, rosy brown, and numberless shades of other neutral browns, some inclining toward red and some toward green and even blue, while the surface everywhere varies in play of light and shade of semi-opacity and translucence. The various slabs, no two of which are alike, are arranged with a certain idea of contrast, but never formally nor with regularity of counter-change. They are laid haphazard with a motive. The dividing rails of Sienna marble are of colors that harmonize admirably with those of the onyx, being principally yellows of a soft golden character and reddish-brown mottled, the intensity of which is varied in every piece, and sometimes approaches so nearly the color of an adjacent slab of onyx as to melt into it. Both panels and rails are highly polished. Above this paneling is a string course of simply carved marble, and above this is the upper tier of windows, six in number. The shape and treatment are similar to those of the lower windows. The wall space above these windows is filled in with lead, heavily gilded, constituting a sort of frieze. The ornament of this is a carefully studied design of arabesque or floral pattern, beaten out or embossed by means of hammers, stamps and dies of various sizes and shapes, thus affording a varied play of light and shade on the gilt surface. This field of gold, being absolutely neutral, adapts itself to the color of the surrounding objects, and in the elevation and depression of its beaten and stamped surface supplies the complementary colors necessary to complete the color harmony of the whole chamber. Above the broad frieze of beaten gold, and terminating the wall are the massive carved beams of oak, more than four

feet in depth, which constitute the framework of the ceiling. These great beams are supported on stone corbels sunk into the walls and projecting under the beams. The corbels are carved into bold and vigorous forms derived from foliage and flowers. The main beams divide the ceiling into long, narrow, rectangular spaces running from east to west, and these spaces are divided into lesser rectangular spaces running north and south, which are again divided in half by smaller beams and form squares, which are still further divided by rails into four square panels each. Half way between the east and west walls is the main entrance of the corridor, and on either side of this entrance are two great open fire-places jutting out into the room. The doorway and fire-places are constructed of marble, as is the space between them. The openings of the fire-places are about six feet in height, and something more in breadth. The cheerful effect of these, when filled with blazing logs, the flames of which are reflected on the polished onyx and marble from all sides of the room, may well be imagined. Above the fire openings are to be carved legends or symbolical devices. Above these are the broad faces of the chimney-breasts, which are to be cut in bas-relief, with representations of historical or legendary scenes, emblematical of or illustrating the legislative character of the room. The whole chimney-pieces are about half as high as the room, reaching to the string course below the gold frieze. Above the doorway and wall space of Knoxville marble, we see the wall space up to the frieze covered with the Mexican onyx panel, and like the frieze, in greater extent of surface than elsewhere. Above the onyx and inclosed within the frieze is a long rectangular space, which may be filled in with mural painting of some allegorical subject fitted to the place.

THE COURT OF APPEALS.—Nine spacious rooms are assigned for the Court of Appeals, six in the third or principal story, three in the fourth or gallery story, the two stories being connected by an ornamented iron staircase. The Court-room is in the southeast corner over the executive chamber, and is 35 by 53 feet and 25 feet high. It is finished in quartered red oak, timbered ceiling of the same material, with carved beams and deep recessed panels. The five window openings are finished with Knoxville marble, the arches resting on carved trusses and columns recessed into the angles formed by the jambs and outer belting, terminating in ornamental trusses. A deep carved wood string in line with the trusses, and the carved capitals of the marble columns divide the oak paneling on the walls into two parts. The framework of the upper section is filled in with large plain panels, and the intention is to decorate, by gilding, the rails. The panels are designed to be painted in varied designs to harmonize with the wood-carving. The lower section below the window arches stands upon a molded base and is filled in with double raised panels and sub divided longitudinally by carved string courses, containing between them a section of vertical fluted work, in which are fixed at intervals, in carved frames, the portraits of the judges, many of which hung in the Court of Appeals' room of the Old Capitol. On the west side of the room is a recessed fire-place of large dimensions, over which is displayed the arms of the State, carved in the oaken panels of the mantel over the recess. The recess of the fire-place is lined with Sienna marble, and has a bench on either side of the fire-place of the same material. The lintel over the fire-place is also of Sienna marble, richly carved and extending across the whole recess. Resting on the lintel is a large panel composed of several choice specimens of Mexican onyx skillfully arranged. The Judge's bench has been carefully designed in style and form to suit the requirements and wishes of that honorable body. The front is divided into panels set in framework; the panels are exquisitely carved in varied designs and separated by ornamental balusters, the whole resting on a molded base. Carved in the center panel are the arms of the State. There is a medallion convex of carved grotesque heads located along the projecting top. Perhaps no room in the building is better adapted to its purpose than this.

THE SOUTHEAST, OR SENATE STAIRCASE occupies a space fifty-two by fifty-two, and one hundred and fourteen feet high from basement to the top of the walls. The stairs start on the ground floor on the south side and extend to the gallery story. The great platforms and steps are of Dorchester sandstone. Each story is divided into two sections by spacious intermediate platforms midway in each story, extending the whole distance between the north and south walls, a distance of fifty feet by twelve feet wide. The stairs are of easy ascent and grand and dignified in appearance. The upper landings of the stairs on each story are on platforms extending the whole length between the walls by fourteen feet wide, resting on the walls at either end, and supported at the cross-joints by massive molded granite girders. The west walls on the ground and entrance stories form a continuous line of niches, divided by piers and columns, embellished with molded brass and carved caps. The west wall in each of the four stories is pierced by large openings, through which light is admitted to the staircase from the court. The eastern wall in the entrance and main stories is provided with balconies, the platforms placed on a level with the tiled floors of the corridors adjoining. These balconies serve both as useful and ornamental features, and are approached through the openings made in the east wall, as heretofore described. The openings are spanned by pointed arches, the two outer arches extending over the steps. The faces of piers and arches are decorated by incised ornaments, the under side of arches by flowing lines of tracery, terminating in grotesque heads and figures. The north and south sides of the wall are each divided into two openings, which are spanned by arches springing from the massive piers at the ground floor, up to and against the piers resting upon the caps of the center columns, from which the upper span of arches spring, to and against the piers of the various landings. These arches are constructed at an angle conforming to

the angles of the steps, and supporting the same. The vertical faces and soffits are decorated in a similar manner as the arches heretofore described, with the exception of the lower section, in which spandrels are formed, filled in with geometrical tracery.

Resting on the arches, continuing up the steps, and forming the coping over the same, is a molded string course, up the face of which is a deeply recessed and richly carved decoration. This coping and decoration extends along a level with all the platforms, and is divided by the piers at the angles. The coping, up the steps and along the platforms, is surmounted by a beautiful balustrade worked in geometrical figures and foliage ornaments, on which rests a heavy molded hand-rail. * * * This great monumental work is believed to be without parallel on the face of the globe.

STONE-WORK.—The following description of the stone-work used on the New Capitol was kindly furnished the editor by Mr. James J. Mitchell, Superintendent of Granite Work. It puts on record facts of abiding interest in the history of this great building that can be found nowhere else. It is the statement of a skillful practical mechanic, who has been on the work from the beginning, given in his own clear language.

I came here October 8, 1870, when the foundation was being built, from Washington, D. C., where I had been employed as a stone-cutter on the United States Capitol and other public buildings. At that time the building was under the management of a commission, of which the Hon. Hamilton Harris was Chairman. The corner-stone was laid June 24, 1871, by the Masonic fraternity. After the laying of the corner-stone, measures were taken to push forward the construction with the greatest rapidity. I worked as a stone-cutter on the building until May 25, 1872, when I was appointed assistant foreman of stone-cutters, which position I held until 1876, when Mr. Reynolds, who had been principal foreman, died. I was appointed his successor. In 1883 I was further promoted to Superintendent of Granite Work by Commissioner Perry.

In my department are employed almost two-thirds of the whole force on the building, the total of which is about eight hundred and fifty men. In my office are two clerks, one messenger and one assistant.

The average number of men employed yearly since 1870, is 1,100. Of the different kinds of stone used in its construction as follows: For foundation, Tribes Hill and Kingston limestone, also Fall River and Saratoga granite, and Potsdam sandstone for bond stone. The basement is flagged with bluestone from Ulster County.

The water table is of Dix Island, Me., granite; the corner-stone, weighing ten tons, is also of this material. It is situated in the northeast corner of the building. It was contemplated at one time to construct the whole building of Dix Island, Me., granite, but it was found to be too expensive.

The next five courses around the entire building are of Yarmouth, Me., granite. It was condemned on account of having been found to contain iron, thereby causing discoloration, which is plainly visible, and is a great eyesore. From the fifth course upward the entire exterior structure is composed of Hallowell white granite, a fine, if not the finest building material in the world.

In the north and south entrances halls, ground floor, the first story of the main tower and corridors, granite from Keene, N. H., is used, not including the arches. In the east and west entrance halls, Hallowell granite, with polished granite columns from Fox Island, Me., is used.

The great columns in the Assembly Chamber are red granite from Stony Creek, Conn., while the bases and capitals are Tuckahoe, Westchester County, marble. The remainder of the Chamber is entirely of Dorchester, Ohio, and Belleville, New Jersey, red sandstone.

In the corridors of the south side we find, in the wainscoting, marble of almost every hue, principally from Lake Champlain. The base-band and cap-courses, also the jambs, are of dark brownstone from Newark, N. J. On the next two floors above, the same materials are used in the wainscoting. In the room formerly intended for the Court of Appeals are red granite columns and pilasters of great beauty from the Bay of Fundy, Nova Scotia.

The bases, capitals and arches in the Chamber supporting the floors of the Assembly Chamber, are of white marble from Tuckahoe, Westchester County. The wainscoting is of Ohio sandstone and Dorchester sandstone. The carving in the oak panels is of rare beauty.

The stone used in the Governor's Room is Knoxville marble, highly polished and carved. The marble lintel in the fire-place is of exquisite finish, consisting of oak leaves and stems of the most intricate design. The wainscoting and ceiling in this room are of red mahogany.

The Senate Chamber is regarded as one of the most beautiful legislative chambers in the world. The principal material used in this chamber is Knoxville, Tennessee, marble. The red granite columns and pilasters are from Jefferson County, New York. They are surmounted by capitals of extraordinary delicacy and workmanship, of Knoxville, Tennessee, marble. The north and south walls, above the string-course, are lined with Mexican onyx and Sienna marble—the onyx forming the panels, the Sienna, the styles and rails. These materials are the most costly in the market. The great arches are also of Sienna, elaborately carved.

The large mantels in the Senate Chamber are very elaborate, consisting of sculptured cherubs, animals, foliage, etc., in deep relief. They are very massive, and, when finished, will be one of the features of the already gorgeous and costly Chamber.

The lobbies and ante-rooms are finished with Knoxville, Tennessee, marble, as also the Lieutenant-Governor's Room, except the wainscoting, which is of mahogany.

The main corridor on this, the principal floor, and the one above the gallery, are very striking to the visitor, who passes though trhem before entering the Senate Chamber, where he finds a different style of architecture.

The materials in these corriders are Dorchester and Ohio sandstone, the architect of the latter evidently preferring sandstone, as it seems to be always used where his designs are to be found.

The carving in these corridors, especially in the gallery, is of exquisite design and execution, treated by master hands.

The new Court of Appeals, situated in the southeast corner, is a fine room. The windows are trimmed with Knoxville marble; the wainscoting and ceiling is of oak, elaborately carved; the railing in front of the clerk's desk is a feature. The fire-place is very rich; the materials are Mexican onyx and Sienna marble, and quite unique.

A very beautiful, if not the most beautiful, mantel, so far as material is concerned, is in the Clerk's Room, Court of Appeals. It is of variegated green Lissoughter marble. The other two in the same suite of rooms are of exquisite design and finish, and are composed of Little Island and Middleton B marble.

The wainscoting in the east corridor is different from that of the south corridor. The base-board and cap are of Belgian black marble; the panels from East Tennessee, and Greot (French) marble. Lake Champlain marble is also used.

The northeast staircase is entirely composed of Dorchester sandstone. The style is in harmony with the Assembly Chamber, being very rich in detail.

The southeast staircase, now building, will be a magnificent work when completed. The material used is red Scotch Corsehill sandstone; the columns of Peterhead, Scotch, granite. Fox Island and Quincy granite are also used.

In the Parlor of the Assembly, a beautiful mantel of East Tennessee marble is constructing; also, in the Committee Room of Ways and Means.

The following is a list of the different kinds of stone used in the construction of this building:

Granite: Fall River, Mass.; Saratoga, N. Y.; Dix Island, Me.; Yarmouth, Me.; Hallowell, Me.; Fox Island, Me.; Mount Waldo, Me.; Rockcliffe Island, Me.; Keene, N. H.; Red Stony Creek, Conn.; Red Peterhead (Scotch); St. John's, Bay of Fundy (N. S.); Quincy, Mass.

Marble: Lake Champlain; East Tennessee; German; Virginia, variegated; Knoxville, Tenn.; Sienna; Mexican onyx; Black Belgian; Irish, variegated; Flavirco; Tuckahoe, Westchester County; Pennsylvania dove color; White Italian; Greot, French; Vermont, variegated; Glen Falls, black; Middleton black, Little Island; Lissoughter.

Sandstone: Potsdam and Dorchester, Ohio; Red New Jersey; Red Scotch; Corsehill.

Brownstone: Newark, N. J.

Limestone: Tribes Hill; Kingston.

Bluestone: Ulster County.

Previous to the construction of this building, it was doubted by many architects that granite could be treated by the workmen in such a delicate manner as the elaborate carving on the different parts of the exterior demanded. The carving on the gallery story of the small towers could scarcely be treated with greater delicacy in any material than it is in the Hallowell granite. The tympanum in the dormers on all sides of the building demonstrate beyond a doubt, that in the hands of skillful workmen there is hardly any kind of ornament which cannot be wrought in this granite.

The dormers on the north, south, and west sides of the central court are, perhaps, the strongest evidence that can be adduced of the delicate treatment and beautiful finish that this granite will bear. The coats of arms sculptured on them took months to complete. Heraldic emblems are, in my judgment, the most difficult ornaments to execute out of granite in order to get the proper effect, as the smallest defect in any part would destroy the whole.

The most skillful mechanics have been gathered to this building. It has been my constant desire to encourage and foster mechanical and artistic talent wherever I found it. To do this, while contending against the importunities of politicians, has indeed been a hard task, and under the circumstances, it is little less than a miracle that the great work has so successfully been prosecuted.

The great gable on the west front is elaborately ornamented. The loggia is one of its principal features. The tympanum is enriched with disks, crossed and roseated, forming a diaper or drapery of extraordinary beauty. Over the string-course, and flanking the arches, stand the Winged Lions of Babylon. Below the spandrels are sculptured in bas-relief the figures of Justitia and Puritas. Surmounting the whole is a massive finial, richly carved in deep relief, and stamping the whole as one of the best pieces of work ever executed out of granite in this or any other country.

ISAAC G. PERRY.

To Mr. Isaac G. Perry has been entrusted the work of carrying forward the construction of the finest and most expensive building in this country, and the third most expensive in the world—the New Capitol at Albany. The history of Albany, and of the great structure itself, would be incomplete without a sketch of his career.

Born in Bennington, Vermont, in 1822, Mr. Perry is in his sixty-third year, though his robust frame and strongly-marked features would indicate that he was much younger. Much of his early life was passed at Keeseville, Essex County, New York, where he received his education and acquired a knowledge of the details of that which was to be his life work. After a time he removed to New York City, where he made a success of his occupation, and remained until he was induced to take up his residence in Binghamton, N. Y., where he obtained a wide reputation as a builder and architect.

The most important of his works before the Capitol, was the Binghamton Asylum for the In-

sane, a fine specimen of Elizabethan architecture. Next only in importance was the new Court House at Scranton, Pa., an elegant structure in the mediæval style adapted to modern requirements. Nearly all of the modern built buildings in Binghamton—and they are numerous and beautiful, as well as substantial—are from his designs, as well as many equally attractive ones in other cities.

March 30, 1883, Governor Cleveland appointed Mr. Perry, Commissioner of the Construction of the New Capitol, under the then recently enacted law creating a single Commissioner to have entire charge of the interests which had theretofore been confided to a Board of Commissioners, and his appointment was confirmed on the 5th of April following. The appointment was entirely unsolicited by Mr. Perry, who was chosen as an architect, not as a partisan. He had been a life-long adherent to Democratic principles, but had never thought that his vocation as an architect and a builder had anything to do with his political convictions as a citizen, and he had not made himself known to the country or to the State by any prominence in politics. In an editorial notice of Mr. Perry's appointment, the *Albany Argus* said:

"He has carried to completion many edifices which are attestations of good work, and the history of them shows promptness, harmony and honesty in every stage. He has large numbers of men in his employment, and his record shows that he can command their regard and respect while requiring of them the utmost fidelity and energy. Great enterprises have confided to him enormous tasks, involving the use of large capital, the development of complicated plans, and the necessity of combining thoroughness of work with rapidity of execution. He has in every instance shown marked ability, absolute integrity, exceptional diligence and an intelligent purpose to regard every undertaking as a trust to be discharged with scrupulous observance of economy, impartiality and every other sound business principle."

His appointment was favorably commented upon by the Press of the State, irrespective of party, and his administration of the duties of his office has been such as to more than justify the enthusiastic predictions of his friends. The sterling integrity, good business sense and untiring energy which gained him his previous enviable reputation, have been brought to bear upon the Herculean task which he has undertaken, and in which his mind and his energies are almost wholly asserted; for, as it has been remarked by the *Albany Journal*, "his heart is wrapped up in the Capitol. * * * He appears not to take much interest in politics, and is ready to spend his days and evenings walking about the Capitol, superintending the work, looking over designs and planning improvements."

While the Capitol stands as a monument to the liberality of the people and the enterprise and forethought of the public men of the State of New York, and the artistic and architectural skill of its own designers and builders, the memory of the name of Mr. Perry can never pass away, and he will be known as one of America's greatest architects and builders.

HISTORY

OF THE

CITY OF ALBANY.

EDITED BY PROF. JONATHAN TENNEY, M. A, PH. D.

THAT the boats of Henry Hudson passed up as far as Albany in September, 1609, is conceded; probably a few miles further; enough further, at least, to satisfy the bold navigator that this was not a feasible route to the Pacific Ocean and Eastern Asia. To make settlements and found colonies was not the purpose of Hudson. It is quite likely some of those "very loving people and very old men where we were well used," who "came aboard and brought us ears of Indian Corne, and Pompions and Tabacco," and "Bevers Skinnes and Otters Skinnes, which wee bought for Beades, Knives and Hatchets," were primitive Albanians of the Iroquois tribes, who dwelt in castles, pursued their game, and caught their fish along the Hudson.

Traders came later, and carried on, for many years, a lucrative commerce with the native Indians. Still later came settlers and colonists. Of these we have already spoken in the history of Albany County.

We cannot admit the usual claim that Albany was settled by Walloons and Dutch in 1623. There is no settlement without settlers. There are no settlers unless they come to stay. The early traders who came and went with no other purpose than as adventurers or speculators, were not settlers. When colonists came and occupied farms, settlements began. There were none of these before 1630; but very few before about 1638 or 1640. Albany can make no claim to settlement before 1630.

Nor do we admit that Albany has the oldest City Charter of any State in the Union. Truth gives history its real value. Albany was first chartered July 22, 1686. As a city it is nearly two hundred years old—an age very respectable for this country. But New York was not only settled earlier, as it naturally would be, lying nearly one hundred and fifty miles nearer the ocean; but its city charter is older. Under Stuyvesant, it received a Dutch charter dated February 2, 1657; under Governor Nicolls it received an English charter dated June 12, 1665; and because it had been again a Dutch city in 1673–74, it received another English charter, under Dongan, April 22, 1686. After this, for special reasons, new Royal charters were given New York by Cornbury in 1708, and by Montgomerie in 1730.

The surface of the city as seen by the early settlers, was a narrow alluvial tract along the Hudson, from which the ascent was gradual for nearly a mile, until a plateau about two hundred feet above tide level was reached, extending westwardly in a sandy plain. The slope from the river was divided into four well defined ridges, separated by deep and wide valleys or ravines, which have been so much improved by grading that they add much to the varied beauty of the city, as well as to the facilities for drainage. When the plateau is reached, they now nearly disappear in the densely settled part of the city. Streams formerly coursed through these valleys.

Albany is underlaid by clay, resting on Hudson river shales, and covered by an argillaceous sandy loam, which, on the plains further west, is covered with deep sand. The clay is worked into bricks and pottery, and the sand is used in large quantities for molding and other purposes.

The islands that belong to Albany are two only —the old Kasteel, or Castle Island, which has been called many different names, but is now placed on the maps as Van Rensselaer Island. It is believed to be the place where Corstiaensen landed and where Elkins had charge of a trader's post about 1614; which, on account of freshets, was removed later to a hill further south, near where Kenwood now is.

Jacob Elkins was an aggressive and energetic skipper and trade adventurer. He kept up an active traffic with the wild men of the forest for several years, under the protection of the New Netherlands Company. His scouting parties were

NOTE.—What the writer said in the early pages of this work in relation to the alleged discovery of the Hudson by Verrazzano in 1524, is in accord with his firm convictions. Indeed, if it had been the proper place for discussing a matter so little relevant to the History of Albany County, he would have said more. He, as a historian, has given study and thought to the whole matter, and is convinced that the Verrazzano letter is not genuine, and that the maps and geographical statements printed to confirm the alleged discoveries of this brigand, are absurd in detail, and absolute attempts at historic fraud. To any one who wishes to satisfy a mind unprejudiced, the reading of "The Voyage of Verrazzano," by the late Hon. H. C. Murphy, is commended as the work of a high-minded, impartial and learned historian, who studied the whole matter with unusual opportunities for getting at the truth.

Nor have we any more faith in the tradition of an early French fort upon Castle Island, which has hardly the shadow of probability to support it.

constantly engaged in exploring all the neighboring country, and in becoming better acquainted with the savage tribes around them, with all of whom it was the constant policy of the Dutch to cultivate the most friendly relations. His trouble with the traders at Fort Orange, in 1623, put an end to his trade in New Netherlands.

The other island, nearly opposite the Manor Mansion, is called Patroon's Island. The island now occupied by the Boston and Albany Railroad, between this city and Greenbush, belongs to Rensselaer County.

There have been five Kills, or creeks, which have a name in history, whose waters are wholly or in part in the City of Albany. All discharge their waters into the Hudson. Some are now converted into sewers for the city. They were once spoken of numerically, commencing with the most southerly, and called First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Kill. Later they were named Normanskill, Beaverkill, Ruttenkill, Foxenkill, and Patroon's or Mill Creek.

The first named is one of the largest creeks in the county. It empties into the Hudson at Kenwood, just below the city, and is represented in the city only by the head waters of the Krumkill, one of its branches. Capital and enterprise would make it much more useful than it is.

Beaverkill, sometimes called Buttermilk Creek, was once a mill-stream, affording considerable water-power, which was utilized by mills for sawing logs and grinding grain. A portion of it is now covered for sewerage purposes. It rises in the westerly part of the city and runs near Park Lake, across the Penitentiary grounds and by Martinville, into the Hudson a little below the steamboat landing.

Ruttenkill had its source above Lark street, and was a large stream only when it was swollen by great rains or the melting of winter's snows. It had a never-failing supply of fish for many years, and was the only creek flowing inside the old city walls. Leaving the deep ravine in which now lies Hudson avenue, it crossed South Pearl street where Beaver block stands, and entered the Hudson a little below State street. It was bridged in South Pearl and Broadway. Along the sloping banks of the old ravine the bricks which form the walls of the older houses of the city were made. Rats (*ratten*) infested the banks of the stream, and, as some suppose, gave name to it. Along its whole length it now forms the bed of a sewer.

The Ruttenkill ravine extended from Lark street to the plain along the Hudson River, and was originally about three hundred feet broad and fifty feet deep, throughout nearly its entire length.

It was a filthy place, almost a dismal waste, from the first settlement of the city. Boys who had nothing else to do, in summer bathed in its dirty pools and caught small fish there. From some of these pools the Albany brewers were said to take the water for their ale and beer. Out of a public charge of this kind came the libel suit of John Taylor vs. Edward C. Delavan, mentioned in our article on Temperance. In this ravine gallows were erected and malefactors were hung. The last case of this kind was the execution of Strang for the murder of Whipple, in 1827, which was witnessed by thousands from the lofty banks and slopes on its borders. The ravine was filled and hills lowered about 1845 to 1848, by turning the latter into the former. About 600,000 yards of blue clay and an equal amount of other filling was excavated to accomplish this work. The contractor for this great work was Charles Stanford, a native of Watervliet, and brother of Governor Leland Stanford. He pushed it forward with wonderful energy and completed it to public acceptance. From fifty to two hundred and fifty persons were employed. Hudson avenue, with its nicely graded street and pleasant buildings, now lies above the ravine.

Foxenkill, before the city was enlarged, ran outside the stockades, which, for many years, formed the northern limits of the city proper. It furnished an abundance of excellent fish at that time. Sixty years ago it was crossed by a bridge in North Pearl street, near Canal. This last named street lies above the bed of the old creek.

Patroon's Creek once furnished the power for the Patroons' mills, and discharges into the Hudson near the Old Manor House. It now contributes to the water supply and sewerage of the city.

We speak of the Hudson elsewhere.

The only lakes of the city are Tivoli, which really forms a part of Patroon's Creek and thus makes a reservoir, and Park Lake, an artificial body of water which adds much to the beauty and pleasure of Washington Park.

The history of Albany County involves, to a very large extent, the history of the City of Albany until after the revolution. Indeed there was little done outside of the limits of the present city, in the territory of Albany County. There were no other towns incorporated until Watervliet was made into a township March 7, 1788, including the whole of the West District of Rensselaerwyck, as made by the division of March 5, 1779. All this territory was sparsely settled at that time by farmers working leaseholds under the Patroons. We may except a few millers and other mechanics scattered among the tillers of the soil. Some settlers engaged in small trade, some were artisans in a small way, and some were laborers in the service of the Patroon, near his manorial residence, just north of the city. This latter territory made a little village, and held a separate corporate existence for several years, under the name of Colonie.

Whatever we have given in regard to the early history of Albany County need not be repeated here, as it belongs as well to the city, which, for many years, contained nearly all the population and did nearly all the business of what is now Albany County; and, indeed, was the center of nearly all the important events that transpired on the upper Hudson for all the years up to the close of the revolutionary period. To the pages then, that record this early history under each topic, we refer for everything except what is almost exclusively local in occurrence and influence.

Our plan of arrangement considers our wider field, the County, made up, only when it came to be fully settled, of separate townships of special interests and events. Whatever facts existed in topography, geography, natural history, aboriginal occupation, early settlements, industries, warlike contests, government, religion, education, and such like, we have arranged under these topics. When the events took root before the present century began, and grew out so as to have branches all over the county, we have placed them under county history. When the foundations were laid by the fathers of the county in the early days, and the work of building has been going on ever since, so as to interest all the people who dwell in our present territory of two cities, two incorporated villages, and nine towns—we have placed the topic under county history.

The City of Albany is situated in latitude 42° 39′ 11″ north, and longitude 3° 18′ east from Washington; 73° 45′ west from London; and 15″ west from New York City.

The site was probably selected because of its situation on the Hudson near the head of tide-water, with a convenient place for building a fort and for trade; it was well watered by small creeks and well sheltered from the winds. The Mohawk Indians whom the early traders met, seemed very friendly and ready for business. Their castles were along the Mohawk; and, at a very early date, along the Hudson also.

The names given to this city have been: Pempo-tu-wuth-ut (place of the council-fire), by the Mohegans; Sche-negh-ta-da (through the pine woods), by the Iroquois; Ga-ish-tin-ic, by the Minci; Fuyck (fouk), a hoop-net, otherwise Beversfuyck, supposed to refer to a bend in the river where fish were caught, probably first Dutch name; Beverwyck, a place for beavers, retained from about 1634 to 1664 (sometimes written Beverswyck); Fort Orange, in honor of William, Prince of Orange and Nassau; Rensselaerwyck, in honor of the Patroons, the Van Rensselaers; Aurania, another name for Orange; Williamstadt, in honor of William, the Stadtholder; New Orange, in honor of the Duke of Orange probably (a designation seldom used); Oranjeburgh, city or fortress of Orange (a name spoken of by Mrs. Grant); Albany, in honor of James, Duke of York, Albany and Ulster, brother of King Charles II, who made him proprietor of the New Netherlands. He afterward ascended the English throne, which he soon after descended, or abdicated, because of his odious character.

The Dongan Charter boundaries in 1686 were—east, by the Hudson at low-water mark; south, by a line drawn from the southernmost end of the pasture at the north end of Martin Gerritsen's Island, and running back due northwest sixteen miles into the woods, to a certain creek called Sandkill; north, by a line parallel to the former, about a mile distant; and west, by a straight line drawn from the western extremities of the north and south line. This Charter embraced rights to certain fields and public buildings, the ferry, all waste land, the right of fishing in the vicinity of the Hudson within the limits of the county, and of purchasing from the Indians 500 acres of meadow land at Schaahtecogue on the north, and 1,000 acres at Tiononderoga (Fort Hunter) on the west, in the Mohawk country, on which to plant colonies as barriers against hostile incursions.

After the counties were organized and towns formed from old Watervliet, or west division of Rensselaerwyck, its boundaries may be described as—westerly by Rotterdam and Niskayuna in Schenectady County; easterly by a line running through the center of the Hudson River channel; southerly by Bethlehem and Guilderland; northerly by Colonie and Watervliet.

The first territorial change was made February 25, 1815, by annexing a part of old Colonie, whose line, adjoining Albany, extended from the river westerly along where now are Quackenbush street and Clinton avenue, formerly Patroon street. This formed for many years the old Fifth Ward. The other part of Colonie, embracing the residence of the Patroon, was set off to Watervliet at the same time.

The next and last territorial changes in the City of Albany were made by State laws, passed April 6, 1870, Chapter 139, and April 26, 1871, Chapter 727, and are described as follows:

"All that part of the town of Bethlehem, in the County of Albany, embraced within the following limits, is hereby annexed to and made part of the City of Albany, to wit: Beginning at the northwesterly corner of the east abutment of the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad Bridge, over the Albany and Bethlehem Turnpike, and running thence northwesterly parallel with the present south bounds of the City of Albany to a point ten chains west of the west line of the Delaware Turnpike; thence northeasterly at right angles with the last named line to a point three-fourths of one mile from the present south bounds of the City of Albany, measured at right angles with the city line; thence northwesterly and parallel with the present south bounds of the city to a point two chains west of the west range of Allen street produced; thence northeasterly three-fourths of one mile to a point in the south bounds in the City of Albany two chains west of the west line of Allen street; thence southeasterly along the present south bounds of the City of Albany to the Rensselaer County line; thence southerly along said line two hundred and sixty-four feet; thence northwesterly to the face of the dock on the south side of the island creek; thence northwesterly along the face of said dock to a point opposite the west range of Green street; thence westerly and southerly along the east low-water line of the island creek to a point in range of the first boundary line produced; southeasterly to the island creek; thence northwesterly along said line to the northwesterly corner of the east abutment of the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad Bridge, the place of beginning.

"Also all that part of the town of Watervliet, in the County of Albany, embraced within the following described limits, is hereby annexed to the city of Albany, to wit: Beginning at a point in the present

north boundary line of the City of Albany, three-fourths of one mile west of the west range of Allen street, as laid down in the city map; running thence northeasterly on a line at right angles with the present north line of the City of Albany one chain north of low-water line of the main channel of Patroon's Creek; thence running easterly and parallel with the general course of said creek, and one chain northerly therefrom to a point six thousand seven hundred and twenty feet from the center of the "Russell Road" measured along the center line of the New York Central Railroad; thence northeasterly on a line drawn at right angles with the present north bounds of the city to a point one and one-fourth miles from the said city line; thence southeasterly and on a line parallel with the present north bounds of the city, and at the distance of one and one-fourth miles therefrom, to a point three thousand three hundred and twenty feet westerly of the west line of the Watervliet Turnpike and Railroad; thence northeasterly on a line parallel with said Watervliet Turnpike and Railroad one thousand six hundred feet; thence southeasterly on a line drawn at right angles with the said Watervliet Turnpike and Railroad to the Rensselaer County line; thence southerly along the Rensselaer County line to the northerly line of the present bounds of the City of Albany, and thence along the same westerly to the place of beginning.

"All that part of the City of Albany lying northwest of a line drawn from a point in the south line of the City of Albany, where the northerly line of the Great Western Turnpike crosses the said city line, and running northeasterly at right angles with the said city line, to the north bounds of said city shall be and the same is set off from the City of Albany and annexed to and made part of the town of Watervliet, in Albany County; and all laws now in force applicable to the said town of Watervliet, are hereby made applicable to that portion of said city hereby annexed to said town."

The town of Watervliet being unwilling to accept this addition to its territory, Chapter 727, Laws of 1871, passed April 26th, provided that the said territory described in the preceding section should be set off from Watervliet and annexed to the town of Guilderland, in Albany County.

To R. H. Bingham, Esq,. for many years the City Engineer and Surveyor of Albany, our acknowledgments are due for the statements contained in the paragraphs following:

The exterior lines of our city are somewhat irregular. It is bounded N. by Watervliet; W. by Watervliet and Guilderland; S. by Bethlehem; and E. by the center of Hudson River. Its river front extends 4 miles; and measured through the State Capitol, its extent N. and S. and E. and W. is 4 miles, containing an area of 11½ square miles, or 7,360 acres.

The elevation of the base floor line of the New Capitol is 161.09 feet above the sea, estimated from mean low water at Governor's Island, in New York Harbor, and 158.48 feet above mean low water in the Hudson at Albany. The slope of the Hudson from Albany to New York is 2.61 feet, which makes the mean tide at Albany 2.61 feet above that at Governor's Island. The highest tide at Albany is 3.60 feet, and the mean rise and fall, 2.32 feet. The mid-stream ebb current flows about 2 feet per second, or .75 feet on the whole river. Boats carry 9 feet at mean low water.

MUNICIPAL HISTORY OF THE CITY OF ALBANY.

ALBANY received its charter as a city on the 22d day of July, 1686, from Thomas Dongan, Governor of the Province of New York. The original document is on file in the City Chamberlain's office, as is also a copy of it, printed by Hugh Gaines in 1771. It is introduced as follows:

"Thomas Dongan, Lieutenant and Governor of the Province of New York and dependencies in America, under his most sacred Majesty, James the Second, by the Grace of God, of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King, defender of the faith, etc., and Supreme Lord and proprietor of the said province of New York and its dependencies, to all persons to whom these presents shall or may come, or in any wise concerned, sendeth greeting:"

Then follows the charter, a voluminous document, drawn with all the care and nice legal diction of the age, with numerous repetitions, protecting the interests not only of the Crown, but of the citizens of Albany with the most scrupulous care.

It begins by saying that "the town of Albany is an ancient town within the said Province, and the inhabitants of the said town have held, used and enjoyed, as well within the same as elsewhere within the said province, divers and sundry rights, liberties, privileges, franchises, free customs, preeminences, advantages, jurisdictions, emoluments and immunities, as well by prescription as by grants, confirmations and proclamations, not only by divers governors and commanders in-chief in the said province under his said Majesty, but also of several Governors, generals and commanders-in-chief of the Nether-Dutch-Nation, whilst the same was or has been under their power and subjection. And whereas divers lands, tenements and hereditaments, jurisdictions, liberties, immunities and privileges have heretofore been given and granted to the inhabitants of the said town, sometimes by the name of commissaries of the town of Beverwyck; sometimes by the name of commissaries of the town of Albany; sometimes by the name of

schepenen of Williamstadt; and sometimes by the name of justices of the peace for the town of Albany; and by divers other names as by their several grants, writings, records and minutes amongst other things may more fully appear. And whereas the inhabitants of the said town have erected, built and appropriated at their own proper cost and charges, several public buildings, accommodations, and conveniencies for the said town, as also certain pieces or parcels of ground for the use of the same—that is to say, the town-hall or stadthouse, with the ground thereunto belonging; the church or meeting place, with the ground about the same; the burial place adjoining to the palisades at the southeast end of the town; the watch-house and ground thereunto belonging.

"Also a certain piece or parcel of land commonly called 'the Pasture,' situate, lying and being to the southward of the said town, near the place where the old Fort stood, and extending along Hudson's River till it comes over against the most northerly point of the Island commonly called Martin Gerritsen's Island, having to the East the Hudson river; to the South the Manor of Rensselaerwyck; to the West the highway leading to the town; the pasture late in the tenure and occupation of Martin Gerritsen, and the pasture late in the tenure and occupation of Caspar Jacobse; to the North the several pastures late in the tenure of and occupation of Rob[t] Sanders, Myndert Harmense and Evert Wendell, and the several gardens late in the tenures of Dirck Wessels, Killian Van Rensselaer and Abraham Staat, with their and every of their appurtenances."

This charter in no way interfered with or abridged the citizens of any of their liberties, privileges, franchises, rights, royalties, free customs, jurisdiction and immunities; nor with the rights of their respective messuages, lands, hereditaments and leaseholds, etc. The charter provided that, "the said town should forever thereafter be called by the name of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of Albany." The charter also "grants to the City of Albany, all the waste, vacant, unappropriated land lying and being in the City and the precincts and liberties thereof, extending and reaching to the low-water mark in, by and through all parts of the said City, together with all rivers, rivulets, coves, creeks, ponds, water courses in the said City not heretofore granted."

One of the most important parts of the Charter is that which gives the Corporation of the City power to purchase and hold land in their corporate name; it is given as follows:

"I do, by these presents, give and grant unto the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty, full power and license at their pleasure, likewise to purchase from the Indians the quantity of one thousand acres of low or meadow land lying at a certain place called or known by the name of *Tionnondoroge*, which quantity of 1,000 acres of low or meadow land shall and may be in what part of Tionondoroge, or the land adjacent on both sides of the river, as they, the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the said City of Albany shall think most convenient; which said several parcels of low or meadow land I do hereby, in behalf of his said Majesty, his heirs and successors, give, grant and confirm unto the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany aforesaid, to be and remain to the use and behoof of them and their successors forever. To have and to hold all and singular, the premises to the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the said City of Albany and their successors forever, rendering and paying therefor unto his most sacred Majesty, his heirs, successors and assigns, or to such officer or receiver as shall be appointed to receive the same, yearly, forever hereafter, the annual quit rent or acknowledgement of one beaver skin, in Albany, on the five and twentieth day of March, yearly forever."

The Charter provides that the limits of the city shall be as follows:

"The City of Albany shall henceforth extend and reach as well in length and in breadth, as in circuit, on the East by Hudson's river, so far as low water mark; to the South by a line to be drawn from the southernmost end of the pasture, at the North end of the island called Gerritsen's Island, running back into the woods 16 English miles due northwest, to a certain Kill or Creek, called the Sand Kill on the North, to a line to be drawn from the Post that was set by Governor Stuyvesant near Hudson's river, running likewise northwest 16 English miles, and on the west by a straight line, to be drawn from the points of the said South and North lines."

It also provides that

"The Mayor, Aldermen and Recorder shall be Justices and Keepers of the Peace, and Justices to hear and determine matters and causes within the said City and precincts thereof, to hear, determine and punish all petty larcenies and all other petty offences."

It gives the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty, and their successors forever, lands, tenements, rents and other possession, within or without the City, so as the same does not exceed the sum of £1,000 per annum; and also gives them power to grant and sell the same.

The Mayor was, *ex officio*, Coroner and Clerk of the Market, and he with the Aldermen and Recorder of the City were to be Justices of the Peace of the County, and as such "shall and may sit in the Court of Sessions or County Courts and Courts of Oyer and Terminer, that shall from time to time be held in said County; and that the Mayor, Recorder and some one of the Aldermen shall preside at such County Courts and Courts of Sessions. The Town Clerk of the said city shall always be the Clerk of the Peace, and Clerk of the Sessions or Court of the County."

Governor Dongan in this Charter designates the officers of the said city as follows:

"There shall be forever hereafter, within the said City, a Mayor, Recorder, Town Clerk, and six Aldermen and six Assistants, to be appointed, nominated, elected, chosen and sworn, as hereinafter is particularly and respectively mentioned,

who shall be forever hereafter called the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, and that there shall be, forever, one Chamberlain or Treasurer, one Sheriff, one Coroner, one Clerk of the Market, one High Constable, three Sub-Constables, one Marshal or Sergeant-at-Mace, to be appointed, chosen and sworn in manner hereafter mentioned. That the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of the City of Albany shall be one body corporate and politic, in deed, fact and name; and that by the name of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, they may have perpetual succession."

The Charter then proceeds to appoint the Mayor, Common Council and other officers of the city under the Charter, which were as follows:

Peter Schuyler, Mayor; Jan Bleecker, Chamberlain; Isaac Swinton, Recorder; Richard Pretty, Sheriff; Robert Livingston, Clerk; James Parker, Marshal.

Aldermen.—Dirk Wessels, Jan Jans Bleecker, David Schuyler, Johannis Wendell, Lavinus Van Schaack, Adrian Gerritse.

Assistant Aldermen.—Joachim Staats, John Lansing, Isaac Verplanck, Lawrence Van Ale, Albert Ruyckman, Melgert Winantse.

Early in July, previous to the granting of this Charter, Peter Schuyler and Robert Livingston were appointed Commissioners by the town of Albany, which appointment was ratified by the Magistrates of the city, to go to New York, and procure the Charter we have described, which they did, and the same was agreed to between the Magistrate, and Colonel Dongan, Governor-General of the Province of New York.

On the 22d of July, 1686, the Commissioners returned with the same, and were publicly received "with all the joy and acclamations imaginable, and received the thanks of the magistrates, burgesses and other dignitaries of the city, for their diligence and care," Peter Schuyler took the oath of Mayor, to act until a further ratification of his appointment by the citizens. In the same manner the Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen we have named, took the oath of office and entered upon their duties.

The following is a copy of the minutes of the first meeting of the Justices of the Peace after the return of Pieter Schuyler and Robert Livingston with the charter, and a copy of the oath administered to the Mayor:

"Att a meeting of ye Justices of ye peace for ye County of Albany, ye 26th day of July, A.D. 1686.

"Pieter Schuyler, gent., and Robt Livingston, gent., who were commissionated by ye towne of Albanie to goe to New Yorke and procure ye Charter for this citty w^h^ was agreed upon between ye magistrates and ye right hon^l^. Co^l^. Tho. Dongan, Gov. Gen^ll^, who accordingly have brought the same along with them, and was published with all ye joy and acclamations imaginable, and ye said two gent^n^ received ye thanks of ye magistrates and burgesses for their diligence and care in obtaining ye same; and whereas Pieter Schuyler is nominated and appointed to be Mayor of ye citty of Albany by ye said charter, till such time that anoy^r^ fitt person be chosen in his room. Was sworn as follows:

"*Whereas*, you Pieter Schuyler are appointed and commissionated to be mayor and clerk of ye market and coroner of ye citty of Albany, as also coroner for ye s^d^ county, by ye charter granted to ye said citty by ye Right Hon^le^ Coll. Tho. Dongan, Gov. Gen^ll^ of this province, you doe swear by ye ever living God y^t^ y^u^ will truly endevor, to ye best of y^r^ skill, with a good conshience and according to ye laws of this Government dispence justice equally in all cases and to all p'sons whereunto by vertue of y^r^ office you are impowered, and further officiat and perform ye duty and office of Mayor, clerk of ye market and coroner, in every respect to ye best of y^r^ knowledge and capacity, so help y^u^ God."

Previous to this City Charter, the laws of Albany were administered by the Justices of the Peace, who were invested with certain judicial and municipal powers by the Governor-General of the Province of New York. With the municipal jurisdiction given the Mayor and Aldermen by the Charter, were large judicial powers.

The Mayor and the Aldermen, with certain Justices of the Peace, were authorized to hold courts of civil and criminal jurisdiction. This Court became one of great importance, and continued down to the Revolution, and with some changes, applicable to the new form of government, after the adoption of the first State Constitution.

The Mayor's Court, as it was called, possessed the powers and duties of a Court of Probate of Wills, and these now held by Surrogates. They also decided the time and place of holding elections. The first meeting, or Court, of the Mayor and Aldermen, was held at the City Hall in Albany, August 31, 1686. It was both a Court of Justice and a meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen for the transaction of municipal business.

Among the legal cases was one of a negro, Hercules, charged by Myndert Frederickse with stealing wampum out of his house, belonging to the churchwardens of the Lutheran Church.

The negro, having confessed the theft, was sentenced "to be whipped through ye towne at ye carte tale by ye hangman, for an example to others." His master was ordered to pay the costs.

Regulations were also passed for the observance of the Sabbath.

The following order in regard to non-attendance at the meetings of the Common Council was made:

"Whoever of the members of the Common Council shall be absent att ye second ringing of ye bell, being in towne, at any common council day, shall forfeit six shillings, *toties quoties.*"

Extended regulations were adopted in regard to the Indian trade.

The salary of Robert Livingston, Clerk of the Board, in consideration of his diverse services, was advanced so that he was to have twenty pounds per annum.

Early in 1689, King James was compelled to abdicate the throne, and was succeeded by Will-

iam and Mary. On July 1, 1689, the news of their accession to the throne was received in Albany. A meeting of the Mayor and Common Council was immediately convened, which, by an ordinance or proclamation, announced a meeting of the citizens, to take place the next day in front of the City Hall. This meeting took place. A procession was formed, consisting of the Mayor and Aldermen, with other city officials and citizens, who marched up to the fort, where the Mayor, in a solemn manner, proclaimed in English and in Dutch, William and Mary their lawful sovereigns. At the conclusion of the ceremony the guns at the fort were fired and the bells rang out joyful peals.

It is our purpose to give only such doings of the Common Council of the city as we consider most interesting and instructive, as illustrative of the spirit of the age, as well as its material condition.

At a meeting of the Council held at the City Hall, October 14, 1695 (Evart Bancker, Mayor), the city being £2,000 in arrears of taxes, the following order was made:

"Whereas the arriears of y^e^ £2,000 and £1,500 tax having been directed to ye constables of each warde by an warrant from Dirk Wessells, Justice, which constables give in their report, that all who are indebted to ye said arriears gives them an answer that they have paid it, and setts them aft from time to time."

At the same meeting a committee was appointed to examine the Treasurer's account, and a warrant was directed to be issued to "fetch up all the lycenses." These "lycenses" were granted to persons for the right to sell various kinds of merchandise The Justices of the County were also directed to appear before the Board on December 9th following, "to correct all affairs between the Citty and County."

At a meeting of the Mayor and Common Council held December 3, 1695, a case came before the Board, the disposal of which seems to have greatly puzzled the city dignitaries, as appears in the following:

"Cornelia Vanderheyden appears here at ye barr, and gives in ye oath of her suster Ariaantje, who is brought to child-bed, that Leift. Symon Young is ye father thereof, ye only father, and none but he; and deseres that ye mayor and aldermen would use some methodd or anoyr with ye s^d^ Young for the maintenance of the child."

What method their Honors took to compel Lieutenant Symon Young to support his child, does not appear.

Some time after this action of the Common Council, Lieutenant Young was appointed Sheriff of Albany, and proposed to take and support the child; but the mother refused, and there the matter ended.

On December 17th there was an order made for "repairing the City Stockadoes, which were out of repair toward the river side; and that four hundred and fifty new Stockadoes should be provided, to be 13 feet long and a foot over, and that a warrant may be directed to the assessors, to make an equal assessment thereof upon the inhabitants, and then deliver the same to the Mayor."

At this time the city was surrounded, for its protection, by a stockade, thirteen feet in height. The lines of this stockade were Steuben street on the north, Hudson street on the south, the river on the east, and Lodge street on the west. Afterward the stockade was extended.

In the winter of 1696 there was a great scarcity of grain, especially wheat. The merchants and grain dealers having purchased large quantities of wheat for the purpose of shipping it to New York, where it was nearly double the price paid in Albany—although commanding a high price in that city—caused great suffering, inasmuch as they refused to sell wheat in any quantities.

At a meeting of the Common Council, March 10, 1696, the matter was presented to the Board, and the merchants were summarily dealt with for their exorbitance, as appears from the following order:

"*Whereas*, Several p:rsons of ye citty and county has given in a complaint to ye Mayor and justices of ye citty and County, y^t^ there is severall persons doe goe with money in thare hands to buy wheat, and can not have it, by reason ye marchants has engrossed in there hands, being resolved to ship it for New York; the Mayor, aldermen, and justices of ye peace have resolved and agreed upon y^t^ no merch^ts^ or any other persons whatsoever shall ship any corn aboard any sloop, vessel, boat whatsoever untill such time wee have his Excell. directions in it, as they will answer upon there uttmost perill."

The following quaint order, providing for the necessities of an impecunious citizen, shows that their Worships, the Mayor and Common Council, were not inaccessible to flattery:

July 17, 1697, "*Whereas*, Mr. Leeft. Oliver doth make his addresse to the Court for bedding, since he complains that he is in great necessity for want thereof, ye gent^n^ of ye Court cannot fynde that they are obliged to furnish such supplies, but, in consideration of his Civilty, doe give as a gift ye summe of five pieces of eight."

At the time of which we are writing, the gates of the city were opened and closed by an officer called the City Porter, appointed by the Mayor and Common Council.

At a meeting of the Board, held in the City Hall in Albany, November 23, 1697, the following order was adopted:

"*Whereas*, It is by the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty concluded, who have appointed John Ratecliffe as Citty Porter, instead of Hend. Marselis, Deceased, that he is upon all occasionable times to open and shutt ye gates of this Citty, especially in ye mornings and in ye evenings at ye appointed time, as also to attend ye Church Ringing of ye bell on all occasions, for which he is to receive yearly eight and twenty Pieces of Eight at six shillings, and to be paid quarterly; moreover, he, ye s^d^ John Ratecliffe, is to attend ye Burger Guards, to keep them clain, and to make every evening a

fyre, wherefore he is to receive Three pence per Diem. Who hath made oath to be true."

At a meeting of the Common Council, held May 9, 1698, a resolution was adopted for building an Indian House on the Hill, for the accommodation of the Indians.

February 1, 1699, the Common Council "*Resolved*, That one other Indian house, besides ye two heretofore resolved on in January last, shall be build just upon ye hill going up from ye Parle street geat northwesterly, in or about ye middle part of said hill, where ye whole Common Councill forthwith shall appoynt ye Place, and y^t^ ye Building and Charges thereof shall bee in ye lyke manner as ye two houses aforesaid."

We have thus given a history of the organization of the Municipal Government of Albany, and some of the most interesting proceedings of the Common Council, from its first meeting July 26, 1686, to the close of 1699, showing how the city government was conducted for the first thirteen years of its existence.

The Municipality of Albany thus organized, continued with great regularity and success down to the termination of the Provincial or Colonial Government, early in 1776.

From 1700 to 1753 the city was governed with great wisdom through successive municipal administrations.

At a meeting of the Common Council July 31, 1753, an order was made directing that the pavement between the houses of Jacob Lansing and David Schuyler, in the Third Ward, be raised, so that the water that came down from the hill between the houses of David Vischer and Jacob Lansing may vent itself through the lane or street, and so down to the river.

At a meeting of the Common Council, held July 10, 1756, the following important resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the Clerk draw a deed to the Minister, Church Wardens and Vestrymen of St. Peter's Church, in the City of Albany, for them and their successors, in trust forever, for a piece of ground for a burying place, lying upon the Hill adjoining the fort, agreeable to a map made by John R. Bleecker, and that the Mayor execute a deed, and cause the City Seal to be thereupon affixed in behalf of the Corporation."

At a meeting of the Common Council, held April 3, 1760, Sybrant G. Van Schack, Mayor, the matter of the great scarcity of water in the city and neighborhood came up, under a proposal to bring water in pipes from the hills, collect it in reservoirs, and erecting pumps. The matter was presented in the form of a petition, asking the Mayor and Corporation for a conveyance of the right so to do to the petitioners, their heirs and assigns, forever, under proper restriction, and to the end that every citizen may be partakers of the ease and advantage of it, provided he pays unto the petitioners eight shillings annually, and conform himself to the articles of the agreement."

After a full hearing, the Board adopted the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, that the petitioners have an instrument drawn, including their petition; that the Mayor will sign the same and cause the Seal of the City to be thereupon affixed, by virtue of this resolution."

This, we believe, is the first action ever taken by the municipal authorities of Albany for bringing water into the city.

The following important historic entry was made in the city records at a meeting of the Common Council held April 3, 1760:

"*Whereas*, A number of gentlemen residing in this City have signified to the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, that they are desirous of establishing a Presbyterian Church in the same, this is to certify that the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, that they are desirous of establishing a Presbyterian Church in the same.

"*This is to certify*, That the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Commonalty of the city aforesaid, do very much approve of so laudable an intention, and promise that they will do every thing in their power to encourage and promote the same, and that the Mayor sign this in behalf of the Corporation, and that the Clerk affix the City seal to it."

By the condition of the original Charter of Albany, the title of all the land lying within the Corporation was vested in the Mayor, Recorder and Common Council, and in tracing the proceedings of the Common Council, we find on almost every page resolutions of the Board directing the Clerk to execute deeds to the grantees of lands and to affix the seal of the Corporation thereto.

The first deed of lands executed by the Corporation of the city is dated November 1, 1687. It is a document of so much interest and importance that we insert a copy of it from the early records of the county.

"To All Christian People to whom these presents Shall Come, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonality of ye Citty of Albany Send Greeting in our Lord God Everlasting. Know ye that for and in consideration of ye sum of three hundred an ninty pounds currant money of this province to them in hand paid, at and before ye ensealing and delivery hereof, by Doctor Godfredius Dellius, Minister of ye Reformed Nether Dutch Congregational Dutch Church, Albany, a certain piece or parcel of land commonly called or known by ye name of Pasture, Situate, lying and being to ye Southward of ye said Citty, near ye place where ye Fort Stood, and extending along Hudson River till it comes over against ye most northerly point of ye Island, commonly called Marston Gerritsen's Island; having to ye east Hudson River, to ye south ye manor of Renslarewck, to ye west of highway leading to ye Towne, Y^e^ pasture lots in ye occupation of Martin or Marston Geritsen, and

the pasture lot in ye occupation of Casper Jacobs, to the north of ye several pasture lots in ye occupation of Robert Sanders, Myndert Harmons and Evert Wendell, and ye Several Garden lots in ye Tenure and Occupation of Killian Van Rensselaer and Abraham Staats. Together with All and Singular ye profits, commodities and appurtenances whatsoever to ye said Pasthur Piece or Parcel of land and Premises, or any part or parcel thereof Belonging or in any way appertaining to or with the same, now or at any time heretofore belonging or own'd, occupyed, enjoyed as part, parcell or member thereof, and All deeds, Evidences and writings Touching and Concerning the premises Only.

"To HAVE AND TO HOLD ye said pasthur pece or parcell of land, and all and Singular of ye Premises, with their and every of their appurtenances unto the Said Godfredius Dellius, his heirs and assigns, to ye Sole and only Proper use, Benefit and Behoof of said Godfredius Dellius, his heirs and Assigns, for Ever; and ye said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonality doth by these presents Covenant, Promise and Engage ye said pasthur piece or parcel of land so as the same is granted to them in the Charter dted ye 22d of July, 1686, with their and every of their Appurtenances, unto the said Doctor Godfredius Dellius, his Exutr^s and Assigns, in his and their peaceable possession for Ever, from any grant or conveyance whatsoever made, or to be made, by said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonality, or their successors. In witness whereof, ye Mayor of ye said Citty hath hereunto Set his hand and Caused ye Seal of said Citty to be hereunto affixed, and these presents to be entered on our public record. Dated ye 1st day of November, 1687, in the 3^d year of ye Reign of our Sovereign Lord James ye Second, by ye Grace of God, of England Scotland, France and Ireland King, Defender of ye faith, Supreme and ye only ruler of ye Province of New York.

"PETER SCHUYLER, *Mayor.*"

It often occurred that the Common Council sold pieces and parcels of land at public auction; for instance, at a meeting of the Common Council held at Albany on the 11th of December, 1760, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved* by this Board, That the Clerk put up Advertisements that a piece of land lying on the Gallows hill containing between 10 and 11 acres, as per Draft to be seen at the time of Sale, to be sold at Public Vendue on Saturday, the 20th day of this current month, by the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty at two o'clock in the afternoon at the City Hall in the City of Albany."

From the best authority we can find, Gallows Hill was south of the city as it was then laid out.

At a meeting of the Common Council held February 19, 1761, the following resolution was adopted:

"That Mr. John Bleecker make a survey of the land set forth in the petition of the Minister, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed Dutch Church of this city, leaving sufficient room for highways, for which this Board is to give a deed to said Minister, Elders and Deacons, and their successors forever, for and in consideration of £50, current money of New York, and a reserve of £20 per annum forever." The tract of land thus sold contained fifty-three acres, the description of which is found in Bleecker's Survey.

By far the most important proceeding of the Common Council for the year 1762, was the grant made by it, to Abraham E. Wendell, of a tract of valuable land occupying what is now the heart of the city, known as the Wendell Patent, which is briefly described as follows:

"On the northwest side it was 1,207 feet in a straight line; the southwesterly corner of the patent was located in the center of the block west of Eagle street, between Hamilton and Hudson streets; and the northeasterly corner, which was the end of the above mentioned straight line, terminated on the west side of Lodge street about 152 feet north of Howard street. The other lines of said patent are irregular, the southeast corner terminating in the center of Williams street, about fifty feet south of Beaver street. In following the southeast line, a bend and corner is located in the center of the block between Philip, Grand, Hudson and Plain streets, the last remaining corner terminating about ninety-five feet east of Eagle on the north side of Hamilton. The greater portion of the land where the old Normal School building stands, belonged to the Wendell Patent."

The original map of this patent is now in the possession of the descendants of the original patentee, Abraham E. Wendell. It also appears, by distinct lines, on several early maps of the city. This was one of the early transfers of the real estate acquired by the Corporation of Albany to which we have referred.

On October 8, 1765, the Board resolved to procure the ground where Fort Orange formerly stood, to be vested in the Crown, on which to erect storehouses, so long as the services of his Majesty might require.

Among the proceedings of the Common Council, held October 14, 1765, was one of peculiar interest, in regard to protection against fires, by way of keeping chimneys cleaned, etc. By ordinance it was provided that when any chimney should take fire in a dwelling-house the occupant forfeited forty shillings, and that whosoever of the City Guard should discover any accidental fire in dwelling-houses, out-houses or stables, or any other combustible matter, received for the discovery the sum of £3.

At a meeting of the Common Council, held November 15, 1768, articles of agreement were entered into between the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, of the one part, and Stephen Van Rensselaer, Esq., Lord of the Manor of Rensselaerwyck, in the County of Albany, known as the Patroon, of the second part, by which the party of the second part covenanted and agreed, to the said Mayor, Aldermen, etc., their successors and assignees, that he will, within three months of the date of letters-patent to be granted by the Crown, giving him the exclusive

rights of all ferriages on Hudson River, in the County of Albany, between Bears' Island to the Cohoes, grant to the said Mayor and Commonalty the exclusive right to all ferriages and liberty of landing, passing and repassing, from the mouth of a certain creek, commonly known as DeVysele Kill, on the south of the city limits, to lands of H. Van Schack; with one acre of ground, to be taken by said Corporation in such position as it shall think most convenient to them, joining to and on the north bounds of John VanRensselaer

One of the offices under the Corporation was that known as the "Town Whipper," a very useful official. We find in the records of the Corporation very frequent instances where he discharged the duties of his office upon criminals in a manner so exemplary and commendable, that he often received due recognition of his efforts—as in one case where Rick Van Toper, in 1762, was voted, by the Common Council, the sum of five shillings and sixpence, in addition to his regular fees, "for the due and wholesome manner in which he laid the lash upon the back of Tiberius Haines, who had been convicted of beating his wife in a most cruel and heartless manner.

At a meeting of the Common Council, held in the City of Albany, on the 30th of January, 1789, the following entry was made:

"The Corporation this day agreed with Benjamin Gable to be the town Whipper at the rate of £20 per annum for that service, and if the sheriff wants him to execute any person, he is to perform that service likewise, the sheriff paying him therefor."

On the 20th March, 1770, the Common Council agreed to let Thomas Lotteridge have the ferry leading from Albany to Green Bush for three years, for thirty pounds per year, and to make a dock about 14 feet broad, for the convenience of persons and carriages going to or from the ferry-boats.

A very important and interesting question arose in the early part of Mayor Cuyler's administration, in 1770. Certain provisions in the charter of the city were construed by the Mayor and Aldermen in a manner that rendered them, *ex officio*, members of the Supreme Court, and members of the Court of Oyer and Terminer. But the right to a seat on the Bench with the Judges of those Courts was considered doubtful, and was not insisted upon until Cuyler was appointed Mayor. He considered himself a Magistrate, and the Board of Aldermen as, *ex officio*, members of these Courts. The term of the Supreme Court and the Court of Oyer and Terminer began its sittings at Albany on Monday, June 5, 1771, at 2 o'clock P. M. In the forenoon of that day, a meeting was held, and a resolution was adopted by the Board, appointing the Mayor and Aldermen Yates and Ten Broeck a committee to wait upon the Judges of the Supreme Court and Court of Oyer and Terminer, and inform them that the Mayor, Recorder and six Aldermen intended to sit as Judges in that Court, to be held that day in the City Hall; and that they claimed the right so to sit by virtue of the City Charter. The Judges listened complacently to the message of this committee, and they withdrew. In a short time the Mayor and Aldermen received a communication from the Judges, denying the right of those gentlemen to sit in a judicial capacity in these Courts, concluding with these words: "We cannot conceive that your City Charter can be so construed as to render this honorable Court a Mob, instead of a Bench of Judges with full consideration of their dignity and responsibility. We have therefore directed the Officers of the Court to prevent your taking your seats upon the Bench, in case you insist upon so doing."

This matter created no little excitement. The Mayor and Common Council still insisted upon their right to sit as judicial officers in the said Courts, but as it was peremptorily denied by the Judges of the Supreme Court, the Common Council decided to submit the matter to the colonial authorities in New York. Whereupon, at a meeting of the Common Council, held on the 14th of October, 1771, the following preamble and resolution were adopted:

"*Whereas*, A point conceived to be of much consequence to the liberties and privileges of the people of the County and City of Albany, respecting the Right of the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the City of Albany, by virtue of the Charter, to sit as judges in the Court of Oyer and Terminer, and general goal Delivery of the said County, has been lately agitated and drawn in question, and it is thought to be now a seasonable time to take the necessary measures for determining the matter and to empower a proper person of this Board to manage and solicit the said business; therefore

Resolved, That Alderman Abm. Yates, Esq., be appointed, and he is hereby authorized and appointed accordingly to repair to New York with all convenient speed, and to take with him Charters and all other necessary Papers, to be distributed and laid before the Council already retained by this Corporation on the subject; and he is hereby directed to follow such advise as he shall receive of them, in order to secure the Privilege aforesaid; and he is also further impowered to serch the Records, private and publick, at New York, and to take such copies and Abstracts therefrom as may be thought usefull on this occasion, and for all his disbursements and Servises he is to be repaid and satisfied, and soon after his return he is to make report to this Board of his actings and doings herein."

We find no report of the result of Mr. Yates' mission to New York on this important matter. We infer, however, that he was unsuccessful, inasmuch as we nowhere find in the records of the Colonial Supreme Court that the Mayor or any municipal officer of the city occupied the Bench of that Court. They were, however, members of the Court of Sessions of the City and County of Albany.

At a meeting of the Common Council, held September 27, 1773, Mr. Peter Yates was made a committee to revise, correct and amend the ordinances of the city, and Ebenezer Jessop received from the Common Council a grant of a piece of

vacant land covered with water, lying on the north side of the upper wharf, subject to a yearly rent charge of forty shillings.

On April 2, 1774, an ordinance was passed by the Common Council "for regulating the ferry between Albany and Greenbush; for grading and paving the streets and for preventing nuisance; for regulating the line of vessels at the Docks and Wharfs of the City; for regulating carts and Cartmen; for regulating the Public Markets; against the profanation of the Lord's Day; for the better securing the City from the danger of Gun Powder; for the better preventing fire; to prevent accidents by fast and immoderate riding; to prevent 'raffling;' for regulating taverns; for regulating the office of Chamberlain or Treasury; for the better regulation of Mid Wives."

We have already referred to a very important matter, that of the title which the municipality of Albany had to large portions of land in and about it, and have seen that the granting and selling these lands to various purchasers for many years formed a large part of the business of the Mayor and Common Council. That, by the charter granted July 22, 1686, among other things, it gave the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the city the power to purchase, at their pleasure, 1,000 acres of low or meadow land at Tionderoga, adjacent on both sides of the river, as the Mayor should think most convenient, and did grant and confirm unto the Mayor and Commonalty, and to their successors forever, yielding and paying therefor yearly, forever, the annual quit-rent of a beaver skin on the 20th of March of each year.

Under this provision of the charter, several Indians, in June, 1721, conveyed a tract of said land —eleven morgen—to Mr. Cuyler in fee, whose heirs on the 24th of April, 1769, obtained from the Corporation, for the consideration of £30, a conveyance releasing the same.

On the 7th July, 1730, some Indians conveyed ten or eleven morgen of said lands to Peter Brower, for the term of 999 years; who, on November 29, 1734, conveyed the same to the Corporation; who, on the 27th of April, 1749, leased said land to Peter Brower for the term of 999 years, at the annual rent of one skipple of wheat for each morgen. Some other of the said lands were obtained from the Corporation for the same annual rents, leaving still the largest portion of the 1,000 acres the property of the Mayor and Commonalty of the City of Albany.

In 1779 the Indians had all removed from the said lands, and they were principally occupied by refugees and squatters from Cherry Valley and other parts. Therefore one of the great questions that occupied the attention of the Municipality of Albany, was to ascertain in what manner it could obtain possession of these lands and foreclose the claims of all subsequent incumbrances. The matter was finally referred to Peter W. Yates, Esq., for his opinion in regard to the matter.

Mr. Yates was a very able lawyer, and considered one of the best real estate lawyers of his time. His report, a very able legal document, was considered conclusive in the matter. He advised the lands to be immediately surveyed; boundaries properly fixed and ascertained; the unpossessed lands should be immediately taken possession of and leased for a short term, with a special clause inserted, for the tenant peaceably to deliver up, at the end of the term, possession to the officers of the municipality, or its successors. This report decides that the charter of incorporation gives the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty, and their successors, an undoubted estate, in fee-simple, in these lands, and that, although the Indian deeds referred to cannot *stricto jure* be considered as a part of the title, since those deeds were intended to purchase peace instead of property, yet it is a title paramount to any other claimant. As the lands are possessed by other persons who refuse to become tenants of the corporation, he directs that action of ejectment shall be brought against them, to oust them of their assumed possession.

This report was coincided with by the Common Council, and other parties, and settled the question in regard to said lands.

In February, 1780, an important question came before the Common Council, in the consideration of surrendering part of the privilege granted by the charter to the city, and of applying for additional ones, and, on February 17th, the Board unanimously resolved to surrender certain privileges to the State, and to apply to the Legislature for additional privileges. For the purpose of carrying the resolution into execution, a committee of three was appointed to draw up the surrender and a petition for that purpose.

A very important change in some parts of the city charter was thus proposed, and was, as we shall see hereafter, carried into effect.

The titles to the lands acquired by the city, and granting them to purchasers from time to time, form an important part of the *property* history of Albany. The city held title to some of the lands down to a late period, and a large part of the present owners of real estate in the city trace their titles to the corporation. Lots were often sold to pay city indebtedness, and the land transactions of Yates & McIntyre with the city are matters of such conspicuous record that no description is needed here.

At a meeting of the Common Council, held April 14, 1780, very important measures were adopted by the Board, tending to the improvement of certain parts of the city. The following transcript is taken from the proceedings of the meeting, as a succinct history of the transactions:

"April 14. *Whereas*, this Board, on the third day of May, 1761, by release granted unto the Minister, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed Dutch Church, in the City of Albany, a certain tract of 153 acres of land lying northwest of the city, and did thereby reserve liberty and license for the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonality of this City, or the major part of them, and their successors forever, to lay out Roads and Streets thro' the above mentioned Lands, as they should see most convenient, and whereas, the said Minister, Elders and Deacons applied this day for leave to lay out the said lands in

Lots, and allow Streets and Roads in such manner as they might conceive most proper for the term of 25 years. And, whereas, this Board are well convinced that no inconvenience can in that time arise to this City, and thereupon Resolve to grant the request of the said Minister, Elders and Deacons, and it is hereby granted accordingly for the term aforesaid."

It is a matter of history that the Common Council of the City were the owners in fee of large and valuable tracts of land at Schaghticoke, now in the County of Rensselaer, which lands were occupied by tenants who for some time refused to pay their rent, being incipient anti-renters.

On September 15th, it was resolved that a meeting of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty convene at Schaghticoke, on the 20th of September, at the house of Johannes Knickerbaker, Jr., for the purpose of inquiring into and settling the matter of these rents. The Board met at the time and place referred to, and summoned before them the tenants, to learn their reasons for nonpayment of rent due the Board. They made various excuses, most of them pretending that no rent was due. These excuses being regarded as invalid and frivolous, Peter W. Yates and John Lansing, Jr., Counsellors-at-Law, were employed by the Common Council, and instructed to commence actions against all the tenants at Schaghticoke for the recovery of the rent then due, which was accordingly done, and, after the appointment of Mayor Beeckman, a meeting was held January 30, 1784, at the City Hall, in the City of Albany. There were present at this meeting the Mayor; Aldermen Peter W. Yates, Thomas Hun, Peter W. Douw and Abraham Schuyler; Assistant Aldermen Richard Lush, Jacob G. Lansing and Mathew Visscher.

It will be remembered that the Common Council met at Schachticoke for the purpose of taking measures to compel the inhabitants of that town, occupants of the land belonging to the Corporation of Albany, to pay the rent due the city; that Peter W. Yates, Esq., was directed to commence actions against every tenant to recover this rent; that the tenants came forward and settled the matter by agreeing to pay the city the following winter the rent in wheat, each person delivering the quantity of wheat equal to the amount due. Under this agreement the suits were stayed, but a large number of tenants made default in the payment of the wheat.

At this meeting, held January 30th, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That Peter W. Yates, Esq., be directed immediately to write letters, as Attorney for the Corporation, to the tenants of this Board at Schachticoke, and who were lately prosecuted for non-payment of rent, acquainting them that unless they pay this winter the wheat stipulated in the agreement for the stay of the suits, they must depend upon being prosecuted."

From the organization of the City Government in 1686, the Corporation received wheat and other grain from tenants—of which it had large numbers—in payment of rents; consequently, the large storehouses of the Municipality were constantly filled with wheat and other grain. These storehouses and grain were in the custody of the City Chamberlain or Treasurer of the Corporation. This wheat was sold by the Treasurer, under the direction of the Corporation, to the citizens at very reasonable prices, and to the grain merchants, for shipping to New York and other places, at fair profits. During times of scarcity the quantity sold was restricted—particularly during the revolution; thus, in January, 1777, we find an order directing the Treasurer "to sell 100 skepels of the wheat belonging to the Corporation, at four shillings sixpence per skepel, to those persons who had demands on the Board. No person to have more than three skepels at a time."

On September 29, 1786, John Lansing, Jr., was appointed to succeed John J. Beeckman as Mayor of Albany, and entered upon the discharge of his duties in that office, January 6, 1787.

We have already stated that proceedings were taken to procure an act of the Legislature altering the Charter of the City of Albany, after its adoption by the city under State constitution. This matter created much discussion and opposition, and the passage of the act was delayed until March 21, 1787, when an "Act for altering the Charter rights of the City of Albany" passed both branches of the Legislature and became a law. Down to that period the Charter granted by King James, in 1686, continued to exist with a few changes incident to the State Constitution, down to the period of the passage of the act to which we have referred. By that charter the Mayor of the city had authority to grant licenses annually to all tavern keepers, victuallers and all public venders of wine. strong waters, cider, beer and every sort of liquor by retail. And that the Mayor was sole Coroner of the City and County; that he, with the Aldermen and Commonalty, should have the exclusive right to regulate the trade with the Indians. That the Mayor and any three or more of the Aldermen shall be the Common Council of the City. That a Court of Common Pleas shall be held once in every fortnight for the City of Albany, before the Mayor.

This authority was surrendered by the said act. The time for electing the Aldermen, Assistants and Chamberlain was changed to the last Tuesday of September in every year, instead of the time fixed by the Charter. Provisions were made to take effect in case of the death of the Mayor. That instead of the Mayor acting as Coroner, as formerly, that officer was to be a citizen of said city.

These were the principal alterations made in the original Charter of 1686.

On June 21, 1799, during the mayoralty of Philip S. Van Rensselaer, a resolution was adopted by the Common Council, which shows the high regard and veneration in which the Sabbath was then held. The resolution was as follows:

"*Resolved*, That the Constables in this City be, and they are hereby required, on every Sunday

hereafter, to stop all manner of persons who shall be riding for pleasure, or who may expose any articles for sale on that day contrary to the Act for suppressing immorality; and that they report the names of aggressors, on every Monday morning to the Mayor or Recorder, to be proceeded against according to law."

There was a strong attempt made to enforce this ordinance, greatly to the disgust of pleasure seekers; but many a delightful ride and excursion was interrupted, and perhaps a pair of ardent lovers would be arrested, and the next morning dragged relentlessly before the Recorder to await condign punishment for desecrating the Sabbath. The scenes at the Court House on Monday morning were amusing, and often aggravating. But the strict enforcement of the law gradually wore away, so none but flagrant abuses of the Sabbath were punished.

An entry in the books of the Chamberlain, June 20, 1799, shows that the expense for lighting the city and for a night-watch, for the year ending June 1, 1799, amounted to £625 16s. At this time the city was lighted with whale or sperm oil.

The public revenue that year was £146 14s. 4d., leaving a debt against the city of £479 1s. 8d. For five years the expense for lighting the city and the night-watch had exceeded the revenue to the amount of $2,110.88.

At this time the yellow fever was raging in the City of New York, and, under the recommendation of the Common Council, a collection was made in the Dutch Reformed Church on Sunday, June 19th, at each of the three services, for the relief of the sufferers of the plague, which amounted to $247. In the afternoon of the same day a collection was taken at St. Peter's Church and at the Presbyterian Churches for the same purpose. The amount at the former was $107.87, and the latter $201. The total contributions amounted to $555.87.

Early in July, 1799, a law was passed by the Common Council regulating "the assize of bread." The Common Council prepared a schedule for graduating the price of bread, and every baker detected in selling light bread subjected himself to a fine of one dollar for every loaf found to be light of weight. By this schedule, when wheat was 6s. per bushel, a loaf of bread of inspected wheat flour was to weigh 3 lbs. 1 oz. 8 dr., for 6d.; of common flour, 3 lbs. 11 ozs. 8 drs.

At 8d.,	2 lbs.	5 ozs.	0 drs.	and	2 lbs.	12 ozs.	8 drs.
10d.,	1	13	8		2	3	8
12d.,	1	8	8		1	13	8
14d.,	1	5	0		1	9	8
15d.,	1	3	8		1	7	8
20d.,		14	8		1	1	8

and all intermediate prices in proportion.

On the morning of December 23, 1799, intelligence of the death of Washington reached Albany. The Common Council immediately assembled and recommended the closing of all places of business, directing that the bells be tolled from three to five o'clock in the afternoon, and that the members of the Board wear crape badges for the space of six weeks; also recommending that all the churches be dressed in mourning, and that preparations be made by all the military and civic societies for an imposing funeral.

The 9th of January, 1800, following, was designated by the Common Council as a time for the funeral solemnities. On that day one of the most imposing and solemn public funerals known in the history of Albany took place. Very many who witnessed it were present at the grand reception given to the Father of his Country in Albany at the close of the Revolutionary War.

On May 19, 1803, the yellow fever was still raging in New York, and the Common Council, acting as a board of health, passed an ordinance requiring all vessels from New York City to be quarantined a few hours at a point fixed down the river, before being permitted to come to their moorings in the city. There was one death from yellow fever at Troy, but none in Albany.

As the result of an ordinance passed on July 12, 1804, the intelligence of the death of Hamilton was received in Albany. The Common Council immediately assembled and passed appropriate resolutions, recommending that the citizens take proper public action in regard to the death of the illustrious statesman and soldier.

Among the receipts into the treasury for the year 1804, acknowledged by the Common Council, was the sum of $1,128.46½ for lands at Schaghticoke belonging to the city, which had been sold during the year.

We find very little of the proceedings of the Board of Common Council between the years 1800 and 1813.

On November 8, 1813, Commodore Perry, the Hero of Lake Erie, arrived in Albany. In no city through which the gallant hero passed was he more brilliantly or joyfully welcomed than in Albany.

At a meeting of the Common Council December 6, 1813, a resolution was adopted offering a reward of $1,000 to any person discovering a coal mine within the distance of five miles of the navigable waters of the Hudson, of a strata not less than four feet in thickness.

One of the difficult matters that for many years presented itself to the Common Council, was regulating the price of bread in the city, which was constantly fluctuating with the price of flour. In December, 1813, the price of a barrel of flour was $11, and the Common Council adopted an ordinance requiring the flour merchants to make the assize of bread correspond to nine dollars per barrel, which was 12 lbs. 10 oz. for one shilling. This was considered a great hardship by the bakers, and they called a meeting, which was attended by all the craft in the city, and a resolution was adopted to close their shops. This caused much excitement in the city, which continued some time. The Common Council and the journals of the city, the people and the bakers, all united in the strife. At length a compromise was effected and matters resumed their normal condition. For several years the Common Council occasionally passed ordinances regulating the price and size of loaves

of bread, but on December 29, 1820, a resolution was adopted by the Board deciding that it was inexpedient any longer to continue the regulation concerning the assize of bread.

On September 30, 1817, a hotly contested election took place for Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen of the city. In those days political parties were designated as Federals and Democrats. This election resulted in the choice of twelve Federal and eight Democratic members of the Board of Common Council.

Previous to 1818, the proceedings of the Common Council were conducted with closed doors, and the public excluded; but on November 16, 1818, the Board adopted a resolution that all debates and proceedings of the Board should in future be public, and arrangements were made in the council room for the accommodation of members, spectators, and press representatives.

In 1819 another municipal election took place, resulting in the election of fourteen Federals and eight Republicans.

An entry in the minutes of the Common Council made December 17, 1819, is as follows: The expense of erecting the Capitol was at the joint expense of the State, the City, and the County; the amount paid by each was as follows:

Paid by the State	$73,485 42
" " City	34,200 00
" " County	3,000 00
Total cost	$110,685 42

It will be perceived by the above, that the Corporation paid the sum of $34,200 towards the erection of the Old Capitol. At this time the Common Council occupied the northeast corner on the first floor, which was divided into several commodious and well furnished apartments for the use of the municipal legislature. All the other rooms on the first floor were occupied by the State; the rooms in the second story were occupied by the Court of Chancery, Supreme Court, Common Pleas, General Sessions and Mayor's Court, except the room immediately above the lobby of the Assembly room, which was used two or three times each year by the Supervisors of the County.

At several of the meetings of the Common Council, at the time of which we are now writing, efforts were made to procure the passage of a resolution to dispose of the interest of the Corporation in the Old Capitol to the State. Proceedings of this nature were also had in the meetings of the Board of Supervisors, to grant the interests of the county in the Old Capitol to the State, and with the joint funds of the county and city to erect a new building for the county and city; but these measures were opposed and delayed down to a late period, when the interests of the city and county were alienated in the Old Capitol property. In the meantime the Common Council and the Board of Supervisors continued to meet in their rooms in the Old Capitol until the erection of the first City Hall. During the years when the Old Capitol was occupied by the Court for the Correction of Errors, the Court of Chancery, the Supreme Court, and the various other tribunals; by the Legislature of the State, the Executive, and some of the State Departments, it presented a scene of unrivaled interest, and Capitol Hill was the heart and vital part, so to speak, of the Empire State. Congress Hall, adjacent, will always live in history and memory as the place where judges, lawyers, legislators and lobbyists for many years did most congregate.

On January 21, 1820, a spirit of retrenchment and reform took possession of the Board of Aldermen, and they adopted a resolution reducing the salaries of the corporation officers to the amount of over $2,000.

On June 20, 1820, the meeting of the Common Council held that day was the scene of a singular controversy. After the meeting was called to order, Alderman Visscher arose and stated that several of the Magistrates of the city were willing to perform the duties of Police Justices without salary; and he introduced a resolution to discontinue the payment of salaries to those officers. This brought on a spirited debate, and the resolution was lost by a vote of eleven nays to six ayes.

On September 30, 1822, the Common Council, by an ordinance, directed a tax to be raised of $3,000, to pay the interest on the city debt; a tax of $6,000 for the expense of lamps and night-watch; and $8,000 to defray the expenses of the poor.

A meeting of the Common Council, January 25, 1821, was the scene of great excitement. At this time Teunis Slingerland was one of the Police Magistrates of the city, and Philip Phelps was another. A resolution was offered, preceded by a preamble, stating that the expense of two Police Magistrates in the city was an unnecessary burden; that the duties could all be performed by one official. Then followed the resolution as follows:

"*Resolved*, That as a matter of economy, Teunis Slingerland be dismissed as a Police Magistrate, and that Philip Phelps be required to discharge the duties of Police Magistrate of the City at the compensation he is now receiving."

This was at that time $300 per annum. A tremendous war of words followed the introduction of this resolution. Vehement speeches were made for and against it, but it was finally adopted by a decisive majority, and "Esquire Slingerland," as he was known in those days, was no longer a terror to evil-doers as a police magistrate.

On April 19, 1824, at a meeting of the Common Council, the City Chamberlain submitted a semi-annual report, showing that the receipts into the city treasury for the six months previous were $30,886.74½. The disbursements were $13,005.72½. An order was entered directing the Chamberlain to purchase 1,000 gallons of oil of T. & J. Russell, at 36 cents per gallon, to be used in lighting the city.

It is seen that Teunis Slingerland was suspended from the office of police magistrate, and Philip Phelps retained to discharge the duties. On October 31, 1824, Mr. Phelps was removed and John Gansevoort was appointed in his place. Peter Wendell, the city physician, was also removed and Peter Van O'Linda succeeded him. These appointment

and removals were made for political consideration, and occasioned much excitement at the time.

On January 1, 1825, the Common Council unanimously re-elected Ambrose Spencer Mayor.

We have heretofore referred to lands owned by the city. This question again came up in the Common Council of March 25, 1825, in the following manner: In 1818, the Common Council was authorized by law to fund the city debt to the amount of $205,000, which had been incurred in city improvements. In 1820, the Common Council, finding they were unable to pay this debt, a law was passed on the 14th of April of that year, authorizing the Common Council to sell certain lands belonging to the city, not to exceed $250,000.

"The lots were to be valued, put in parcels and made the prizes. The Commissioners found they could not carry the lottery into effect, because the prizes consisted only of lots of land. The Common Council therefore, in 1825, applied to the Legislature for permission to sell their lands, and be allowed the privilege of raising the balance of the amount in money by selling tickets in the lottery created by the act of 1820, and paying prizes out of the proceeds in the usual way. As this act had been passed, authorizing the lottery, before the constitution was amended, which prohibited lotteries, the Judiciary Committee reported a bill authorizing the change." The newspapers of that day —some of them—were very severe in their comments on this system of lotteries in which the City of Albany was engaged. The New York *Evening Post*, in denouncing the measure, said: "The capital of the State, with the aid of the Legislature, has become an immense gambling establishment."

In January, 1814, a law was passed granting to Union College the sum of $200,000. This sum was to be raised by lotteries. It was urged that this mode of raising money was immoral; but as Dr. Nott, the distinguished President of the College, favored it, the project met the approval of the Legislature and became a law.

In May, 1825, the Common Council appointed a committee to negotiate with Yates & McIntyre, touching their proposition to purchase the Albany City Lottery for the sum of $200,000. This negotiation was subsequently carried into effect, and Yates & McIntyre became the purchasers.

In May, 1825, the Common Council adopted a measure to which the city, at the present day, is largely indebted for the beautiful shade trees that embellish the Capitol Park and the grounds about the Academy, now called Academy Park. Previous to that time those grounds, now so pleasant, were an open common, the resort of cattle, sheep, and hogs. By the act of the Common Council, pa sed May 22d, a resolution was adopted directing the erection of a substantial fence around these grounds and inclosures, and measures adopted for planting trees. The expense of setting out the trees was largely defrayed by a generous subscription of the citizens. Thus the public spirit that pervaded the Common Council and the citizens of Albany sixty years ago, is a source of beauty and comfort at the present day.

The following shows the financial condition of the year 1825:

Sinking Fund.	
City Stock held by Commissioners...	$6,000 00
Albany Insurance Stock.....	2,500 00
Bonds, notes and interest due for lands sold.....	2,879 67
Cash loaned	4,535 00
" on hand.....	3,130 88
359 Shares in Great Western Turnpike	8,975 00
46 Shares in Bethlehem Turnpike..	1,150 00
Total.....	$29,170 55
Mayor	$400 00
Chamberlain.....	500 00
City Superintendent.....	450 00
Superintendent of Alms-house.....	400 00
Overseers of the Poor.....	200 00
Police Justice.....	450 00
" Constables (2).....	400 00
Deputy Excise Officer.....	200 00
City Physician.	550 00
Clerk of Common Council.....	150 00
Deputy Clerk of Market.....	100 00
Bellringers.....	40 00
Total.....	$3,840 00
City Debt.	
Funded	$205,000 00
Due on bonds to individuals.....	40,100 00
Small notes unredeemed.....	10,300 18
Total.....	$255,400 18

On May 15, 1826, the negotiations which had long been pending between the City Authorities and Yates & McIntyre, concerning the Albany City Lottery, were consummated by a resolution of the Common Council; these gentlemen agreeing to take the management of the lottery and pay the city the sum of $240,795, to be paid in five years. The whole amount of the valuation of the city lands, which formed the basis of this lottery, was $254,385. There were however some reservations. The city debt which this lottery was to pay was $250,000.

The Chamberlain's report of the business of his office for the year ending October, 1826, shows the receipts to have been $60,060.19; the expenditures for the same time, $62.004.98.

On the last day of October, 1829, the City Chamberlain submitted his report, showing the amount of money received into the City Treasury during that year was $320,878.53½. The amount disbursed was $317,126.15½. The city had been at a large expense during the year; two markets had been built; the City Hall begun; $9,804.43 was paid for the support of the city poor; and salaries of the city officers to the amount of $5,952. The report of the City Marshal, presented to the Common Council, July 29, 1830, shows the population of the city was as follows:

White, males.....	11,533
" females.....	11,632
Colored, males.....	421
" females.....	630
Total.....	24,216

Of these, 3,199 were aliens.

The Common Council, from the completion of the Old Capitol down to the completion of the City

Hall, held its meetings in the Capitol. This they continued to do till July 25, 1831, when they held their first meeting in the City Hall.

On October 4th the Mayor's Court was held for the first time in the City Hall, Recorder McKown presiding. John Van Ness Yates tried the first cause.

From 1832 to 1835 we find no record of the proceedings of the Common Council worthy of note, until October 27th of the latter year, when the County Clerk reported to the Board that, according to a recent canvass, the population of the city was as follows:

Males	13,712
Females	14,373
Total	28,085

There were then 4,489 voters in the city. There was a universal dissatisfaction with the returns of this census. At a meeting of the Common Council November 9th, a committee was appointed to inquire into the expediency of ordering a new census.

On January 1, 1836, Erastus Corning was inaugurated Mayor of the City. In that year the elections for members of the Board took place for the first time at the annual spring elections. The following are other measures which had been adopted that year:

"The equalization of the wards; the reduction of the rates of ferriage at the Greenbush Ferry from 33 to 50 per cent.; the improvements in the basin; the improvements being made by the Government in the river; the improvement in the city finances, by which the city debt had been reduced $65,000 in two years, and of nearly $269,000 due in 1817, but $95,000 now remained to be liquidated. The Mayor called attention to the importance of supplying the city with pure water; of establishing grades between Eagle and Lark streets; to the near completion of the Utica and Schenectady Railway as a source of increased business to the city; the prospect of an uninterrupted railway to Buffalo, and to the great importance of a railroad to connect with the Boston road at Stockbridge."

The Common Council, March 28, 1836, voted to close the Lancaster School in Eagle street.

About this time the Common Council adopted a resolution to open a space in the pier between the Columbia and State street bridges; also to allow the Hudson and Mohawk railroad to continue its track from Gansevoort street, north to Ferry street. June 20, 1836, the Common Council decided to widen Church street. The condition of the City finances was reported to the Board on that day to be as follows:

Bonds due Commissioners of the Canal fund:

At five per cent	$75,000 00
Bonds to St. Peter's Church	5,000 00
Temporary Loans	42,000 00
Award Maiden Lane; balance due Mary Ganse-vort and Thomas McElroy	16,383 00
	$138,883 00
Amount due the city	$117,242 37
Stocks held by the city	43,120 59
	160,262 96
Balance in favor of city	$21,479 96

The population of the city in 1840, as reported by the canvassers to the Common Council on December 4th of that year, was 33,627. This was an increase of about 36 per cent. in the lapse of ten years.

From 1840 to 1850, we find very few of the reports of the proceedings of the Common Council. But during this time new streets were opened and old ones widened and extended; sewers were constructed, and all the city institutions were in a prosperous condition. The following Chamberlain's Report, for the year ending May 1, 1850, exhibits the condition of the finances of the city.

Says the Chamberlain in his report:

The aggregate amount received from all sources during the past year, including $41,668.78, the balance on hand, is	$695,366 67
Expenditure during the same time	627,635 42
Leaving a balance May 1, 1850, of	$67,731 34

In the year 1844, when the annual report of the Chamberlain was made, the city had available means, applicable to the support of the city government, of	$19,464 67
In the year 1845	10,677 81
" " 1846	6,797 98
" " 1847	793 70
" " 1848	662 35
" " 1849	41,668 78
" " 1850	67,731 34

"The large balance of 1849, and the still larger of 1850, are the results of the operations of the law of 1848. In former years the amount raised by tax for support of the city government was nearly, if not entirely, exhausted on the 1st of May, by its application to the payment of temporary loans. These loans were made in anticipation of the annual taxes, and the means realized therefrom were required for the ordinary expenditures of the city. By a strict adherence to the requirements of the law above referred to, and a due regard to economy in the administration of the affairs of the city, these temporary expedients may be in a great degree, if not entirely, avoided.

"LOANS AND INTEREST.—The amount of temporary and other loans made during the past year is $190,000.

During the same period, the amount paid and canceled by the city was	$192,008 75	
Cash paid to Trustees of Sinking Fund for same purpose	178,700 00	
		$370,708 75
Making a diminution in the debt of the city in one year of		$180,708 75
The amount raised by tax during the past year on account of interest on the city debt was		45,500 00
Amount received from the Albany and Schenectady Railroad Company, and other sources		9,830 74
Making a total of		$55,330 74
The expenditure for the same time		61,991 11
Leaving a deficiency of		$6,660 37

"This deficiency was caused by the accumulation of interest on the bonds held by the State, and which were paid and canceled by carrying into effect the law of 1849, above referred to."

In the Mayor's statement on the financial condition of the city, he gives the following:

"On the first of May, 1848, the debt of the city (exclusive of certain loans so amply secured that they cannot be considered absolute liabilities of the city) amounted to $752,896.93. Since that date, this debt has been reduced $211,764.90; and the exact amount of the same at this time is $541,-132.03.

"The population of the city as shown by the last census, which was taken in 1845, was 42,189. The increase during the then previous five years was 8,476. The census of this year will probably show the present population to be over 50,000.

"The value of the taxable property in the city, as shown by the assessment rolls returned to the Board of Supervisors in November, 1849, was $11,971.203.

"The taxable property in the City of Albany at this time may safely be estimated at $18,000,000."

There are no printed minutes of the Common Council of the City of Albany before October 6, 1858. The minutes of December 6, 1858, are the first which we can find.

At this time Hon. Eli Perry was Mayor; Hon. William S. Paddock, Recorder.

Aldermen: James Schuyler, one year; Henry Mix, two years, First Ward. Michael Delehanty, one year; Thomas Schuyler, two years, Second Ward. Nehemiah Osborne, one year; Isaac N. Keeler, two years, Third Ward. Philip Wendell, one year; Horace L. Emery, two years, Fourth Ward. Albion Ransom, one year; Charles B. Redfield, two years, Fifth Ward. James A. Wilson, one year; George H. Thacher, two years, Sixth Ward. Thomas Kearney, one year; Thomas Mattimore, two years, Seventh Ward. John Evers, one year; Martin White, two years, Eighth Ward. E. L. Judson, one year; Charles Bell, two years, Ninth Ward. Charles W. Bender, one year; William P. Brayton, two years, Tenth Ward.

City Officers.—Henry A. Clement, Clerk; Joseph C. Y. Paige, Chamberlain and Deputy Excise Officer; Louis Wiles, Deputy Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes; Henry T. Bradt, Marshal; John B. Surtevant, Attorney; R. H. Bingham, Surveyor; Jacob C. Koonz, Assistant Surveyor; William H. Craig, Alms-house Physician; George H. Herbert, Overseer of the Poor; William Hurst, Superintendent of Alms-house; William T. Wooley, Inspector of Weights and Measures; Philip Fredenrich, Superintendent of Markets; Hiram Gilbert, Superintendent of Northern District; John Franks, Superintendent Southern District; Edward Bailey, Superintendent of Lamps; James Kinnear, Chief Engineer Fire Department; John Donahoe, Superintendent of Hose Depot; ——— Belknap, President Fire Department; Visscher Ten Eyck, Treasurer Fire Department; Thomas Wilson, Secretary of Fire Department; Archibald Young, Collector; George W. Carpenter, Superintendent Waterworks; Erastus Corning, John Taylor, Visscher Ten Eyck, John L. Schoolcraft, John McKnight, Water Commissioners; J. J. Gallup, one year, William C. McHarg, two years, Henry P. Nugent, three years, Justices of Justices' Court.

The Supervisors for this year appear in the History of the Supervisors.

James Boyle, one year; I. Cunningham, two years; Richard D. Betts, three years, City Assessors. John O. Cole, John Simpson, John Tracy, Henry Russelt, William A. Rice, William A. Young, George W. Carpenter, Eli Perry, C. L. Austin, School Commissioners. Amos Adams, Chief of Police. John O. Cole, one year; S. H. H. Parsons, three years, Police Justices. The Mayor, two Police Justices, Visscher Ten Eyck, John McKnight, Police Commissioners. John A. Hyatt, Dock-master.

The report of the City Chamberlain shows the following receipts and disbursements for the year ending November 1, 1858:

Receipts $505,552 76

Disbursements were the same in amount.

According to a resolution of the Board, passed May 17, 1859, J. B. Sturtevant, City Attorney, submitted his report September 6, 1859, by which it appears there were 61 causes on his calendar in various stages of progress.

By the Chamberlain's report of September 19, 1859, a large number of lots appear to have been sold by the city, subject to quit rents at that time due the Corporation. Another report shows the lands on which the rents have been commuted and released by the city, with the amount received for such commutations, where and by whom paid, commencing May 3, 1843.

At the annual meeting of the Board, May 7, 1860—present: George H. Thacher, Mayor; C. L. Austin, Recorder—the following Aldermen were sworn in: Owen Golden, First Ward; Michael Delehanty, Second Ward; John C. Feltman, Third Ward; Philip Wendell, Fourth Ward; James I. Johnson, Fifth Ward; Alanson A. Sumner, Sixth Ward; Terence J. Quin, Seventh Ward; John Evers, Eighth Ward; Wm. J. Humphrey, Ninth Ward; George W. Luther, Tenth Ward. Henry A. Allen was appointed to fill a vacancy in the Sixth Ward made vacant by the resignation of Mr. Thacher, May 1, 1860.

Martin Delehanty, Clerk; Clinton Cassidy, City Attorney; Bartholomew Judge, City Marshal; James L. Babcock, Alms-house Physician; Wm. L. Osborn, Overseer of the Poor; John Hart, Clerk City Superintendent; Wm. T. Wooley, Inspector Weights and Measures; Reuben H. Bingham, City Surveyor; James Brown. Assistant City Surveyor.

Ward Physicians.—Cornelius D. Mosher, First Ward; James Cox, Second Ward; Charles P. Staats, Third Ward; Oscar H. Young, Fourth Ward; Frederick C. Adams, Fifth and Sixth Wards; John J. Myers, Seventh Ward; Addison S. Harlow Eighth Ward; O. C. Alexander, Tenth Ward.

At a meeting of the Board June 25, 1860, the City Attorney gave his opinion that "there is no authority for the expense of laying crosswalks being made a general tax."

The report of the Chamberlain for the year ending November 1, 1860, shows:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1859.....	$24,210 31	
Receipts for current year.....	448,418 58	
		$472,628 89
Disbursements	$423,276 93	
On hand Nov. 1, 1860.....	49,351 96	
		$472,628 89

On May 7, 1861, the Board met for the purpose of organizing.

The following newly elected Aldermen were sworn in, and took their seats, viz.: John Tracey, First Ward; Lemuel M. Rodgers, Second Ward; John W. Harcourt, Third Ward; Wm. Hastings, Fourth Ward; Erastus Corning, Jr., Fifth Ward; Samuel Anable, Sixth Ward; Patrick M. McCall, Eighth Ward; John Philips, Ninth Ward; Joseph L. Rice, Tenth Ward.

Martin Delehanty, Clerk; Clinton Cassidy, City Attorney; Bartholomew Judge, City Marshal; Thomas Smith, Alms-house Physician; Wm. L. Osborn, Overseer of Poor; Wm. C. Birmingham, Clerk City Superintendent; Wm. T. Wooley, Inspector Weights and Measures; R. H. Bingham, City Surveyor; James Brown, Assistant City Surveyor.

WARD PHYSICIANS.—Geo. Steinert, First Ward; James Cox, Second Ward; Henry Case, Third Ward; Peter E. Sickler, Fourth Ward; F. C. Adams, Fifth and Sixth Wards; Joseph N. Northrup, Eighth Ward; Charles H. Smith, Ninth Ward; L. P. Van Hoesen, Tenth Ward.

The details of the City Bonded Debt, contracted prior to May 1, 1848, are shown in the following table, which does not, however, include the loan on the Western Railroad Corporation.

BONDS. WHEN PAYABLE.	RATE OF INTEREST. 5 per cent.	6 per cent.	7 per cent.	INTEREST, WHEN AND WHERE PAYABLE.	TOTAL.
On demand.....	.....	$4,350	$1,500	At Chamberlain's Office	$5,850
In 1862	.....	20,000	.....	In New York, 1st January and July.....	20,000
In 1864.....	$50,000	.....	.....	In Boston, 1st May and November.....	50,000
In 1865.	.....	100,000	.....	" 1st January and July.....	100,000
In 1866.....	.....	75,000	.....	At Chamberlain's Office.....	75,000
In 1867.....	.....	20,000	.....	In New York, 1st January and July.....	20,000
In 1868..	.....	20,000	.....	" " "	20,000
In 1869.....	.....	10,000	.....	" " "	10,000
In 1870...	21,000	.....	.....	" 1st June and December.....	21,000
In 1871.....	20,000	.....	.....	" " "	20,000
In 1872.....	20,000	.....	.....	" " "	20,000
In 1873.....	20,000	.....	.....	" " "	20,000
In 1874...	19,000	.....	.....	" " "	19,000
	$150,000	$249,350	$1,500		$400,000

Since 1851 the city has been gradually reducing its debt.

November 1, 1851, the city debt proper amounted to		$626,532.03
Paid in year ending Nov. 1, 1852,	$47,426.03	
" " " " 1853,	26,000.00	
" " " " 1854,	3,000.00	
" " " " 1855,	23,590.00	
" " " " 1856,	39,000.00	
" " " " 1857,	7,300.00	
" " " " 1858,	17,966.00	
" " " " 1859,	20,800.00	
" " " " 1860,	20,600.00	
" " " " 1861,	20,000.00	
		$225,682.03
Balance, November 1, 1861.....		$400,850.00

The Chamberlain's Office at Albany is a model of industry, order and efficiency. It is believed that there is no other public office in this State where so much is done at so little expense, and by so small a force.

The annual meeting of the Board was held May 6, 1862. Hon. Eli Perry, Mayor; Hon. Charles L. Austin, Recorder.

Aldermen: John Tracey, Bernard Reynolds, First Ward; Lemuel M. Rogers, Thomas McCarty, Second Ward; John W. Harcourt, John Kennedy, Jr., Third Ward; William Hastings, William Orr, Fourth Ward; Erastus Corning, Jr., James I. Johnson, Fifth Ward; Samuel Anabel, Abraham A. Wemple, Sixth Ward; Edward Mulcahy, Terence J. Quinn, Seventh Ward; Michael A. Sheehan, Thomas J. Cowell, Eighth Ward; John Phillips, George I. Amsdell, Ninth Ward; Joseph T. Rice, Edward Wilson, Tenth Ward.

CITY OFFICERS.—Martin Delehanty, Clerk; Joseph C. Y. Paige, Chamberlain and Deputy Excise Officer; Lewis Wiles, Deputy Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes; A. Cuyler Ten Eyck, Marshal; Clinton Cassidy, Attorney; R. H. Bingham, Surveyor; James Brown, Assistant Surveyor; Owen Golden, Alms-house Physician; Samuel C. Harris, Inspector of Weights and Measures; William Hartnett, Superintendent of Markets; James Allen, Superintendent N. D.; Richard Carr, Jr., Superintendent S. D.; Patrick Powers,

Superintendent of Lamps; John J. Riley, Clerk of City Superintendents; James McQuade, Chief Engineer, Fire Department; Thomas Fayles, Charles Lightfoot, John Daly, Patrick Campion, Assistants; John Donohue, Superintendent Hose Depot; George E. Latham, President Fire Department; George W. Carpenter, Superintendent of Water-works; Erastus Corning, John Taylor, Visscher Ten Eyck, Henry H. Martin, James Kidd, Water Commissioners.

John O. Cole, two years, S. H. H. Parsons, four years, Police Justices; J. J. Gallup, one year, William Gillespie, two years, H. P. Nugent, three years, Justices of Justices' Court; John L. Hyatt, Dock-master.

The report of the Chamberlain for the year ending November 1, 1862, shows:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1861.....	$40,906.40	
Receipts for current year.....	525,749.14	
		$566,652.54
Disbursements.....	$463,528.19	
On hand Nov. 1, 1862.....	103,124.35	
		$566,652.54

The city reduced its debt this year $20,000, leaving a balance November 1, 1862, of $380,850.

An organization of the New Board was made May 5, 1863. Eli Perry, Mayor.

Aldermen: John Tracey, First Ward; Lemuel M. Rogers, Second Ward; James McIntyre, Third Ward; Francis N. Sill, Fourth Ward; Erastus Corning, Jr., Fifth Ward; John R. McCollum, Sixth Ward; Edward Mulcahy, Seventh Ward; James C. Nolan, Eighth Ward; Richard Barhydt, Ninth Ward; William Gould, Tenth Ward. Martin Delehanty, Clerk; Samuel Hand, Attorney; L. P. Van Hoesen, Alms-house-Physician; Owen Golden, Superintendent of Almshouse; Joseph Whalen, Inspector of Weights and Measures; Patrick Powers, Superintendent of Lamps; Erastus Corning, Visscher Ten Eyck, Henry H. Martin, James Kidd, Peter Cagger, Water Commissioners. The other city officers are the same as last year.

In June, 1863, an able paper was laid before the Common Council, requesting their immediate attention to a plan for providing and opening a public park in the City of Albany. The paper is long, but is ably written, urging the necessity of a place of beauty in which the working and the business men of the city might seek rest and pleasure, with their families, within their own city.

On September 12, 1863, Articles of Association were made and entered into, under and pursuant to the provisions of an act entitled "An Act to Authorize the Formation of Railroad Corporations, and to Regulate the Same." The name of the said association or company was to be the Albany Railway.

City finances from November 1, 1862, to November 1, 1863:

Balance on hand, Nov. 1, 1862..	$103,124 35	
Receipts for current year.....	608,422 86	
		$711,547 21
Disbursements.....	$607,946 69	
On hand Nov. 1, 1863.....	103,600 52	
		$711,547 21

On May 3, 1864, the Board met at their annual meeting. Eli Perry, Mayor. William S. Paddock, Recorder.

Aldermen: Bernard Reynolds, First Ward; Thomas McCarty, Second Ward; John Kennedy, Jr., Third Ward; Le Grand Bancroft, Fourth Ward; James I. Johnson, Fifth Ward; Lemon Thomson, Sixth Ward; Bartholomew Judge, Seventh Ward; Edward J. Kearney, Eighth Ward; George I. Amsdell, Ninth Ward; William Gould (to fill vacancy), Edmund L. Judson (for full term), Tenth Ward.

Jeptha R. Boulware, Alms-house Physician.

Annual report of the Chamberlain's office for the year ending November 1, 1864:

Balance on hand, Nov. 1, 1863.	$103,600 22	
Receipts for current year.....	756,936 82	
		$863,737 04
Disbursements.....	$796,981 34	
On hand Nov. 1, 1864.....	66,555 70	
		$863,737 04

CITY BONDED DEBT PAID SINCE 1851.—The city debt proper amounted on November 1, 1841, to $626,532.03. June 14, 1864, issue of City Bonds, $100,000, making a total of $726,532.03. Since November 1, 1851, there has been paid $295,682.03, leaving a balance November 1, 1864, of $430,850.

On May 2, 1865, the Board convened for the annual meeting, at which time the new members of the Board were sworn in by Mayor Perry. Wm. S. Paddock, Recorder.

Timothy Sullivan, First Ward; Thomas Mulhall, Second Ward; John C. Ward, Third Ward; H. D. Burlingame, Fourth Ward; John N. Parker, Fifth Ward; William Dalton, Sixth Ward; Andrew Kean, Seventh Ward; Charles T. Shepard, Eighth Ward; Richard Barhydt, Ninth Ward; John B. Sturtevant, Tenth Ward.

James McIntyre, Deputy Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes; Charles A. Hills, Assistant; L. M. Rodgers, Superintendent of Alms-house.

Alderman McCarty offered a resolution in relation to the application made by the Legislature concerning the terms that the City of Albany offered for having the New Capitol located in the city.

The Mayor, on February 23, 1865, by the authority of the Common Council, made a communication to the Legislature of the State offering, on behalf of the State, the property known as "Congress Hall Block, in case the Legislature should pass a law for the erection of a New Capitol, and locate the same upon the site of the present Capitol and the grounds adjacent.

"The Legislature accepted the proposition and passed the law for erecting the New Capitol at Albany; therefore

"*Resolved*, That the provisions of the Act of the Legislature be and the same are accepted by this Board, and this Board do purchase and cause to be conveyed to the State the property before specified." This property was purchased by the Common Council for the sum of $125,555, and in September of that year was deeded to the State.

The Chamberlain's report for the year ending November 1, 1865, is as follows:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1864..	$66,555 70	
Receipts for current year.....	905,457 60	
		$972,013 30
Disbursements.....	$883,210 77	
On hand Nov. 1, 1864.....	88,802 53	
		$972,013 30

A special meeting was called January 22, 1866, to consider the method of providing for the purchase money of the Congress Hall Block, and to authorize the issuing of City Bonds for the payment of the same. The following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That, pursuant to authority conferred upon the Board by Chap. 2, Laws of New York, passed January 12, 1866, the Chamberlain, under the direction of the Finance Committee, be and he is authorized to negotiate, upon such terms as may be deemed best for the interests of the city, a loan of $190,000, bearing interest from the first day of February next, at the rate of six per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually, and the principal to be reimbursed as follows: $10,000 at the expiration of nineteen years from the first of February, and the sum of $20,000 in each succeeding year thereafter till all is paid."

May 1, 1866.—Hon. George H. Thacher, Mayor.

Aldermen: Michael Murphy, First Ward; Thomas Farrell, Second Ward; William H. Taylor, Third Ward; William M. Gregory, Fourth Ward; Peter M. Carmichael, Fifth Ward; Lemon Thomson, Sixth Ward; Bartholomew Judge, Seventh Ward; James D. Walsh, Eighth Ward; Borden H. Mills, Ninth Ward; Edmund L. Judson, Tenth Ward.

City Officers.—George W. Warren, Clerk; Joseph C. Y. Paige, Chamberlain; Samuel Moffatt, Charles A. Hills, Deputy Chamberlains and Receivers of Taxes; Henry McBride, Marshal; William H. Greene, Attorney; R. H. Bingham, Surveyor; Henry T. Carpenter, Assistant Surveyor; William Craig, Alms-house Physician; James Pettit, Overseer of Poor; Lemuel Rodgers, Superintendent of Alms-house; Richard Groom, Inspector of Weights and Measures; Albert Goodwin, Superintendent of N. S.; Cyrus L. Woodruff, Superintendent of S. S.; Frank E. Cuyler, Clerk of Superintendents; George Searles, Superintendent of Markets; James McQuade, Chief Engineer of Fire Departments; William Thompson, J. C. Griffin, Patrick Campion, William H. Smith, Assistants; Edward Scannell, Superintendent Hose Depot; James H. Mulligan, President Fire Department; Vischer Ten Eyck, Treasurer; John R. Stewart, Secretary; George W. Carpenter, Superintendent of Water-works; Erastus Corning, James Kidd, Visscher Ten Eyck, Henry H. Martin, Peter Cagger, Water Commissioners.

William C. Schuyler, Henry P. Nugent, John J. Gallup, Justices of Justices' Court; John O. Cole, S. H. H. Parsons, Police Justices; Marshal Tebbut, Superintendent of Lamps; Campbell Allen, Superintendent of Police; John L. Hyatt, Dockmaster.

Receipts and disbursements at the Chamberlain's office from November 1, 1865, to November 1, 1866:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1865..	$88,802 53	
Receipts for current year.....	961,026 75	
		$1,049,829 28
Disbursements.....	$978,037 71	
On hand Nov. 1, 1866.....	71,791 57	
		$1,049,829 28

The Common Council met May 7, 1867. George H. Thacher, Mayor; William S. Paddock, Recorder.

Aldermen: Timothy Sullivan, Thomas Mulhall, Nehemiah Osborn, Adam Cook, John N. Parker, Abraham A. Wemple, Oscar L. Hascy, George E. Latham, Robert Lenox Banks and John B. Sturtevant.

William Morgan was appointed Assistant Overseer of the Poor, and T. J. Grogan, President of the Fire Department.

The annual report of the Chamberlain was as follows:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1866...	$71,791 57	
Receipts for current year.....	807,657 17	
		$879,448 74
Disbursements.....	$800,816 27	
On hand Nov. 1, 1867.....	78,632 47	
		$879,448 74

Regular meeting of the Board, May 5, 1868—Charles E. Bleecker, Mayor; Simon W. Rosendale, Recorder.

Aldermen: Hugh McCann, Alexander Kennedy, Jonathan E. Herrick, Charles D. Mills, George Evans, James E. Walker, Michael Lyman, Michael S. McGue, Adam W. Smith and Charles G. Craft.

City Officers.—Isaac Vanderpoel, Attorney; Charles P. Staats, Alms-house Physician; A. Cuyler Ten Eyck, Marshal; William L. Osborne, Overseer of the Poor; Daniel O'Keefe, Inspector of Weights and Measures; James Brennan, Superintendent S. S.; Richard Barhydt, Superintendent N. S.; William E. Murphy, Clerk of Street Superintendents; J. J. Huber, Superintendent of Lamps.

Fire Commissioners: C. E. Bleecker, Mayor, President; J. C. Cuyler, Secretary; Lansing Pruyn, M. B. V. Winne, George Cuyler and Edward Wilson. James McQuade, Chief of Fire Department.

The Common Council, in December, 1867, appropriated the sum of $15,000 for the construction of a fire alarm telegraph for the City of Albany, and in June, 1868, the working of the fire alarm telegraph, which had been constructed, was voted placed under the control and direction of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

On March 16, 1868, proposals were advertised for the erection of a public building, to be erected on the Market lot. On June 30th, it was ordered that the sum of $50,000 be appropriated for the erection of a building on the present market site in South Pearl street, to accommodate the Second Police Precinct, Police Commissioners, Fire Commissioners, Chief of Fire Department, Police Court, Justices' Court and Overseer of the Poor.

The Chamberlain's report for the year shows:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1867 ...	$78,632 47	
Receipts for current year.....	890,307 19	
		$968,939 66
Disbursements.....	$871,155 63	
On hand Nov. 1, 1868.....	97,784 03	
		$968,939 66

The new Board was organized May 4, 1869—Charles E. Bleecker, Mayor; Simon W. Rosendale, Recorder.

Aldermen: John Burke, Thomas Mulhall, Nehemiah Osborn, Peter Foland, John N. Parker, Ralph W. Thacher, Terence J. Quinn, Wm. B. Scott, Albert C. Judson, Andrew M. Combs.

CITY OFFICERS.—Martin Delehanty, Clerk of the Common Council; Joseph C. Y. Paige, Chamberlain; Thomas A. Stuart, Deputy Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes; A. C. Ten Eyck, Marshal; E. J. Meegan, Attorney; James Browne, Surveyor; Charles P. Staats, Alms-house Physician; William Osborn, Overseer of the Poor; Lemuel M. Rodgers, Superintendent of Alms-house; Thomas Whalen, Inspector of Weights and Measures; Richard Barhydt, Superintendent of Streets, S. S.; J. J. Huber, Superintendent of Lamps; John Flood, Clerk of Street Superintendent. Fire Commissioners: C. E. Bleecker, Mayor, President; J. C. Cuyler, Secretary; M. N. Nolan.

CHAMBERLAIN'S REPORT.

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1868..	$97,784 03	
Receipts for current year.....	1,367,647 01	
		$1,465,431 04
Disbursements.....	$1,338,109 52	
On hand Nov. 1, 1869.....	127,321 52	
		$1,465,431 04

At a meeting of the Common Council, held March 19, 1870, His Honor the Mayor said, that on account of the passage of the New Charter by the State Legislature, it became necessary to re-district the wards, appoint Inspectors of Election and designate the places for holding polls for the coming charter election. The meeting was devoted to these purposes.

The Dongan Charter in 1686, with few amendments, came down to the revolution. After the revolution, with such amendments as the State Constitution and Laws required, it continued to be the fundamental law of the city until March 16, 1870, when the Charter was largely amended by an Act of the Legislature, passed on that day.

This Act provided that the Corporation, hitherto known by the name of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, shall continue to be a body politic and corporate in fact and in name, by the name of the City of Albany, and shall have perpetual succession, with all the grants, powers and privileges heretofore had by the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, and be subject to all the restrictions and conditions and possess all the powers of a municipal corporation, under and by virtue of the General Statutes of the State.

2d. The Corporation of the City of Albany shall continue to own, hold and possess all the property, rights, privileges and franchises now owned, held and possessed by the corporation heretofore known as the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany.

At the annual meeting, May 3, 1870, George H. Thacher, Mayor.

Aldermen-at-large: Philip Fitzsimmons, John Evers, Robert H. Moore, William M. Van Antwerp.

Aldermen: John Burke, First Ward; James H. Simmons, Second Ward; James Quin, Third Ward; John Stuart, Fourth Ward; Matthew Quin, Fifth Ward; Royal Bancroft, Sixth Ward; John N. Parker, Seventh Ward; James Morris, Eighth Ward; Terence J. Quinn, Ninth Ward; John Laughlin, Tenth Ward; William B. Scott, Eleventh Ward; James Allen, Twelfth Ward; Albert C. Judson, Thirteenth Ward; Charles Senrick, Fourteenth Ward; Benjamin V. Z. Wemple, Fifteenth Ward; Cornelius Hill, Sixteenth Ward.

CITY OFFICERS.—Thomas J. Lanahan, First Clerk; Thomas Hogan, Second Clerk; Lucius G. Hoyt, Inspector.

Street Department: George H. Thacher, Mayor; Philip Fitzsimmons, President of Common Council; John Stuart, James Allen, Albert C. Judson, Aldermen; A. M. Combs, Street Commissioner; R. H. Bingham, City Engineer and Surveyor; J. C. Y. Paige, Chamberlain.

Finance Department: George H. Thacher, Mayor; Philip Fitzsimmons, President of Common Council; John Evers, Terence J. Quinn, William M. Van Antwerp, Aldermen; J. C. Y. Paige, Chamberlain; Charles A. Hills, Deputy Chamberlain.

Law Department: John Evers, B. V. Z. Wemple, Aldermen; E. J. Meegan, Corporation Counsel.

Daniel M. Stinson, City Physician; George W. Hoxie, Overseer of the Poor; James Farley, Superintendent City Buildings; Edward Brennan, John Daly, James Rice, Assessors; George W. Carpenter, Superintendent Water-works.

In the Mayor's address he particularly mentions the condition of the various departments of the city. During the two last years $350,000 was added to the bonded debt. The valuation of property, previously high, had been increased to the extent of $2,234,000, and the rate of taxation for 1869 was $3.54 per $100.

For the first time in the corporate life of the city, then over 183 years, the veto power was conferred upon the Mayor.

About thirty suits were at this time pending against the city. The aggregate claims exceeded $160,000.

On Monday, February 13, 1870, the annual report of the City Chamberlain showed the following:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1869..	$127,321 52	
Receipts for current year.....	1,510,538 37	
		$1,637,859 89
Disbursements.....	$1,448,487 36	
On hand Nov. 1, 1870.....	187,372 53	
		$1,637,859 89

The Park Commissioners show progress in the improvements of Washington Park; and in the first annual report show the total receipts to January 20th to have been $55,970.39.

The annual meeting was held May 7, 1872—George H. Thacher, Mayor.

Aldermen: Robert H. Moore, William Casey, Thomas Mulhall, Richard Bortle, David N. Glazier, Henry S. Van Santford, Philip Mattimore, John G. Burch, James A. Fahy, Robert Aspinwall, Thomas Cavanaugh, Townsend Fondey, Royal Bancroft, Joseph McCann, Albert Brumaghim.

CITY OFFICERS.—John G. Burch, President; Hale Kingsley, Clerk; James L. Babcock, City Physician.

The Chamberlain's report for the year ending November 1, 1872, is as follows:

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1871..	$366,989 14	
Receipts for current year.....	1,080,323 18	
		$1,447,312 32
Disbursements	$1,266,410 28	
On hand Nov. 1, 1872.....	180,902 04	
		$1,447,312 32

William N. S. Sanders was appointed Chamberlain of the City, and John F. Batchelder, Deputy Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes.

In 1874 Mayor Thacher was declared re-elected, but his seat was contested by E. L. Judson. John G. Burch acted as Mayor from January 28 till April, 1874, when E. L. Judson was decided elected for the unexpired term of Thacher and also the full term.

The proceedings of two years of the Common Council are missing from the reports.

1876.—A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor; John A. Luby, President of Common Council.

Aldermen: George Krank, First Ward; John G. Schneider, Second Ward; James H. Simmons, Third Ward; Wm. H. Keeler, Fourth Ward; Henry Van Hoesen, Fifth Ward; Robert K. Oliver, Sixth Ward; S. H. H. Parsons, Seventh Ward; Thomas A. Becket, Eighth Ward; Patrick Dillon, Ninth Ward, Conrad Degen, Tenth Ward; John A. Luby, Eleventh Ward; Thomas Cavanaugh, Twelfth Ward; Christian Schurr, Thirteenth Ward; John P. Bradt, Fourteenth Ward; Michael J. Gorman, Fifteenth Ward; Hiram Bender, Sixteenth Ward.

Executive Department: A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor; Francis S. Pruyn, First Clerk; A. Douw Lansing, Second Clerk; James Farley, Inspector.

Street Department: A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor; John A. Luby, President of Common Council; Thomas Cavanaugh, James H. Simmons, Christian Schurr, Aldermen; R. H. Bingham, City Surveyor and Engineer; Robert H. Waterman, Chamberlain; Joseph McCann, Street Commissioner.

Law Department: S. S. H. Parsons, Thomas Cavanaugh, Thomas A. Becket, Aldermen; Grenville Tremain, Corporation Council.

Finance Department: A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor; Robert H. Waterman, Chamberlain; John W. Harcourt, Deputy Chamberlain; John A. Luby, President of Common Council; S. S. H. Parsons, Henry Van Hoesen, Thomas A. Becket, Aldermen.

CITY OFFICERS.—Martin Delehanty, Clerk; Robert H. Waterman, Chamberlain; Joseph S. Paige, Chamberlain's Clerk; John W. Harcourt, Deputy Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes; Charles A. Hills, Deputy Receiver of Taxes; William S. Paddock, Recorder; Reuben H. Bingham, City Surveyor and Engineer; Henry Fitch, Superintendent of Alms-house; Thomas J. Lanahan, Clerk of Board of Contract and Apportionment.

1877.—The City Officers for the year 1877 are the same as those of 1876, with the exception of the following:

Abraham Lansing, Corporation Council; Joseph McCann, Street Commissioner; Daniel V. O'Leary, City Physician.

1878.—M. N. Nolan, Mayor; Thomas Cavanaugh, President of Common Council.

Aldermen: John Zimmerman, First Ward; Thomas B. Franklin, Second Ward; William A. Donahoe, Third Ward; John T. Gorman, Fourth Ward; Isaac Brilleman, Fifth Ward; William Manson, Sixth Ward; James McKinney, Seventh Ward; James H. Harrigan, Eighth Ward; Patrick Dillon, Ninth Ward; Conrad Degen, Tenth Ward; David M. Alexander, Eleventh Ward; Thomas Cavanaugh, Twelfth Ward; Theodore M. Amsdell, Thirteenth Ward; William Deyermand, Fourteenth Ward; Michael J. Gorman, Fifteenth Ward; Allston Adams, Sixteenth Ward.

Executive Department: M. N. Nolan, Mayor; Desmond S. Lamb, First Clerk; William D. Dickerman, Second Clerk; John J. Norton, Third Clerk; Charles Senrick, Inspector.

Street Department: M. N. Nolan, Mayor; Thomas Cavanaugh, President; James H. Harrigan, David M. Alexander, Conrad Degen, Aldermen; William H. Keeler, Street Commissioner; Reuben H. Bingham, City Surveyor and Engineer; Lucien Tuffs, Jr., Chamberlain.

Finance Department: M. N. Nolan, Mayor; Thomas Cavanaugh, President; Michael Gorman, William Deyermand, Conrad Degen, Aldermen; Lucien Tuffs, Jr., Chamberlain; Charles A. Hills, Deputy Chamberlain.

Law Department: James H. Harrigan, John T. Gorman, Allston Adams, Aldermen; Simon W. Rosendale, Corporation Council.

Martin Delehanty, Clerk of Common Council; Joseph Y. Paige, Chamberlain's Clerk; Edward J. Giraty, Deputy Receiver of Taxes: James O'Byrne, City Marshal; Matthias Bissikummer, Deputy; W. S. Paddock, Recorder; James Browne, Deputy Surveyor and Engineer: John A. Luby, Superintendent of Alms-house; James McQuade, Chief Engineer Fire Department; John Maloy, Chief of Police; William J. Weaver, William J. Flynn, Henry T. Bradt, City Assessors; William K. Clute, John C. Nott, Police Justices.

1879.—M N. Nolan, Mayor.

Aldermen: Thomas Cavanaugh, President of Common Council; John Zimmerman, First Ward; Thomas B. Franklin, Second Ward; William A. Donahoe, Third Ward; John T. Gorman, Fourth Ward; Isaac Brilleman, Fifth Ward; William Manson, Sixth Ward; James McKinney, Seventh Ward; James H. Harrigan, Eighth Ward; Edwin V. Kirtland, Ninth Ward; Conrad Degen, Tenth Ward; David M. Alexander, Eleventh Ward; Thomas Cavanaugh, Twelfth Ward; Theodore M. Amsdell, Thirteenth Ward; William Deyermand,

Fourteenth Ward; Michael J. Gorman, Fifteenth Ward; Alston Adams, Sixteenth Ward.

Department officers are the same as last year.

Washington Park Commissioners: John H. Van Antwerp, President; R. W. Peckham, James D. Wasson, Robert L. Johnson, R. Lenox Banks, Daniel Manning, George Dawson, J. G. Farnsworth, Dudley Olcott.

Water Commissioners: Visscher Ten Eyck, Henry H. Martin, Erastus Corning, John M. Kimball. Vacancy.

Police Commissioners: M. N. Nolan, *ex officio*, President; James McIntyre, Michael Schrodt, William M. Bender, Richard B. Rock.

Fire Commissioners: M. N. Nolan, *ex officio*, President; Jacob C. Cuyler, one year; Philip O'Brien, two years; Anthony N. Brady, three years; Henry S. Rosenthal, four years; Thomas Austin, five years.

1880.—M. N. Nolan, Mayor.

Aldermen: Albert Gallup, President of Common Council; Peter Snyder, First Ward; Philip J. McCormick, Second Ward; William A. Donahoe, Third Ward; John T. Gorman, Fourth Ward; John Carey, Fifth Ward; Michael A. Murphy, Sixth Ward; James Carlisle, Seventh Ward; Michael Horan (died), Eighth Ward; Michael H. Murray, Ninth Ward; James A. Fahy, Tenth Ward; William McEwen, Eleventh Ward; Robert Bryce, Jr., Twelfth Ward; Samuel C. Harris, Thirteenth Ward; Theodore D. Smith, Jr., Fourteenth Ward; Joseph McCann, Fifteenth Ward; Albert Gallup, Sixteenth Ward; Henry C. Burch, Seventeenth Ward.

The new City Officers this year were: William J. Maher, Deputy Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes; Michael E. Higgins, City Marshal; Anthony Gould, Recorder; John J. O'Hara, Deputy City Surveyor and Engineer; John McKenna, Superintendent of Alms-house; James V. Viggers, Mayor's Third Clerk; William J. Burke, Inspector Public Buildings.

The City Hall was destroyed by fire on the morning of February 10, 1880.

Steps were immediately taken to rebuild the City Hall, and the matter was intrusted to a Committee on Public Buildings and three other members who were added to the above committee.

1881.—M. N. Nolan, Mayor.

Aldermen: Albert Gallup, President of Common Council; Peter Snyder, First Ward; Philip McCormick, Second Ward; William A. Donahoe, Third Ward; John T. Gorman, Fourth Ward; John Carey, Fifth Ward; Michael A. Murphy, Sixth Ward; James Carlisle, Seventh Ward; Thomas A. Becket, Eighth Ward; Michael H. Murray, Ninth Ward; James A. Fahy, Tenth Ward; William McEwan, Eleventh Ward; Robert Bryce, Jr., Twelfth Ward; Samuel C. Harris, Thirteenth Ward; Theodore D. Smith. Jr., Fourteenth Ward; Joseph McCann (died), Fifteenth Ward; Albert Gallup, Sixteenth Ward; Henry C. Burch, Seventeenth Ward.

City Officers.—Rufus W. Peckham, Corporation Council; Lawrence Carey, Inspector.

Street Department: M. N. Nolan, Mayor; Albert Gallup, President; James Carlisle, John T. Gorman, Thomas A. Becket, Aldermen; William H. Keeler, Street Commissioner; Reuben H. Bingham, City Surveyor; Charles E. Hills, Chamberlain.

Finance Department: M. N. Nolan, Mayor; Albert Gallup, President; Robert Bryce, Theodore Smith. Jr., William McEwan, Aldermen; Charles E. Hills, Chamberlain; William J. Maher, Deputy Chamberlain.

Law Department: Theodore Smith, Jr., Robert Bryce, William McEwan, Aldermen; Rufus W, Peckham, Corporation Counsel.

1882.—M. N. Nolan, Mayor.

Aldermen: William H. Murray, President Common Council; Peter Snyder, First Ward; Jeremiah Kieley, Second Ward; William A. Donahoe, Third Ward; James Lyons, Fourth Ward; John Carey, Fifth Ward; George W. Beck, Sixth Ward; James Carlisle, Seventh Ward; Michael A. Nolan, Eighth Ward; Michael H. Murray, Ninth Ward; James A. Fahy, Tenth Ward; Austin S. Kibbee, Eleventh Ward; Robert Bryce (resigned), Twelfth Ward; Samuel C. Harris, Thirteenth Ward; Charles W. Mead, Fourteenth Ward; James Thornton, Fifteenth Ward; William H. Murray, Sixteenth Ward; Henry C. Burch, Seventeenth Ward.

City Officers.—Henry R. Haskins, City Physician; Robert Bryce, Street Commissioner.

Executive Department same as last year.

Street Department: M. N. Nolan, Mayor; William H. Murray, President Common Council; John Carey, James Lyons, George H. Beck, Aldermen; Robert Bryce, Commissioner; Reuben H. Bingham, Surveyor; Charles A. Hills, Chamberlain.

Finance Department: M. N. Nolan, Mayor; William H. Murray, President Common Council; James Lyon, John Carey, —— —— (vacancy), Aldermen; C. A. Hills, Chamberlain; William J. Maher, Deputy Chamberlain.

Law Department: Samuel C. Harris, William H. Murray, Charles W. Mead, Aldermen; R. W. Peckham, Corporation Council.

1883.—John Swinburne, Mayor.

Aldermen: William H. Murray, President Common Council. Members of the Board the same as 1882, with Patrick McCann in the vacancy of the Twelfth Ward.

Departments.—Executive: John Swinburne, Mayor; William H. Haskell, First Clerk: George D. Haskell, Second Clerk.

Board of Contract and Apportionment: John Swinburne, Mayor; William H. Murray, Robert Bryce, Jr., Reuben H. Bingham, Charles A. Hills.

Board of Finance: John Swinburne, William H. Murray, C. A. Hills, M. A. Nolan, Visscher Ten Eyck.

Trustees of Sinking Fund: John Swinburne; C. A. Hills, Visscher Ten Eyck.

Law Department: Samuel Harris, William H. Murray, Charles W. Mead; Henry Smith, Corporation Counsel.

Board of Audit: John Swinburne, William H. Murray, C. A. Hills.

Board of Health: John Swinburne, *ex officio*, President; Dr. A. Vanderveer, Dr. S. B. Ward, Thomas H. Dwyer, Robert Bryce, Jr., John McKenna, R. H. Bingham; Dr. D. V. O'Leary, Health Physician; Edward H. Long, Clerk; James Rooney, Lawrence Carey, William D. Dickerman, Inspectors.

We have given the names of the principal officers of the Corporation of the City of Albany under the Charter as amended by the Charter of 1870.

On April 23, 1883, the Charter of the City of Albany was again amended, of which the following is an outline:

This amendment retains all the sections, three in number, under Title 1 of said act.

Title 2 of said act defines the boundaries of the seventeen wards of the city, one ward having been added since the Act of 1870.

The various departments of the municipal government of Albany are established in Title 2, as follows:

The legislative power of said Corporation shall be vested in a Board of Aldermen, who shall form the Common Council of the City of Albany.

The Board of Aldermen consists of nineteen members, one Aldermen to be elected from each of the seventeen wards, and two from the city-at-large. To be eligible for the office of Alderman, a citizen shall have resided in the ward, and in case of each Alderman-at-large, he shall have resided in the city for at least one year immediately prior to his election.

There was chosen by the electors, according to this Charter, on the second Tuesday of April, 1884, one Alderman from each ward, and two from the city-at-large, to hold their office for two years. There is to be a Charter election held in the city on the same day in every second year hereafter for the choice of Aldermen.

The Common Council shall, biennially, elect a President from its own body, and, in his absence, a President for the time being, and biennially appoint its Clerk, who shall receive a salary of twenty-five hundred dollars per annum, payable monthly. He may appoint an Assistant, who shall have a salary of $600 a year. Every law, ordinance or resolution of the Common Council, before it takes effect, and within five days after its passage, must be sent to the Mayor's office. * * If the Mayor approve of such law, etc., he shall sign it, and it shall take effect immediately. If he does not approve it, he shall return it, with his objections, within ten days after it is delivered at his office.

The Common Council are Commissioners of Highways in and for said city.

The Charter defines the laws and ordinances which the Common Council has power to make, and the penalties for their violation. There are thirty-six of those provisions or ordinances. It is provided that nothing in this act shall affect the powers, duties, rules, orders, or ordinances or regulations of the Board of Health, as they exist under the laws of the State. The Common Council shall have power to impeach the Mayor by a resolution passed by a resolution of two-thirds of all the members of the said Board.

THE EXECUTIVE POWER OF THE CORPORATION.—The executive power of the Corporation shall be vested in the Mayor. He shall be elected at a Charter election, and hold his office for the term of two years, commencing on the first Tuesday of May next after his election; and the Mayor elected at any election held hereafter shall not be eligible until one term shall intervene, and the acceptance hereafter of any other elective office by the Mayor shall operate to determine and end his term of office as Mayor. His office is in the City Hall, and is open daily for business between the hours of ten o'clock in the morning and four o'clock in the afternoon. His salary is three thousand five hundred dollars per year, to be paid monthly by the Chamberlain.

The duties of the Mayor of Albany are plainly set forth in the Charter, and his powers, though sufficiently guarded, are plenary.

It is his duty, among other things, to communicate to the Common Council, at least once in every year, a general statement of the finances, government and improvement of the city; to recommend to the Common Council all such measures connected with the security, health, cleanliness, and ornamentation of the city, and the protection of its government and finances, as he shall deem expedient; to call out and command the police and firemen, and to call together the citizens and commission special policemen during an emergency, and take all proper measures for the protection of the property and lives of the citizens in case of riot or disturbance.

He shall have power at any time to suspend, for neglect or omission to perform the duties of his office, for inattention to such duties of his office, or incompetency to well and efficiently to execute the same, any officer holding an office to which the Mayor has the power of appointment absolutely, or subject to the confirmation of the Common Council. After such suspension, notice must be given to the Common Council at its next meeting. The President, within five days, notifies the Recorder and the Law Committee of the said city of such fact, and that they are required to meet with him at a time and place designated. At the time and place the President, Common Council, Recorder and Law Committee are to meet. The Recorder presides. Ten days' notice must be given the officer suspended. The President, Recorder and Law Committee form a commission for the trial of the officer suspended or removed upon written charges to be made by the Mayor. The Clerk of the Common Council attends the meetings as Clerk of the Commission. The record of its proceedings is filed with the Clerk of the Common Council. In the event of no dismissal, the city shall pay the cost and expenses of the officer so tried.

CITY OFFICERS APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR.—The following officers are appointed biennially by the Mayor: a Chamberlain, Receiver of Taxes, City Engineer and Surveyor, Street Commissioner, City Marshal, Inspector of Weights and Measures, Overseer of the Poor, Superintendent of the Alms-house, and one City Physician. These appointments (except the Chamberlain and Receiver of Taxes, which shall be made on the eve of the Fast-day of St. Michael the Archangel) shall be sent to the Common Council for confirmation at the next regular meeting after their appointment.

He also appoints the Assessors of the city. He also appoints, within three months after his election, a Corporation Counsel, six District Physicians, four city Bell-ringers, and such clerks and subordinates, not exceeding two, as he may require. Such Bell-ringers, clerks and subordinates hold their position at the pleasure of the Mayor.

He shall also appoint a Janitor, who shall have the care of the city buildings on South Pearl street. The Janitor may appoint an assistant.

CORPORATION COUNSEL.—The Corporation Counsel acts as the legal adviser of the Common Council and of the several Officers, Boards, and Commissioners of the City, who shall not employ other counsel. His salary is $6,000 per year, and he receives no fees. He gives bonds for the faithful performance of all his official duties. He may appoint an assistant, whose salary is to be paid by him. The Corporation Counsel may, with the written consent of the Mayor, employ other counsel in the management of important cases in which the city is interested.

CHAMBERLAIN.—This officer receives all the money due or payable to the Corporation, and collects all assessments, apportionments, and rents. He receives and disburses all moneys raised by tax in the city, including money raised by county tax for the maintenance of the Alms-house therein. His salary is $3,500 per year, payable monthly. He has authority to appoint a Deputy Chamberlain, with the approval of the Mayor. His salary is $1,500 per year.

Both these officers must give heavy bonds for the faithful discharge of their duties.

The Mayor, Chamberlain, and President of the Common Council constitute a Board of Audit, and examine, audit, adjust, and settle all accounts, claims, debts and demands payable out of the moneys in the Chamberlain's hands appropriated for the Alms-house. Before these demands are audited, the Board is authorized to issue subpœnas to the claimants, or any other person, to compel their attendance before the Board for examination touching said demands.

These are among the duties of the Chamberlain. They, with his other duties, render his office one of the most important connected with the city government.

RECEIVER OF TAXES.—It is the duty of this officer to receive all taxes provided by law, and to retain in his possession the assessment rolls and warrants which shall from time to time be delivered to him by the Supervisors; to enter daily, in suitable books kept for that purpose, the sums received for taxes, respectively with the name of the person on whose account the same may be paid, and the ward for which received; and he shall, at the expiration of office hours, exhibit such entries to the City Chamberlain, the amount received by him on such day, and pay over to that officer the amount so received.

It is a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment not exceeding six months, and fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, for the Receiver of Taxes, or any person in the employment of the city, or for the County Treasurer, or any person in the employment of the county, to enter in his books any payment of taxes or water rates on a day different from that on which the same is paid; or to accept any less sum for such tax or water rate than the amount by law required to be paid, when such tax or water rate is in fact paid; or to throw off or deduct from the sum due any interest collectable thereon; or to make any false or untrue entry with respect thereto.

Thus we see how carefully the city government guards its interests against fraud and peculation.

The Board of Supervisors of the county causes the corrected assessment roll of each ward in the city to be delivered to the Receiver of Taxes for said city on or before the tenth day of December in every year, with a warrant, under the hands and seals of the members of the Board of Supervisors, or a majority of them, commanding such receiver to collect from the several persons named in the rolls the several sums mentioned in the last column of said roll opposite their respective names, and to pay over the same in manner directed in such warrant.

The County Treasurer examines the account of the arrears of taxes received from the Receiver of Taxes, and shall reject all taxes on land that shall there be imperfectly described, and on all taxes erroneously assessed in form or substance.

The duties of the Receiver of Taxes in case of non-payment thereof are admirably defined, and are more fully considered in the history of the Board of Supervisors.

THE COUNTY TREASURER receives, as compensation for his services, an annual salary to be fixed by the Board of Supervisors. He is not to receive any interest, fees, or compensation for his services, except in proceedings for the sale of land for unpaid taxes. In cases where payments are made after first publication of the notice of sale, or on the sale, he shall receive five per cent. on the amount, to be addded to the tax. The County Treasurer transmits to the Comptroller an account of unpaid taxes assessed upon corporations, or upon the lands of non-residents or unknown owners, in the City of Albany, on any collector's affidavit thereto.

BOARD OF FINANCE.—The Common Council, under the Charter, at its first meeting in January, 1884, appointed a citizen of the city, not an office holder, to act with the Mayor and Chamberlain

as a Board of Trustees of the Sinking Fund of the city. Every third year after the first day of January aforesaid, there is to be a new appointment. The members are a body corporate, who, together with the President of the Common Council and one Alderman, to be designated by the Common Council, constitute a Board of Finance for the city.

BANKS DESIGNATED FOR DEPOSIT.—The Board of Finance designates, after notice duly published twice in each week, for two weeks, in the Corporation newspaper, two banks in the city, who are to give security, in which all moneys received by the Chamberlain shall be deposited, and shall fix, by agreement with the banks, the amount of interest to be paid on such deposits. The Board has power, after publication of the like notice, to change the banks.

CITY TAX BUDGET.—Among the duties of the said Board is that of annually preparing a city tax budget, which includes all sums required for every municipal purpose during the year next following the first day of January after such budget was prepared, and shall report the same to the Common Council.

BOARD OF CONTRACT AND APPORTIONMENT.—This is a very important Board, and in its practical working admirably protects the interests of the city. It consists of the Mayor, Chamberlain, Street Commissioner, City Engineer and Surveyor, and President of the Common Council. The Corporation Counsel or his assistant has a right to be present at every meeting. The Board meets on the first and third Monday of each and every month between the hours of 9 A. M. and 5 P. M. Reporters of newspapers may be present at most of the meetings.

This Board has charge, under the direction of the Common Council, of all the altering, regulating, grading, paving, repaving, flagging, curbing, guttering, cleaning, opening, draining, repairing and lighting the streets, roads, places, alleys and avenues; of fencing and filling building lots; repairing and lighting docks, wharves and piers; and of constructing and repairing public streets, drains, alleys and bridges.

It issues all proposals, receives all bids and awards all contracts for doing the foregoing work. All contracts, however, except for lighting the city, can be made for a longer period than two years.

Contracts are let to the lowest responsible bidder, who presents with his bid the bond required by law. All contracts and bonds are approved by the Corporation Counsel as to form and validity. The Board appoints biennially a clerk at a salary of $2,000 per annum. He keeps all records and accounts of said Board.

It is the duty of this Board to apportion and assess all the expenses for work, labor and services performed and all the materials furnished, with the incidental cost and expenses attending the same. Such apportionment must be duly verified by the Street Commissioner, City Engineer and Surveyor, and ratified and approved by the Board of Contract and Apportionment. The provisions of the Charter in regard to the duties of said Board are numerous, but we have given a synopsis of its most important duties.

The STREET COMMISSIONER appoints, with the approval of the Mayor, two Superintendents of Streets and one Superintendent of Lamps, who shall hold office during the pleasure of the Commissioner. He is entitled to the services of the Clerk of the Board of Contract and Apportionment, when not engaged in the work of said Board. He may also employ, when necessary, not to exceed six day-laborers, to hold their places during his pleasure. Such Superintendents perform such work as shall be required of them by the Street Commissioner. Day-laborers are paid out of the Street Contingent Fund semi-monthly by the Chamberlain.

The Street Commissioner's salary is $3,000 per year; that of the two Superintendents $1,200 per year respectively. The Street Commissioner receives the further sum of $500 per year for the maintenance of a horse and wagon, to be used by him in the discharge of his duties.

If necessary, he has power to employ not to exceed two teams, to be paid out of the Contingent Fund. He has power, from April 1st to November 15th in each year, to employ not to exceed four additional day-laborers. He has charge of lighting the city and to determine the position of lamps, and to see to all defects in the lighting the city.

All the oil, gas and electric lights of the city are supplied under contracts let by the Board of Contract and Apportionment.

CITY ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR.—This officer appoints one deputy engineer and surveyor, with the approval of the Mayor; also one draughtsman and one rodman. These officers hold their office at the pleasure of the City Engineer. This official receives a salary of $3,000 per year. His assistants receive $1,000 per year and the rodman $1,200. The City Engineer and assistants are fence viewers for the city.

The City Engineer makes all surveys, measurements, maps, profiles and diagrams necessary for the taking of any land by right of eminent domain, or for the widening, paving, repaving or otherwise altering or improving any street, avenue, alley, lane, square or lot in the city. He also decides all disputes between owners of land on each side of division fences, touching the method of construction or repairing such fences. The division of the fence between such owners, or the part each is to bear respectively in the expense thereof, shall be decided by the Deputy Engineer and Surveyor.

CITY PHYSICIAN.—It is the duty of this officer to visit the Alms house at least once in each day; to attend and administer medical assistance to the sick in the Alms-house, hospital, pest-house and other permanent or temporary buildings now erected, or hereafter to be erected, on the Alms-house Farm. He appoints one resident physician to assist in the discharge of his duties. He reports on the first day of each month, and oftener if required, to the Mayor, of the condition of the pau-

perism in the Alms-house; the persons admitted to the Pest-house, Lunatic Asylum and Hospital; when sent and by whom. He receives a salary of $1,200 per annum, payable monthly, out of the Alms-house Fund. His assistants receive $200 per annum.

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE ALMS-HOUSE.—This officer has charge and control of the poor and insane committed to the Alms-house, and of the real and personal property used for such purposes, and of the farm and appurtenances belonging to the same. He must give his undivided personal attention to the duties of his office, and cannot engage in any other trade or occupation.

All persons arrested upon charges of insanity shall be sent to the asylum attached to the Albany Alms-house, and it is the duty of the Superintendent of the Alms-house to transfer the said person or persons from the said asylum, when directed so to do by either of the Police Magistrates or the Chief of Police. The Superintendent must reside at the Alms-house in the city. He receives a salary of $2,500 per year and provides his own table and that of his assistants, who reside at the Alms-house, from the money appropriated to the support of the Alms-house.

The OVERSEER OF THE POOR is the chief official connected with the charities of the city. He has the power of appointing one assistant, with the approval of the Mayor. It is one of his duties to make diligent inquiry as to the necessities of the persons applying for relief, and exercise his own judgment in granting or withholding relief. If he knows of any person disabled, sick or enfeebled, so as to be unable to work to maintain himself, with no visible means of support, about to become a public charge, it is the duty of the Overseer to investigate the antecedents of such person, whether he or she has any relatives legally bound to support such person; what his or her last place of residence was; and from what place he or she came into Albany County. If such poor persons have friends legally bound to take care of them, the Overseer institutes proceedings to compel them to take care of them. His salary is $2,000. He can, with the approval of the Mayor, appoint one assistant at a salary of $900 per annum, and may employ one additional assistant at a salary of not more than $50 per month.

The CITY MARSHAL assists the Clerk of the Common Council in the execution of that office. He receives a salary of $1,500 per year.

INSPECTOR OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.—This officer receives no salary from the city. He is, however, entitled to such fees as the Common Council may ordain.

FEES AND SALARIES OF OTHER CITY OFFICERS.—Each City District Physician receive a salary of $400 per year, and shall reside in the district for which he is appointed. The Mayor's Clerks receive respectively $1,500 and $900 a year. The Bell-ringers, $60 each. The two operators of the Lawrence Street Bridge receive, during the season of navigation, such compensation as the Mayor deems sufficient; not to exceed the sum paid by the State of New York for similar services.

TAKING PRIVATE PROPERTY FOR PUBLIC USE.—No part of the Charter of the City of Albany exhibits more wisdom, none more carefully protects the rights, privileges and immunities of the Municipality and the citizens, than that part contained in Title XVII of the Charter, which provides for taking private property for public use. It gives the Common Council, whenever it shall deem it necessary, the right to take, within the city, any ground or real estate, with the appurtenances, belonging to any person or persons, or corporation, for the purpose of laying out, opening, extending, straightening, widening, or altering any street, road, avenue, park, square, wharf or slip; or for the purpose of laying out, constructing or maintaining any drain, sewer, culvert or aqueduct; or for any other public purpose or use. But at the same time it gives property owners an easy, early and equitable mode of obtaining compensation for their lands taken under this section, and for all damages sustained by such taking.

THE GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER.—These are contained in Title XVIII of the Charter, which is divided into sixteen sections, eight of which are provisions for the punishment of city officials for receiving any fees, perquisites, compensation or commission, in addition to their salary, for the performance of any official duty; for the giving of ample security for the faithful performance of their respective duties; for accepting bids or awarding contracts to any person or persons in arrears to the Corporation upon debt or contract, or who is a defaulter, as surety or otherwise, upon any obligation to the Corporation; for the punishment of any person who shall, in manner or form, offer any city official any moneys, goods, rights in action or other property, or anything of value, or any pecuniary advantage, present or prospective, with intent to influence his vote, opinion, or judgment or action on any question, matter, cause or proceeding which may be then pending, or may by law be brought before him in his official capacity. The infraction of this law is punishable by imprisonment in a penitentiary not exceeding two years, or by a fine not exceeding $5,000, or both, at the discretion of the Court. Any member of the Common Council, or other city official, who accepts any such offer for the purpose above mentioned, shall, upon conviction of such an offense, be disqualified from holding office, and imprisoned in a penitentiary not exceeding two years, or by a fine not exceeding $5,000, or both, in the discretion of the Court; or for willfully violating or evading any provision of said Charter; or for swearing false to any material matter in any oath or affirmation required by the same.

Eight of said sections are provisions for the protection of the streets against damages to the city through the negligence occasioned by the use of citizens, on permission of the Common Council to make drains or sewers, culverts or basins—to compel all persons or corporations maintaining a cov-

ering, sluice-way or surface drain at any street crossing, or at the terminus of any street, sluice-way or surface drain, etc., etc., to keep the same in good repair, rendering such citizens alone liable for any damage to person or property directly or indirectly caused by the same.

Section 13 of the said Charter requires every railroad operating by horse-power to clean snow or ice from its track.

Section 14 requires every person presenting bills against the city to use their own names or the names of the firms of which they are members.

Section 15 provides for assessing and taxing all manufacturing corporations, actually located in the city, upon their real and personal property in the same manner as individuals. The personal estate of such corporations shall be assessed in the town or ward where the principal office or place for transacting the financial concerns of the company is situated. If there is no such principal office, then in the town or ward where the operations of such corporations are carried on. The holder of stock in any corporation mentioned in this section cannot be taxed as an individual for stock.

Assessors.—The Board of Assessors of the City are provided with a suitable and convenient office in the City of Albany by the Board of Supervisors of the County, together with the requisite books and stationery, lights and fuel. Their office is to be kept open during the usual days and hours. The books, maps, assessment roll and other papers shall be public records, and at all reasonable times open to inspection. They receive an annual salary of $3,000 each, payable by the Chamberlain in monthly payments. They appoint a clerk, who takes charge of the books, papers, assessment roll and records pertaining to the office. The appointment is in writing, signed by the assessors. The clerk remains in office at their pleasure; his salary is $1,000 per year, payable by the Chamberlain in monthly payments.

Prevention of Fires.—No municipal government in the nation has more wholesome and successful regulations for the prevention of fires than the municipality of Albany, found in Title XX of the City Charter. Every citizen should thoroughly understand this section. The duties of the Fire Commissioners and the police under this title, are full, easily understood and practiced.

Election of City Officers.—The officers of the city, elected by a general ticket at the Charter election, are: The Mayor, Recorder, two Aldermen from the city-at-large, Police Justices, Justices of the Justice Court, Police Commissioners and members of the Board of Public Instruction.

The electors in each ward elect, at each annual Charter election, one Supervisor and one Constable, who shall hold their office for one year. Every second year an Alderman is elected at the Charter election. The annual Charter election is held on the second Tuesday of April in each year, and the municipal year commences on the first Tuesday of May following.

Title XXII repeals all statutes of the State and ordinances of the city inconsistent with the provisions of said Charter.

1884.—A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor; Norman L. Snow, President of Common Council; Norman L. Snow, Robert H. Moore, Aldermen-at-large.

Aldermen: Augustus Whiteman, First Ward; Jeremiah Kieley, Second Ward; Thomas F. Corcoran, Third Ward; James Lyons, Fourth Ward; Thomas E. Dearstyne, Fifth Ward; Galen R. Hitt, Sixth Ward; John Mullon, Seventh Ward; Thomas J. Judge, Eighth Ward; Patrick Cahill, Ninth Ward; James Rooney, Tenth Ward; George R. Tice, Eleventh Ward; Patrick McCann, Twelfth Ward; Samuel C. Harris, Thirteenth Ward; David J. Norton, Fourteenth Ward; James Thornton, Fifteenth Ward; Richard Hunter, Sixteenth Ward; John H. Adams, Seventeenth Ward.

Executive Department: A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor; Henry Bronk, First Clerk; Robert H. Waterman, Second Clerk.

Board of Health: A. B. Banks, *ex officio*, President; Dr. A. Vanderveer, Dr. S. B. Ward, Thomas H. Dwyer, Albert Gallup, R. H. Bingham, John McKenna; Dr. D. V. O'Leary, Health Physician; E. H. Long, Clerk; James Rooney, Lawrence Carey, Edward Brennan, Inspectors.

Board of Audit: A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor; Norman L. Snow, President of Common Council; Charles A. Hills, Chamberlain; Albert Hessberg, Assistant Corporation Counsel; Lewis Balch, City Physician.

NAVIGATION OF THE HUDSON.

THE navigation of the Hudson River to and from Albany, neither in carrying passengers nor in transporting merchandise, amounted to much until after the middle of the preceding century. In 1750, the only vessels used were small sailing crafts or yachts, all of which, says Peter Kalm, belonged to Albany owners. At this time there were no docks or quays for loading the yachts. The vessels came as near the shore as possible, and were reached by means of canoes tied together, and forming a pontoon bridge by boards or planks laid across them. The first stone docks or quays were built by the city in 1766, the Assembly having granted the Corporation the right to use the stone wall built for defense on the north side of the city. The North Dock was constructed nearly opposite the stone wall at the foot of Steuben street, and was eighty feet long and forty broad. The Middle Dock was built at the

foot of Maiden lane, and was eighty feet long and thirty broad. The South Dock was constructed opposite the old City Hall, and was of the same dimensions as the Middle Dock. The city soon after built a fourth dock, which, with the other three, were sold at public auction March 28, 1767, to Gysbert Marselis and John Allen, at a yearly rent of £70, they being permitted to charge wharfage for the use of them.

The principal obstructions to the navigation near this city were the sand-bars or "overslaughs." The first was situated about three miles below Albany, near Mill's Island, and the other, eight miles below Albany, sometimes called Winne's bar. The lower overslaugh had seldom more than eight feet of water upon it, even in the spring-time. In 1787 the Legislature passed an act to remove obstructions at the overslaugh. At this time Henry I. Bogart, Daniel Hale, and Abraham Ten Broeck were appointed commissioners to superintend the work. In 1790 a similar act was passed. Both of these acts simply provided for removing the accumulations of sand on these two bars, a work which afforded merely temporary relief, as each returning spring found a similar deposit of sand on the bars. In 1790, an act was passed which allowed the proprietors of Mill's and Papskinea Islands to erect a dam to prevent the passage of water between them, and thus throw it into the main channel. Between the years 1797 and 1818, $148,707.95 was raised by lottery for improving the navigation of the Hudson. In 1828, the most extensive improvements were made at the overslaugh. The channel was excavated 150 feet in length and 160 in width, affording 10 feet of water at the lowest state of the river. Eleven hundred scow-loads, of 24 cubic yards each, were removed and deposited on the west side of the river. Almost every year the Legislature made an appropriation to improve the navigation of the Hudson. In 1864, over $200,000 was expended for this purpose.

Sloop and Schooner Navigation.—From 1760 to 1770, there were a number of sloops and schooners engaged in carrying on trade between Albany, New York, Boston and several other cities; but, as yet, none had gone to any foreign port. It was not till November 3, 1770, that the sloop Olive Branch, commanded by Captain Abraham Bloodgood, made the first voyage from this port to the West Indies. The account of the Albany merchandise carried on this vessel shows an assorted cargo, consisting of flour, herrings, horses, one negro man, and a great variety of the products of this county. In exchange for which were brought back eighty-one pounds of cotton—a much rarer commodity than now—some cash, and much rum.

These ventures to the West Indies seem to have been more common from Lansingburgh and Hudson, after the revolution, than from Albany, from the fact that the editor of the *Albany Gazette*, in 1790, marveled that the citizens of Albany should remain inactive spectators while their neighbors on the north and south were "participating in all the blessings of this valuable trade."

The most remarkable of all the early expeditions from this port was the voyage of an Albany sloop to China, in 1785. In the fall of this year the sloop Experiment, eighty tons burden, commanded by Captain Stewart Dean, was fitted out for this cruise, which, at this time, was considered a hazardous voyage for so small a craft. She was loaded with an assorted cargo for a regular trading expedition, and was the second adventure from the United States to China, the first expedition having been made from the port of New York, February 22, 1784, in the sloop Empress of China. The Experiment left New York December 18th, and was absent eighteen months. Her return trip was made in four months and twelve days, with a cargo consisting principally of tea, China-ware and silk. Among some of the descendants of the early citizens of Albany, are still treasured as curiosities articles which were brought from China on this singular trip.

It was a matter of surprise to the Europeans, in those seas traversed by the Experiment, to see so small a vessel from a country so remote and unknown. At some of the ports where the sloop landed she was an object of alarm to the inhabitants, who mistook her for a tender to a fleet of men-of-war. On the arrival of the Experiment at New York, April 22, 1787, she was visited by large crowds of citizens, very few of whom had expected her return. Captain Dean made several trips to China after this first trip, and became well known in European ports. He was at one time a resident upon Arbor Hill. Dean street was named for him. He died at an advanced age.

After the successful trip of Captain Dean, the sloop business grew rapidly. April 12, 1791, it was announced in the *Albany Gazette*, as a congratulatory event, that 40 sloops had arrived in this port in one day. That 18 vessels, of which 16 were of from 40 to 80 tons, lay at the port of Lansingburgh, and that the sloop Nancy had performed the trip to New York and back in seven days. In November, of the same year, it was again announced, as an extraordinary occurrence, that 42 sloops, of from 30 to 100 tons, principally above 70, were at anchor in the Albany port.

Among other feats of sloop navigation at this period, we are told that Captain William Van Ingen, of the sloop Cincinnati, sailed from Albany on the 5th December, 1794, and arrived in New York on the 9th, disposed of his cargo, took in a valuable freight, and returned to this port on the 16th.

The examples of speedy voyages which were boasted of in the last century, read a little oddly now. But yet it must be remembered that the sloops, under a good wind, were an even match for the steamboats for a long time after the latter made their appearance on the river. In 1794, a sloop made a journey from Albany to New York and back in little more than four days, including a day and a half stop. This feat was a matter of wonder at the time, and fully up to the time made by the early steamboats.

Many contests of speed, between Albany and New York, took place between the early steam-

boats and the sloops, in which the latter were frequently victorious.

In 1795, about ninety sloops, of about seventy tons each, were engaged in the Albany trade. Half of them were owned in Albany, and the remainder in New York.

Ten voyages, or twenty trips, were the average number per annum. These vessels were each navigated by a crew of four persons, consisting of a captain, a pilot, a seaman, and a cook. At this time wharfage was sold by the Corporation at $2.50 per foot, and an annual rent of $8.12½.

Shortly after the trip of the Experiment to China, it was mentioned that an Albany sloop, of forty tons, had twice visited the Cape of Good Hope without loss, which was considered the most difficult and dangerous part of the route to China.

In 1800, five Albany capitalists formed a company and built the sloop Experiment, to be used as a packet boat between Albany and New York, for carrying passengers. In 1807, they built another sloop to be used for the same purpose. These sloops proved very profitable at first, but were finally driven from the river by the steamboats. They were sold, and abandoned as passenger boats in 1813.

In 1813, there were 206 sloops engaged in the Albany trade. In 1838, this number had been increased to 249 sloops and 129 schooners, of a total tonnage of 20,634. In 1848, 331 sloops were engaged in the trade, and 284 schooners, representing a tonnage of over 40,000.

The following shows the number of vessels, with their tonnage, documented at the Port of Albany for the quarter ending June 30, 1885:

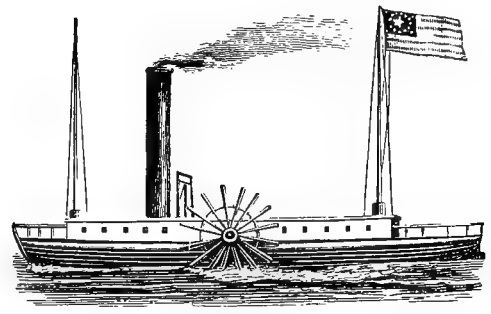
	Tonnage.
53 sailing vessels.....	3,832.66
113 steam "	23,692.68
175 canal boats.....	16,767.11
86 barges	16,968.63
427	61,261.07

The above report represents the number of vessels engaged in trade belonging to owners within the territory between Newburgh and Rouse's Point, and does not include all the vessels which visit the Port of Albany, many of which are registered at other ports.

STEAMBOATS.

An account of the progress of steam navigation on the Hudson, with which Albany is so intimately identified, and a history of the boats themselves, and the experiments of the energetic men who built and controlled them since the days of Fulton's triumph in 1807, would fill a volume. The Hudson River will always occupy a commanding place in history, not solely for its grand scenery, but as being associated with that successful experiment with steam navigation which resulted so gloriously. Here was launched the pioneer of that host of floating palaces that now enliven every navigable river in the world, and plow the waters of every sea.

The Clermont, the first practical steamboat in the world, was built by Robert Fulton, and first shown to be a successful sailing craft in August, 1807. As originally constructed, she was 100 feet long, 12 wide, and 7 deep. In 1808 she was lengthened to 150 feet, and widened to 18 feet, and had her name changed to the North River.



The Clermont.

The first advertisement of the steamboat in the *Albany Gazette*, dated September 2, 1807, was as follows:

"The north river steamboat will leave Paulus' Hook Ferry [now Jersey City] on Friday, the 4th of September, at nine in the morning, and arrive at Albany on Saturday, at nine in the afternoon. Provisions, good berths, and accommodation are provided.

"The charge to each passenger is as follows:

" To Newburg,	$3,	time,	14 hours.
" Poughkeepsie,	4,	"	17 "
" Esopus,	5,	"	20 "
" Hudson,	5½,	"	30 "
" Albany,	7,	"	36 "

In a supplement to the *Gazette* of September 7, 1807, is the following notice of that important event—the arrival of the first steamboat:

"This morning, at six o'clock, Mr. Fulton's steamboat left the ferry stairs at Courtland street dock for Albany. She is to make her passage in 36 hours from the time of her departure, touching at Newburg, Poughkeepsie, Esopus, and Hudson on the way. The steamboat arrived at Albany on Saturday afternoon, and this morning at nine o'clock again departed for New York, with about forty ladies and gentlemen."

Thus insignificantly was announced the commencement of the career of the steamboat, which has revolutionized the water travel of the world.

The Clermont continued her trips with great exactness till October 1st, on which day it was announced in the New York *Evening Post* that the steamboat had arrived from Albany in twenty-eight hours, with sixty passengers! The same paper of October 2, contained the following notice:

"Mr. Fulton's newly-invented steamboat, which is fitted up in a neat style for passengers, and is intended to run from New York to Albany as a packet, left here this morning with ninety passengers, against a strong head wind, notwithstanding which it was judged that she moved through the water at the rate of six miles an hour."

At this time, although the time promised in the advertisement was thirty-six hours, her trips were usually performed in less than thirty.

In the spring of 1808, the Clermont made her appearance, as before stated, entirely remodeled and enlarged. Her accommodations were ample for over one hundred passengers. In her original construction she had a strange appearance. Her paddle-wheels were without houses, and cross-heads connected with the pistons, instead of the walking beams now in use. A countryman who first saw her at Hudson, told his wife he had seen the devil going to Albany in a saw-mill. Shortly after the successful trip of the Clermont was made, a company was formed called the North River Steamboat Company, but generally known as the Fulton Line, to which the Legislature granted the exclusive right to navigate the Hudson River by steam. This company in 1809 built the Car of Neptune, 295 tons. From this date to 1817, the Hope, Perseverance, Paragon, Richmond, Firefly, and Chancellor Livingston were placed upon the river by the Fulton Line. The last of the boats, the Chancellor Livingston, was the largest by over 150 tons of any boat which had been yet used, having a carrying capacity of 495 tons. The Chancellor Livingston in 1821 brought up a band of music for the entertainment of her passengers. This was the first introduction of that peculiar attraction on the North River boats.

In 1824, the Fulton Line put two more steamers on the river—the James Kent and the Saratoga. October 29, 1821, the Chancellor Livingston grounded on the overslaugh and remained there twenty-nine hours. The editor of the *Daily Advertiser* in speaking of this event, called upon the citizens to exert themselves to deepen the channel, lest the canal which was fast approaching the city should be carried down below these obstructions.

In 1821, the fare from Albany to New York had been advanced to $8. In 1819, the Fulton Line carried 16,000 passengers, the company paying $1 each to the State for canal purposes.

At this time, and until the pier was built, the steamboat landing was at the foot of Lydius street, now Madison avenue. The pier was used for this purpose until 1878, when the present landing place was established. Until the present improvements were made in the channel of the river at the overslaugh, it often happened that the river was so low that the boats were unable to come within three miles of Albany. In such cases it was the practice to go down to the steamers on the Greenbush side in stages.

For many years preceding 1824, no subject was more generally discussed among Hudson River boatmen than the injustice of the exclusive right granted by the Legislature to the Fulton Line Company to navigate the Hudson by steam. The validity of this right was finally contested in the courts. In March, 1824, the decisions of the Supreme Court made the navigation of the Hudson free, and abrogated the rights of the North River Steamboat Company, and affirmed the rights of others to navigate the river from certain points with vessels impelled by steam. Soon after the rendering of the decision in 1824, the Union Line was started in opposition to the old line, and the first year of its existence built and began to run the Olive Branch, United States, William Penn, Bristol, and Sandusky.

In 1825, the Hudson River Line was established, and in this year placed the Constitution, Constellation, and Chief-Justice Marshall on the river, and in 1827–29 added to the list of their steamers the Independence, Ohio, and Sun. The latter boat was the first that ever made the trip from Albany to New York from sun to sun, all other boats up to this date requiring from fourteen to fifteen hours to make the trip.

The bursting of the boiler of the Constitution in 1825, when opposite Poughkeepsie, created much distrust in the safety of steamboats, and led to the use of safety barges, and in 1826 the barges Lady Clinton and Lady Van Rensselaer were built. They were towed by the steamboats Commerce and Swiftsure. Both were fitted up exclusively for passengers. For safety and comfort they were unequaled by the steamboats of this period, but lacking speed they soon became unfashionable and went out of general use, although several are still used as excursion boats.

The North River Line was established in 1826 by John and Robert Stevenson. The boats used by this company between 1826 and 1828 were the New Philadelphia—the first boat that ever had boilers on the guards—the Albany, North America, Victory and De Witt Clinton. The De Witt Clinton was the first steamboat entirely built at Albany. She was 380 tons burden, and made her first trip September 29, 1828.

In 1827 a new steamboat, called the Emerald, commenced running between Albany and New York, but to what line she belonged we are unable to say. About this time there appeared the following article in the *Daily Advertiser:* "One who is not an eye-witness of the fact can scarcely imagine the number of persons who daily arrive at and depart from this city in steamboats, and the vast quantity of produce that is shipped from our wharves and conveyed to market by steam and wind. Last Sunday evening [August 26th] within one hour there arrived six steamboats with passengers, three of these having in tow barges, each with freight and passengers. Together they must have landed some 1,600 passengers. There never were more sloops than at present employed on the river, and they all go hence fully freighted."

The South America was also in use at this time. She was one of the largest steamers plying on the Hudson at this date, being 266 feet long, of 640 tons, cost $83,000, and was furnished with 294 berths and had accommodations for 450 persons.

The Reindeer was also a celebrated craft at this period, and considered a model of beauty, and, in the language of a writer of this date, was a "steamer which might challenge comparison with anything that swims, beginning with a naiad and leaving off with a dolphin."

In 1832 the Troy Line was established with the Champlain and Erie, the former of which was furnished with two engines and four boilers.

At this same period the steamboat Novelty was engaged in carrying passengers. She had a high-pressure boiler, and was the first to use coal for fuel.

About 1833 the North River Line, the Hudson River Line and Troy Line consolidated and formed the Hudson River Association Line. This company ran a day and night line. The steamers Albany, Champlain, Erie and Novelty were used as day boats, and the North America, Clinton and Ohio as night boats.

The People's Line was established in 1834 as a day line and as an opposition to the Hudson River Association. The late Cornelius Vanderbilt was largely interested in this venture. The first boat used was the West Chester, which was followed, in 1835, by the Nimrod and Champion.

In 1835 the People's Line was sold to the Hudson River Association for $100,000 and $10,000 yearly for ten years. But in 1836 the People's Line was revived as a night line by Daniel Drew, who purchased the West Chester and Emerald. During this same year the Rochester was built by this company, and in the following year the Utica. In 1844 the Knickerbocker was built, in 1845 the Henry Hudson, in 1846 the Isaac Newton, in 1864 the St. John, in 1866 the Dean Richmond, and in 1867 the Drew.

The present day line of steamers was started by John McBride Davidson in 1864, who bought the Drew and Armenia. In 1866 the Chauncey Vibbard was put upon the river by this line, and in 1881 the Albany. This line at present use the steamers Albany and Daniel Drew, while the night line employ the Drew and Dean Richmond.

At frequent periods of steam navigation the competition between the several lines has been very great. In 1837 this was especially true. One night several boats would leave, crowded to suffocation, at fifty cents a head; the next night a solitary boat would depart at three dollars a head.

The conveyances by water between this city and neighboring ports have been brought to the highest perfection. The steamers that ply between Albany and New York may be properly termed floating palaces, affording all the elegant accommodations of a first-class hotel. In 1800 it was the boast of a sloop captain in Albany that he had received $1,675 for carrying passengers in one year; now this would hardly be considered a large receipt for one day.

THE PIER.—After the completion of the Erie Canal, the necessity of a basin where canal boats and other smaller crafts could be safely stored, was apparent. To provide such a place in Albany Harbor, the Legislature authorized the construction of a pier. This was begun April 5, 1823, and completed in 1824. It is 4,400 feet long, 80 feet wide and 20 feet high, and cost $130,000. It incloses a basin of about 32 acres, capable of harboring 1,000 canal boats and 50 vessels of a larger class. July 27, 1824, the Pier was divided into 132 lots and sold at public auction. In this way $199,410 was realized, each lot ranging from $1,200 to $2,625. The Pier is now covered with valuable warehouses and stores, and is reached by two bridges. The opening in the Pier at the foot of Maiden lane was authorized in 1836. The Pier affords an extensive wharfage, while the docks or quays now extend almost two miles along the Albany shore of the river.

TOWING LINES.—As soon as canal navigation began to assume much proportion, the business of towing boats from Albany with steamboats became very lucrative. For many years it was done by tugs or steamboats owned by private individuals, but in 1848 the Schuyler Steamboat Tow Line was started, and now employs eighteen boats, used exclusively for towing canal-boats. Thomas Schuyler is President of this line, and T. V. Wolcott, Secretary.

The Cornell Steamboat Company was started about the same time as the Schuyler Line. This company has only a branch office at Albany, the principal business being done between Rondout and New York. Between the latter places not only towing is done by this company, but three passenger boats are run, being the City of Kingston, Mary Powell, and the Cook. About seventeen propellers and steamers are used by this line. Thomas Cornell is President of this Company, and S. D. Coyendell, Vice-President.

The Ronan Towing Line was started in 1885, and now employs four propellers.

ALBANY FERRIES.

The exclusive rights of ferriage across the Hudson between the original four wards of the city and the opposite shore of Greenbush, was vested in the Corporation of Albany by the Dongan Charter of 1868. By the present City Charter the power, right, and privilege of the Corporation is expressed in the following language: "The right of ferry granted by the Charter of the said city to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty thereof, should be so construed as to vest in the said City of Albany the sole and exclusive right of establishing, licensing, and regulating all ferries on each side of the Hudson River, leading from Greenbush, opposite the east bounds of the original four wards of the said city, to the said city, and from the four original wards of the said city to Greenbush."

The first ferry across the Hudson at this point was established in 1642. By some authorities it is said to be the oldest in the United States. The landing on the Albany side was at a point a little north of the Bever Kill, which flowed into the river where now is the eastern termination of Arch street. The Greenbush landing was directly opposite this point.

The first ferry-boat was a rude scow, propelled by hand by means of poles. This was used for the transportation of teams and wagons, while a simple boat or a batteau was employed in carrying passengers. The first ferry-master was Hendrick Albertsen, who died in 1648-49. He built the

first ferry-house erected on the Albany side of the river. Albertsen was succeeded by Jacob Janse Stall, who came to Beverwyck in 1630. He remained as ferry-master until 1657, when he removed to Esopus.

The history of this early period fails to show that, at this date, any consideration was demanded by either the Dutch or English proprietors for the right of ferriage. Even many years after the Dongan Charter, no record exists in the Common Council proceedings proving that the ferry rights granted the city were considered of such value to the Corporation as to demand remuneration for their use. But later the city took exclusive charge of the Greenbush ferry; established the rates of ferriage; made regulations governing the means of conducting it; and decided who should have the right to run it.

In 1754 the following rates of ferriage were adopted by the Common Council:

For every person, if single.....	3 coppers
" " " if more than one...	2 "
" " " head of cattle.....	9 "
" " " cwt. of beaver or skins.	4 "

The ferry-masters to run their boats from sunrise to eight in the evening.

At this time the ferry was in charge of Barnardus Bradt and Johannes Ten Broeck, who had paid the city £5 for its use. From this date until 1786 the names of Barnardus Bradt, Harme Gansevoort, Philip John Schuyler, Johannis Ten Broeck, John Courtney, John Bromley, Thomas Lotridge, Dirck Hansen, and Baltus Van Benthuysen appear as ferry-masters at different times. It was the custom of the Common Council to advertise a certain day when the right of ferriage would be sold to the lowest bidder. From 1754 to 1786 the amount paid for this privilege ranged from £5 to £130, the latter amount being paid in 1786. In 1786 the Corporation issued a schedule of ferry rates as follows:

Man or horse, ox or cow.....	9d.
A calf or hog.....	2 coppers.
A sheep or lamb.....	2 "
For every wagon, or two horses with its loading, providing the same remains on the wagon	2s.
For every cart or wagon drawn by four horses or oxen, with or without loading.....	3s.
And 6d. for every ox or horse above that number.	
For every chaise or chair or horse....	1s. 6d.
" full chest or trunk.....	4 coppers.
" empty " "	2 "
" barrel rum, sugar, molasses, full barrel.....	4 "

During 1786 a new ferry-house, 40 by 50 feet, was built by Baltus Van Benthuysen, who was to reimburse himself at the rate of £150 per annum, the yearly rent of the ferry. Up to this time no longer lease than three years was granted by the Corporation, and it was the common practice to lease each side of the river to separate individuals.

Until about 1817 the only kind of ferry-boat used at the South Ferry was an ordinary scow, guided by means of a rope stretched across the river, to which the scow was attached by a rope and pulley, the boat being propelled by hand. About this time what was known as the horse ferry-boat came into use at the South Ferry. This kind of boat was peculiar to America, and of most singular construction. A platform covered a wide, flat boat. Underneath the platform was a large, horizontal, solid wheel, which extended to the side of the boat. Here the platform or deck was cut through and removed, so as to afford sufficient room for two horses to stand on the flat surface of the wheel, one horse on each side, and parallel to the gunwale of the boat. The horses were harnessed in the usual manner for teams, the whiffletree being attached to stout horizontal iron bars, fixed, at a proper hight, into posts, which were a part of the fixed portions of the boat. The horses looked in opposite directions, one to the bow, the other to the stern; their feet took hold of channels or grooves cut in the wheel. As they pressed forward, although they did not advance, their feet caused the horizontal wheel to advance in a direction opposite to that of their own apparent motion. The motion of this wheel, by a connection of cogs, moved two vertical wheels on each side of the boat, similar to the paddle-wheels of steamboats, producing the same effect, and propelling the boat forward. The inventor of this kind of boat was Mr. Langdon, of Whitehall.

The number of horses on the first boat used was two only, but this was governed by the size of the boat. As business increased at the ferry, larger boats were required. In 1825 as many as twelve horses were used on the boat at the South Ferry.

In 1827 the subject of procuring a steamboat for the South Ferry began to be agitated. John Townsend, a member of the Common Council, was especially prominent in connection with this scheme, and procured the passage of a resolution to purchase a steamboat. At a meeting held June 6, 1827, a short time subsequent to the passage of this resolution, an attempt was made to have the act reconsidered. Estimates were offered to show the economy of horses over steamboats, but Townsend succeeded in defeating the opponents of steam ferry-boats. In 1828 the Chancellor Lansing was purchased, and began to ply between Albany and Greenbush.

At the time of the advent of the horse-boats, the South Ferry was leased to "One-armed" Bradt, for a term of ten years. He was succeeded, in 1828, by Benjamin Patrick, who remained for two years, succeeded by George Stanwix. Stanwix was succeeded in 1846 by Lansing D. Able. Samuel Schuyler became Ferry-master in 1854, succeeded by McEvoy & Moore in 1864. The last Ferry-master at the South Ferry was George Marks, who leased the ferry in 1874, and remained in that position until the right of ferriage was sold by the city to the Greenbush Bridge Company. This company, in 1876, began the construction of a bridge at this point and completed it in 1882.

At several periods in the history of the South Ferry, the city authorities, instead of leasing it, employed a Ferry-master and kept it entirely within

Joseph Mather.

their control. In 1805 it was conducted in this way. In the papers of this year an announcement was made that the Corporation had licensed James Wynkoop to conduct the ferry, "that he had good scows and boats, and that he would employ only sober and obliging ferry-men." The rates of ferriage were announced to be as follows:

Foot passengers	2	cents.
Man and horse	6	"
Wagon and two horses	12½	"
" loaded with firewood	4	"
Chair, sulky or chaise	12½	"
Each saddle-horse	6	"
Mail stage, two horses	25	"
Each additional horse	3	"
Horse and cart	6	"

Double ferriage from one hour after sunrise to day-break, except for the mail carriages.

After the revolution, business began to increase rapidly at the South Ferry, and in 1792 it was leased to Mr. Wendell for the sum of $5,890, whereas only ten years previous it had only yielded a revenue of a trifle over £100. In 1830 the receipts of the ferry amounted to nearly $9,000.

The last boat used at the South Ferry was the John Adams.

The North Ferry, now in operation between this city and Bath, with a landing in Albany at the foot of North Ferry street, was established many years after the Greenbush Ferry, and, as near as can be ascertained, during the first quarter of the last century. It was originally outside of the city limits, that point being, until 1815, in the town of Colonie. The territory along the river where a landing was made, belonged to the Van Rensselaer grant, which included all ferry privileges. By the early Patroons the right of ferriage was leased for a certain sum, and the heirs of their estate still retain exclusive control of the ferry rights at this point.

For many years batteaux were the only kind of boats used at this ferry. Even a rope-scow was not used until about 1800. A horse-boat was first used about 1831. A steam ferry-boat was first employed in 1841. The business done at the North Ferry was light compared with that at the South Ferry. For many of the early years not much can be learned of those who operated it. Among them were Clark & Van Alstyne and John Vandenburgh. About 1840, William P. Van Rensselaer, son of the old Patroon, took charge of it himself, and for two years employed a ferryman. With this exception it has been leased. For a number of years the Dearstyne brothers (James, Samuel and Cornelius) operated this ferry. They were succeeded by Samuel Schuyler, whom Fitchett & Smith succeeded. It is now leased by the firm of Costello & Kiernan.

The Boston and Albany Ferry was established in 1842 by the Boston and Albany Railroad, and runs from a point a little north of Maiden lane to the depot of this company in Bath. Before the railroad bridge was built this was a very important ferry, all the freight for the Boston and Albany Railroad being taken across the river at this point.

Since the South Ferry has been abandoned, a small tug-boat has been employed in carrying passengers from the foot of State street to Greenbush and Bath.

The following are the most serious accidents that ever occurred at these ferries: In 1807, the scow which was used at the South Ferry was swamped and thirty-three persons were drowned. In 1852, the boat of the Boston and Albany Ferry upset. At the time it contained fifteen or twenty persons, all but five of whom were drowned.

JOSEPH MATHER.

Joseph Mather, familiarly known as Captain Mather, came from the old colonial family of that name, being a lineal descendant of the Rev. Richard Mather, who was grandfather of the celebrated Rev. Cotton Mather. This family furnished ministers for three generations to the Old North Church in Boston—the Revs. Increase, Cotton and Samuel, whose united ministries covered a period of one hundred and twenty-five years. The Rev. Increase Mather was one of the earliest Presidents of Harvard College, and the first one in this country upon whom the title of D.D. was conferred.

Joseph Mather was born at Lyme, Conn., May 8, 1800. While he was yet a mere boy, his parents removed from his native place to Otsego County, N. Y. In so doing they sailed up the Hudson River, the beauty of whose scenery so impressed the youth, that he at the time formed and expressed a determination to become actively engaged in the navigation of the Hudson when he should become older. This early resolve was one which he never forgot, as subsequent events proved.

With his father's family he removed from Otsego County to a portion of Ontario County, which has since been set off to form Livingston County, where he passed his youth.

He was yet a very young man when he came to Albany, and connected himself with the river navigation. For many years he commanded a sloop which plied between Albany, New York, and intermediate points. It was during this period that he came to be known by the title "Captain," which clung to him all his life, to his often expressed distaste. Later, as a member of the firm of Greene & Mather, he was engaged in the towing business, the line being known as the Eckford Line, and having its office on Quay street, about where the Dunlop elevator has since stood.

Something over thirty years ago, when the New York Central Railroad Company established a station at West Albany, Captain Mather was selected by Hon. Erastus Corning as agent; and, much against his inclination, was prevailed upon to accept the position, which he foresaw would be one involving great responsibity. A business was to be built up at West Albany, and whether it was more than a measurably successful one would depend largely upon the energy, enterprise and application of the agent in charge. The success which at-

tended Mr. Mather's administration was remarkable. His time of service embraced a period during which West Albany grew from the smallest beginning to its present importance, both commercially and in point of population. His habits and physique gave him robust health, and his life was singularly free from many of the ills which afflict the majority of men. As advancing years came upon him, he delegated some of his most onerous duties to another, but he retained his position and exercised a pleasant supervision over the business of the station. It was his wish that he might "die in the harness." This wish was literally fulfilled. While hastening to board a car at the corner of State and Pearl streets, February 25, 1884, he fell in crossing the street and expired almost instantly. It was the opinion of physicians present that his death was caused by concussion of the brain. He was then past eighty-three, and so lightly did his years rest upon him, that he was as erect and apparently as vigorous as he had been twenty years before. He was one of the most genial and sociable of men; and for years his had been a familiar figure to the residents of Albany, where no man was more widely acquainted or more highly esteemed. His loss was felt deeply, not merely in his own family circle, but by men of all classes who had come to regard him as friend or benefactor. No man ever enjoyed in a higher degree the confidence of his fellow-citizens. It was remarked by a prominent resident of Albany after his death, that he had been one of whom all his acquaintances were proud—a man of unflinching devotion to right, with no compromise with wrong; a man who had handled $170,000,000 for a great corporation and promptly accounted for every cent of that immense sum.

Mr. Mather was married in Lima, Livingston County, N. Y., to Miss Chianna Brockway, of that town, in 1819. They walked hand in hand adown the pathway of life for sixty-one years, to be temporarily separated by Mrs. Mather's death on the 26th of December, 1880, only a little more than three years before the death of Mr. Mather. They left two surviving childen, a son, Frederick W. Mather, now a resident of New York, and Mrs. George W. Gibbons, of West Albany. Baptized into the Episcopal Church at an early age, by the celebrated Father Nash, of Otsego County, he was identified more or less closely with that religious body ever afterward.

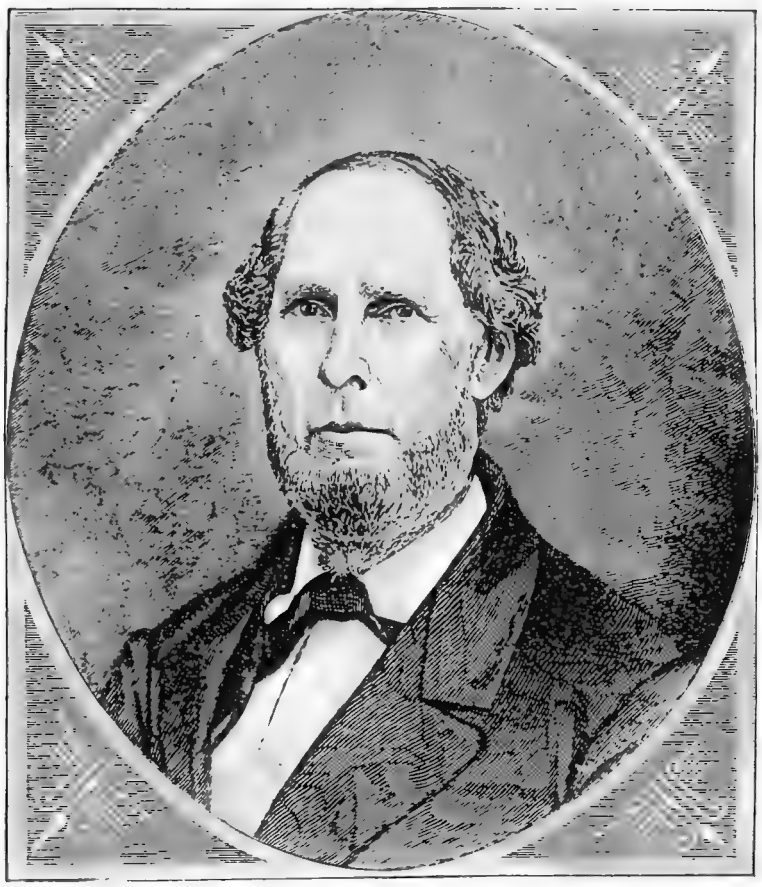
Early in manhood, Captain Mather became an adherent to the principles of the great Whig party of the United States. He was one of those who felt the deep importance of the transition which culminated in the organization of the Republican party. He became an earnest and active supporter of the war, throwing his influence in favor of the suppression of the Southern rebellion, and aiding the Northern cause by every means in his power, sending his son into the thickest of the fight. He was not, in the common acceptation of the time, which is often a term of reproach, a politician; but no man watched the course of events more closely than he, and none with more intelligent solicitude for the public weal. Open-hearted he was; open-handed and helpful in all good causes. He was wisely benevolent, and many a man in Albany is glad to say that he owes his start in life, his advancement, his position, to Captain Mather.

WALTER WINNE.

The well known barge and transportation line of Winne & Co. recalls to the citizens of Albany, especially to such of them as are engaged in commerce, the name of Walter Winne, its founder. There are few of the old-time merchants of the city who have not personal recollections of Mr. Winne, who was born in Albany, September 10, 1815, and died September 26, 1871. He was a son of Francis D. and Cornelia (Groesbeck) Winne. The Winnes are a family both numerous and highly esteemed throughout Albany County at the present time; and the Groesbecks were among the early settlers along the Hudson, and, generations back, had numerous representatives in Albany.

Deprived of the protecting care of a father at an early age, young Winne was compelled to shift for himself from a period in life at which most such boys are laying the foundation of an education. He became a cabin boy on board a vessel which navigated the Hudson His sterling qualities manifested themselves, and he was advanced gradually until he became master of a vessel. But even this, then, responsible and important position did not satisfy him. He saved a little money, and, with a friend, also a very young man, who had saved a little more, became joint owners of a vessel. They immediately engaged earnestly and industriously in the transportation of lumber. This partnership soon terminated, and Mr. Winne became sole owner of the business, in which he continued successfully until his death, and which is now carried on, by members of his family chiefly, under the firm name of Winne & Co. Gradually he established a line of large barges which plied between Albany and the most important Eastern ports. During the War of the Rebellion he was quite largely engaged in the transportation of raw cotton.

Mr. Winne was married January 1, 1838, to Miss Harriet E. Rouse, of Pittstown, Rensselaer County, N. Y., who survives him. They became the parents of ten children, of whom seven are living. He was a quiet, unassuming, earnest man, who attended strictly, and to the exclusion of other general interests, to his growing business. His interest in public affairs was intelligent; but he never mixed in politics, though he favored and voted with the Republican party. He was for about thirty years a member of the Methodist Church, and for some time a trustee of the old Hudson avenue Church of that denomination. About two years before his death he became a member of the First Congregational Church of Albany. The same earnestness which characterized him in business was manifested in his relations with his brethren in the Church. He was zealous, active, liberal and thoughtful. He was charitable as well, helpful to the struggling, and more than generous to the deserving poor.



Walter Winne.

ALBANY BRIDGES ACROSS THE HUDSON.

The first bridge over the Hudson in the vicinity of Albany was completed in December, 1804. It spanned the river at Waterford, and was 800 feet in length, 33 feet in its greatest hight, and 30 feet in width. At that time it was considered a model of architecture.

In January, 1814 the subject of building a bridge across the Hudson was largely agitated. It was bitterly opposed by Troy, whose citizens insisted that the construction of a bridge at Albany would obstruct the navigation of the river from their city.

The introduction of a bill into the Legislature providing for the construction of the bridge over the Hudson at Albany, led to a bitter fight in the Assembly. March 11, 1814, Mr. Harmanus Bleecker, from the special committee on this bridge, reported adversely to the project. Early in January, 1831, the matter was agitated again, without any particular result.

On February 4, 1835, a meeting was held at the Eagle Tavern to consider the project of a bridge across the Hudson, and a committee of thirty was appointed to draw up a petition. No decisive action was taken. On February 11, 1836, another meeting was held at the City Hall to consider the project of a bridge over the Hudson. Erastus Corning presided. Resolutions and memorials were of no avail in the Legislature. On March 11, 1836, the Assembly Committee reported adversely to the bridge project, causing great indignation among the citizens of Albany.

After this defeat, the question of a bridge did not rest. It was continually agitated in the local papers and otherwise until January 30, 1841, when another meeting of the citizens was held at the Young Men's Association rooms. The Mayor presided, and the meeting was addressed by General Samuel Stevens and Hon. John V. L. Pruyn.

A bill in the Legislature met the usual opposition from Troy and the ferry companies at Albany. On March 26, 1841, the Assembly Committee on the Albany bridge over the Hudson reported adversely. But at last the Hudson is spanned at Albany by three great bridges.

The Hudson River Bridge Company was incorporated April 9, 1856, for the purpose of erecting and maintaining a bridge, for the purpose of railroad travel and transportation, across the Hudson River from some proper point on the westerly side or shore of said river, in the City of Albany, to some proper point on the opposite side or shore of the said river, in the County of Rensselaer. The site was to be determined upon by the Commissioners, among whom was Moses H. Grinnell, of New York, Chairman; J. D. Monell, of Hudson; Palmer V. Kellogg, Utica; Jacob Gould, Rochester; James W. Wadsworth, Geneseo; Albert H. Tracy, Buffalo.

On the 2d of February, 1856, a remonstrance against passing an act authorizing the building of the bridge, signed by over four thousand citizens of Albany, was presented to the Legislature, notwithstanding which the above-described bill was passed.

The capital stock was $500,000. The bridge was to be constructed at an elevation of at least twenty-five feet above common tide water, so as to allow under it the free passage of canal-boats and barges without masts, with a draw of sufficient width to admit the free passage of the largest vessels navigating the river.

An act was passed April 28, 1868, relating to the Hudson River Bridge Company, directing the bridge erected to be demolished and a new one constructed by the same company. It directed that a bridge be constructed across the Hudson, at or near the foot of Exchange street, Albany, to some suitable point on the eastern bank of said river to be selected by the said Bridge Company. The act directs "the new bridge to be constructed, maintained, used, and enjoyed in all respects as provided by the act entitled, 'An Act Authorizing the Construction of a Bridge Across the Hudson at Albany,' passed April 9, 1856, except in so far as they are modified and amended by this act." The act provided, that as soon as the bridge was ready for trains and foot passengers, carriages, etc., to pass, the Bridge Company should demolish and entirely remove the other bridge, and that if the company failed to demolish it entirely, the Common Council of the City of Albany or the City of Troy, should have a right to cause the bridge to be demolished and removed at the expense of the Bridge Company.

It also provided, that before commencing the erection of the new bridge, the Hudson River Bridge Company, the New York Central Railroad Company, the Hudson River Railroad Company, and the Boston and Albany Railroad Company, stockholders in the Hudson River Bridge Company, "shall jointly and severally execute and deliver a bond to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of Troy, and the same Board of the City of Albany, in the penalty of at least $600,000. Conditioned for the removal of the old bridge and the piers thereof, and to completely restore the navigation of the river at that point, within nine months after the crossing of the first train of cars over the new bridge."

By an act passed May 10, 1869, the Hudson River Bridge Company was authorized to build another bridge across the Hudson, at a hight not less than that of the previous ones, and upon a line to be selected by the said company, beginning on some point on the west side of the river between State street and Maiden lane, and from thence across the river. Said company was clothed with all the privileges and powers used or enjoyed by it in reference to the construction, maintenance, use, and enjoyed by the bridge described under the act authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Hudson at Albany, passed April 9, 1856, so far as they were applicable to the new bridge. The capital stock of the company was increased to $2,000,000. The Act of 1856 appears to be the foundation law of the bridges now crossing the river at Albany.

On April 18, 1872, the Legislature passed an act authorizing the construction of a bridge across the

Hudson at Albany, and incorporating the Albany and Greenbush Bridge Company, for the purpose of erecting and maintaining a toll bridge; for travel and transportation across the Hudson River from some point on the westerly side at Albany to some point on the opposite side in Greenbush.

The site was determined by Commissioners Thomas W. Alcott, Charles Van Benthuysen, Volkert P. Douw, of Albany, James M. Ring, of Greenbush, Alexander Morris, J. T. Davis and John H. Pratt, of East Greenbush. The bridge was to be constructed at least twenty feet above common tide-water, and with a draw of one hundred feet in width.

On April 23, 1872, the Legislature passed an act authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Hudson at the City of Troy, incorporating the Troy and West Troy Bridge Company.

Acts to compel the maintenance of lights on swing-bridges across the river were passed by the Legislature, June 1, 1880.

The time when these three bridges were completed, their equipments, and general description of them, is given in "Phelps' Hand-book of Albany," as follows:

"The first or upper bridge, now used exclusively for freight trains, was opened February 22, 1866, after thirty years of the most steadfast opposition, Troy taking the lead. It is doubtful, however, whether the bridges have really injured that city a dollar; but they certainly have had a depressing effect upon some kind of business in Albany, carting especially. Before the bridges were erected, all trains had to be unloaded in this city, and the work then involved was very great; but now freight goes through, without breaking bulk, from New York to San Francisco. The upper bridge is supported by twenty-one stone piers. The bridge proper is 1,953 feet long, and with the trestle-work 4,253 feet. Its cost, including necessary purchases of real estate, was $1,100,000.

"The middle bridge, also for railroads, is 1,940 feet long, or, with approaches, 2,665 feet, that is, twenty-five feet over half a mile. The spans number twenty-two. The draw weighs about 400 tons. Work of construction began in May, 1870, and the bridge was first used in 1872. The total cost of the two bridges was $2,532,357.43, of which the Central Hudson paid $1,173,133.80; the Boston and Albany, $351,485; the rest by the companies who have had the earnings of the bridges.

"Over sixty men are employed upon them. The toll on both bridges for foot passengers is three cents; fifty tickets for one dollar.

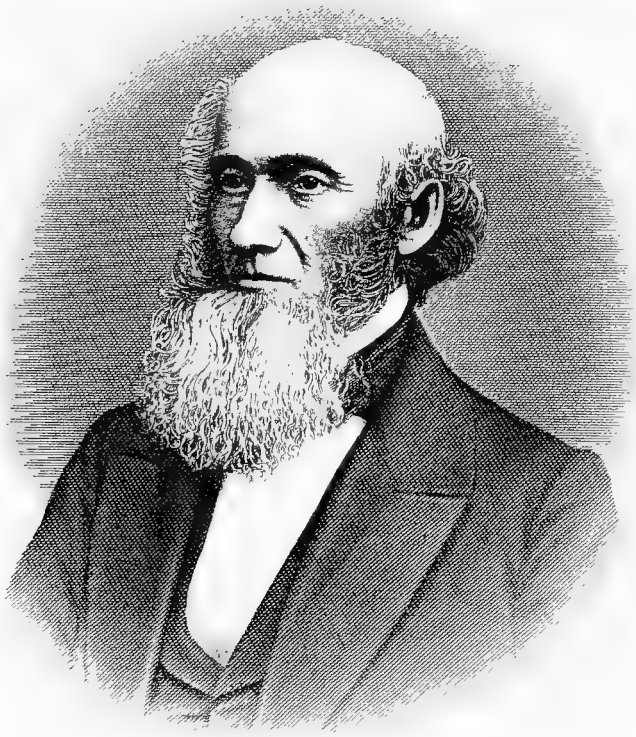
"A third bridge across the river was begun in 1876, but for several years progressed very slowly, except in litigation, of which there was plenty. It was finally completed, and opened for teams and foot passengers January 24, 1882. It is at South Ferry street, below the steamboat landing. Its length, including approaches, is 1,669 feet, twenty-nine feet above low-water mark. The draw, 400 feet long, weighs 1,500 tons, and is worked by a thirty horse-power engine. It is owned by the Albany and Greenbush Bridge Company. Tolls are charged as follows: Foot passengers, two cents; double teams, fifteen cents; single teams, ten cents. It will eventually be used as a railroad bridge, the top being arranged with that in view."

SQUIRE WHIPPLE, C. E.

Is an Honorary Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers; inventor of the Whipple iron bridges; and the first to introduce and successfully practice the construction of iron truss bridges. He was born in Worcester County, Mass., September 16, 1804. His father, James Whipple, followed the occupation of farming for the most of his life; and, starting without inherited capital, by industry and prudent management, aided by a careful and energetic partner of his fortunes, he raised a numerous family in comfort and respectability. But of course it was necessary for the several members of the household to make themselves useful according to their strength and abilities, and Mr. Whipple, to the age of about twenty, spent his years mostly in farm labor on the homestead, with the exception of about five years, from 1812 to 1817, during which the family resided in the adjoining county of Hampshire, Mass., the father having engaged in the erection and running of a small cotton factory in the early days of cotton manufacture in this country.

Here the boy, when not at school or at play, was occupied in labor, suited to his age and strength, about the factory. He was also brought in contact with the operations of the machine shop, which assisted in developing a natural taste for mechanical pursuits, which became conspicuous in his after life. But subsequent years, spent principally in farm labor in Osego County, whither the family removed in 1817—the interest in the factory having been disposed of—afforded only such opportunity for mental improvement as could be derived from the common country school, and that only available for three or four months in the year. Still Mr. Whipple had made such advancement at the age of seventeen or eighteen as to pass the examination required for common school teaching, an occupation which he followed for a few winter terms, as a temporary means of acquiring funds to pay the expense of continuing his studies. From 1822 to 1828, he was enabled to spend a term or two, first at the academy at Hartwick, Osego County, and subsequently at the academy at Fairfield, Herkimer County, as he could manage to raise the necessary means by his own exertions; for he was unwilling to draw from the paternal resources, and in 1830 he graduated from Union College, having spent the senior year there.

At that time the profession of civil engineering in this country was in its early stage. But the Erie Canal had been constructed, and some few other public works of that class, and the country had got pretty well excited upon the subject of railroads. It seemed that the civil engineer was to be an important factor in the development upon this continent. In pursuance of the advice of



Squire Whipple

friends, as well as in accordance with his own inclination, Mr. Whipple decided to turn his attention to engineering, as a profession promising success. His first practical experience in the field was as a rod-man, and subsequently as a leveler upon the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in 1830 and 1832. In 1833 he came near losing his life by a virulent attack of small-pox. From 1833 to 1836 he was engaged in surveys for fixing the boundaries of lands necessary for the use and maintenance of the Erie Canal, and in surveys and estimates for the Erie Canal enlargement, under the direction of the late Holmes Hutchinson, of Utica, as chief engineer. In 1836–37 he was employed upon the eastern division of the New York and Erie Railroad as resident engineer, under the direction of the late Edwin F. Johnson of Middletown, Conn., who was one of Mr. Whipple's most valued friends. The preceding, with five or six preliminary surveys and estimates (from 1837 to 1850) of railroad and canal routes in different sections of the country, constitutes most of his experience in general field engineering.

Like some other engineers, Mr. Whipple was not always successful in finding a demand for his services upon public works. In such times his taste and talent for mechanics induced him to turn his versatile hand to the manufacture of engineering field instruments. Included in such manufacture were twenty to thirty leveling instruments, and several transits and theodolites, all of which proved correct and satisfactory in use. About 1840 he designed a plan and constructed a model of a scale for weighing boats of three or four hundred tons upon the enlarged Erie Canal; and subsequently built, by contract, the first enlarged weigh-lock scale upon that work. The scale operated satisfactorily, and served as a model, as to general features, for three or four others afterwards built, one of which was by Mr. Whipple. They were probably the largest weighing machines ever constructed. In the same year, 1840, Mr. Whipple designed and constructed his first model iron bridge truss, or girder, for which he obtained letters patent, and subsequently built a large number of his patent iron arch truss bridges, of seventy to one hundred feet span, over the Erie Canal. This was the first decidedly successful attempt at the construction and use of iron truss bridges, and the result fully demonstrated the practical adaptability of iron as the principal material in bridge construction. Still the innovation was looked upon with doubt and suspicion, and no great progress was made in iron bridge building in this country till after the year 1850, when some thirty iron bridges were in use, mostly upon the Erie Canal, and, with few exceptions, constructed by Mr. Whipple.

In the meantime Mr. Whipple had built several short and unimportant iron railroad bridges for the New York and Erie Railroad, which were thoroughly tested and successfully used for several months under railroad traffic; but were subsequently removed, in deference to a panic excited against iron railroad bridges by the breaking of a bridge of a different construction, and of different proportions, upon the same road. The broken bridge was similar to one that had been examined by Mr. Whipple, and publicly announced to be of inadequate proportions in important parts for a safe and reliable structure. Still its failure was the cause of serious hindrance to progress in the use of iron bridges for railroads.

In 1847 Mr. Whipple prepared and published a small elementary and practical work upon bridge building, in which were pointed out and illustrated the principles governing the construction of bridge trusses or girders, and also rules and formulæ for estimating the exact maximum strain upon each part or member of the truss in the various conditions of a given maximum load; thus enabling each part to be proportioned according to the work required of it, whereby the greatest possible economy of material could be secured; whereas the practice in that respect had theretofore been essentially a matter of mere empiricism. Mr. Whipple's book also explained methods for accurately determining the relative economy of different combinations and arrangements of the parts of the truss; and the plans he then recommended as the best, are those now almost universally adopted by the best builders, although strenuous effort has been made to discover or invent better combinations—sometimes by modifications of the same fundamental principles, and sometimes by the adoption of arrangements which Mr. Whipple had considered and discarded. Of the latter category is the truss known as the Bollman; and of the former, the so-called Warren girder, in which is dropped one set of diagonal members from the Whipple trapezoidal without verticals. This Mr. Whipple had previously done in the construction of skeleton floor beams and short trusses of twenty to thirty feet, and again by restoring the members omitted in the Warren girder, as an improvement on the latter. Mr. Whipple claims no originality in the use of diagonal or oblique members between parallel chords, with or without verticals, which had long been a common practice. But the proportioning of parts according to accurate calculation of the strain upon each, and the adoption of the trapezoidal form of truss, by the use of a triangular panel at each end, are devices first employed by him; and in these consist, principally, the distinction between modern scientific bridge building and the empirical practice of former times.

In 1852–53, Mr. Whipple built a wrought and cast-iron bridge of 150 feet upon the then Albany Northern, now the Renssalaer and Saratoga Railroad, which was in constant use for thirty years, and is believed to have been the oldest iron railroad bridge of considerable span in this country, if not in the world. Although probably the lightest iron railroad bridge of like span ever built, and containing sixty per cent. of cast-iron in the trusses, it was subjected to as severe a test load, perhaps, as ever has been applied to any iron bridge of like span and weight of truss. This bridge contained 75,000 pounds of iron (three-fifths cast-iron), ex-

clusive of floor beams and track-stringers, which were of wood. Although bridges are now built of spans more than three times as great, the one here referred to was at that time regarded as an achievement of no inconsiderable importance. Still iron bridge building made no marked progress for several years after the erection of the one in question. The last twenty-five years, however, have witnessed a remarkable revolution in this respect, insomuch that iron is now almost universally and exclusively employed in the construction of important bridges.

In 1872, Mr. Whipple published an enlargement of his work on bridge building, which has reached the third edition, although other valuable works upon the subject have lately been placed before the engineering profession. In 1872, letters patent were granted to Mr. Whipple for a lift draw-bridge, having a counterpoised floor suspended from an elevated stationary truss-bridge, and movable vertically by means of a system of sheaves, cables and shafting, whereby the flooring can be raised to the truss-chords for the passage of boats in the waterway beneath, and lowered to near the water surface for the transit of land traffic. In 1873–74 the inventor built the first patent lift draw-bridge over the Erie Canal at Utica, which has been in satisfactory use during eleven seasons of canal navigation. The movement is effected by a five hundred-pound weight, wound up about fifteen feet by one minute's work of one man, which in descending effects the required movement of the platform, up or down, in ten seconds. This invention is very useful and convenient in many localities which will not admit of the use of swing draw-bridges, and has been adopted in other places upon the Erie Canal, namely, in Rochester and Syracuse, with no profit to the inventor however, as the builders and users of his patent bridges have not had the fairness to voluntarily adjust his rights and claims, and he has forborne to prosecute.

In fine, the relation of Mr. Whipple to iron bridges may be fitly compared with that of Watt to the steam engine, Fulton to the steamboat, Morse to the electric telegraph and Bell to the speaking telephone, with the exception that, whereas most of these have derived great wealth from the results of their ingenuity and labors, Mr. Whipple has only secured a comfortable competence for declining years. Though he has sometimes felt himself treated with illiberality, he does not complain, as he has had no morbid hankering for costly display, and holds the opinion that enough should suffice, and that the fitting wages of labor should be gauged by the time of duration, together with the damage by wear and tear, mental and physical, sustained by the performer, and not by fortuitous conditions and straits, which may render a particular service of vital importance to the beneficiary. But the limits of this sketch will not admit of elaboration upon questions of this character in this connection. As an evidence of the estimation in which Mr. Whipple's labors are held by his fellow-engineers, may be cited the fact of his being hailed among them as the "father of iron bridges," as well as the following extract from the annual address to the American Society of Civil Engineers, published in the Transactions of the Society in June, 1880. Speaking of the progress in bridge construction, the address says: "While, however, our English brethren, thirty years ago, were building plate girders and tubes, our venerable honorary member, Squire Whipple, was studying the subject and, with characteristic modesty, laying down the principles of a science of bridge construction based upon determining the action of the forces in skeleton structures by rigid mathematical calculation. His book, printed in 1847, contains nearly all that is vitally important connected with the theory of fixed spans, and his bridges stand to-day as monuments to his skill and as reminders to us of the debt we owe to that distinguished engineer."

In 1837 Mr. Whipple was married to Miss Anna Case, of Utica, a lady of refined tastes and excellent womanly qualities. Having resided in Utica, where much of his life labor was performed, from 1833 to 1850, he removed to Albany in the latter year, where he has since resided. The last few years have found him mostly engaged in such mechanical and scientific labors, studies and experiments, in a private way, as are congenial to his tastes. Though not without a keen relish for pleasant social intercourse, he has, through life, found a large share of his enjoyment in the exercise of his own faculties of thought and action; and his cabinet of models, instruments and apparatus for the illustration of different branches of physical and mechanical science, mostly made by himself, and largely of original design, has elicited expressions of admiration from many who have given it inspection. Withal, Mr. Whipple has turned his hand to amateur printing, and has printed many short essays upon various subjects, mostly promulgating original thoughts characteristic of his idiocrasy, which is somewhat radical; for, in other directions, as well as in regard to his speciality of bridge building, his bent is to go down to fundamental facts, principles and evidences upon which to base his conclusions and practices.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND BASIN OF ALBANY,

WITH MANY HISTORIC EVENTS AND REMINISCENCES OF OLDEN TIMES.

By General S. V. Talcott.

[This able paper was kindly prepared for us by General S. V. Talcott, a distinguished citizen, now venerable in years, who has held many posts of duty with advantage to his native city and State, and credit to himself. His knowledge of local history—of many of the events in which he has been an eye-witness—and his skillful use of facts, well established by public documents and the testimony of the men of his childhood days, make his reminiscences and other statements valuable. We are are sorry to be compelled to omit some of the legal and other documentary matter for want of space.—J. T.]

Professor Peter Kalm, a Swedish naturalist of distinction, from the University of Upsala, visited Albany in 1749. He says, in his report, that the "Hudson River at Albany is from twelve to twenty feet deep; that there is as yet no quay made for the landing of yachts, because the people feared it

would be swept away in the spring; that the vessels come pretty near the shore and receive their cargoes from two canoes lashed together."

It appears from the records of the Common Council, that as early as 1727 the building of suitable wharves for the accommodation of the vessels navigating the river was contemplated. On October 24th an ordinance was passed "requiring the freeholders of the city who held lands or ground fronting on the east near or to the Hudson River, be directed to produce their titles to the same, in order that the Common Council may be better enabled to consider of finding out the proper ways and means for docking and regulating of streets on the east thereof, along the Hudson River, and that such titles be produced in Common Council at the City Hall on the 10th day of November next."

About one hundred and fourteen years ago, that is, in 1770, a survey of the City of Albany was made by Robert Yates, which gives its frontage on the Hudson River, from a point near the foot of Quackenbush street at the north, to the present steamboat landing at the intersection of Broadway and Quay street at the south. These were the north and south boundaries of the whole inhabited part of the city Those of the east and west were the river and the fort near Lodge street. On the map projected from this survey, the river has a great bend to the westward from the islands above the city to the steamboat landing; it then turns and runs in a more easterly direction. On the flat lands bordering the deepest part of this bend, the first settlers planted the little colony of Rensselaerwyck. Most of their dwellings were on the street, now Broadway, near the river, with gardens running down to the water. Few resided above Orange or below Beaver streets, where the stockades were. The channel of the river, following its curve, kept close to the shore, and by its good depth of water formed the harbor of the city, where the vessels navigating the Hudson received their cargoes. In 1770 there were four docks used for this purpose: one above Columbia street, near where Foxenkill empties in the basin, called the Arsenal Wharf; one at the foot of Mark lane (Exchange street) in the shape of a T, called the Middle Wharf, which was enlarged and extended in 1774 to 90 feet in length and 32 feet in width; another at the foot of Hudson street, of the same shape, but somewhat smaller, called the City Hall Wharf; and one at Kilby lane (now Hamilton street), near where the steamboat landing now is, called Kilby's Wharf, later known as Hodges' Dock. All four extended to the channel of the river near its western bank. Division street, which came to the river between the last-named wharves, was then called Bone alley. The original shore line, as represented on this map, was as far west as Dean street, then called Dock street. Subsequent filling brought out the water line to its present position on the east side of Quay street. At Quackenbush street the west bank of the river was about 380 feet east of Broadway; at Foxenkill about 200 feet; at Exchange street abut 70 feet; at State street about 80 feet east of Dean; at Hudson street about 160 feet; and at Division street about 175 feet east of Broadway.

It appears from a map projected from a survey of Hudson street made in 1791, that the land on the north side of that street had been extended, by filling into the river, not quite two hundred feet; and that Ruttenkill, now known as Beaver street sewer, which emptied into the basin at the northeast corner of Hudson and Quay streets, was deflected from its course, crossed Hudson street at nearly a right angle, and emptied into the river about eighty feet south of that street. The filling having been carried on irregularly, and more rapidly on the north than on the south side of the street, deflected the stream from its original course. The Ruttenkill is not laid down on the map of 1770. Only two are there represented: Foxenkill, which empties into the river above Columbia street, and Beaverkill, which now passes through the Arch street sewer.

In 1795, the Duc de Liancourt, who had visited Albany, stated that there were in the Hudson River trade 90 sloops—45 owned in Albany and 45 in New York—of about 70 tons each. They made on an average 20 trips in a season. The freight on grain was 12½ cents per cwt.; passage to New York, $1.25. He states, also, that sloops were built in Albany for $27.50 per ton; that the Corporation of the city sells the wharves at $2.50 per foot frontage, reserving an annual rent of $8.12½ per lot. Labor was 56½ cents per day, and in harvest time 87½ cents. Butcher's meat, 12½ cents per pound.

The title to the river front, out to the channel, was vested in the Mayor and Commonalty of the city. As early as 1793 they began to lease in perpetuity, chiefly to those persons whose property extended to the river, and was bounded by it, the water lots in front of the same. The annual quit rent required was one shilling per running foot.

Most of these leases have been commuted, and the titles transferred, by quit claim deeds from the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty, to the purchasers of the lots from the original leasers. The water lots north of the city, in what was called the Colonie, were held under titles derived from Van Rensselaer, the Patroon, as were also the lands embraced within the bounds of the Colonie, extending from Patroon street (now Clinton avenue) and Quackenbush street on the south, to the Patroon's Creek on the north, and from the river on the east to and including Arbor hill on the west.

A Dock Association, composed of the proprietors of the dock between the center of Maiden lane and the north side of State street, was formed in 1794. This was probably the first regular dock, extending from street to street, that was constructed, and the Association was probably formed on its completion.

At a meeting held February 2, 1796:

"*Resolved*, That the Trustees are hereby authorized (if they judge conducive to the interests of the Association) to admit the proprietors of the quay south of Bone lane [Division street] and north of Kilby lane [Hamilton street], parties to the agreement."

James Caldwell and Stephen Van Rensselaer were admitted as members, and their wharves taken into the common stock, January 23, 1803.

At a meeting of the proprietors at Moody's Tavern on Thursday evening, February 3, 1814, the Trustees stated to the Proprietors present, that the written agreement executed on the 13th of March, 1794, under which the Association was originally organized, would expire on the 13th of March next. It was

"*Resolved*, unanimously, that the wharves lying south of Steuben street and north of the watering place [foot of Columbia street] as it is now situated, shall continue under the same regulations and management as has been adopted for the past year."

In 1795, the wharfage the first year was £250 7s. 0d. The amount of dividend per foot, $5\frac{2}{4}$ per cent.

February 10, 1873, the gross wharfage of the last year of the Association was $820.26; commission, $165.05; net, $655.22; dividends, $1 per foot; number of feet, $607\frac{3}{12}$

Abraham Bloodgood was the first wharfinger, 1794; succeeded by Abraham Eights, 1795 to 1819; Edward Brown, 1820–41; John L. Hyatt, 1841–70; William Eaton, 1870–71; F. A. Shepard, 1871–73.

The 13th of February, 1873, the Association adjourned *sine die*.

Andrew E. Brown was Secretary from 16th February, 1831, to the 13th of February, 1873—forty-two years.

A ferry from near the foot of Kilby's lane (Hamilton street) was established at an early day. Probably before 1767, as the right to maintain a ferry was granted to Guysbert Marcelis for £70 per annum, on the 14th March of that year; and on March 3, 1781, the Deputy Quartermaster-General, Dirk Haden, was granted the privilege "to land with the ferry-boat at the Old Dock at the store-houses until further ordered." This was probably Kilby's Dock, for on April 24, 1783, the Common Council passed an ordinance directing that "the stones of a part of the dock at the stores be appropriated to complete the City Hall Dock and the next Northern Dock: to wit, the [stones of] south pier of said dock [at the stores] called Kilby's Dock.

September 25, 1783, "the resolution to appropriate the stones of the lower pier of Kilby's Dock, to complete the City Hall Dock and Middle Dock, is reconsidered."

The Court House or City Hall, a plain three-story yellow brick building with a belfry on top, having a door and four windows on the first story, and five windows on each of the other stories, occupied the corner of Court street (Broadway) and Hudson street, fronting on the former. It was the center for all public purposes and occupied by the Legislature until the Capitol on the hill was erected. The courts were held in it; public meetings were addressed from its steps; when a fire occurred the citizens were directed to assemble there, each with a given number of leather fire-buckets, which they were required to keep hanging in a convenient place in the halls of their dwellings—for there were no fire-engines in those days. When an alarm was given, each sturdy Dutchman in knee-breeches, cocked hat and wide-skirted coat, hastened to the Court House with his buckets, crying, "Brand! brand!!" (Fire! fire!!) as he ran. Or, when the ice began to move in the river, at the sound of the bell at any moment, midday or midnight, the whole population rushed to the Court House for instruction and a leader—arousing the sleepers, if it was night, with their startling shouts of "Ys gang!!" (The ice is going!) It required the energy and assistance of all the available citizens, so rapid was usually the rise of water and flow of the ice when once started, to get the families and the effects of those residing near the river out of danger. After the Old Court House had served its time for State and city, Harry Trowbridge took its upper stories for a museum, and moved his collection of curiosities into it, the main floor being occupied for commercial purposes. The first museum was established on the corner of Green and Beaver streets in 1798. There is no evidence to show that Trowbridge was the proprietor of this; but, from the fact that nothing is heard of it after he opened the New York State Museum in the Old Court House, it is probable that he was. It is known that he had a museum as early as 1809, called the Albany Museum. This was probably the name of the one on the corner of Green and Beaver streets. There were great attractions for the small boys and girls in the museum on the corner of Hudson street and Broadway in those days—the monstrosities excited their wonder; the phantasmagoria and the wax figures their delight. The collection of the latter was a remarkable one indeed. Arrayed in full costume, and in various attitudes, were Charlotte Temple, Daniel Lambert, Punch and Judy, Louis the XIV, Jael driving the nail into the head of Sisera, and many others of equal note. But the crowning wonder of all, announced by the ringing of a small bell, was the raising of the ghost of Samuel, by the Witch of Endor, for the humble and awe-stricken Saul, who stood near in full armor of steel. The spirit slowly rose through the top of the tomb—which was an upright box not unlike the pedestal that supports the bust of Dr. Armsby in the Park—remained with half its body above the opening for a minute, and then as slowly returned to its place.

There was a landing-place for batteaux and small boats in the rear of and not far from the dwelling of the late Judge Jacob J. Lansing, on the corner of Broadway and Quackenbush streets. At this landing, just before the battle of Saratoga, while the British troops were slowly approaching Albany, the alarmed inhabitants of the Colonie had collected a small fleet of batteaux, anticipating the possible defeat of the continental forces, and were prepared at the first intimation of disaster to flee, with their families and such effects as they could hastily gather, to the opposite shore of the river. They were filled with great fear when they heard the battle had begun, and expected each

moment to hear that the "red-coats" were on their way to the city. While engaged in loading their boats as rapidly as possible, a single horseman was seen approaching from the north, gesticulating and furiously whipping his horse as he drew near. Men, women and children rushed out to hear what news he brought from the armies, expecting of course that the enemy was close behind him. He shouted as he came up and passed along: "Bergine is taken! Bergine is taken!!" So astounded and incredulous were the people as they followed him to the City Hall, on the corner of Broadway and Hudson streets, that they cried: "Gy liegen! Gy liegen!!" (You lie! you lie!!) Great was their relief and gladness when the news was confirmed by the dispatch brought by the messenger and read by the Mayor to the assembled crowd. The switch which the messenger had used to urge his horse along, he threw away as he passed the corner of North Lansing street and Broadway. It was picked up by Mrs. Teunis G. Visscher, a daughter of Mr. Christopher Lansing, and planted in front of her father's house, where she resided at that time. The switch grew to be a sturdy elm, long remembered and pointed out as a monument to commemorate the end of the revolution. It passed from youth to manhood and to old age, lost its beauty and strength, and at last yielded up the remnant of its life to the demands of progress, and was removed to make room for the railroad viaduct across Broadway.

Diagonally opposite the residence of Mr. Lansing, on the northwest corner of Broadway and Clinton avenue, there was, until removed to make a place for the drug store of Messrs. Clement & Rice, an antique Dutch residence with its pointed gable fronting on Broadway, built of Holland bricks painted yellow, with a door on Broadway used only to carry the dead through, and a front door on Clinton avenue cut in halves transversely, as were all the doors of those early Dutch houses. The house was erected about A. D. 1700, and stood some four or five hundred feet beyond the northern stockade, which crossed Broadway near Orange street, and had a gate opening on the road leading north through the Colonie. In this house lived one of the old Dutch families somewhere about the time of the French War. The Indians who were prowling about the outskirts of the town were not over-friendly, and the gates of the stockades were always closed about sundown to keep them out. The residents beyond the stockades were careful to get to their homes before dark, lest they might lose their scalps some unlucky evening. Nearly every family kept a good watch-dog. This family in particular had a large mastiff in their house who was kind and gentle with those he was accustomed to see, but a terror to the Indians, for whom he had no love. A middle-aged daughter of the family was in the habit of visiting her friends in the town, enjoying their society and the hospitable cup of tea which formed a prominent feature in all entertainments among the old Dutch families. One evening, staying inside the stockade longer than usual, it was almost dark when she was passed through the gates. As she crossed the road she observed an Indian following her. She ran in great fear. He followed, and as she reached her home and the handle of the door, he caught her by the hair and brandished his scalping-knife above her head ready to take her scalp. With a scream she threw open the upper half of the door. The faithful mastiff, hearing her cry, sprang over the lower half, seized the Indian by the throat and there held him till he was captured. This dog never after that led a dog's life—in the common acceptation of the term.

A door like the one above mentioned on Broadway, as used only on funeral occasions, was common to most of the old Dutch residences, and was called the "dood door." It was connected with the "dood kamer" (death chamber). On the occasion of a death in the family, the corpse was removed to this room, and invitations to the funeral were given to the relatives and friends of the deceased through the "aanspreeker" (sexton), to attend the funeral from the house at a specified time. When assembled, a tankard of hot spiced wine and a tray of "dood koekjes," a flat round cake, about four inches in diameter, made of material similar to those used for New Year's cakes, were handed round. Then the usual ceremonies of prayer, remarks about the life and death of the departed, and an address to the afflicted relatives, followed; after which all were expected to take a last look into the coffin. Then it was removed from the "dood kamer," through the "dood door," to the bier, and was carried to the grave-yard by the bearers. On the return from the burying ground, the guests again assembled at the house of the deceased and partook freely of the hot spiced wine. This very ancient custom was not abandoned till some years after the beginning of the present century.

ALBANY BASIN.—As early as 1822, and perhaps earlier, when there was on an average from eighty to two hundred sloops and schooners daily lying at the docks in front of the city, the project of constructing a basin at the termination of the Erie and Champlain Canal was seriously considered. The matter was referred to the Canal Commissioners, and on February 11, 1823, they made the following report:

"In obedience to the resolution of the Assembly, passed the 14th ult., instructing the Commissioners to report a place for the construction of a basin at the termination of the Erie and Champlain Canal at the City of Albany, reported that Benjamin Wright, one of their engineers, who was instructed to examine the matter, had proposed a plan and made a communication on the subject, together with a map of the contemplated basin. The Commissioners believe that a basin may be constructed on the said plan for about $100,000, and that such a basin would be extremely beneficial to the trade of Albany. They have declined to make basins along the line of canals, believing that mercantile capital and enterprise would find sufficient inducements and interests to furnish these local accommodations to trade, and that to

expend the public moneys would not be just. They think, however, that it would be proper to construct a sloop lock at the southern termination of the basin, as the connection of boat and sloop navigation at the arsenal lot will cost nearly as much as the said lock; and, in case of the construction of said lock, it would be reasonable for the State to receive tolls on the length of the basin as part of the canal."

Upon this report, the Legislature passed an act authorizing the construction of the Albany basin, April 5, 1823, the principal features of which were as follows:

That from the report of the Canal Commissioners, it appears that a basin at the termination of the canals would be a great benefit to commerce and to trade. The following gentlemen, William James, John R. Bleecker, John Townsend, Elisha Jenkins, Benjamin Knower, Allen Brown, Israel Smith, Teunis Van Vechten, John Trotter, John Spencer, Asa H. Center, William Durant, Peter Boyd, Joseph Alexander, Charles R. Webster, John H. Webb, John Shotwell, Joseph Russell, William Caldwell, Ralph Pratt, Russell Forsythe, William Marvin, William McHarg, Jellis Winne, Jr., Abraham Van Vechten and Gideon Hawley, were appointed Commissioners. They were authorized to raise subscriptions to construct a mole or pier within the bounds of the City of Albany, opposite the docks fronting the harbor, so as to comprise a basin extending from the arsenal dock to a point opposite Hodges' Dock, in the line of Hamilton street, with a sloop lock at the Hamilton street end, to be completed within two years.

The act authorized the building of bridges from the dock to the pier, and the Canal Commissioners to give title of the land under water covered by the pier to the Pier Company.

No toll should be exacted, or wharfage or other charges for boats, other craft or rafts of lumber, entering from the canal and passing through the basin, unless the same shall be revested in the people of the State.

It regulated the wharfage to be paid by vessels, boats and other crafts navigating the river, for the season: Vessels of five tons or under to pay $2.12½ per ton; if above that burden, at the rate of 54 cents per ton. If for less time, for five tons or under, 25 cents per day; twenty tons or under, 4 cents per ton per day; over twenty, under forty, 3 cents per ton per day; over fifty, 2½ cents per ton per day. One-half to go to the proprietors of the pier. The proprietors of the pier to have the right to collect wharfage from outside of pier same as collected from inside docks.

It directed that the pier be divided into lots, which should be sold at public auction.

It directed that the Canal Commissioners should charge toll on all canal boats, craft and lumber which should enter the basin from the canal, or leave the basin for transportation on the canal, computing the entire length of said basin in the same manner as if it were a part of the canal. The money collected, after deducting expenses, to be paid over to the State Treasurer.

It provided for damages by reason of overflow caused by the guard or sloop dock.

It directed that the act should be void unless the Corporation of the city filed their assent to the act in the office of the Secretary of State within sixty days after its passage.

The assent referred to was filed April 8, 1823.

The Albany Pier was completed, under the act above mentioned, May 27, 1825, inclosing a basin capable of harboring 1,000 canal boats and 50 vessels of a larger class. The Commissioners appointed under the act divided it into 123 lots, and sold them at public auction on the 17th July, 1825, excepting lots 1 and 2, which were reserved, and after a time taken for an opening into the river. The 121 lots brought the aggregate sum of $188,510. Of these William James purchased 48, John T. Norton, 14, and Israel Smith 7; other purchasers were Gideon Hawley, Harmanus Bleecker, Chas. R. Webster, Robt. Boyd, Isaiah Townsend, Samuel Ward, of New York, Chas. D. Cooper, E. Backus, Elisha Jenkins, Isaac H. Bogart, E. C. Delavan, John Tayler, Henry S. Webb, John Meads, Abel French, Francis Bloodgood, James Goold. The lowest price paid for a lot was $1,200, and the highest, $3,550. The pier was 4,323 feet long, 85 feet broad, and unbroken from the canal to Hamilton street, containing 8¼ acres of land. The basin contained an area of 32 acres.

Bridges with draws were constructed across the basin, at the foot of Columbia and State streets, by the proprietors of the pier, and a sloop lock was built by the State at Hamilton street.

Sept. 25, 1823, the first water was passed through the lock at the head of the Albany basin. An eel three feet in length came through the gate and was hailed as the first passenger; it was caught, and the skin preserved in the Museum of the Lyceum of Natural History. But the canal was not completed until the fall of 1825.

When the first water from the finished canal came into the basin, the sloop lock-gates were closed, and the citizens gathered in great numbers on the docks to see the basin filled with water, which they did not doubt would rise to the crest of the pier, and possibly overflow the docks. After waiting anxiously for several hours, they began to wonder why the water did not rise and what had become of it. Their patience having been exhausted, as it grew dark the assemblage adjourned, hoping to see the basin full on the morrow. Much to their astonishment they were disappointed, the pier having been built in parts of cribs filled with clay and other soils, together with loose stones where rock bottom was found, and resting in other places on piles, permitted the water to escape into the river under the cribs and between the piles. Why this was not known before a sloop lock was constructed, does not appear.

On the 26th of October, a day that should be remembered throughout all time, the first canal boat from Lake Erie, through the great canal projected by Governor De Witt Clinton, reached the Hudson River at Albany at three minutes before 11 o'clock A. M., and passed through the lock into

the Albany basin. The event was announced by a discharge of cannon, which formed a line within hearing distance from Buffalo to Sandy Hook. The return fire from New York was received at five minutes before 12 o'clock noon.

The basin having been constructed without a free outlet for the current to pass through, became a nuisance in consequence of the great accumulation of silt in it. In June, 1834, the Corporation of the city was indicted by the Grand Jury for not abating it. The Recorder, Hon. James McKown, was instructed to defend the action, on the ground that the bulkhead at the lower end of the basin had been placed there by the Pier Company, under the sanction of an act of the Legislature, and being private property, the Corporation could not be bound to abate the nuisance. The Albany Court of Sessions decided against the Corporation; but the Supreme Court reversed the decision. On the 9th of February following, a public meeting was held at the Capitol for the purpose of making an application to the Legislature to pass an act directing that the bulkhead be removed, and for other purposes. On the 27th of April, 1835, the Legislature passed an act to improve the navigation of the Albany basin, which directed that the bulkhead be removed in part, that the sloop lock be taken away, and a bridge built from the abutment at Hamilton street to the pier. It also authorized the Mayor and Common Council to order and direct the excavation, deepening and clearing of any part of the basin that was found to be necessary, and directed the Governor to appoint a Commissioner to appraise and assess the cost of the same, on all the building lots, wharves, docks, and pier lots benefited by the improvement, specifying in said appraisement the names of the owners, and taking into consideration the benefit to the Pier Company by the annual receipt of one mile toll received by them as part of the Erie and Champlain Canals. Under and by the authority given in this act, the Mayor and Common Council proceeded to carry its provisions into effect.

The act of the Legislature passed April 14, 1836, authorized the Corporation of the City of Albany to make an opening in the pier between the Columbia and State street bridges of sixty feet in width, which had already been decided upon as necessary by an ordinance of the Common Council, dated the 28th of March previous, and to repair any damage to bridges or property on the pier caused by said opening, and assess the costs of the same on the property benefited. In 1837, owing to the great increase of business on the pier, the Pier Company asked the Common Council for authority to widen the pier fifteen feet; their petition was denied. The act passed May 16, 1837, directed the Canal Commissioners to clear the obstructions from the basin, and draw upon the Mayor and Common Council for the cost, and allow the excess above the amount of toll on the one mile of basin, which was considered as part of the canal, to be charged to the State.

The dredging proceeded so slowly, that the Common Council directed the Navigation Committee to inquire into the cause and report what had been and what remained to be done. On the 17th September, 1838, the Navigation Committee reported that $96,090.55 had been expended in improving the basin; that there yet remained 105,000 cubic yards of excavation to be made, which would cost $36,250.

Another act of the Legislature, passed April 20, 1841, directed the Common Council to cause the opening in the pier to be enlarged to a width of not less than 126 feet, the expense of said opening to be assessed upon the property benefited; and by an act passed April 14, 1849, they were empowered to make a further enlargement. These enlargements were rendered necessary by the increasing demands of commerce, and the enlarged size of the vessels used in transportation on the river.

After the works were completed, the Commissioners assessed the cost upon the property benefited, as directed by the several laws passed by the Legislature. This proceeding raised a great commotion among the dock and pier-owners, which resulted in a controversy as to the constitutionality of the law under which the work was done. The Legislature passed an act on the 14th April, 1849, "in relation to certain expenses incurred in excavating the basin, and the tolls received thereon, at the eastern terminus of the Erie and Champlain Canals." This law directs the Canal Commissioners to pay to the City of Albany $121,462.63, with interest from February 20, 1823, for the expenses incurred by the city for excavating, clearing and cleaning out the basin, and also the sum of $30,000 to be paid to the owners of the pier in lieu of tolls as heretofore paid to them. This act to be a final settlement of all claims against the State in favor of the City of Albany, or in favor of any citizen thereof, and also of the pier-owners under the several acts passed April 5, 1823, April 27, 1835, April 14, 1836, and May 16, 1837.

At this time, and until the War of the Rebellion, the property on the pier was very valuable. The portion above the Columbia street bridge was covered with lumber and staves, piled very high for want of room, while below the bridge, on both sides of the cut to its southern extremity were large and commodiously built warehouses, occupied by the leading shipping merchants of the city and the proprietors of the large tow-boat lines. The Swiftsure and Albany and Canal lines each had offices below the State street bridge, and their barges occupied berths on both the inside and outside of the pier.

Hart & Hoyt, in order to facilitate the transportation of the merchandise they received, erected on a raft or float in the basin, a large wooden structure, familiarly called the "Ark," which took up much room and was a great annoyance to the other shippers, beside being an eye-sore and great obstruction to the free navigation of the basin. It became so much of a nuisance that the Common Council ordered them to remove it. They declining to do so, the Corporation undertook to make the removal themselves, but were enjoined by the Court from proceeding with its demolition. The

case was carried to the Court of Chancery, and by the Chancellor the injunction was dissolved. Hart & Hoyt appealed to the Court of Errors. It was held by this Court that the appellants had utterly failed to establish a right to erect and continue the floating warehouse in the basin; that it was not lawful for individuals, without grants, to construct or moor a floating warehouse or vessel for receiving and delivering any goods in any river-port or harbor, or in the basins or docks thereof, and is an obstruction to free navigation.

The "Ark" was therefore removed, and the business on the pier and in the basin was thereafter unobstructed. At this time, beside the large barges employed in the carrying trade to New York, all sorts of craft came to Albany for freight, from a clam-boat to a three-masted schooner. Frequently, more than two hundred sailing vessels might be counted at the pier and docks of the city, hailing from Maine to Florida. From the East were brought sperm and whale oil, rum, fish, apples, and Yankee notions; from the South, Georgia pine, cotton, sugar, and fruit; and lumber, staves, potatoes, and the various kinds of grain were taken away. These days and years of an active and profitable trade came to an end on the pier, docks and basin, on the completion of the system of railroad communication from Boston and New York to the Western States, and the opening of the lumber district between the river and canal a short distance above the Bath ferry.

Soon after the completion of the canal, a line of packet-boats was established to transport passengers from Albany to Utica. This was a wonderful improvement over the old stage-coach at certain seasons of the year, when the wheels would sink to the hubs in the mud, and the passengers would often be called upon to help, with a fence-rail, to pry them up. The packets were sharp-bowed, trim-looking boats, drawn by three horses on a trot, and averaged about nine miles an hour, sometimes more. The cabin extended almost the entire length of the boat, with a short deck at the bow and stern; the seats were arranged like those in an omnibus, and so constructed that they could be converted into two tiers of berths. A curtain divided one cabin into two unequal parts, the smaller reserved for the ladies. The baggage was all carried on the deck above the cabin. The choice seat in the daytime was on the forward low deck. It was dangerous to sit on the deck above the cabin, on account of the lowness of the numerous bridges. The helmsman was constantly warning those passengers who sat there by the cry of "bridge ahead," when each one would be obliged to duck, or if the bridge was very low, to lie down flat. These packets left Albany from the little basin just at the head of the lock, between the canal and the Albany basin, with flags flying, bugle music, and shouts of the people collected to see the start. There were soon opposition companies, which made lively times, and packet-boats became the fashionable mode of travel between Albany and Buffalo. These too were abandoned as fast as the railroads were opened to the West.

On February 13, 1861, there occurred one of the most disastrous freshets ever known to the inhabitants of Albany. The ice damming up opposite the Boston ferry, caused the water to flow over the pier, and sent the current down through the basin, carrying large cakes of ice with great velocity against the boats, vessels and bridges in the basin, which were swept down and destroyed in a brief space of time.

April 8, 1861, the three bridges from the mainland to the pier having been carried away by the freshet and destroyed, a controversy arose between the Pier Company and the Common Council as to which should construct the new ones.

The Pier Company claimed that by the Act of April 14, 1836, authorizing the Corporation of Albany to make an opening in the pier between the State street and Columbia street bridges of 60 feet in width, and to repair any damages to bridges or property on the pier by reason of said opening, and assess the expense of the same upon the property benefited; and by the act of the Legislature, passed April 20, 1841, directing the Corporation to enlarge the opening to the width of not less than 126 feet; and by a further act, passed April 11, 1849, the said Corporation was authorized to make a still further enlargement; that the rebuilding of the bridge clearly devolved upon the city, and asked that they be rebuilt without delay.

The bridges were rebuilt without draws, as the opening between Columbia and State streets admitted vessels to the middle basin.

The building of the pier caused great dissatisfaction to the owners of the dock and property on Quay street. It deprived them of their right to the channel of the river, decreased the amount of their dockage and the value of the property on Quay street, by affording wharfage on the outside of the pier, and space for building upon it. The venerable and distinguished jurist, Abraham Van Vechten, whose memory is revered by the few now left who knew him, could not accept the appointment as one of the Commissioners named in the act of 1823, because he believed the act to be not only unjust to the dock-owners, but decidedly unconstitutional. But opposition was of no avail. The same means that are supposed to be successful in carrying bills through later Legislatures, may have been successfully used in 1823, and possibly were so used to pass this act.

In 1873, when the Dock Association adjourned *sine die*, active business on the pier and Quay street had about come to a standstill; buildings which had formerly rented for seven or eight hundred dollars per annum, would scarcely command three or four hundred, and many remained unoccupied. Storage of produce brought down by canal-boats too late in the fall to ship for New York or Eastern or Southern ports by vessels, was a large item of profit which was cut off by the transportation afforded by the completion of the Central and Hudson River and the Boston and Albany Railroads. The merchants who did a heavy business on the pier or Quay street, either retired from business or removed to Broadway, where they escaped the an-

nual freshets in the river, and obtained more comfortable quarters.

The wharfage which had been collected pretty equally from the various docks under the control of the Dock Association, was now earned by but few of them, and a majority of the members were unwilling to continue to divide the receipts with those whose docks contributed little or nothing to the Association. Hence the resolution to adjourn *sine die*.

Since 1873, the basin has been filling up with silt from the river and sewage from the fifteen city sewers that empty their foul contents into it; and it has become one of the greatest nuisances in the county. It is hoped that it will either be dredged ou tby the State authorities or filled up, as it has passed its days of usefulness.

SEWERAGE.

Prior to 1854, and previous to the appointment of R. H. Bingham as City Engineer and Surveyor, there was no regular system of sewers for the city. In that year the first brick and cement sewer was constructed in Madison avenue, then Lydius street. Laws had been passed for making drains in detached portions. Some had been made in several streets leading to the river, east of Eagle street. Some had been laid as early as 1800. These last were constructed of common building stones about one foot in the clear.

It appears from the records of the Common Council, that attention was given very early to surface draining. Water-courses were dug on the side of the streets, under direction of the City government, by the owners of adjacent houses or lots, which were to be kept open and clear so as "to vent, dry and drain the said streets." In 1721, it was "ordaind, publishd and declard, that all and every person within this City before whose houses and lotts ye water has no vent, shall forthwith ditch and drain ye water to give it passage that ye highways may be dry and useful for ye Inhabitants of s^{d} City, and that all ye Streets and lanes be sufficiently pavd, ye earth be dugg out and Carted away" under penalties for neglect. Such was the primitive drainage. Subsequent to this time, ordinances directing the making of drains and keeping them open were often made. Sometimes they were made to empty into creeks or kills. But, after all, the streets of the city were often very full of mire and filth.

Since 1854, in the leading streets to the river, the old drains have been replaced with brick and cement sewers varying in diameter from three and a half to six and a half feet in the clear.

The combined system of sewerage, conveying both house drainage and surface water, required larger sewers than the surface system which conveys only the house drainage.

The combined system became necessary in consequence of the slope and steepness of the streets leading to the river. In the westerly portion of the city the separate system has been adopted, vitrified pipes have been used varying from ten to thirty inches in diameter, according to the quantity of house drainage to be carried. Most of the thickly settled streets have been sewered.

The old creek beds of the city leading to the river—four in number—have been covered with stone arches from six to ten feet in diameter, and adopted as outlet sewers for the westerly portion of the city, into which many of the street drains empty.

The creeks thus adopted as outlet sewers, are as follows: Beaver Creek, in the southerly portion of the city; Ruttenkill and Foxenkill in the central portion of the city; and Patroon's Creek in the northerly.

The extent of the water-shed flowing into Beaver Creek is about 1,300 acres; Ruttenkill, about 200 acres; Foxenkill, about 200 acres; Patroon's Creek, about 5,000 acres.

Space will not permit us to give any more than the leading or principal sewers in the city. That in Madison avenue is 4 feet in diameter; Hamilton street, 3 feet 6 inches; Hudson avenue, 5 feet; State street, 6 feet; Quackenbush street, 5 feet; Livingston avenue, 4 feet 6 inches; Maiden lane, 4 feet; Steuben street, 4 feet; Van Woert, 4 feet. Patroon's Creek sewer is 12 x 8 feet in diameter; Foxenkill, 6 feet; Ruttenkill, 6 feet; Beaver Creek, 8 feet. In the other streets in the city the sewers run from 4 feet to 18 inches in diameter.

The expense of the construction of the street sewers in Albany are paid by levying special assessments upon the property benefited by it and lying adjacent to it. Many of these sewers have been constructed at large expense. For instance: Hudson avenue sewer, from the river to Eagle street, cost $20,150; State street, from river to Eagle street, $21,289; Patroon street, from the river to North Pearl street, $48,718.

The cost of these sewers are $9 per lineal foot for 6 feet; 6\frac{1}{3}$, for 4$\frac{1}{2}$ feet; 6\frac{1}{4}$, for 4 feet; 5\frac{1}{2}$, for 3$\frac{1}{2}$ feet; 5\frac{1}{4}$, for 3 feet; and 4\frac{3}{4}$, for 2$\frac{1}{2}$ feet. These are laid about 12$\frac{1}{2}$ feet below the surface, to accommodate house drainage.

Vitrified-pipe drains are laid about 9$\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the surface. For 20 inches in diameter they cost $2 per lineal foot; 18 inches, $1.60 per foot; 15 inches, $1 per foot; 12 inches, $1.00 per foot.

The system of collecting assessments for the construction of the sewers, relieves the citizens from a bonded debt for their construction to which many other cities are subjected.

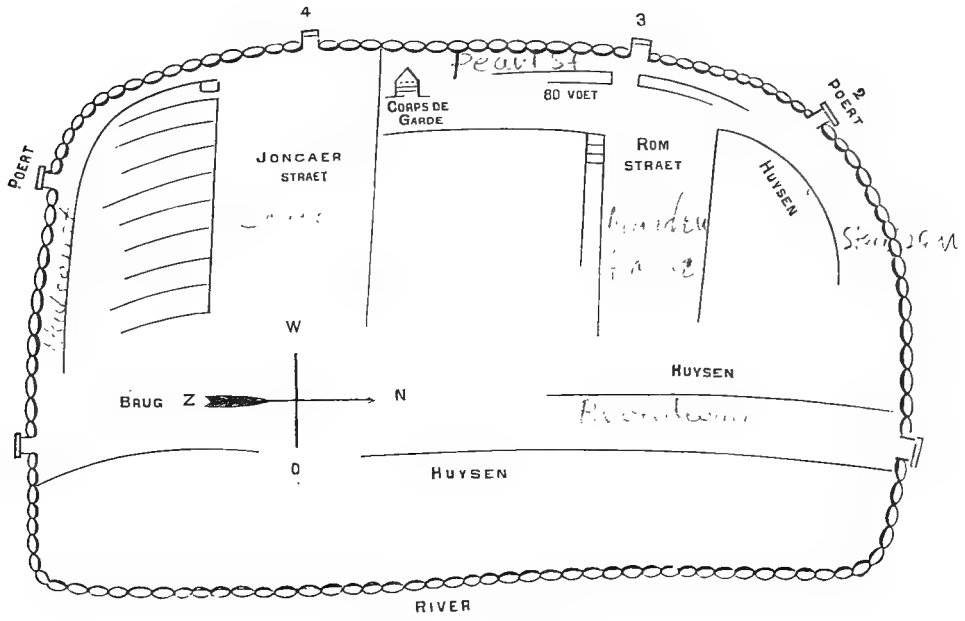
This system of sewers already constructed extends north and south, along the river front, the entire width of the city—about two miles; and westerly, about the same distance.

R. H. Bingham, the present able City Engineer and Surveyor, has for thirty years uninterruptedly, and with credit and fidelity, held the position, a just tribute to his sterling worth and ability. He is a native of Stillwater, Saratoga County, and was educated at the Academy in that town, and subsequently at the Normal School in Albany, where he graduated in 1845. He was for five years Professor of Mathematics and Natural Sciences in Jonesville Academy; was admitted to the Bar in

Albany County in 1848, and practiced his profession with decided success until 1854. His natural ability in the direction of engineering inclined him to the study of that science in every detail. In 1855, he planned the first brick and cement sewer constructed in Albany, his plan being approved by the municipal authorities. From 1868 to 1872 he was interested in the construction of the Park, being engineer in charge. The granite block pavement was first laid under his direction in 1868. He was appointed Assistant Engineer on the Rochester and Buffalo Division of the Erie Canal in 1840, and for two years was engaged in the work of its enlargement. In 1854 he was called to the position he now so ably fills. A thorough master of his profession, and a man of ripe experience and expanded views, he has, in his official capacity, contributed his full share to the prosperity of the city, and has honored the position which he has so long filled.

STREETS OF ALBANY.

The first traders at Albany clustered around Fort Orange, near the foot of Lydius street. For two reasons this fort was changed to higher ground farther north along the present Broadway: first, to avoid high water, which in 1656 washed away a great part of Fort Orange, and secondly, to give space around the fort for free range of the guns.

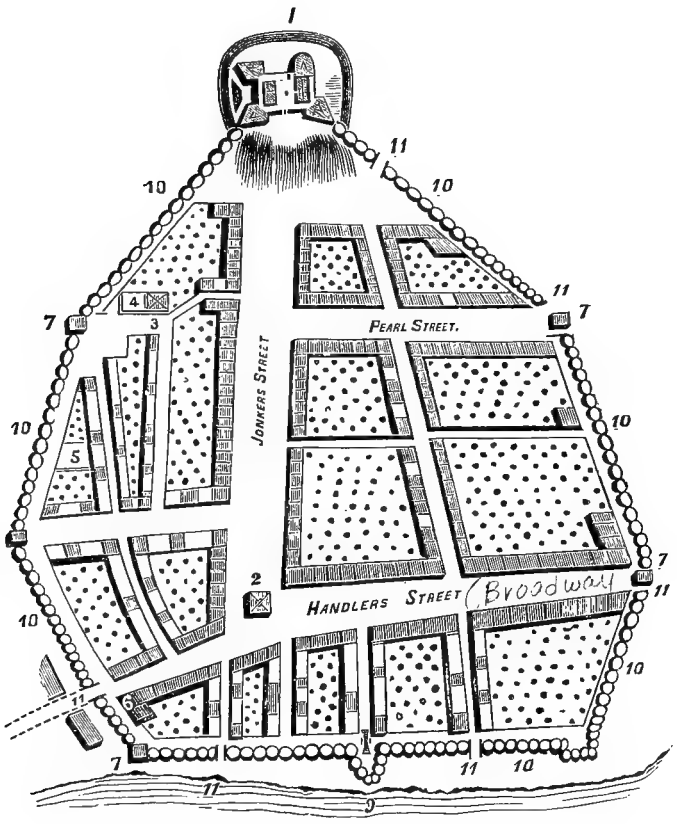


PLAN OF ALBANY, 1676.

The simple diagram above is a *fac-simile* of the oldest plan of the city known, and gives an idea of Beverwyck in 1676, after the fort had been removed from its original location. It embraces that part of the city now bounded by the river on the east and Steuben street on the north. But two streets are designated on the map, Joncaer street, now State, and Rom street, now Maiden lane. Broadway is represented by parallel lines. The earliest name given to it was Handlaer street, as appears on a map made some years later. The guard-house occupied the old Elm tree corner on North Pearl street. It will be seen that the settlement extended only a short distance beyond North Pearl street on the west, while its northern boundary was Steuben street, and its southern Hudson street.

The following map of Albany was made in 1695 by Rev. John Miller, a chaplain in the British Army, and shows the line of palisades built soon after the removal from the vicinity of old Fort Orange about 1656. It is undoubtedly a true picture of the form, boundaries and streets of the city as they were about two hundred years ago, reaching from Hudson to Steuben streets on Broadway, and from the river west to Lodge street, in circumference about six furlongs. The fort designated on this map was known as Fort Albany, and was built after the surrender of the province to the English in 1664, at the head of old State street, west of the present Lodge street. Fort Orange, soon after the completion of the new fort, was abandoned, and the land around it divided up into gardens. The dwellings were mostly located, for safety, within the palisades. The church at the junction of State and Broadway was built in 1664, after the one near Fort Orange had been abandoned. This church was used until 1715, when another was erected on the same site. This church in the middle of State street caused the great width

of both State street and Broadway at this point. Broadway, as will be seen by reference to the map, as it approached the north gate and main guard was reduced to a single cart path, and in fact at the palisades the houses on opposite sides of the street came so close together as to form a Fuyck, a name very often applied to the village instead of Beverwyck.



PLAN OF ALBANY, 1695.

1. The Fort.
2. Dutch Calvinist Church.
3. German Lutheran.
4. Its Burying Place.
5. Dutch Calvinist Burying Place.
6. Stadt House.
7. Block Houses.
9. Great Guns to clear a Gully.
10. Stockades.
11. City Gates, six in all.

At the date of this map there were about 200 houses in Beverwyck, built principally on four streets, viz.: Broadway, from Hudson to Steuben; State, from Broadway to Chapel; North Pearl, to Steuben; and Chapel, from State to the palisades. Beaver, Norton, State, from Broadway to the river, called Staat's alley; Exchange and Steuben, which extended only from Broadway to North Pearl, contained but a few dwellings. Hudson, from Broadway to Green, simply the *rondwegh*, and James street, a mere alley, had no dwellings. Lots fronting on any street west of Broadway, the highest being Berg, now Chapel, street, were said to be on the hill. The contracted space within which the village was crowded led to a very minute division of land in the best streets, and lots of only 15 or 20 feet wide and of a corresponding depth were common.

Chevalier De Calliers, Governor of Montreal in 1689, speaks of Albany as being "about as large as Montreal, surrounded by picquets, at one end of which is an earthen fort defended by palisades, and consisting of four small bastions. There is a garrison of 150 men, of three companies, in the Fort and some pieces of cannon. Said town of Orange [Albany] may contain about 150 houses and 300 inhabitants, the majority of whom are Dutch, and some French refugees, with some English."

By observing the septangular form of the palisades, we can see how the curvatures and diagonal lines presented by many of the streets in the lower portion of our city had their rise. A more extended line of palisades was afterwards constructed, bounded by Hamilton street on the south and crossing Broadway on the north, near Orange and Van Tromp streets. The north gate was placed there, and was the line, as late as the early part of the present century, dividing the City of Albany from Colonie, which was a separate town until 1815. It was a century after Miller's draft of the city was made before it began to increase very rapidly in territory or population. In 1688, it con-

tained but 300 persons, and a century after only about 4,000.

So little had the City of Albany changed from its appearance in 1695, that in 1718 it was described by a tourist as little else than a fortified village, with unpaved, dirty and irregular streets. Most of the residences were situated on the margin of the river, the lower end of State, and on Court, now called Broadway. It was in fact only a small town, with less than 1,000 inhabitants. A few stores and trading places were located in the present Chapel street. In the middle of State street and in Broadway were all the public buildings, viz.: the Town House, two churches, English and Dutch, the Guard-house and Public Market. On the river were three docks: Lower or King's Dock, Middle and Upper. Here vessels were unloaded by the aid of canoes.

Probably the best description of primitive Albany is contained in Mrs. Grant's "Memoirs of an American Lady," published in 1764, in which she says: "The City of Albany stretched along the banks of the Hudson. One very wide and broad street lay parallel to the river, the intermediate space between it and the shore being occupied by gardens. A small but steep hill rose above the center of the town, on which stood a fort, intended (but very ill adapted) for the defense of the place and of the neighboring country. From the foot of this hill another street was built, sloping pretty rapidly down till it joined the one before mentioned, that ran along the river. This street was still wider than the other. It was only paved on each side, the middle being occupied by public edifices. These consisted of a Market-place or Guard-house, a Town Hall, and the English and Dutch Churches. The English Church, belonging to the Episcopal persuasion, and in the diocese of the Bishop of London, stood at the foot of the hill at the upper end of the street. The Dutch Church was situated at the bottom of the descent, where the street terminated. Two irregular streets, not so broad, but equally long, ran parallel to those, and a few even ones opened between them. The town, in proportion to its population, occupied a great space of ground. The city, in short, was a kind of semi-rural establishment. Every house had its garden, well, and a little green behind. Before every door a tree was planted, rendered interesting by being coeval with some beloved member of the family. Many of these trees were of prodigious size and extraordinary beauty, but without regularity, every one planting the kind that best pleased him, or which he thought would afford the most agreeable shade to the open portico at his door, which was surrounded by seats and ascended by a few steps. It was in these that each domestic group was seated in summer evenings to enjoy the balmy twilight or the serenely clear moonlight." Such is a picture of ancient Albany as it appeared seventy-six years after it had become a city; a period when it had all the appearance of a quiet, staid village, with unpaved, grass-grown streets, and all the rural simplicity of many a town now in the interior of the State.

Peter Kalm, speaking of the streets of Albany in 1749, said: "The streets are broad, and some of them are paved. In some parts they are lined with trees; the long streets are almost parallel to the river, and the others intersect them at right angles. The street which goes between the two churches is five times broader than the others, and serves as a market-place. The streets, upon the whole, are very dirty, because the people have their cattle in them during the summer nights." Indeed, so muddy were the streets in rainy seasons, that it was no uncommon sight for foot passengers and wagons to become mired in the mud, requiring assistance to be extricated. In the records of the Common Council, March 12, 1694, it appears that the streets were so muddy that it was almost impossible for foot passengers to use them, and it was ordered that "every householder shall make, or cause to be made, eight foot ground before his own house, fronting on the streets, paved with stone, under a penalty after the first of June, of every week, of six shillings." The reference of Kalm and other tourists before the beginning of the present century to the paved streets, refers to this manner of pavements. The sidewalks merely were paved, not the streets proper.

Numerous references are made in the early Common Council Records to paving the sidewalks. In 1695, £50 was raised for this purpose; and, in 1717, a number of streets were ordered to be paved, and in Rom street, now Maiden lane, and in all the other streets existing at that time, the pavement was ordered to be repaired.

Many laws were passed by the Common Council in the early history of Albany referring to the streets. In 1686, a law was passed that every Saturday morning each inhabitant should clean the street in front of his dwelling, and also that no filth should be thrown in the street. A few years later, the following ordinance was passed:

"*Resolved*, That an ordinance be issued forth that all the respectable inhabitants within said city do severally clean the streets from the dung, dust, chips and filth before their houses or lots in the said streets; and that all wood and stone, except for present building, or cooper's wood, be removed out of the said streets before the 15th of April next ensuing, on penalty of paying for every default afterwards by them made, the sum of six shillings to the use of the Sheriff or any Constable who shall sue for the same. And that hereafter, if any dung, dust, chips or filth shall be found (on any Saturday after twelve o'clock noon) lying in the said streets against the house or lot of any person within the said city, that such person shall pay, also, for such default and contempt, the like sum of six shillings, to be sued for as aforesaid. And that hogs or swine belonging to any of the said inhabitants be ringed with one ring in the nose before Saturday night next, and remain ringed from that time; and if the hog or swine of any person as aforesaid shall be found not ringed, the owners of such hog or swine shall pay for every such default or neglect the sum of six shillings to the Sheriff or Constable who shall sue for the same."

A law was passed forbidding any person to drive through the streets faster than a walk under a penalty of three shillings. The spirit of this law was often enjoined upon the inhabitants by the early city fathers. Another law which was after enacted required that all hogs which ran at large should be properly ringed; but it seems that this injunction was not very carefully regarded, for more than a century after, Elkanah Watson, who had been elected Constable, as a joke, attended to his duties in earnest, and created a great sensation by attempting to enforce it by driving all hogs not ringed to the public pound.

On the early maps of Beverwyck, the names of but few streets are given; but in early conveyances the following names appear: Broadway was called Cow, *de breede*, or Broad, Lower Handlaers, and Brewers street; Hudson, Spanish street; Green, south of Beaver, Esplanade or Plain street; and north of Beaver, the *Voddemart* or Rag market, and Cheapside; Chapel, Berg street; State, Jonkers street; South Pearl, DeKlyne street.

After the charter was granted, in 1686, the city was divided into three wards; the first embraced all that part of the town south of State and Exchange streets; the second lay north of State and West of James street; and the third contained that portion lying north of State and Exchange and east of James street.

State street and Broadway are the two oldest streets in Albany. State street, when it was first laid out, was made of unusual width for that day, originally to accommodate the old Dutch Church which stood near Broadway in the center; but afterwards a line of public buildings were erected there. They were not all removed until the beginning of the present century. From a map of State street made in 1792, it was represented as being 149 feet wide at Pearl street, and gradually extending in width until it became 158 feet wide at Lodge street. The old English Church, which stood in the center of the street opposite Chapel, was erected in 1715. From the river to Broadway it was a narrow avenue, but beyond Broadway it opened to a liberal width and extended about 1,900 feet to the brow of the hill, the original ascent being about seven feet in one hundred. State street usually impressed the tourists, who visited Albany in its primitive day, most favorably. John Lambert, in 1807, described it as resembling the Haymarket in London. In Spafford's Gazetteer, published in 1813, it was described as a grand avenue into the heart of the city, and that it was regarded as the grand central point of Albany, "where its opulence is to be displayed, where taste shall vie with taste, architect with architect, age with age, in perpetual succession." Until the close of the last century its original grade had not been much reduced, and being still unpaved was usually incumbered with mud, rendering traveling extremely difficult. In 1792, the wagon of Philip Schuyler became buried in the mud in front of Green street, requiring assistance to extricate it. It was paved from Broadway to the Capitol Park in 1796, and in 1828 pavement was extended from this point to Lark street. In 1831, from Broadway to the Quay, it was widened to seventy feet. The width of this part had been only thirty-five feet at Market street, and forty-three feet at Quay. The buildings on each side, at this period, were mostly of wood, and in a wretched condition. The present width of State street is 133 feet at Broadway and 157 feet at the foot of the Capitol Park.

Broadway, north from State street, was called Market street on the early maps, from the fact that the public market was situated in its center between Maiden lane and State street. The Market house was built in 1791, at an expense of £222. It was removed many years ago, before the street was named Broadway. The market was a great gathering place for the inhabitants of the neighborhood on warm afternoons, when the butchers had departed. They took their chairs there, and smoked and gossiped for hours. South of State street, Broadway was known as Court street; but until near the beginning of the present century it only extended to Lydius street, from which point only a common road extended along the bank of the river to the ferry. West of Court street, beyond Lydius street, the Dutch Reformed Church owned considerable land, used as pasture; and in 1791 the consistory directed that this portion of the church domain be laid out into lots. At this time a gate swung across Lydius street at the end of Court street, and it was considered the southern extremity of the city. Only a common road extended through the pasture land. At this time Court street was extended and a number of streets were laid out in this section, several of these being named after the early Dutch ministers. They have since been filled in to a considerable extent and rendered valuable, although when laid out, and the land converted into building lots, the church realized less than one hundred dollars per lot. There were comparatively few lots built upon south of Lydius street, between South Pearl street and Broadway, as late as 1840, though now it is one of the most densely settled portions of the city. Court street was changed to name of South Market about the beginning of the present century. The name of Broadway for both North and South Market streets was adopted in 1840. At one time Court street was considered the most fashionable part of the city.

At the present time Broadway extends from Gansevoort street to the northern boundary of the city, and thence into the Troy road. No street in the city presents such a varied aspect. At the south end it is lined with manufacturing establishments. Near the steamboat landing it is given up to hotels and restaurants; then follows a line of stores to State street. North of State street it widens into one of the handsomest streets in Albany, having on it hotels and many large commercial buildings; from Columbia street to Clinton avenue it decreases in width and commercial activity; north of Clinton avenue it is a street of substantial residences till the new viaduct is reached, beyond which are several manufacturing buildings. Court street was paved in 1796.

The Broadway Viaduct was built in 1882–83 to obviate the danger of crossing the tracks of the Central Hudson railroad on Broadway and Colonie street. The grades of Broadway and Colonie and North Lansing streets were depressed and the tracks carried over upon iron bridges. The work was done by the railroad company at an expense of $128,765; but the damage to adjacent property owners had to be met by the city, and has been assessed at $134,237.

The street next in importance to State street and Broadway, during the earlier history of Albany, was North Pearl street, which ran from State street to Clinton square. North from this point it was previously called Orchard street. South of State street, this street on the early maps was named Washington street, but is now called South Pearl. Pearl street now, as in the past, has always been an important business street. In the early part of the last century it contained many private dwellings and some business houses. Succeeding years and the growth of the city have made it one of the most popular and thriving business streets in the city. Old houses have given place to stores. Especially is this true for a considerable distance on both sides of State street.

North Pearl street has been widened and greatly improved within a few years, and now presents the appearance of a grand avenue. Division street was the extreme southern boundary of South Pearl street as late as 1850, since which it has been extended, and is now thickly populated as far as Gansevoort street. One of the curious features of the olden times affecting this street, was a law passed by the Common Council in 1793, which provided that two chains be stretched across the street, one on each side of the First Presbyterian Church, to prevent the passage of vehicles during church services, effectually barricading that edifice from the passage of all but foot passengers. These chains were not removed until 1832.

Chapel street is another very ancient street of Albany. In early times it was a very important business thoroughfare. It was the most westerly and highest street of the city when laid out, and for that reason was called Berg street (that is, Hill street), which in time came to be written by the English, Barrack street, from the Dutch pronunciation, bar-rg, as though it were two syllables. It was chiefly occupied, for many years, by houses of Indian traders.

Lydius street for many years formed the extreme southern boundary of the city, and extended from Lodge street to Broadway. It was named after Rev. Johannes Lydius, a Dutch Reformed Minister, who came to Albany in 1700. In 1867, the name Lydius street was changed by the Common Council to Madison avenue, which at that time provoked much opposition from the Dutch citizens. Where Lydius street was laid out was once the camping and training ground of the British army when commanded by Abercrombie and Amherst. Madison avenue has been gradually extended westward, now reaching from the river to its junction with Western avenue. It forms one of the longest streets in Albany; contains many fine dwellings of recent erection; and is considered one of the most fashionable and desirable locations for private residences in the city.

Hudson avenue is another of the early streets of Albany, and in early days of the city only extended as far as Eagle street. It has been called by various names, the earliest, as previously stated, being Spanish street, then Prideaux, Buffalo and Hudson streets, and finally, Hudson avenue. The valley through which it runs was the course-way of the Ruttenkill. In 1832 it was filled in, and paved from Eagle street to Hawk street. Hudson avenue on account of its easy grade, being the least precipitous of all the streets leading up the hill, has become one of the principal thoroughfares of Albany, and is lined with some very fine residences. In 1881–82, this avenue, from Broadway to South Pearl street, was widened and straightened, at a cost of $74,965.

Green street and Maiden lane are on the list of original streets in early Albany. The ancient names of Green street have been given before. Before it received its present name it was known as Van Driessen street. Its present name being in honor of General Greene, of the revolution, ought to be written with a final e. The earliest name given Maiden lane was Rom street. This was one of the first laid out in Beverwyck, appearing on the first map of the city in existence. In the early history of Albany it was an important business street. From Broadway to North Pearl street it is now a thoroughfare of considerable importance. Extending from the river to Eagle street it is very narrow, and the shortest and steepest route from the railroad depots to the Capitol.

Ferry street, now known as South Ferry, was opened to Washington, now South Pearl, in 1789, by arrangement made by the Common Council with the Consistory of the Dutch Church, which owned the land in that vicinity.

This concludes our account of the principal streets of Albany of much importance up to near the close of the last century, at which period, it must be remembered, this city had not been extended much beyond the limits of the old palisades. All business then centered around the river, State street, Pearl street, and Broadway. Even as late as 1796, our city was only a good sized village, with 5,000 inhabitants and not more than one thousand houses. It was not until a number of years after the revolution that Albany showed signs of rapid growth.

Says Gorham A. Worth:

"The City of Albany, in 1800, though the capital of the State, and occupying a commanding position, was, nevertheless, in point of size, commercial importance, and architectural dignity, but a third or fourth-rate town. It was in 1800 an old town, but the face of nature in and around it had been but little disturbed. All was antique, clean, and quiet. There was no putting up nor pulling down; no ill-looking excavations; no leveling of hills; no filling up of valleys. The stunted pines still covered the hills to the very edge of the town, and the ravines and valleys were clothed

with evergreens, intermixed with briars and spangled with the wild rose."

In 1819 the city extended but two miles north and south, and but one mile in the widest part east and west. Until 1793 not a street had been paved, and most of them were in a filthy, neglected condition. Even State street, now a most spacious and beautiful avenue, was then not only without pavements and ungraded, but in many places broken, and some parts even precipitous, while the slightest rain upon its clayey soil rendered traveling most unpleasant and difficult. In those days the staid Dutch settlers were slow to make improvements, and the influx of strangers in this, even then, ancient town, who were in favor of schemes to improve and beautify the city, excited strong hostility in the feelings of those who were opposed to all innovating projects. The most progressive stranger who came to Albany about this time, was Elkanah Watson, who came from Plymouth, Mass., in 1789, and to whom early Albany owes as much for improvements as to any one man. At the time of his arrival, Mr. Watson said in his journal: "No street was paved, no lamps, no library; not a public-house of any decency; and water-spouts, projecting from the eaves of the houses, deluged unwary night travelers sunk in mud and darkness." To the mind of Mr. Watson, familiar with the elegancies and advancement of European cities, the various defective arrangements in the city of his adoption were seen and appreciated; and, soon after becoming a resident, he engaged earnestly, through the press and by personal efforts, in suggesting and urging local improvements connected with these subjects. His efforts received bitter opposition. The following amusing incident, taken from his journal, will exhibit the state of feeling he had excited:

"Just after State street had been paved at a heavy expense, I sauntered into it immediately succeeding a heavy thunderstorm, and whilst regretting the disturbance in the sidewalk, and to observe the cellars filled with water [for in that section, which was near the present locality of the State Bank, the street grading had been elevated some feet], I heard two women, in the act of clearing their invaded premises from the accumulation of mud and water, cry out, 'Here comes that infernal paving Yankee!' They approached me in a menacing attitude, broomsticks erect. Prudence dictated a retreat to avoid being broomsticked by the infuriated Amazons, although I did not run as some of my friends insisted, but walked off at a quick pace." In subsequent years, Mr. Watson received many generous tributes of acknowledgment and thanks from those who, in their progress, had opposed his efforts to improve and embellish the city.

It was not before 1860 that the last vestige of the original wide domain of Hendrick Halenbeck was obliterated in this city. This consisted in the removal of the burial ground on the southwest corner of South Pearl and Hamilton streets, set apart by Halenbeck in the middle of the last century as a private burial ground. It was near the north line of his farm, which extended from Plain street to Beverkill at Arch street, where it joined the farm of General Schuyler; the south line at Pearl street being designated by a cannon, which remained in the ground until a few years ago. The boundaries of this property east and west are uncertain, but are claimed to have extended from Eagle street to the river. It is also claimed that South Pearl street was laid out by Halenbeck through his property, and given by him for a street. Through this farm the present Grand street was laid out in the fore part of the last century, and called Halenbeck street. In 1829 the City Surveyor presented to the Common Council a profile of this street from Hudson to Hamilton streets. Although it had, nearly a century before, been laid out and named, no vestige of a street had yet been made there. A portion of it south of Lydius street was used only as a lane leading to the farm of Oliver Kane (now the site of Ash grove Church), across which swung a gate. It was laid out sixty feet wide, as though it was expected to make it a more important avenue than South Pearl street, which was then only forty-five feet in width. In 1838 the Common Council was petitioned to have it paved from Hudson to Lydius street. In 1835 but one house was located on this street, at the northeast corner of Hamilton and Grand, which stood alone like an outpost upon the western verge of the city. All was open barren pasture and clay hills beyond, as far as the eye could reach, and so continued until Hamilton street was dug out, leaving a high wall of clay on either hand. In process of time the name of Halenbeck street was changed to Grand, an outrage upon the generous donor of the land through which it originally passed.

PAVEMENTS.—From the best information, we are led to believe that Watervliet street, which began at Columbia, where Montgomery now is, and ran diagonally to where Broadway and Patroon (now Clinton avenue) intersect, was the first street paved in Albany, the work having been begun and nearly completed in 1793. During this and the succeeding year, rapid progress was made in paving streets. The *Albany Register* of September 29, 1794, tells us that the paving system had been prosecuted with so much vigor, that only Pearl and a few cross streets remained to complete the enterprise. Said the *Register:* "The contrast in so short a time from one of the filthiest to one of the cleanest cities in America is truly astonishing, and must be pleasing to every citizen, especially when we take in contemplation that noble extent of pavement, now nearly completed, through the whole extent of Watervliet street to the bridge, the very idea of which a few years ago would have been thought to have been the hight of madness." It was also said that property had risen in value in consequence. It was found that a mistake had been made in paving the sidewalks with small stones.

From 1793 to 1804 many miles of pavement were laid. Church street, parts of Lydius, Van Schaick, Westerlo and Sturgeon streets, and parts of Bass and Herring lanes, and all the lots from Court street westward to Dallius street, and from

Ferry street northward to the north bounds of the church pasture, were filled up and leveled, preparatory to paving. In 1804 the Common Council ordered that parts of State, Lion (now Washington avenue) and Washington (now South Pearl), which remained unpaved and greatly out of repair, should be immediately paved by the owners and occupants; the work to be completed within eight days after notice from the City Superintendent, showing the rapidity with which this important improvement in the streets was pushed at this date.

It will be almost impossible, as well as uninteresting, to give in detail the names of the streets (and the dates) paved from the beginning of the present century. It would be a task requiring much research, and would take greater space than we are able to use in this article. A diligent inspection of the Common Council records will show how rapidly the work of paving progressed in the city after it was commenced in 1793. From 1820 to 1833, probably more miles of pavement were completed than during any corresponding years of the city's history. During this same period many streets were extended and many new ones laid out. Space forbids our giving any detailed account of the rapid growth of the city at this period, which the records of the Common Council so plainly indicate.

Until the year 1869, no other kind of pavement had been laid but the round cobblestone still so generally used. During this year, Broadway, from Hudson avenue to Wilson street, was repaved with wooden blocks of Canada pine, called the Nicholson pavement. In 1870, Hudson avenue, from Broadway to Willett street, was paved with this kind of pavement; and also Green street, from State street to Madison avenue. But it was soon proved that this style of pavement was unfit for the heavy trucking done on these streets. After five years of use it was substituted in Broadway by the granite block, which in 1874 was laid from Hudson avenue to Wilson street. The wooden pavement in Hudson avenue and Green street was soon after replaced by the granite block. Since then granite block pavement has been laid in Western avenue, from Livingston to the Boulevard; Ten Broeck, from Clinton avenue to Livingston avenue; First street, from Ten Broeck to Hawk; Third street, from Ten Broeck to Hall place; Hall place, from First to Third; State, from Swan to Lexington avenue; James, from State to Columbia; Steuben, from Broadway to Eagle; Elk, from Eagle to Hawk; Second avenue, from Sloan to Delavan avenue; South Pearl, from Gansevoort to Mount Hope; Willett, from State to Madison avenue; Columbia, from Broadway to Chapel; North Pearl, from State to Clinton avenue; Clinton avenue, from Broadway to North Pearl; Knox, from Madison avenue to Morris; Steuben, from Broadway to North Pearl. Contracts have been let for similarly paving State, from Eagle to Lexington avenue; Eagle, from Spruce to Myrtle avenue; Washington avenue, from Eagle to Lexington avenue; Broadway, from Hudson avenue to South Ferry; and South Pearl, from State to Gansevoort. Broadway, from Wilson to Livingston avenue is paved with the Weehawken bluestone, the only pavement of that kind in the city.

Albany at the present time has more than forty-eight miles of paved streets, of which about forty miles are paved with cobblestone, and, with the work now in progress, eight miles of granite block. In Washington Park, a little more than a mile of Telford, macadam road has been laid.

In 1813, Albany contained about 11,000 persons, having more than doubled in population in about fifteen years, while in public and private building, and extent and condition of its streets, it had made even more remarkable progress. In a description of Albany in 1813, published in Spafford's Gazetteer, appears the following account of its streets at that date:

"The principal streets of Albany are parallel with the river, except State street, a spacious and central one, that extends from the Hudson to the Capitol. Court street extends from the Ferry, at the southern extremity of the compact part, and near the southern bounds of the city, to State street. It has a large share of population and business. Market street opens opposite to this, and extends from State street to the northern bounds of the city, though continuous, except in name. These streets extend across the city nearly parallel with the Hudson, between which are several streets, less extensive, as Dock street, Quay street, etc., principally occupied with store-houses, shops, etc., the seat of immense commercial business * * * The public square, an open space of liberal extent, spreads a handsome area on the east side of the Capitol; and from the west side of this, Lion street, spacious and level, extends westward in a right line on a commanding plain, to the junction of the Great Western Turnpike." The eastern end of this turnpike, Lion street, now Washington avenue, from Lark street, was for a long time known as the Bowery, now Central avenue. It has undergone many changes. Before the completion of the Erie Canal in 1825, it was the great thoroughfare to and from Western New York. Some of the large store-houses until lately remaining about Townsend Park, attest the commercial character of the street at that time. A continuous line of vehicles crowded its pathway every day. Emigrants from New England to Central and Western New York usually took this in their route. In the zenith of the prosperity of the street the Erie Canal was built, and the business interests of the street were gone. In 1865 it was paved, much improving its character and condition.

"North Pearl street extends north from State street to the northern extremity of the city, just on the brow of the river hill, and next west of Market street. * * * Of all the principal streets, it is at present the most compact, populous and probably, the most wealthy."

In 1823, the *Daily Advertiser*, to show the progress the city had made in ten years, had the following:

"Ten years ago and the now proud and beautiful Academic square was a barren clay bank, varie-

gated by an occasional saw-pit or a group of reclining cows; then the whole of the upper part of Columbia street was a high hill, unoccupied and impassable as a street, and the greater part of Chapel street was, in rainy weather, a complete mud-hole.

"Ten years ago, of the whole row of handsome dwellings now standing on the south side of the Capitol square, only one was erected. Then Daniel street did not exist, and the whole south part of Eagle street was a most unpromising ravine.

"Ten years ago and juvenile sports used to shoot snipe and other small game where now the Erie Canal pours its water into the Hudson. Of all that city which has since sprung up in that neighborhood, not a house was then standing; while, in the south pasture, over whose vacant fields the various city regiments used to maneuver, we now see orderly platoons of handsome brick houses and battalions of streets 'dressed' with a beautiful regularity unattainable by their animated predecessors. In short, every quarter of the city: north, south, east—and even the despised west—give tokens of sound and healthy growth."

The part of the hill on the south side of the Fort, and West of South Pearl street, was in 1760 called Gallows Hill. July, 1762, the Common Council sold the land where the gallows stood in acre lots. In the Surveyor's office is a map of this part of Albany, entitled, "New lots laid out on Gallows Hill." The north bounds of the city, at this date, was the south line of Patroon street, now Clinton avenue. Proceeding thence, southerly, we next have Wall street, then Howe street, next Queen street, King street. Prince street, Prideaux street, Quiter street, Wolfe street, Pitt street, at the junction of which with Duke street, now Eagle, was Gallows Hill, where All Saints Cathedral now stands. The above streets ran westerly. The Fort is laid down, with its burying ground immediately north; its walls extended north, nearly to Maiden lane; south, to about the center of State; west, to near Eagle; and east to Lodge street. A cemetery occupied the block between State and Lancaster, and Eagle and Hawk. The streets on the hill running north and south were called Duke, Hawk, Boscawen, Warren and Johnson.

Albany streets have had their names changed frequently, and, it must be admitted, not always for the better. In 1790 the names of several were changed, among them the following: Duke to Eagle, Boscawen to Swan, Warren to Dove, Johnson to Lark, Gage to Swallow, now Knox; Schenectady to Snipe, now Lexington avenue; Schoharie to Duck, now Robin. The next parallel street was called Pigeon, now Perry; the next Turkey, now Quail; the next Sparrow, now Ontario. Wall street was changed to Hare, now Orange; Howe to Fox, now Canal; King to Lion, and afterwards to Washington street, now Washington avenue; Prince, west of Eagle, to Deer, now State; Prideaux to Tiger, now Lancaster; Quiter, so called to perpetuate the Indian name of Peter Schuyler, was changed to Buffalo, now Hudson avenue; Wolfe, named after the Hero of Quebec, was changed to Wolf, afterwards to Lydius, now Madison avenue; Pitt to Otter, then to Westerlo, now Elm; Monckton to Mink, then to West Ferry, now Myrtle avenue.

In 1805, the Common Council, in consequence of the extension and improvement made in some of the streets, changed the name of the following:

Kilby, which from a small alley had then become a spacious street, extending from the Hudson River to Washington street, now South Pearl, to the name of Hamilton; Bone lane, which extended from Hudson River to Green, and was to be extended to South Pearl, to the name of Division; Cow lane, extending from the intersection of Grass lane with Hudson to Ludlow's property adjoining Lydius, to the name of Liberty; Nail, extending from Washington to Eagle, to the name of Lutheran, now Howard; Barrack, extending from State to the north boundary of the city, to the name of Chapel. Since 1805 many other changes have been made in the names of streets. Of those not already mentioned, Capitol has been changed to Park; Mark lane to Exchange; Middle lane to James; Frelinghuysen to Franklin; Dock to Dean; Bass lane to Bleecker; Store lane to Norton; Sand to Lafayette; Van Driessen to Green; South to Gansevoort; High to Ten Broeck; Macomb to Broad; Embargo alley to Dennison; Whitehall road to Whitehall avenue, now Second avenue; Van Vechten to Third avenue; Delaware Turnpike to Delaware avenue; Elizabeth to Second; John to Third; Van Schaick to Monroe; Lumber to Livingston avenue; part of Perry to Lake avenue. Of the present streets, Dean acquired its designation from Captain Dean; Montgomery was named after the heroic soldier who fell before Quebec; Steuben obtained its title from that bluff and brave soldier of the Revolution, who aided so much in giving discipline to our army. The chivalrous Lafayette lives in our history by like means. The Dutch Admiral Van Tromp, who swept the sea with his broom, has a street named to his memory, humble though it be in its pretensions.

STREET DEPARTMENT.—From the granting of the Dongan Charter to 1826, the sole charge of opening, laying out, repairing and cleaning the streets was vested in the Mayor and Aldermen. At the latter date the office of Street Inspector was created. The duties of this officer were confined to seeing that the ordinances of the Common Council relating to streets were carried out, and were somewhat similar to those now enjoined upon the Street Commissioner. He receives his appointment from the Common Council.

The laws relating to the superintendency and general supervision of the streets were passed in 1870. Under the provisions of the Charter, the Street Department includes four bureaus: Board of Contract and Apportionment; Bureau of Street Commission; Bureau of Engineering and Surveying; and the Bureau of Lamps, Gas and Electric Lights.

The Board of Contract and Apportionment consists of the Mayor, the Chamberlain, the Street Commissioner, the City Engineer and Surveyor, and the

President of the Common Council. This Board, under the direction of the Common Council, has, in the language of the City Charter, charge "of the altering, regulating, grading, paving, repaving, flagging, curbing, guttering, cleaning, opening, draining, repairing and lighting of the streets, roads, places, alleys, and avenues; of fencing and filling lots; of building, repairing and lighting docks, wharves and piers; and of the construction and repaving of public streets, drains, roads, alleys and bridges." This Board issues all proposals, receives all bids, and awards all contracts for the work ordered to be done to the streets by the Common Council. It also apportions and assesses the cost of street and drain improvements. The Board appoints a Clerk, who also acts as Clerk to the Street Commissioner. The present Clerk is Thomas J. Lanahan.

Bureau of Street Improvements has for its chief officers the Street Commissioner, appointed by the Common Council on nominations by the Mayor. The Commissioner appoints two Street Superintendents and one Superintendent of Lamps. The present Commissioner is Owen Golden. Street Superintendents, Lawrence Wetzel and Michael J. Hayden; Superintendent of Lamps, Thomas Powers.

Bureau of Engineering and Surveying.—Chief officer, City Engineer and Surveyor, appointed by the Common Council on nominations by the Mayor. The Engineer appoints a deputy and two assistants, with the approval of the Mayor. The present Engineer is Reuben H. Bingham; Deputy, John J. O'Hara.

Bureau of Lamps, Gas and Electric.—The chief officer of this bureau is the Street Commissioner, although the Superintendent of Lamps may perform all the duties of the office.

WATER SUPPLY.

One of the most important factors in the health, convenience and comfort of the people of any community, is a sufficiency of pure and wholesome water.

At what precise date the first settlers obtained water from other than the natural sources of the Hudson River, or the springs and small creeks which abounded in this region, we are unable to learn; but that soon after the first year of settlement, public and private wells were built, is evident from reference made to their existence in the very earliest documentary records. These public wells were supplied with water, as early as 1670, from a fountain or pond, formed by constructing a dam across a creek, or near the outlet of a spring on the hill adjacent to the present Capitol. Water was conducted from this fountain to the wells by means of wooden spouts.

In 1686 a fire occurred in the city, and in subduing it the water from the public wells, supplied in the manner described, proved of valuable assistance. In the city records of August 31st of this year, appears the following testimony:

"It has been found by experience that the bringing of water of the fountains from the hill has not only been of great use to the inhabitants for water, but the only means of quenching the late fire, which otherwise, by all probability, would have destroyed the whole town."

The number and exact locations of the public wells built in early Albany is difficult to determine. In 1695, a well was built in Jonker (now State) street. In 1712, one was constructed in the First Ward, about twelve yards from the east side of the Market-house, and, at the same time, another on the north side of Cross street, opposite the residence of Gysbert Marselis. Two years later, three were built, one in each of the three wards, but the precise locations cannot be learned from the city records.

Besides the public wells, nearly every dwelling had its private well. But even this apparently sufficient means of water supply was either inadequate, or of a quality not fit for general use, for evidence is abundant that river water was quite extensively used for culinary and laundry purposes many years prior to the beginning of this century.

The quality of the water obtained from the Albany wells a century ago was a matter much discussed and hard to be determined.

One of the earliest writers upon Albany well water was Peter Kalm, a Swedish naturalist, who came to this country in 1748 on a scientific expedition from the University of Upsala. In giving a detail of his researches, he thus speaks of the water of Albany:

"The water of several wells in this town was very cool about this time, but had a kind of acid taste which was not very agreeable. On a nearer examination I found an abundance of little insects in it, which were probably monoculi. Their length was different; some were a geometrical line and a half; others two, and others four lines long. They were very narrow, and of a very pale color. The head was blacker and thicker than the other parts of the body, and about the size of a pin's head. The tail was divided into two branches, and each branch terminated in a little black globule. When these insects swim, they proceed in crooked or undulated lines, almost like tadpoles. I poured some of this water into a bowl and put near a fourth part of rum in it; the monoculi, instead of being affected with it, swam about as briskly as they had done in the water. This shows that if one makes punch with this water it must be very strong to kill the monoculi. I think this water is not very wholesome for people who are not used to it, though the inhabitants of Albany who drink it every day say they do not feel the least inconvenience from it. I have several times been obliged to drink water here, in which I have plainly seen monoculi swimming; but I generally felt the next day something like a pea in my throat, or as if I had a swelling there, and this continued about a week. I felt such swellings this year, both in Albany and other parts. My servant, Yangstroem, likwise got a great pain in his breast, and a sensation as from a swelling after drinking water with monoculi in it; but whether

these insects occasioned it, or whether it came from some other cause, I cannot ascertain. However, I have always endeavored to do without such water as had monoculi in it. I have found monoculi in very cold water, taken from the deepest wells in different parts of this country. Perhaps many of our diseases arise from water of this kind which we do not sufficiently examine. I have frequently observed abundance of minute insects in water which has been remarkable for its clearness. Almost each house in Albany has its well, and the water of which is applied to common use; but for tea, brewing and washing they commonly take the water of the Hudson, which flows close by the town. This water is generally quite muddy, and very warm in summer; and on that account it is kept in cellars, in order that the slime may subside, and that the water may cool a little."

In Morse's American Geography, published in 1796, appears the following:

"The well water in this city (Albany) is extremely bad, scarely drinkable by those not accustomed to it. It oozes through a stiff blue clay and it imbibes in its passage the fine particles common to that kind of soil. This discolors it, and when exposed any length of time to the air it acquires a disagreeable taste. Indeed all the water for cooking is brought from the river, and many families use it to drink. The water in the wells is unwholesome, being full of little insects, except in size, like those which are frequently seen in stagnated water."

Numerous criticisms, similar to the preceeding, may be found in the writings of many of the tourists who visited Albany during the latter part of the eighteenth century. But John Maude, an Englishman, made a visit to the United States in 1800; he says, in regard to the impurity of the water in Albany:

"As for being obliged to use the dirty water of the river, I will beg leave to observe to Mr. Morse that a very great proportion of the city do not use the river water, which said river water is far from being dirty, rather remarkable for its purity, being a pleasant, wholesome beverage. Great part of the city is supplied with water from a well in the main street, but the water is from a pump to the westward of the Episcopal Church. It is a water that my palate cannot find fault with, nor my eyes perceive in it those animalcules Kalm speaks of; neither could I discover them in the well water."

Certain it is that no record exists tracing to the use of Albany water any unhealthfulness of its inhabitants, or that it was the cause of any specific disease.

In 1832, cholera was especially prevalent in this city, and many attributed it to the peculiarity of the city well water. Accordingly the Board of Health had the water of fourteen wells examined by Drs. T. Romeyn Beck and Philip Ten Eyck, two reliable and expert physicians, the latter of whom still lives in Albany. They pronounced them all free from any impurities which could be injurious to health.

The first action taken by the Corporation of Albany relating to a larger and better water supply, other than public and private wells, occurred in 1794, when an advertisement appeared asking for proposals for supplying the city with water by means of an aqueduct to extend from a spring at the Five-Mile House on the road to Albany. No further reference to this proposed plan is found in the city records.

In 1796 an act was passed by the Legislature to enable the Corporation to supply the city with water by means of conduits, which also failed to be carried out.

The first private individual to undertake the task of supplying the city with water was Benjamin Prescott, who, in 1797, received from Stephen Van Rensselaer a grant of the Maezlandt Kill. Under Mr. Prescott's management a line of wooden logs was laid from the fountain head. But he must have failed to fulfill some part of the contract, for a few years after all his rights in the Maezlandt Kill were transferred by Van Rensselaer to the Water Company.

In 1802 the Albany Water-works Company was incorporated, with a capital of $40,000. The original Trustees were Stephen Lush, Philip Van Rensselaer and John Tayler. Work was commenced almost immediately, by laying mains of iron and wooden logs through the principal streets. Water was drawn from the Maezlandt Kill, which continued to be the principal source of supply until 1837, when this stream failed to meet the demands made upon it, and another source of supply, the Middle Creek, was procured by the company. In a few years the two streams combined were found to be inadequate. In 1845 a part of the Patroon's Creek was purchased from Mr. Van Rensselaer by the Water Company. In 1811 this company built a receiving reservoir on the spot now occupied by the High School, which was supplied by an iron main from the Maezlandt Kill. This main is still used, and from it consumers in North Albany, and many upon Broadway, north of Clinton avenue, and North Pearl street, from Clinton avenue to Columbia, are supplied. This water is, in quality, what is known as very hard.

In 1844 the capital stock of the Albany Water-works Company was increased to $80,000. During this same year, a company known as the Albany Hydrant Company was incorporated, with John Townsend, John K. Paige, Bradford R. Wood, James D. Wasson, Barnum Whipple, Rufus W. Peckham and Peter Gansevoort as Trustees. The latter company caused extensive surveys to be made, with the purpose of devising a better system of water supply; but beyond this work, nothing of a practical nature was attempted.

For many years preceding the adoption of the present mode of water supply, there had been a growing sentiment among the citizens of Albany that the city should own and control its own system of water-works. This sentiment culminated in the Corporation submitting a bill to the Legislature, which became a law April 9, 1850, by which the Common Council were empowered to ap-

point five persons to be known as Water Commissioners; such Commissioners to consider all matters relative to supplying the city with water, and to report to the Common Council the most feasible plan for the construction of city water-works, not to exceed in cost the sum of $600,000, the amount to which the Common Council was limited. The Water Commissioners appointed under this act were James Stevenson, Erastus Corning, John Townsend, John Taylor and Robert E. Temple.

The Water Commissioners, soon after their appointment, caused examinations to be made of the Hudson, the Patroon's Creek, the Normanskill, and the lakes on the Helderbergs. But finally they settled on a plan which met the approval of the Common Council.

The first of these means of city water supply was carried into effect August 23, 1850, by purchasing all the sources of supply owned by the old Water Company for $150,000. The wooden mains of the old company were in many instances replaced by iron pipes; but the sources and method of obtaining water—by the gravitation plan—was for a number of years continued in use, the Maezlandt Kill branch being still retained, although the method of obtaining water from the Patroon's Creek and Middle Creek adopted by the old company had been abandoned.

A further source of supply was adopted by the Water Commissioners and carried into effect in 1851. This consisted of a dam being built about six miles westward of the city, where three streams met and formed the Patroon's Creek, thus creating a body of water which has since been known as Rensselaer Lake, covering, when full, forty acres of land, and holding about 200,000,000 gallons of water. This work was successfully completed under the supervision of William J. McAlpine as engineer. From this lake water was conducted through a brick conduit, egg-shaped, four feet high and nearly four miles long, to Bleecker Reservoir, west of Ontario street, capable of holding 30,000,000 gallons. During this same year (1851) two other reservoirs were constructed a short distance this side of West Albany, by dams thrown across Patroon's Creek, and called the Upper and Lower Tivoli Lakes, the upper being for storage and subsiding, and the lower for distribution. These were supplied from the water that entered the creek east of Rensselaer Lake. A 24-inch main, about 7,000 feet long, was laid from the lower lake to the intersection of Van Woert and North Pearl streets, at which point the water enters the distributing mains. Rensselaer Lake supplies, through Bleecker Reservoir, all that part of the city west of Pearl; Tivoli Lakes, all east of, and including North Pearl street. This was the system of water supply in use up to 1875, with iron mains running through all of the principal streets east of Bleecker Reservoir.

But meanwhile, as the city grew westward, it was found that a considerable portion of the population lived above Bleecker Reservoir, and was therefore without water supply. In addition to this, in consequence of an increased population east of the Bleecker Reservoir, and the necessities of additional manufactories, Rensselaer and Tivoli Lakes failed to meet the consumption, and, as a result, several water famines occurred.

To remedy these defects, the Water Commissioners, after careful examinations, aided by chemical analysis, extensive surveys and reports of distinguished engineers, in 1873 fixed upon the Hudson River as the source of additional supply, as the most exhaustive investigation proved to them that the two principal factors—quantity and quality—were found in this source. Their recommendations were adopted by the Common Council and their plans carried into effect in 1875.

By the system then adopted, water is taken from the river outside the pier, opposite Quackenbush street, where the channel current strikes. In the center of the pier is a well-chamber, 6 feet in diameter and 80 feet deep. Into this the water, screened by copper-wire, 100 meshes to the square inch, pours through a culvert below low-water mark. A tunnel, 5 feet in diameter and nearly 900 feet long, extends from this well-chamber, under the basin, to the pumping works, corner of Quackenbush and Montgomery streets. Here are two engines capable of sending up to Bleecker Reservoir, 245 feet above tide, 10,000,000 gallons of water every twenty-four hours. The force-main through which it goes is 30 inches in diameter, 7,723 feet long, and is laid under Quackenbush street and Clinton avenue. The pumps were first used September 14, 1875.

The completion of this means of river supply proved most successful, and gave an abundance of water to the people living east of Bleecker Reservoir, but still the more elevated portions of the city received no benefit. Accordingly, in 1878, another reservoir, with a capacity of about 7,000,000 gallons, was built on Prospect hill, a sand-knoll north of Central avenue and east of Colby street, 55 feet above tide. At Prospect-hill Reservoir, an engine capable of pumping 5,000,000 gallons of water in twenty-four hours was put in operation February 6, 1878, and through a 2-foot main, running to a well-chamber like that on the pier, pumps the water from Bleecker to Prospect-hill Reservoir.

Albany is at present divided into three services of water supply: the upper service, which, from Prospect-hill Reservoir, supplies all west of Lark street; the middle service, which, from Bleecker Reservoir, supplies Lark street and all east to Pearl street; and the lower service, which, from Tivoli Lakes, supplies Pearl street and all territory east. With the completion of the system of securing river water, none of the old methods of supply were discarded, so that to-day Albany may be said to have an abundant supply of water as unfailing as the Hudson. Should the Tivoli Reservoir run short, water can be sent down the creek from Rensselaer Lake or direct from the Bleecker Reservoir, into which the pumps at the river can send their 10,000,000 gallons daily. It is designed to hold a reserve always in Rensselaer Lake, in case an accident should occur to both engines at once, and to impound in each year, in the months of

February and March, enough water to supply the city when the river is turbid with the spring freshets. When at other times impurities appear in Rensselaer Lake, the supply from that source can be shut off entirely and only river water be used. Thus it is seen how complete is the system, and how difficult to cause a complete failure of the water supply.

Much discussion has been had in the daily newspapers concerning the wholesomeness and purity of the water drawn from the Hudson, and prejudice against its use exists in the minds of many citizens of Albany. But the Water Commissioners assert, on the authority of repeated analysis, made by expert chemists, together with nine years' daily use of the water without an epidemic, that the water is perfectly free from objectionable or unhealthy matter, and that no city in the United States has a better or purer supply of water than Albany.

Another feature in favor of the water-works has been the remarkable diminution in destructive fires since the adoption of the present system. Previous to 1850 Albany was scourged by several extensive fires, notably in 1848, when $2,000,000 worth of property was destroyed. The efficiency of the Fire Department, aided by an unfailing source of water, has prevented the repetition of such a catastrophe. In 1851 there were but 154 fire-hydrants, while at present there are over 500.

Since 1851, when there were but $29\frac{8}{10}$ miles of distributing and supply mains in the city, there are now over 80 miles of pipes. The original cost of the works from 1850 to 1857 was $850,000. The additional supply, including pumping works, reservoirs and mains, etc., $700,000; making an aggregate expense of $1,550,000. Of this sum, after meeting all the expenses of maintenance, the city has paid, up to May, 1884, $460,000, leaving a debt of $1,090,000.

Water rents are collected the same as taxes, and are assessed upon all real estate fronting on streets through which the mains are laid.

By act of the Legislature of 1884, the Commissioners were authorized to expend $400,000. Another pumping engine has been purchased, and work is progressing to increase the water supply, with special reference to the southern part of the city.

The present Water Commissioners are Visscher Ten Eyck, Henry H. Martin, Michael Delehanty, Erastus Corning, John M. Kimball; Superintendent, George W. Carpenter.

STREET LIGHTING.

The early Dutch settlers in Albany were not accustomed to much artificial light, nor did their simple habits of living require it. To the average industrious burgher the approach of darkness in summer was the signal for retiring, and at nine o'clock the thoroughfares were usually entirely deserted, with the exception, may be, of a belated traveler, or the few night watchmen. The longer evenings of winter, with little labor during the day, were spent by the family before the blazing light of the big grate fires of this period; the husband, sons or friends enjoying the soothing pleasure of their pipes, while the industrious wife and daughters were engaged in spinning or knitting. Spending thus their winter evenings, the rooms of their dwellings were rarely illuminated by any light save that from the blazing logs.

Tallow candles, or tallow dips, were probably the only means used by the very earliest settlers, when a light that could be carried about the house was necessary; but even this mode of furnishing light was considered a luxury, and rarely used. Sperm and coal oil began to be used many years after the settlement of Albany. Contrivances for burning it were somewhat similar to those now used in burning kerosene. But the expense of either of these fluids made their use limited except by the very wealthy citizens, and, with the exception of gas, candles remained the principal article for lighting dwellings until the introduction of kerosene oil, about 1860. The cheapness and superior quality of this fluid, compared to others then in use, made it rapidy supersede candles and all other fluids used for producing light. In 1861 it came to be generally used all over the United States.

Coal gas was first practically used in Albany in 1845, and the present system of electric lights in 1881. This embraces all the different means, worthy of mention, used in Albany from the earliest to the present time.

Beyond the feeble light afforded by the lanterns of the night watchmen, the streets of Albany, from the earliest date to 1771, seem to have remained in natural darkness during the night, as at the latter date appears the first account in the city records of an appropriation of money for lighting the streets. In 1771 twenty lamps were used and 150 gallons of oil consumed.

In 1765, it was ordered by the Corporation, in case of any alarm, outcry, attack, riot or fire, that all citizens having houses facing on the street should set three or more lighted candles in the front window, there to remain until daybreak, and refusal to do so subjected the offender to a fine of three shillings. Similar orders were issued at earlier dates, and were intended to better secure the safety of citizens and property, although in many cases it would seem to have been a most injudicious proceeding.

It was not until 1793 that the subject of lighting the streets at night with lamps began to be agitated. Considerable discussion in the newspapers took place during this year.

In 1795, the number of lamps used seems to have been much increased; for, in November of that year, the *Albany Gazette* said:

"The lighting of the city begins to assume a regular and pleasing appearance, and if the Common Council would permit to be lighted at the public expense the lamps which our private citizens shall erect, on their paying into the public treasury money sufficient for the oil, our city in this respect would soon vie with the other principal cities and towns in the United States."

That the number of lamps rapidly increased from the year 1795 is evident, from the fact that during that year 257 gallons of oil were used; while in 1796 it amounted to 344 gallons; in 1797 to 698 gallons; and in 1801 to 1,187 gallons.

In 1800, the lamp district embraced the city limits one-half mile westward of the Hudson River. This territory was gradually increased as the city extended in area. In 1810, the expense of street lamps amounted to about $3,000, and in 1828 the number of lamps had increased to 586.

The burning of gas made from coal, for the purpose of illumination, was successfully exhibited in Albany in 1817 by Henry Trowbridge, the proprietor of a museum. One hundred and twenty burners were used, and many people visited the place to see the new light. Up to this date gas had been practically introduced in but one city in the world—London, in 1813. It was next introduced in Paris, in 1820, and in New York in 1825.

The idea of illuminating the streets and dwellings of Albany by gas was attempted to be carried out as early as 1825, when a company was incorporated, but through lack of substantial encouragement, and needed capital, nothing was done. In 1833, another company was incorporated, which also failed to accomplish anything of a practical nature.

March 27, 1841, the Albany Gaslight Company was incorporated, composed of Thomas W. Olcott, James Stevenson, Henry L. Webb and Joel Rathbone. The capital stock, limited to $100,000, was not subscribed until November 13, 1844. During this year the site of the present works, corner of Arch and Grand streets, was purchased and the erection of the necessary buildings commenced. In 1845 the works, costing nearly $150,000, and capable of producing 50,000 cubic feet of gas daily, were completed, and mains to the extent of about four miles laid through many of the principal streets; gas being supplied to consumers for the first time November 25th, and the streets lighted for the first time November 10th of that year.

So satisfactory to the Corporation was this means of street light, that in 1845 a contract was made by the company with the city to light the streets with gas for ten years. Similar contracts, covering an uninterrupted period of gas supply from 1845 to 1883, were made at different times for lighting the streets. At the latter date the present electric light was substituted. In 1846 this company had 136 consumers and supplied 90 street lamps.

The capital has been increased by Legislative enactment twice, and now amounts to $250,000, while improvements have been made upon the works to such an extent, that at the present they are valued at the sum of $1,250,000 and are capable of manufacturing 100,000,000 cubic feet of gas yearly, for which are consumed 10,000 tons of coal. The territory supplied with gas by this company includes that part of the city south of Steuben, Canal and Eagle streets and Central avenue. In this area 48 miles of pipe are laid, supplying over 7,500 gas consumers, and for a number of years previous to 1883, about 1,200 street lamps.

The first President of the Company was Henry L. Webb, and first Superintendent, Joseph Battin. The present officers are H. H. Martin, President; A. Van Allen, Vice-President; S. W. Whitney, Secretary and Treasurer; Isaac Battin, Superintendent.

For a number of years preceding 1872, a spirit of opposition was engendered against the Albany Gaslight Company, which had practically a monopoly of the gas business of the city. This resulted, in 1872, in the formation of a company called the People's Gaslight Company, which was incorporated with a capital of $1,000,000, although but $700,000 were ever paid in. Large and expensive works were soon erected on the Troy road, near North Albany. All rivalry between the two companies was in a short time settled by compromise, and the city mutually divided between them; the People's Gaslight Company receiving the territory north of Steuben and Canal streets, above Eagle street and Central avenue. But either mismanagement, or that the share of business which fell to the new company gave inadequate returns on the large capital invested, caused the investment to fail to pay, and in 1879 the property was sold under foreclosure of mortgage, and purchased by George A. Wolverton and George L. Steadman, the mortgagees, subject to a bonded debt of $350,000. The new purchasers soon reorganized a new company, which was incorporated January 31, 1880, with a capital of $500,000, under the corporate title of the People's Gaslight Company, assuming the old works, with its bonded indebtedness. This company has 22 miles of pipe, with facilities for producing 200,000 cubic feet of gas per day. The present officers are George A. Wolverton, President; George L. Steadman, Vice-President; H. Q. Hawley, Treasurer and Secretary; William F. Wright, Superintendent.

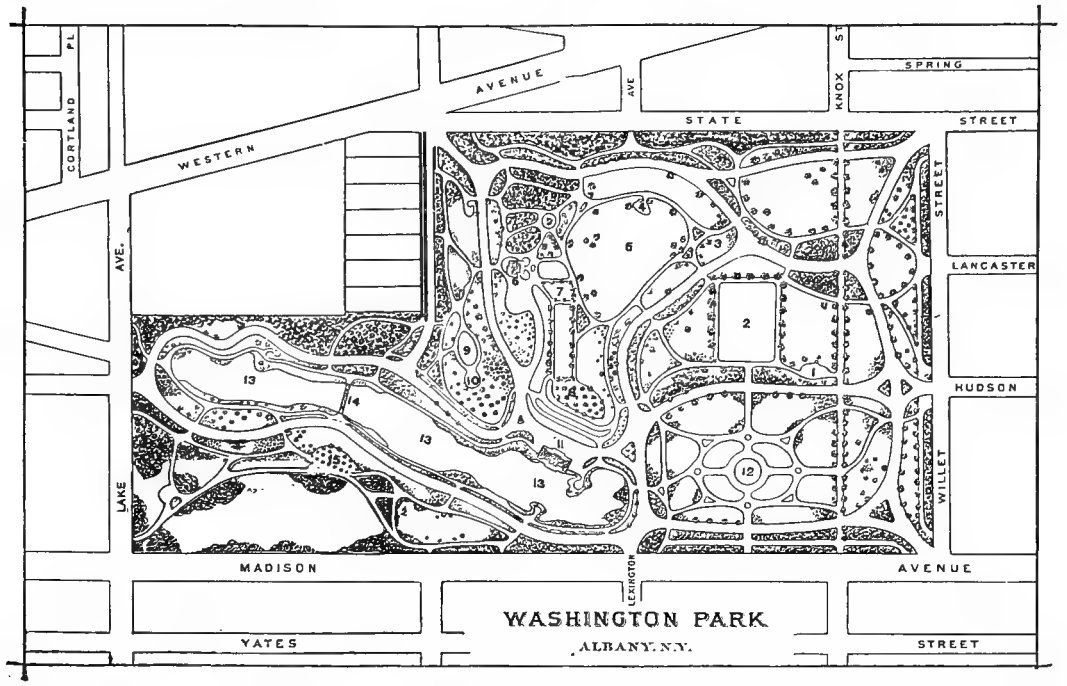
Electricity, as a means of producing light, has, during late years, reached a remarkable degree of perfection, and has been extensively adopted in all the larger cities of the country. In the Municipality of Albany this is particularly true. In most all cases where this light is used in this city, the electric current is produced by the Albany Electric Illuminating Company, organized in April, 1881. The works of the company are situated at 71 Trinity place. Here five large engines, aggregating 650 horse-power, are used to supply the necessary power to produce the electric current. The streets of Albany are all lighted by electricity, the Corporation having entered into a contract with this company to light the streets for five years from June 21, 1881. Four hundred and seventy-three street lamps are now in use, which are burned on an average ten and a half hours nightly. Besides these, about two hundred lights are used by private parties. These lamps are reached through eight circuits and nearly ninety miles of wire. A system of storage batteries is also in use in connection with the Swan incandescent light. These batteries supply from five to forty lights according to capacity, for four hours each. The officers of this company are

W. F. Hurcomb, President; Walter Dickson, Vice-President; J. Irving Wendell, Treasurer; Edward A. Maher, Secretary and General Manager.

The Edison light system is used by several firms in Albany, which employ their own motive power. The electric light used in the State Capitol is an independent system, and is produced by the necessary machinery in the building.

PUBLIC PARKS.

The beautiful portion of ground in this city known as Washington Park, is of modern origin, though a portion of it has been public property since it was transferred to the city in 1686 by the gift of His Majesty James II, being included in the famous Dongan Charter. In 1802 the ground



1. Swing.
2. Croquet Lawn.
3. Armsby Memorial.
4. Rustic Shelter
5. Meadow.
6. Refectory.
7. Fountain Shelter.
8. Terrace.
9. Deer Paddock.
10. Deer Paddock Outlook.
11. Lake House.
12. Site of proposed King Fountain.
13. Lake.
14. Foot Bridge.
15. Overlook Hill.

was set apart for the purposes of a powder-house, and October 6, 1806, the ground between what is now Madison avenue and State street, and Willett and Knox streets, was dedicated as the Middle Public square. Three years later the fancy for changing the names of streets became almost an epidemic in Albany, and extended to this square, which was rechristened Washington Square. It has since been known as Washington Square, Washington Parade Ground, and Washington Park. The ground adjoining this section on the west was made a public burial place in 1800, and was used as such for more than half a century.

The project of a public park, on an extended scale, was not accomplished in Albany without much discussion and opposition. The newspapers for years discussed the theme, while many of the leading progressive men of the city made fruitless attempts with repeated petitions to the Common Council, setting forth the benefits of such a public enterprise. But in 1869, the friends of the scheme secured the passage of the State law under which the present attractive park was established.

This act created a Board of Park Commissioners under whose charge the Park was constructed and is maintained. It was passed May 5, 1869, and set apart what was then known as the Burial Ground property, before designated, the old Washington Parade Ground, the Penitentiary Grounds, and the Alms-house Farm. By subsequent acts the powers of the Board were extended over the approaches to the Park, making it possible to institute the present system of boulevards.

The first meeting of the Commissioners was held May 8th following, the Board consisting of John Bridgford, Arthur Bott, George Dawson, Dudley Olcott, William Cassidy, John Fair, Rufus W. Peckham, Jr., Samuel H. Ransom, and John H. Van Antwerp. Mr. Van Antwerp was made President, Mr. Olcott, Treasurer, and William D. Morange, Secretary. These trustees were divided into three classes: three to serve three years, three to serve six years, and three to serve nine years. Their successors are appointed by the Mayor, and serve nine years.

The plans adopted by the Board were prepared by Messrs. Bogart & Cuyler. The grounds embraced by these plans were included in that portion of the present Park bounded by Willett street on the east, Madison avenue on the south, State street on the north, Robin street on the west for a distance of about 632 feet, thence running west a

distance of about 132 feet. The development of the plans from 1869 to 1872 were under the supervision of R. H. Bingham as Chief Engineer, and William S. Egerton as assistant. Since 1872, Mr. Egerton has had charge of the designs and superintendence.

In July, 1870, work was begun, and during this year the Washington Parade Ground was nearly completed, having been fenced, graded, drained, and the walks and drive-ways also laid out and graveled.

In 1871, its monuments and tenants having been removed to the Rural and other cemeteries, the old burial ground was laid out and thrown open as a part of this Park. In 1873 the development of the plans was mostly confined to that portion of the lake sections lying between Lexington avenue and Robin street. In 1874, the work of construction was confined to that portion of the Park bounded, in part, by Madison avenue and extending to Lake avenue and Robin street, embracing an area of some fifteen acres.

In 1880, what is known as the Knox street property, north of Madison avenue, comprising nine acres, was purchased, its buildings removed, and improvements made.

In 1882, more land lying on Madison and Lake avenues was added to the Park and improvements begun. The gardener's cottage, propagating-houses and storage-houses were built in 1883 upon a portion of the Alms-house Grounds, near the Lexington avenue entrance to the Park. They continue in charge of the faithful gardener, Michael Fink.

Western avenue, under the control of the Commissioners, extends from near the northwest corner of the Park to the toll-gate. It is 8,200 feet in length, 99 feet wide, and paved to a width of 40 feet with granite block, curbed and sewered. The sidewalks, 29½ feet, are flagged to a width of six feet, bordered with grass, and shaded by trees 40 feet apart. In sleighing-time, this avenue is the favorite resort of owners of horses, and presents a lively appearance. The improvement on this avenue was begun November 16, 1876, and completed in the following year.

The Northern Boulevard extends from Western avenue, east of the toll-gate, to the intersection of Central and Clinton avenues, a distance of 5,525 feet. It ranges from 150 to 66 feet in width. It is paved with a combination of the Telford and Macadam systems, and is greatly admired by pleasure drivers. This road was completed in 1878. It is intended to carry it on by Dudley Observatory, to connect the fine drives beyond Tivoli Hollow on the Rensselaer avenue and Loudonville and Shaker roads.

The area of the Park is nearly eighty-two acres. It contains three miles of the best possible driveways and six miles of walks. Park lake is 1,600 feet long; average width, 136 feet; area, 5 acres. It is well supplied with boats for summer, and the ice is kept cleared of snow in winter for the throngs of lively skaters who frequent it on pleasant evenings. Music from our best band musicians, from the lake-house, adds its charms on many an evening in summer. The drives and walks are frequented by all classes. It is the gymnasium and breathing place of the city.

The special features of the Park, aside from its charming landscape, with hills, dales, lake and lawn tastefully laid out, are its noble elms and other trees, many of which were there many years before the Park was located. Works of art, it is hoped, will ere long adorn the grounds. The late Henry L. King bequeathed $20,000 for the erection of a fountain, yet to be seen. The statue of Ceres is well enough, but the Armsby memorial bust is bad apology for neglecting one of our noblest citizens, Dr. James H. Armsby.

The Park lies west of the Capitol about one mile, and on an elevation about two hundred feet above the Hudson. It is surrounded more and more every year by handsome residences, owned and occupied by some of Albany's best citizens.

The total cost of Washington Park, including the Northern boulevard, city parks improved and maintained since 1881, and all lands bought by the Commissioners for construction, maintenance, etc., to January 1, 1885, is $1,366,878.89. The real estate and construction of Washington Park and Western avenue cost $1,073,020.91.

Academy Park, in front of Albany Academy, is a delightful spot, consisting of about two acres of sloping ground, adorned with majestic shade trees. It was placed in the hands of the Park Commissioners in 1881, and improved at a cost of $4,306 the following year.

Townsend Park is located at the intersection of Washington and Central avenues. It was first inclosed with a fence in 1833, and was named in honor of Hon. John Townsend, a most worthy man, formerly Mayor of the city. Area, 20,700 square feet.

Bleecker Park is a small triangular inclosure in front of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. It was inclosed by an iron fence in 1835, the city appropriating $1,000, the remainder being raised by subscriptions. It contains the first public fountain erected in Albany, the gift of William Fleming, dedicated in July, 1863. Area 16,275 square feet.

Clinton Park, named in honor of De Witt Clinton, is located on North Pearl, near Clinton avenue. Area, 16,415 square feet. Its cross-walk is more convenient than ornamental.

Delaware square, east of Lark street and adjacent to Penitentiary Grounds, has an area of 64,000 square feet. It has no inclosure or other improvements.

Capitol Park embraced the well-trodden and shaded ground in front of what was the Old Capitol. It is included in the ground in front of the New Capitol and contains 99,000 square feet.

Hudson avenue Park, is a small plot of shaded and path-traversed land on Hudson avenue, near Broadway, with an area of 10,851 square feet.

Beverwyck Park, located between Washington avenue, Ontario and Partridge streets, contains about five acres.

Van Rensselaer Park, west of Ten Broeck, north of Second street, has an area of 42,400 square feet.

St. Joseph's Park, West of Ten Broeck, north of First street, near St. Joseph's Church, has an area of 42,900 square feet.

The total area of the small parks of the city is about fourteen acres. They are all, with the exception of Capitol Park, under the control of the Park Commissioners. The present Park Commissioners are Erastus Corning, R. Lenox Banks, John G. Farnsworth, John H. Van Antwerp, Dudley Olcott. Robert C. Bruyn, Grange Sard, Charles J. Buchanan and John H. Farrell. Dudley Olcott is President, and W. S. Egerton, Secretary, Engineer and Surveyor.

STREET RAILWAYS.

The Albany horse-railway system is operated and controlled by two companies: The Broadway and the Lumber District roads by the Watervliet Turnpike and Railroad Company, and all the remaining lines by the Albany Railway Company.

The Watervliet Turnpike and Railroad Company was incorporated April 15, 1862, with a capital of $240,000. All the rights and privileges at this time possessed by the Watervliet Turnpike Company were purchased by the railroad company.

Work on the proposed route from South Ferry, by way of Broadway to the Lumber District, was commenced soon after the incorporation of the company, and completed in the following year. The first car was run over this route—the first horse-car railway in Albany—June 22, 1863. In 1864 this road was extended to the Albany Cemetery, and in 1865 to Green Island.

This company has at present 7¼ miles of double track, extending from South Ferry to Green Island, and one mile of single track, from Broadway to the Lumber District. Twenty-seven cars are used, necessitating the use of one hundred and fifty horses and about seventy-five employees, embracing conductors, drivers and trackmen.

The officers of the road are John Cary, Vice-President; Thomas P. Way, Treasurer and Secretary; Amos Free, Superintendent. The affairs of the road are controlled by a Board of Directors, which at present is composed of the following members: Charles Newman, James B. Jermain, Dudley Olcott, J. W. Tillinghast, Evert Evertson, F. A. Fayles, R. H. King and A. A. Sumner.

The office of this company is at North Albany.

North Albany, the Cemetery, Old Men's Home, Island Park and Watervliet Arsenal are reached by this line of street cars.

ALBANY RAILWAY.—The Albany Railway Company was organized and incorporated September 14, 1863, with a capital of $100,000. Its first directors and officers, many of whom are now dead, numbered some of the most reliable business men of Albany. These Directors were James Kidd, George Dawson, John K. Porter, Eli Perry, Hugh J. Hastings, C. W. Armstrong, John Tracey, Thomas Kearney, H. Crandall, G. I. Amsdell, M. Delehanty, Paul Cushman and A. Van Vechten. President, James Kidd; Secretary, John W. McNamara; Engineer, Samuel McElroy; Superintendent, Henry Mix.

In the winter of 1863–64, work upon the new road was commenced on what is known as the State street route—extending from Broadway through State, Washington, and Central avenue to Knox street—and completed in February of this year, the first car runing over this route February 22, 1864. In 1865 this line was extended to West Albany. At the same time a road was built through South Pearl to Kenwood.

The next extension was make in 1866, from State to Van Woert on Pearl street. In 1873, what is known as the Clinton avenue line was completed. This route extends from North Pearl street up Clinton avenue, through Lexington avenue to Central avenue. In 1875, what is known as the Hamilton street line was completed to Lexington avenue. In 1877, this route was extended to Quail street, and in 1885, to Partridge street.

The capital of this company has been increased twice—in 1869 and 1873, and now amounts to $200,000. In the first report made to the Railroad Commissioners in 1865, this company had 1¾ miles of double track and 5½ miles single track, 12 cars, and 69 horses. From a like report made in 1884, we find the following: four miles double track, 18 miles single track, 44 cars, and 215 horses.

The present Directors are A. B. Banks, T. J. Cornell, Michael Delehanty, Willliam H. Johnson, Daniel Manning, William P. Prentice, John W McNamara, Robert C. Pruyn, Joseph T. Rice, S. W. Rosendale, Philip Ten Eyck, A. Van Vechten, Isaac Waldman. President, Treasurer and Superintendent, John W. McNamara; Secretary, James H. Manning.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

There is an old record of the existence of fire officers in Albany as early as October 15, 1694, called "Brant-masters."

"It is ordered, and found very Requisite y^t ye Aldermen of each respective Ward shall cause to be made two Brantleere [fire ladders], a greate one and a little one, with yron hooks, and y^t in time of one month, and cause to be brought to a ready place in case of any occasion whatsome ever, and then to bring in their accounts."

As early as December 7, 1706, the city had a kind of primitive fire department, consisting of what were called "Fyre-masters." Says the Council record:

"It is resolved that the following Persons be appointed Fyre-masters for ye ensuing yeare, until ye 19th of October next: William Hogan, Anthony Coster, William Jacobse, Joh^s Claese, Jan Evertse and Jacobus Schuyler, who are to view ye chimneyes where are fyres within ye city, and oye^r inconvenient places, one each fourteen nights; and where they find chimneys extraordinary foule, to fine ye owner in ye summe of three shillings, and where fyres kept in unconvenient places, dangerous to take fyre, to cause such fyre to be broak doune."

These "Fyre-masters," with like powers and duties, were appointed for many successive years.

In 1726, the Common Council ordained that if any person appointed fire-master refused or neglected to serve, a fine of thirty shillings was imposed for each offense. That year the following persons were appointed:

Joh's Defreest, Egbert Bratt, Teunis Slingerlandt, Gelyn Verplank, Gerret Lansing, Peter P. Schuyler.

At a meeting of the Common Council, November 24, 1730, it was ordered that "hooks and ladders be made with all speed, and kept within convenient places within the city for avoiding the peril of fire."

December 22, 1731, the Common Council resolved to purchase a fire engine, and on February 22, 1732, the city fathers resolved to purchase the Richard Newsham engine, fifth size, with six feet suction-pipe and forty feet leather hose-pipe.

In due time the engine was received in the city with great rejoicing. It was an object of greater curiosity, and gave a greater sense of security and satisfaction, than the arrival, over a century afterwards, of the first fire-steamer. It protected the city against fire for many years.

In 1743, Robert Lansing, Barnardus Hartsen and Michael Bassett were appointed managers of the engine in case of fire, and were directed to be always ready upon any occasion when it might be wanted. They were each to make a key to open the lock of the shed where the engine stood, and to place the keys in some part of their houses where they might be found when they were absent; and they were each to receive for their services a skepple of wheat each per year.

The shed where the engine was kept, stood on the ground now known as the corner of Beaver and South Pearl streets. This was the first fire engine brought to the City of Albany.

In 1763, an engine was purchased by Harmse Gansevoort in England, at a cost of $397.50. This, probably, was the second fire engine ordered by the city.

In 1792, another engine was owned by the city; for the times, a very superior machine, one of the only two manufactured by the elder John Mason, in Philadelphia. Its mate was, for a long time, in possession of the Diligent Fire Company of that city. The engine-house in 1792 was at the north-west corner of the old English Church on State street.

In 1793, ranks were formed of people, consisting of two lines opposite each other, one to pass the water to the fire and the other to return the empty buckets. It was not uncommon to see both young and old, male and female, in the ranks. In those days every house was required to have three leather water-buckets hanging in its hall. In case of fire the inmates were required not only to bring them to the scene of the disaster, but were compelled to go into the ranks. A fire engine was a novelty in those days. Albany with 5,000 inhabitants boasted of two—one could scarcely be called an engine. The largest one was about as powerful as our present garden engines, and the other, which was called a house engine, was so light as to be easily carried by one man. The engines were filled by buckets and the water thrown by a pipe.

In 1839, a bell was directed to be placed in the cupola of the jail to be rung in case of fire.

The expenditures of the Fire Department for six years ending May 1, 1840, were as follows: 1835, $3,477.16; 1836, $5,679.69; 1837, $6,847.94; 1838, $3,834.60; 1839, $4,107.98; 1840, $10,950.30.

March 6, 1843, the Common Council passed a law regulating the duties of Chief Engineer, and fixed his salary at $600 per annum.

In January, 1846, the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department reported that Albany had eleven engine companies, two hook and ladder companies, one hose company, and one ax company. In 1845 there had been forty-two fires and twenty-one alarms; loss of property $57,232, on which was insured $43,252.

The Common Council, October 2, 1848, favored paying firemen $30 per year, and appointing a Chief Engineer with a salary of $700, to devote all his time to the duties of the office.

On the 27th of November, a new fire law was passed entirely reorganizing the fire department.

It was ordered also that no wooden building, wholly or partially covered with wood, should thereafter be erected in any part of Albany east of Lark street; and that eaves, cornices and gutters should be made of metal.

The amount expended by the Fire Department for the year ending May 1, 1850, was $20,476.47. Of this $2,528.57 were for the Hose Depot, $1,303.58 for new hose, and $890 for fire police.

In September, 1852, the first use of a fire annihilator in Albany was satisfactorily made at a fire which destroyed but one building. The amount for the year ending November 1, 1852, for the Fire Department amounted to $16,178.92.

In the year 1856, the losses by fire in Albany amounted to the sum of $72,200.

The number of fires from July 1st to December 27, was 27; alarms, 13; false alarms, 8; losses, $26,285. During the corresponding period of 1856 there were 12 fires; 8 alarms; 3 false alarms. Losses, $72,200.

June 30, 1858, the Chief Engineer reported 37 fires during the past year; 21 alarms; and 7 false alarms, making sixty-five times the department had been called out. The amount of property destroyed was $45,064, of which $34,149 was insured.

September 29th, a firemen's jubilee was held in Albany for three days. About three thousand firemen from six different States came to the city; from Detroit, Providence, and Newark. Exempt firemen to the number of 200, drew old "No. 4." The old men became so enthusiastic as to cause much sport. Becoming inspired with their old ardor and giving the old cry "Hi yi! give way boys! give way!" they dashed up State street, calling out hearty cheers from the young firemen and the spectators.

On August 9, 1859, a resolution was passed authorizing the sale of the old fire apparatus, with the exception of two old engines and two hose-carts.

The report of the Chief Engineer for the year ending January 1, 1860, shows there were 10 fires where companies were in service; 18 where companies were not in service; false alarms, 8; amount of property destroyed, $11,537; insurance, $7,362. Fire Department expenses for the year ending November 1, 1861, were $18,641.55.

April 23, 1861, a resolution was passed by the Common Council granting members of the several engine, hose, and hook and ladder companies who might join any military organization to maintain the integrity of the Union, their full time during their absence.

During the year ending June 30, 1863, the Report of Chief-Engineer James McQuade shows there were 29 fires; 20 alarms; and 3 false alarms; amount of property destroyed $19,350, all covered by insurance.

On July 13, 1863, the City Council authorized purchasing a steam fire engine to be located on Capitol Hill, at a cost not to exceed $3,500.

On April 25, 1864, J. C. Cuyler, William Mix, Jr., William J. Shankland, Edward Leslie, James Allen, William G. Weed, Jacob Fredenrich, Theodore J. Cuyler, Oscar L. Hascy, J. Owen Moore, William A. Sumner, Frank W. Vosburgh, John A. Goeway, Robert Harris, William H. Reid, Henry L. Wait, Ed. A. Clapp, Charles F. Clapp. John S. Dickerman, Harris Parr, George E. Latham, Thomas Hastings, Andrew G. White, James D. Wilson, Theodore S. Comstock, Daniel Doncaster, William H. Taylor, James Main, John Mahan, and Henry Lansing were appointed firemen as members of the Beaverwyck Steam Fire Engine Company.

J. C. Cuyler was made fireman of the company; William Mix, Jr., First Assistant; William J. Shankland, Second Assistant; and Edward Leslie, Clerk.

Chief-Engineer James McQuade, in a petition to the Common Council in January, 1865, stated that experience had proved beyond question that steam engines must supersede those worked by hand. All the principal cities and many large villages had introduced steamers, and hand engines had been abandoned. He also suggested that horses should be substituted in doing the drag work, as the force of men required to drag an engine to a fire was beyond the number obtainable.

Albany in 1865 had three steamers: the James McQuade, the Putnam, and the Thomas Kearney.

February 19, 1865, it was resolved to pay each of the engineers of the several steamers the sum of $75 per month; firemen and drivers to be allowed $45 per month.

The amount paid by the city on account of the Fire Department for the year ending November 1, 1865, was $34,016.02.

March 29, 1867, an Act to Reorganize the Fire Department of the City of Albany became a law.—The provisions of this law, with subsequent amendments, are easily accessible to every citizen.

On February 19, 1872, the act reorganizing the Department was amended by the Legislature in some particulars

The powers and duties of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department are very large and responsible. These duties are now, and have long been, most ably performed by James McQuade.

In 1870 the number of alarms was 60; number of fires in which the Department was in service, 23.

There were six Steam Fire Companies; two Truck Companies, and 1,800 feet of hose in the Hose Depot.

Gongs were placed in the residence of each Assistant Engineer. The working of this alarm telegraph did not fail in a single instance in transmitting the alarm during the year, giving sure evidence of its great value as a rapid agent for conveying fire alarms and preventing destruction by fire through delays.

In February, 1870, the incorporated Fire Department leased the pleasant and commodious rooms in the City Building, which have been comfortably furnished with every convenience and comfort.

On September 2, 1870, the horses attached to steamer No. 6 became unmanageable while coming down Hudson avenue and ran away. Mr. Andrew McGraw, the driver in charge, used every exertion to check them, without success. They continued at a furious rate to the dock, and dashed into the basin carrying the driver and steamer with them. The horses were drowned, and the steamer so badly damaged as to render it necessary to send it to Amoskeag Works to be rebuilt; it was placed in perfect order and returned to the city in two months. Mr. McGraw was not injured, although the shock was a very severe one to him.

In the year 1875, the Board of Fire Commissioners was as follows:

Hon. Edmund L. Judson, Mayor, President, *ex officio;* Philip O'Brien, George E. Latham, Garret A. Van Allen, Thomas Austin; J. C. Cuyler, Secretary.

ENGINEERS.—James McQuade, Chief Engineer; J. C. Griffin, George E. Mink, John C. Mull, William K. Clute, Assistants.

FIRE ALARM TELEGRAPH. — William J. Cull, Superintendent; John M. Carroll, Assistant-Superintendent; John H. Nelson, James B. Finn, Operators; John Wilson, Janitor.

The losses by fire during the year aggregated $335,000. Nearly all the fires were of incendiary origin.

During this year incendiarism was more extensive than at any time since the organization of the Department. The boldness of these crimes exhibited daring and recklessness of most alarming character. The most earnest efforts of Chief McQuade and the police were made to detect and bring to justice the perpetrators of these dastardly deeds. The loss by fire in the building corner of Green street, occupied by Rathbone, Sard & Co.—

which was an act of bold incendiarism as was ever committed in this city—exceeded $100,000.

The Protective Association, an honor and a source of untold safety in the protection of property, was organized and supported by the insurance interests.

In 1880, we find :

Insured losses on real and personal property..	$137,299.09
Uninsured ,, ,, ,, ,, ..	15,866.64
Total loss.....	$153,165.73

Annual cost of maintaining Fire Department, $74,677.96; total number of men employed by Fire Department, 221; area covered by Fire Department, $14\frac{8}{10}$ square miles; population of Albany, 100,000. Nine lives were lost by fire during the year.

On November 22, 1880, Steamer Company No. 5 was suspended, by order of Chief McQuade, for neglect in the performance of duty at a fire. Not one of the members, except the foreman, appeared at the fire. On December 13, the company was re-organized, with John J. Mee, the former foreman, reappointed.

The Insurance Patrol is of great value to the Department, and it is noticeable with what promptness Captain Foster has responded to all calls, as is the activity of the officers and members of the company when in service.

The total insurance on the Fire Department property amounts to.....	$59,350.06
The receipts from all sources for the fiscal year ending October 31, 1880.....	71,517.60
Total.....	$130,876.60
Disbursements for the year ending October 31, 1880.....	$74,677.96
Indebtedness of year ending October 31, 1879	10,596.61
Total expenditures.....	$85,274.57

Steamer companies of Albany are as follows: Steamer Comapny No. 1, 12 members, 236 Washington avenue; Steamer Company No. 2, 16 members, 157 Livingston avenue; Steamer Company No. 3, 15 members, 895 Broadway; Steamer Company No. 4, 15 members, 69 Hudson avenue; Steamer Company No. 5, 14 members, 289 South Pearl street; Steamer Company No. 6, 15 members, Jefferson, corner Swan street; Steamer Company No. 7, 16 members, Clinton avenue, corner Ontario street; Steamer Company No. 8, 16 members, Broadway, corner North First street, North Albany; Truck Company No 1, 22 members, 57 Westerlo; Truck Company No. 2, 23 members, 126 Clinton avenue; Insurance Patrol, 9 members, 41 Hudson avenue; Hose Depot, 133 Hamilton street; Repair Shop, 34 Plain street. Fire Alarm Telegraph Central Station, City Building, South Pearl street, corner Howard.

During the year ending October 31, 1882, there were forty-two alarms of fire; the total loss, $147,970.05.

Fire-alarm Bell in City Hall.—The question for a fire-alarm bell became a very interesting one in the year 1882, during the erection of the new City Hall.

For some time the bell in the Second Reformed Church on Beaver street was used as a fire-alarm bell. The congregation having moved into their new edifice, the Department lost the use of one of the best alarm bells in the city.

No provision had been made for a bell in the imposing tower of the new City Hall. The Board of Fire Commissioners, by authority of the City Council, purchased of Meneely & Co., of Troy, a bell seventy inches at mouth, fifty and one-half inches in height, five and one-tenth inches thickness, of sound bore. Weight, 7,049 pounds.

This bell exceeds in size, weight and volume of sound, any bell in the city. It was hoisted to its place in the tower October 28, 1882. Within two weeks after, the attachment to the fire-alarm circuit was made.

The fire-alarm telegraph was first put in operation in Albany in 1868.

The Board of Fire Commissioners in 1884.—Hon A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor, President, *ex officio*, Thomas D. Coleman, Andrew B. Uline, John McEwen, James H. Lyman, Dennis A. Ronan; Andrew B. Uline, Secretary; Lewis J. Miller, Clerk.

James McQuade, Chief Engineer; Joseph C. Griffin, John C. Mull, George E. Mink, William K. Clute, Assistants.

From the Annual Report of the Fire Commissioners ending October 31, 1884, we gather the following: the financial standing of the Department is in a very favorable condition; the annual expenses are about $85,000.

The Companies, having ten steamers, consist each of a foreman whose salary is $300 per annum; eight members at $200 each. The three Truck Companies have twelve members each, at $200 per annum. The permanent employees are an engineer, $1,080; fireman, $720; driver, $720, to each engine; a tileman, $720; and driver, $720, to each truck. The whole force, including the telegraph department, numbers 145.

There are ten steamers, of which Nos. 9 and 10 are reserves, and, with the exception of the two latter, were made at the Amoskeag Works, in Manchester, N. H., and with their hose-carts are valued at $5,150 each. The trucks, valued at $2,250 each, are drawn by horses worth $300 each, of which there are thirty. The property of the Fire Department is valued as follows:

Apparatus.....	$45 000
Fire-alarm telegraph, apparatus fixtures and supplies.....	56 000
Furniture, fixtures, etc.....	26 000
Hose, fixtures, leather, tools. etc.....	28 000
Horses, harness, etc.....	14 000
Real estate.....	135 000
Repair Shop and Supply Department...	6 000
Total.....	$310 000

The fire record of the year was below the average in total losses. The record of incendiarism has also been less.

The salaries of the officers are as follows:

Chief Engineer, $3,000 per annum; Secretary, $1,000; Clerk, $720; Superintendent Fire-alarm Telegraph, $1,500; Superintendent Hose and Supply Depot, $1,200; Relief Engineer, $1,080; Veterinary Surgeon, $600.

The amount of insurance on the property of the Department is $62,850.

The Hose Depot is one of the most attractive adjuncts of the Fire Department. The hose, with extra tenders, wheels, fuel, etc., and extras of all kinds, are stored. The hose is all brought to the depot after a fire and is washed and dried, a constant supply being always on hand in case of need.

The Relief Fund, incorporated in 1883 for the relief of disabled firemen, consists of the Mayor, the Fire Commissioners and the Chief of the Department as the body corporate. The fines paid by firemen are placed in this fund, and are increased by voluntary subscription. It now amounts to about $2,000.

The fire-alarm telegraph was first operated in Albany in June, 1868. There are now seventy-seven alarm-boxes, seven church bells, the City Hall bell, and the engine and truck houses connected with this office by over seventy miles of wire. The hammers and striking machinery are independent of the tongues and ropes of the several bells. The wires are tested every twenty minutes in the twenty-four hours. There is also an extensive telephone service in connection with all engine-houses.

We may say, without question, that the City of Albany has great confidence in all the officers and men of its Fire Department, trusting fully in their courage, skill, and fidelity.

THE ERIE CANAL AS RELATED TO ALBANY.

In the early development of the canal system of this State, many citizens of Albany took a prominent part. The first company formed to improve the inland navigation of this State was called the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company. It was incorporated March 30, 1792. The object, as stated in the act of incorporation, was to open a water communication between the southern, northern and western parts of this State. This was to be accomplished by a system of lock navigation from the Hudson River to Lakes Ontario and Seneca. Another company was formed called the Northern Inland Lock Navigation Company, to open navigation between the Hudson River and Lake Champlain. The Commissioners in Albany to receive subscriptions to the stock of $250,000, of each company, were Abraham Ten Broeck, John Tayler, Philip S. Van Rensselaer, Cornelius Glen and John Ten Broeck. The first Directors of the Western Company were Philip Schuyler, Leonard Gansevoort, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, Elkanah Watson, John Tayler, Jellis A. Fonda, William North, Goldsbro Banyar, Daniel Hale, John Watts, Walter Livingston, Dominic Lynch and James Watson. The Directors of the Western Company were Philip Schuyler, Abraham Ten Broeck, John Williams, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Jacobus Van Schoonhoven, John Van Rensselaer, Abraham G Lansing, Cornelius Glen, Henry Quackenbos, Robert R. Livingston, Philip Livingston, James Duane and Abraham McComb.

The plans as attempted to be carried out by these companies were not very successful, but an account of their efforts does not exclusively belong to a history of Albany County. This brief reference to them is given to show the large percentage of Albany capitalists who were interested in them and who were ever ready to lend their influence and wealth in promoting the commerce of the State.

In 1810, the Legislature resolved that the agricultural and commercial interests of the State required that the inland navigation, from the Hudson River to Lake Ontario and Lake Erie, should be improved and completed on a scale commensurate with the great advantages to be derived from the accomplishment of that important object. Doubting the resources of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company to be adequate to such improvement, the Legislature appointed Governeur Morris, Stephen Van Rensselaer, De Witt Clinton, Simeon De Witt, William North, Thomas Eddy and Peter B. Porter, commissioners for exploring the whole route, and to examine the outlet to Oneida Lake, with a view to deepening the channel to prevent inundations. The opening of hostilities between this country and Great Britain two years later, put an end to this contemplated improvement.

No city on the line of the Erie Canal has been more directly benefited by the opening of this great water thoroughfare than the City of Albany; nor was there a place, in the beginning of this great undertaking, which furnished more men of brains, character and wealth, who largely contributed to push forward this great work.

There may be some question as to who first conceived the scheme of connecting the waters of Lake Erie with the Hudson. Joel Barlow, a New England poet, as early as 1787, published a poem called "The Vision of Columbus," from which is quoted lines that seem prophetic of our grand canal system. Certain it is, the poem was published when that magnificent project of the Erie Canal, if it had any other place than in the imagination of a poet, was probably regarded as the visionary chimera of an enthusiast. But the printed scheme of the poet may have awakened the attention of some strong mind to undertake the task of carrying out what we now behold in successful operation, foreshadowed in these words:

"He saw, as widely spread the unchanneled plain,
Where inland realms for ages bloomed in vain,
Canals, long winding, ope a watery flight,
And distant streams, and seas, and lakes unite.

"From fair Albania, tow'rd the falling sun,
Back through the midland, lengthening channels run,
Meet the far lakes, the beauteous towns that lave,
And Hudson joined to broad Ohio's wave."

Almost as early as the publication of this poem, Elkanah Watson, born on Plymouth Rock, conceived the practicability of a canal from Albany to Lake Erie. In 1804, writing to Peleg Wadsworth, the revolutionary general and Member of Congress, he says: "The dream of connecting the great lakes with the Hudson has been my leading hobby since 1788. Mr. Adams considered me an enthusiast in this vast object, and that the mania had seized upon me with such force as to endanger a due attention to my own interests, and cautioned me as a friend to moderate my zeal."

A writer in the *Albany Daily Advertiser*, under the signature of Verdicius, ascribes the scheme of uniting the Hudson River to Lake Erie by a navigable canal to Elkanah Watson, offering in proof the private journal of Mr. Watson, during a tour from Schenectady to Geneva in 1791, when he carefully explored the ground, streams and small lakes lying on the route. This journey is said to have been made with a view of recommending to public notice the project of uniting the two waters. The progressive spirit, activity and energy of Mr. Watson, united with the testimony of his contemporaries, force us to regard him as the man whose mind originated the Erie Canal.

In this article we merely endeavor to give a proper historic prominence to Albany, whose leading citizens were so active in the canal project, and who helped to carry it to a successful completion.

Mr. Watson awakened many other citizens of Albany to a belief in the practicability of this canal, and who aided with their influence and wealth to make its completion possible. Among them were the Van Rensselaers and Schuylers, John and Isaiah Townsend.

February 7, 1816, a meeting was called at the Tontine Coffee-House to urge the subject of a canal upon the people and the Legislature, signed by Archibald McIntyre, James Kane, John Woodworth, William James, Charles E. Dudley, Dudley Walsh, Barent Bleecker, John Van Schaick, Rensselaer Westerlo and Harmanus Bleecker. A committee was appointed in each ward to secure signatures to a memorial to the Legislature. This seems to have been the first organized effort on the part of the citizens to promote this scheme. In April following, an act was passed to "provide for the improvement of the internal navigation of this State."

Under this act Stephen Van Rensselaer, De Witt Clinton, Samuel Young, Joseph Ellicott and Myron Holley were appointed Commissioners "to consider, devise and adopt such measures" as might or should be "requisite to facilitate and effect the communication, by means of canals and locks, between the navigable waters of the Hudson River and Lake Erie, and the said navigable waters and Lake Champlain."

The report of this commission was the subject of much contest in the next Legislature, and the act authorizing the construction of the canal was not passed until the last day of the session, April 15, 1817.

October 8, 1823, the first boat passed through the completed portion of the canal, east of Genesee River, into the Hudson. The appearance of this stranger was greeted by many demonstrations of joy. Although the great work was not completed, the people of Albany determined to celebrate the event with appropriate ceremonies. The Common Council appointed a committee, consisting of Aldermen Gibbons, Baldwin, Humphrey, Cassidy, Ten Eyck, and the Chamberlain, who had charge of the arrangements. Solomon Van Rensselaer was Marshal of the day. At sunrise a national salute was fired and the bells rung. A large military and civic parade was an important feature of the celebration. Business generally was suspended, and the entire population of the city and thousands of strangers seemed to have joined in the celebration. Speeches were delivered by the Mayor, Charles E. Dudley, Ex-Governor De Witt Clinton and many others.

Cadwallader Colden thus describes the scene presented on this occasion: "The pencil can do no justice to the scene presented on the fine autumnal morning when the Albany lock was first opened. Numerous steamboats and river vessels, splendidly dressed, decorated the beautiful amphitheatre formed by the hills which border the valley of the Hudson at this place; the river winding its bright stream far from the north and losing itself in the distance to the south; the islands it embraced; the woods variegated by the approach of winter, a beauty peculiar to our climate; the wreathed arches and other embellishments which had been erected for the occasion, were all objects of admiration. A line of canal-boats, with colors flying, bands of music, and crowded with people, were seen coming from the north and seemed to glide over the level grounds which hid the waters of the canal for some distance, as if they were moved by enchantment.

"The first boat that entered the lock was the De Witt Clinton, having on board Governor Yates, the Mayor and Corporation of Albany, the Canal Commissioners and Engineers, the committees and other citizens. One, not the least attractive part of the scene, was filled with ladies. The cap-stone of the lock was laid with Masonic ceremonies by the fraternity, who appeared in great numbers and in grand costume.

"The waters of the West and of the ocean were then mingled by Dr. Mitchell, who pronounced an epithalamium upon the union of the river and the lakes, after which the lock-gates were opened, and the De Witt Clinton majestically sunk upon the bosom of the Hudson.

"She was then towed by long lines of barges past the steamboats and other vessels to a wharf at the upper end of the city, where those gentlemen who were embarked on board the canal-boats landed, and joined a military and civic procession, which was conducted by a large stage, fancifully decorated, erected for the occasion in front of the Capitol."

The system of canal navigation, as at this time completed, soon proved the wisdom of its originators. During the summer of 1824 and 1825, with occa-

sional interruptions, arising from repairs and placing of new structures, the City of Albany began to realize the benefits of canal navigation, and the daily announcement of the arrival and departure of canal-boats in the public journals, indicate the importance that was attached to this great channel of commerce.

October 26, 1825, the canal from Lake Erie to the Hudson River was completed. It was decided to commemorate the event by ceremonies the most brilliant and impressive that could be devised, and along the whole length of the canal, each place, in proportion to its means, sought to outrival its neighbor in expressions of joy upon this memorable occasion.

The Common Council of Albany, October 17, 1825, appointed a committee, consisting of Aldermen Denniston, Cassidy, Lush, Esleeck and Costigan, to devise means to celebrate the event. A public meeting of the citizens was held in the Capitol, September 14th, over which Colonel Elisha Jenkins presided. At this gathering twenty-five citizens were selected to act as a committee to adopt measures for celebrating the completion of the great project. A similar meeting of citizens and transporters was held a few days later. By these public gatherings much enthusiasm was aroused.

The passage of the first canal-boat from Buffalo into the Albany basin was announced by the successive discharge of cannon, placed along the canal between Lake Erie and the Hudson, and along the Hudson between Albany and New York. The Buffalo boat entered the basin at three minutes before 11 o'clock, A. M. At five minutes before 12 the sound of "the return fire from New York" reached Albany.

The celebration was general along the entire line of the canal. The water pageant started from Buffalo on the morning of October 26, 1825, the boat Seneca Chief being fitted up for the dignitaries leading in the triumphant passage. On the morning of November 2d it had reached Albany.

The proceedings at Albany we cannot detail at length. They were thus described in the *Albany Daily Advertiscr:*

"At 10 o'clock the Seneca Chief, with the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, the Buffalo, Western and New York Committees on board, came down in fine style, and the thunder of cannon proclaimed that the work was done, and the assembled multitude made the welkin ring with shouts of gladness. It was not a monarch which they hailed, but it was the majesty of genius, supported by a free people, that rode in triumph and commanded the admiration of men stout of heart and firm of purpose."

At 11 o'clock the procession was formed and paraded through the principal streets of the city, under the direction of Welcome Esleeck, John Tayler, James Gibbons and Francis I. Bradt, Marshal of the day. After the procession reached the Capitol, impressive services were held. An ode, written for the occasion by John Augustus Stone, of the Albany Theatre, was sung. Addresses were made by Philip Howe, of New York; William James, Chairman of the Committee of Citizens of Albany; and Lieutenant-Governor Tallmadge. The exercises were followed by a magnificent collation, provided for the guests by the citizens of Albany at the Columbia-street Bridge. In the evening a grand ball was held at Knickerbocker Hall, where, as was said by an eye-witness, was congregated the beauty of the city, and the expression of sparkling eyes evinced that "the last, best gift to man" felt a deep interest in the prosperity and glory of the State.

Everything pertaining to the celebration of this great event was conducted in the best manner and commensurate with the greatness of the project. To Albany in a special degree was the opening of the Erie Canal a great blessing. On its commercial advancement it had a wonderful beneficent influence. A few years after its completion the editor of the *Daily Advertiser* asserted that the wholesale business of the city had quadrupled during the two years since the opening of the canal, and that Albany merchants had opened a direct business with the manufacturers of Europe. The construction of railroads has materially lessened the commerce of the canals, but still it forms an important factor in Albany's commercial activities.

The dates of the annual opening and closing of this canal will be valuable for reference: 1824, opened April 30, closed December 4; 1825, April 12, December 5; 1826, April 20, December 18; 1827, April 22, December 18; 1828, March 27, December 20; 1829, May 2, December 17; 1830, April 20, December 17; 1831, April 16, December 1; 1832, April 25, December 21; 1833, April 19, December 12; 1834, April 17, December 12; 1835, April 15, November 30; 1836, April 25, November 26; 1837, April 20, December 9; 1838, April 12, November 25; 1839, April 20, December 16; 1840, April 20, December 9; 1841, April 24, November 30; 1842, April 20, November 28; 1843, May 1, November 30; 1844, April 18, November 26; 1845, April 15, November 29; 1846, April 16, November 25; 1847, May 1, November 30; 1848, May 1, December 9; 1849, May 1, December 5; 1850, April 22, December 11; 1851, April 15, December 5; 1852, April 20, December 16; 1853, April 20, December 20; 1854, May 1, December 3; 1855, May 1, December 10; 1856, May 5, December 4; 1857, May 6, December 15; 1858, April 28, December 8; 1859, April 15, December 12; 1860, April 25, December 12; 1861, May 1, December 10; 1862, May 1, December 10; 1863, May 1, December 9; 1864, April 30, December 8; 1865, May 1, December 12; 1866, May 1, December 12; 1867, May 6, December 20; 1868, May 4, December 7; 1869, May 6, December 10; 1870, May 10, December 8; 1871, April 24, December 1; 1872, May 13, December 1; 1873, May 15, December 5; 1874, May 5, December 5; 1875, May 18, November 30; 1876, May 4, December 1; 1877, May 8, December 7; 1878, April 15, December 7; 1879, April 8, December 6; 1880, April 16, November 21; 1881, May 12, December 8; 1882, April 11, December 7; 1883, May 7, December 1; 1884, May 6, December 1; 1885, May 11, December 1.

ALBANY INSURANCE COMPANIES.

The Albany Insurance Company was incorporated March 8, 1811, and authorized "to make all kinds of insurance against fire, upon the inland transportation of goods, wares and merchandise, marine insurance, and insurance upon life or lives, by way of tontine or otherwise, and generally to do and perform all matters and things relating to the said objects." The first Directors were Elisha Jenkins, Philip S. Van Rensselaer, Isaiah Townsend, Dudley Walsh, Henry Guest, Jr., Charles Z. Platt, Simeon De Witt, Stephen Lush, Charles D. Cooper, Thomas Gould, John Woodworth, Peter Gansevoort, and Christian Miller. The shares were $100 each and not to exceed 5,000 in number. Its duration was placed at twenty years. In 1828 the charter was extended to 1851, and the capital stock reduced from $500,000 to $300,000, and each share from $100 to $60.

The first President of this Company was Isaiah Townsend. He was succeeded, in 1844, by Teunis Van Vechten. Garret Y. Lansing, Rufus H. King, and Harmon Pumpelly were, in the order named, Presidents at different periods. J. Howard King, the present President, was elected in 1882.

The first Secretary was Gideon Hawley, who held the office for many years. He was succeeded by John E. Lovett, who held this position for fourteen years. In 1847 Stephen Groesbeck was elected, and was followed by Theodore Townsend, who is now Vice-President of the Company. The present Secretary is John E. McElroy.

This company has always been regarded as one of the best institutions of its kind in the State. Its affairs have been so conducted as to merit and retain public confidence. During an existence of three quarters of a century, it has had as directors and officers many of the best business men of Albany. During the years 1847 and 1848, the period of the greatest fire that ever visited this city, it paid out $367,000 in insurance in Albany and elsewhere without material injury to the company, a fact showing its financial solidity.

The Merchants' Insurance Company of Albany was incorporated April 7, 1824, with a capital stock of $250,000, to be divided into shares of $25 each. The first Directors were Allen Brown, James G. Mather, James B. Douglass, Ralph Pratt, Silvanus P. Jermain, Peter Bain, Jellis Winne, Jr., Thomas Herring, Spencer Stafford, Erastus Corning, John Willard, William Fowler, William McHarg, James Mabbett, John T. Norton, Ephraim Wilder, Jr., Friend Humphrey, Alexander Marvin, Nicholas Devereaux, Ephraim Hart, Eleazer Hills, Richard M. Bayley, Asa H. Center, Willard Warker, William Durant, Joshua Tuffs, David E. Evans, Thaddeus Joy, John Stillwell, Benjamin F. Butler, and Thomas W. Olcott.

The first President of this Company was Charles E. Dudley. He was succeeded by Russel Forsyth. John W. Ford was made Secretary. The exact length of time this company was in existence we were unable to learn, but in 1844 it was still doing business in this city.

The Clinton Insurance Company of Albany was incorporated May 4, 1829, with a capital stock of $300,000 in $100 shares. The first Directors were Francis Bloodgood, Isaac W. Staats, James McKoun, Oliver Kane, Peter Gansevoort, S. De Witt Bloodgood, William C. Miller, Samuel Pruyn, John B. Van Schaick, Richard Varick De Witt, Joshua J. King, William Seymour, Charles D. Townsend, Gerrit W. Ryckman, and Elihu Russel. The duration of the charter was twenty-one years. Whether this company ever went into active operation we do not learn.

The Fireman's Insurance Company of Albany was incorporated April 23, 1831. The books for subscription were opened January 1, 1832, when $112,000 was subscribed in six hours. James Stevenson was its first President and Richard Van Rensselaer, Secretary. The first Directors were George J. Loomis, Enoch McCammen, James Stevenson, Lansing Pruyn, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Harmanus S. Van Ingen, Dyer Lathrop, Lansing G. Taylor. Abraham F. Wilson, George Young, Thomas McElroy, Levi Silliman, Philo Booth, and Aaron V. Fryer. The same, with the exception of James Stevenson, were commissioners to receive subscriptions to the capital stock, which was fixed at $150,000 in 15,000 shares. Its charter was to run until June 1, 1861. January 18, 1849, the company was authorized, in order to make good the impairment of its capital occasioned by a fire on August 17, 1848, to call upon the stockholders for such sums as would make the capital equal to the sum required in the charter. This it seems the stockholders were unable or unwilling to do, and business was in consequence suspended.

The Mutual Insurance Company of the City and County—office No. 446 Broadway. This company was organized in 1836, under the General Insurance Law of the State of New York, on the mutual plan. The following gentlemen were the original incorporators: Barent P. Staats, Rufus Brown, Christopher Hepinsall, Eli Gould, James L'Amoreaux, Levi Phillips, Daniel Conklin, Jr., Eli Perry, Matthew Brown, John Hermans, Gaylor Sheldon, and John Van Valkenburgh. The company insures for a small cash premium, receiving from its patrons premium notes as additional payment. Its note capital now amounts to about half a million dollars. These notes are liable to assessment to pay fire losses in case all other assets are exhausted. The assets of the company, other than its premium notes, amount at this date to about $125,000, which is invested in United States Government bonds and real estate, beside cash on hand for immediate use in case of fire. In 1848 the charter of the company was amended by an act of the Legislature, granting the company the right to issue policies for a cash consideration only, and without a premium note. The present Board of Directors of the Company comprise some of the most prominent citizens of Albany, and are:

Henry H. Martin, John F. Rathbone, William McElroy, Daniel Weidman, George Cuyler, Edmund L. Judson. Archibald McClure, Edgar Cotrell, Benjamin F. Baker, Daniel Leonard, George

H. Treadwell, James M. Warner, and David A. Thompson.

The present officers of the company are: President, Henry H. Martin (elected Director in 1846); Vice-President and Treasurer, George Cuyler (elected Treasurer in 1852); Secretary, George N. Cuyler (elected in 1872).

The Commerce Insurance Company was organized 1859, with a capital of $200,000. Its capital was increased to $400,000 in 1865, and reduced to $200,000 in 1871, because of losses in the great Chicago fire of that year.

The following are the officers since organization—Presidents: Silas B. Hamilton, 1859–61; Adam Van Allen, 1861–84; Garret A. Van Allen, elected 1884. Vice-Presidents: Adam Van Allen, 1859–61; Thomas Schuyler, 1861–66; Garret A. Van Allen, 1866–84; Chauncey P. Williams, 1884. Secretaries: Garret A. Van Allen, 1859; Robert M. Hamilton, 1866; Richard V. DeWitt, elected 1872. Present Officers: Garret A. Van Allen, President; Chauncey P. Williams, Vice-President; Richard V. DeWitt, Secretary.

The office of this company is at 57 State street, in the Commerce Insurance Building. It enjoys public confidence and patronage in a large degree. Since its organization it has paid over $2,500,000 of losses by fire.

The Albany City Insurance Company was organized December 8, 1860, with a cash capital of $100,000. The office of this company was first located at 446 Broadway, afterward removed to the old Museum Building. The first President was William Tillinghast. In 1869 he was succeeded by John V. L. Pruyn. Colonel Frank Chamberlain succeeded Mr. Pruyn in 1874. The first Secretary was John H. Rice, who was followed by W. A. Young in 1869, the latter remaining as such until 1874, when James F. Cassidy was elected. At the present time this company is not in existence.

The Capitol City Insurance Company was incorporated in 1865 with a capital of $200,000. Frank Chamberlain was its first and only President. It was continued but a few years.

The Atlantic Mutual Life Insurance Company was incorporated in 1869. Robert H. Pruyn was elected President and Louis B. Smith, Secretary. In 1874 Walter Brown was made Secretary. Soon after 1874 it ceased to do business.

A great many first-class foreign insurance companies do business in Albany. The insurance agents and brokers generally are men of business, energy and integrity. Some of them are known among the leading men of Albany in most matters of public enterprise and interest.

THE ALBANY PROTECTIVES, OR INSURANCE PATROL.

This organization was effected April, 1872, and by act of Legislature incorporated March 20, 1873. First duty performed September 20, 1872.

This organization is supported entirely by the Albany Board of Underwriters, and is no expense to the City of Albany. They are looked upon by the citizens as indispensable, and by the Chief and Fire Commissioners as a valuable auxiliary to the Fire Department.

They formerly occupied the premises No. 41 Hudson avenue, and for the first thirteen years were cramped for room, as no available location could be secured. In 1884 they leased from the Hon. Erastus Corning, 21 and 23 Howard street, and to-day they have a house second to none in the country. The Superintendent, Mr. J. N. Foster, has been with them since its organization, and Superintendent since 1874; previous to that time Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Thomas Austin being the chief officer up to 1874.

The company consists of eight men, seven men being on duty each night. They carry fire extinguishers, rubber covers, brooms, scrapers, lanterns, axes, ropes, ladders and other necessary articles for the extinguishment of fires. They have been known to have spread at one fire alone 36,000 square feet of canvas, thereby saving a vast amount of property. They removed at one fire $70,000 worth of property, consisting of leather stock, and it is estimated by those interested that the patrol save many times their cost of running each year.

The present roll consists of the following: J. N. Foster, Superintendent; William Scheffler, E. J. Dayton, W. H. Kingsbury, James R. Melick, F. H. Weatherwax, B. E. Crehan, R. R. Coleman.

Officers of the Albany Board of Underwriters: A. Douw Lansing, President; Stephen L. Foster, Vice-President; A. E. Batchelder, Secretary; Frederick B. Hubbard, Treasurer.

BANKS AND BANKERS.

An account of the rise and progress of banking institutions in Albany forms a very interesting chapter in the history of this city. Here the second bank chartered in the State and the fourth in the Union was established, and here have dwelt and operated many of the foremost bankers in the early history of this country. A history of the banking interests of Albany from 1792 to the present, shows the progressive strides in the city's trade, manufactures, and commerce made in nearly a century's growth.

For some time preceding the year 1792, the need of a banking institution for the northern part of the State was apparent to the capitalists of this section. In Albany the scheme was much discussed. A few had much faith in it, while many violently opposed the enterprise. On the 3d of February, 1792, a meeting was called at Lewis's Tavern to discuss the project. At this meeting were gathered the leading capitalists of Albany at that date. There was but one bank in the State, the Bank of New York, the stock of which was 50 per cent. above par. It was decided that the interests of the northern part of the State required the location of a bank at Albany. Some one writing for the newspapers at this period, confidently asserted that a hundred thousand dollars could be subscribed for the new project in the city alone; but it was liberally resolved that the neighboring places should be permitted to share in the honors and emolu-

ments of the enterprise. At a subsequent meeting the outlines of a plan for the establishment of a bank were presented. It was decided that the name of the institution should be the Albany Bank; the capital $75,000, to be divided into 500 shares of 150 each, $15 to be paid on subscribing, and the remainder in three instalments; thirteen Directors to constitute the Board of Directors, nine of whom should be residents of Albany. Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, Jacob Van Derheyden, and Barret Bleecker were to open the books for subscriptions in the week following, and to close them as soon as 500 shares should be subscribed. February 17th the books were opened, and the stock was overrun in amount in less than three hours. After the books were closed, offers of 10 per cent. advance were made on the stock; and, on the Saturday following, it rose to 100 per cent. cash. Application was immediately made to the Legislature for a charter, and here the project received considerable opposition from the law-makers of that day. As the prospects of a charter being secured became more or less doubtful, the price of the stock rose or fell, creating no little excitement and speculation in this region, where stock transactions were quite a novelty. At one time it is said to have stood at $100 premium on a share upon which only $15 had been paid.

Towards the close of the session, by the most strenuous efforts of the friends of the enterprise, the act of incorporation became a law. The first election of Directors was held June 12th, at the City Tavern, and resulted as follows: Abraham Ten Broeck, Cornelius Glen, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, John Maley, Abraham Van Vechten, Henry Cuyler, John Stephenson, James Caldwell, Jacob Van Derheyden, Goldsboro Banyar, Daniel Hale, and Elkanah Watson. The last-named was, as in all public matters, the first in the project and the most active lobbyist.

At a meeting of the Directors, Abraham Ten Broeck was elected President. The bank was opened for deposits on the 16th of July, and began to discount on the 17th. The rate of interest was six per cent. In September, notice was given that notes of 45 days only would be discounted. The act of incorporation limited the capital stock to $260,000, each share to be 400 Spanish milled dollars, or its equivalent.

In February, 1794, in accordance with the provisions of the charter, the capital of the bank was increased $540,000, in 135 shares of $400 each. By subsequent enactments of the Legislature, and by subscriptions on the part of the State, the capital of the bank was increased to $320,000, and it continued at that amount until 1820, when the sum of $100 on each share was returned to the stockholders, thus reducing the capital of the bank one-fourth. In 1832, the charter of the bank was extended to January, 1855, when, for the purpose of more widely diffusing the stock, the par value of the stock was reduced to the sum of thirty dollars, and the number of shares proportionately increased.

The Albank Bank was first located in an old-fashioned Dutch edifice in North Pearl street, third north of State street. In February, 1794, the bank erected a building on the lot now north of the Merchants' Bank, and remained there until 1810. In 1810 the bank was removed to a new building, erected by the bank on the corner of State and Broadway, which was occupied until 1832, when it was torn down for the purpose of widening State street. In 1832 the bank was removed to No. 42 State street, where it was located until the present Merchants' National Bank building was erected. Here the bank remained until its failure in 1861.

The Presidents of this bank from 1792 to 1861 were: Abraham Ten Broeck, 1792–98; Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, 1798–1806; Philip S. Van Rensselaer, 1806–10; Dudley Walsh, 1810–14; John Van Schaick, 1814-20; Barent Bleecker, 1820–40; Jacob H. Ten Eyck, 1840–61. During this period of seventy years there were only four cashiers, namely: Garrit W. Van Schwaick, 1792-1815; John Van Zandt, 1815–32; Jellis Winne, Jr., 1832–49; E. E. Kendrick, 1849–61.

James Van Ingen and Harmanus P. Schuyler were the first clerks. Elkanah Watson was one of the most efficient advocates of the establishment of this bank, and to his tact, experience, and business habits, it in no small way was indebted for its early success. The affairs of the bank were long managed with prudence and ability, and at one time in proportion to its capital, it possessed more specie than any other bank in the country. For years among Albanians when anything was called "as good as the Bank of Albany," it was considered good enough.

The failure of this bank, May 11, 1861, was a genuine surprise to the people. Just before the failure $100 shares were sold for $150, and the utmost confidence prevailed in the institution. Even the President of the Bank, Jacob H. Ten Eyck, was ignorant of the coming disaster, he alone losing $100,000. It would be hard to attribute its failure to any particular cause. It was a combination of difficulties under which four Albany banks failed this year. A general stagnation of business and the unsettled state of the country caused by the war, made the year 1861 a memorable one in the financial affairs of Albany. Abraham Van Allen was appointed receiver of the bank. At the time of the failure the capital of this bank was $540,000.

New York State Bank.—This bank owed its origin almost wholly to the exertions of Elkanah Watson. It was incorporated and went into operation with a capital of $460,000 in 1803. Its original Directors consisted of the State Comptroller, Elisha Jenkins, John Tayler, Thomas Tillotson, Abraham G. Lansing, Peter Gansevoort, Elkanah Watson, John R. Bleecker, Francis Bloodgood, John Robison, Gilbert Stewart, John De Peyster Douw, Richard Lush and Thomas Mather.

At a meeting of the Directors on March 25, 1803, John Tayler was chosen President, and John W. Yates, Cashier. It commenced business Wednesday, September 7th.

In 1804, the lot where the present bank stands was purchased of Isaiah Townsend, and the erection

of the new banking building commenced. This was completed and first occupied May 10, 1804. This building is still standing, presenting in front almost the appearance of its primitive days. Philip Hooker was the architect.

The opposition to the establishment of this bank was very bitter, and when the bill for its incorporation was before the Legislature, the opponents of the project made strenuous efforts to defeat it. It was openly charged at the time that money was used by both friends and opponents to corrupt members of the Legislature. The capitalists interested in the Bank of Albany were especially opposed to the new bank; nor did their opposition cease after it was incorporated and commenced business; the Directors of the Bank of Albany even carrying their spite so far as to refuse to supply the new bank with paper on which to print their first notes.

By the act of incorporation, the State had the right to subscribe 3,000 shares in this bank. It was further provided that the Comptroller should be one of the Directors.

John Tayler continued President until his death in 1829. He was succeeded by Francis Bloodgood, who died in 1840, the last survivor of the original Board of Directors. Rufus H. King was elected President in 1840, and remained as such until his death in 1867. He was succeeded by General Franklin Townsend. J. Howard King was elected President in 1874 and still retains this position. Mr. Yates died in 1828, and was succeeded as Cashier by his son, Richard Yates, whose successor was Aaron D. Patchin. J. B. Plumb succeeded Mr. Patchin, who was succeeded by John H. Van Antwerp. The present Cashier is D. W. Wemple.

In 1850 the charter of the bank expired, when it closed up its business, paying back to its stockholders their capital with a handsome surplus. Under the same name, with new articles of association, and under the general banking laws of the State, it commenced business on January 1, 1851. Nearly all the old stockholders subscribed for equal amounts in the new association. In 1849 the capital of this bank was reduced to $369,000. The new bank began with a capital of $350,000, and at present is in a flourishing condition.

The Mechanics' and Farmers' Bank, the third bank established in Albany, was incorporated March 4, 1811, and opened for business July 29, 1811. By the act of incorporation, the following were named as Directors: Samuel Southwick, Benjamin Knower, Elisha Dorr, Isaac Denniston, Benjamin Van Benthuysen, William Fowler, George Merchant, Thomas Livingston, Giles W. Porter, Willard Walker, Walter Weed, Peter Boyd, Isaac Hutton, Spencer Stafford and John Bryan. This bank was chartered ostensibly for the benefit of the mechanics and farmers of Albany County, and its charter provided that none but farmers and mechanics should be elected as bank officers; but some years after, application was made to the Legislature for an amendment to the charter, so as to authorize the election of President and Directors without reference to the pursuits or employments in which they may have been engaged. The banking-house was first located in what was then known as No. 6 Court street (now Broadway), on the site of the present Post-office building. The building now occupied by this bank, on the northeast corner of State and James streets, was erected a few years ago.

A peculiar feature connected with the early history of this bank, and by the stockholders looked upon with suspicion, was the fact that all the original directors were Democrats in their political sympathies. The first election of Directors occurred June 1, 1812. It was generally understood among the stockholders, for some time preceding this election, that two Federalists would be chosen; but whose seats should be vacated for their admission was not so easily agreed upon. The election opened at 10 o'clock at Columbia Hotel in Court street, and was contined to a late hour in the afternoon. It was a warm and animated contest, and finally resulted in the election of the original Directors with the exception of Spencer Stafford and John Bryan, who were superseded by Peter Boyd and Isaac Hutton, Federalists.

The first President was Solomon Southwick, who filled the office until 1813, when he was succeeded by Isaac Hutton. Isaac Hutton was succeeded by Benjamin Knower in 1817, who remained President until 1834, when financial embarrassments having caused his resignation, he was succeeded by Charles E. Dudley as President *pro tem.*, February 3, 1834. At the election in June of this year, Ezra Ames was elected President and Charles E. Dudley, Vice-President. This seems to have been the first Vice-President ever elected by this bank. Ezra Ames filled the office of President until 1836, when Thomas W. Olcott having resigned the office of Cashier, was elected President, which office he held until his death in 1880. As a Clerk, Cashier and President Mr. Thomas W. Olcott had been connected with the bank for the long period of sixty-nine years, besides two or three years passed in the Columbia Bank of Hudson, N. Y., a period of time almost beyond parallel in this country. At his death, in 1880, he was succeeded by his son Dudley, who is now President. There is no record of the election of a Vice-President from the date of the death of Charles E. Dudley in 1841, until 1844, when Samuel S. Fowler was chosen. He was succeeded by William H. DeWitt, who held this office until January 1, 1853, the date of the expiration of the charter of the old Mechanics and Farmers' Bank. From this period, until June, 1865, the bank had no Vice-President, when Mr. Thomas Olcott, resigning the position of Cashier, was elected Vice-President, which office he held until his death in 1873. From this date until January 1, 1879, there was no election of Vice-President, when Dudley Olcott having resigned as Cashier was elected to that office. He held it until March, 1880, when he was succeeded by John J. Olcott, who now holds the position.

Gorham A. Worth was the first Cashier, which position he held until 1817, when he resigned to accept the office of Cashier of the Branch Bank of the United States, at Cincinnati, Ohio.

Thomas W. Olcott was appointed to the vacancy and held the position until June 7, 1836, when he was succeeded by E. E. Kendrick. E. E. Kendrick held the office until February 23, 1849, when he was succeeded by Thomas Olcott, who resigned the position in June, 1865.

Dudley Olcott was his successor in the office, until January 1, 1879, when he was succeed by George G. Davidson.

At the time of the appointment of Thomas W. Olcott as Cashier, in 1817, the bank's capital had become impaired, owing to the financial troubles growing out of the depression following the close of the last war with Great Britain; but from this date, the financial history of the bank has been one of unvarying prosperity.

The aggregate amount of dividends paid since the organization of the bank is $3,600,000, which will average about 15 per cent. since 1811, besides a surplus of $650,000 at date. At the expiration of the charter of the old bank, January 1, 1853, the stockholders received about 115 per cent., besides their stock in the new bank, which was $350,000. The capital of the old bank at this date was $442,000, divided in shares of $17 each.

The first charter of this bank expired in 1833 and was renewed for twenty years. In 1853, upon the expiration of its second charter, it closed up its affairs, dividing, besides the par value of its stock, fifty per cent. surplus, and went into operation again with its same officers.

During the War of the Rebellion it again wound up its affairs and came under the National Bank system, which, however, it abandoned in 1868, and is now doing business under the general banking laws of the State. This bank has been conducted with signal ability and success.

Mr. T. W. Olcott, by general consent, was the great banker of Albany. He was the son of Josiah Olcott, of Stratford, Connecticut. Born at Hudson, N. Y., May 22, 1795; died in Albany, March 23, 1880. He came to Albany as Clerk in the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank at its opening, July 29, 1811, and continued as Cashier from July, 1817; as President from June, 1836. During his long career as a banker—for nearly seventy years—with singular devotion, he attained a reputation as a bank financier second to no one in the country, and left large wealth and a name greatly honored for benevolent deeds, broad public spirit and exalted integrity. In 1863 he declined a flattering offer from President Lincoln, of the position of First Comptroller of the Currency; but he declined all public office except such as related to the promotion of education or other local interests. He leaves one daughter and five sons: Dudley and John J., now President and Vice-President of the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank, Frederick P., late State Comptroller; and Alexander and Theodore, of Corning, N. Y.

The Commercial Bank of Albany is another of the old and successful financial institutions of the city. The first movement towards its incorporation was made November 19, 1823, when notice was given by Joseph Alexander, George W. Stanton, Alexander Davidson, and David E. Gregory, that an application would be made to the Legislature for the incorporation of the Commercial Bank of Albany, with a capital of $500,000.

On the 21st day of January, 1824, a bill for its incorporation, to expire July 1, 1842, was reported from the Committee on Banks and Insurance Companies, and passed the Assembly January 29, 1824, but was defeated in the Senate.

The following year the application was renewed, and this time with success, for the bill, granting a charter to expire July, 1, 1845, passed both branches of the Legislature April 4th, and became a law April 12th, 1825.

The capital stock was fixed at three hundred thousand dollars, divided into shares of twenty dollars each.

The following were named as Commissioners in the bill, and constituted the first Board of Directors. William Walker, Joshua Tuffs, George W. Stanton, Lewis Benedict, William Cook, David E. Gregory, Seth Hastings, Ira Jenkins, Joseph Alexander, Robert Gilchrist, Richard Marvin, John Townsend, Asa H. Center.

The early days of the bank were not peaceful. The petition for its incorporation had been signed by hundreds of men of small means, representing the middle classes, who urged the grant of a charter on the ground that the stock of the three existing banks was principally held by men who had retired from business, and a new institution would be of great advantage to the mercantile and manufacturing interests of the city.

The stock books having been opened for a subscription of $300,000 in May, 1825, they were closed after three days, when the amount subscribed was found to be $1,500,000. The stock not having been distributed to the satisfaction of all the subscribers, the Commissioners were charged with defeating the public expectation, and indignation was aroused to such an extent, that a public meeting was called at the Capitol, June 10, 1825.

This meeting was largely attended, and was presided over by Colonel John Stilwell. No action seems to have been taken at this meeting to remedy the supposed unequal distribution of the stock, but in view of the large amount of surplus capital sought to be invested in bank stock, it was suggested that it might be expedient to apply for another bank, to which the subscription of any individual should be strictly limited to fifty shares of twenty-five dollars each.

The Directors of the Bank were, for a time, enjoined from opening; but August 29, 1826, the Chancellor decided that the bank might go into operation so far as to issue bills and discount notes, but prohibited any transfer of stock, or making any loan or pledges on stock.

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held at Knickerbocker Hall on the evening of May 23, 1826, at which all the Directors, with the exception of William Cook, were present. At this meeting the Board was organized and Joseph Alexander elected President. July 13, 1826, Henry Bartow was appointed Cashier.

The bank began business September 5, 1826, with a capital of $300,000, and continued until the expiration of its charter, on July 1, 1845, and under an extension of its charter until July 1, 1847, when it was reorganized under the General Banking Law of the State. The capital stock was increased to $500,000, February 1, 1855.

On May 31, 1865, the bank was chartered under the Act of Congress as a National institution, and was reorganized and began business under that act August 1, 1865. It continued under this charter for twenty years, until May 31, 1885, when an extension of the charter was granted to May 31, 1905.

June 10, 1875, the capital was reduced to $300,000, shares $100 each, the amount of the reduction being paid to the stockholders. On January 13, 1880, the number of Directors was reduced to nine.

Mr. Alexander was succeeded in the office of President by the following persons, who were elected at the dates given: John Townsend, June 7, 1832; John L. Schoolcraft, August 31, 1854; Ezra P. Prentice, June 13, 1860; Robert H. Pruyn, November 24, 1875; Daniel Manning, March 4, 1882; Robert C. Pruyn, May 23, 1885. Vice-Presidents: Seth Hastings, June 18, 1836; John L. Schoolcraft, October 28, 1839; Andrew White, June 16, 1855. The death of Andrew White, in 1857, made a vacancy in the office until the election of Robert H. Pruyn, November 2, 1872; Robert L. Johnson, November 24, 1875; Daniel Manning, April 9, 1881; Robert C. Pruyn, March 4, 1882; Nathan B. Perry, February 28, 1885.

The following Cashiers have been appointed: Henry Bartow, July 13, 1826; James Taylor, November 2, 1835; Andrew White, March 17, 1854; Powers L. Green, June 16, 1855; Visscher Ten Eyck, July 7, 1858; Eliphalet Wickes, August 11, 1862; James Martin, February 24, 1866; Edward A. Groesbeck, April 30, 1873.

This bank has been the depositary of the State funds during the greater part of its existence, and continuously for nearly sixty years, with the exception of two years, when the Know-Nothing parry was in power. It has rendered very valuable service to the State in the safe keeping of its moneys, and in providing funds for the maintenance of the various departments of the Government when needed. It has also for some years been the depositary of the city funds. The present capital is $300,000; surplus and profit, $510,000.

The bank from its organization has occupied its present location at Nos. 38 and 40 State street. The building was erected in 1816, and was used for some years as the Adelphi Hotel, a well-known establishment in those days. The banking-rooms were at first located on the second floor, and continued there until the remodeling of the building in 1851, when the addition now occupied was built. At this time the upper stories of the front building were refitted for the Young Men's Association and the lower floor turned into stores. Previous to this change the building had been occupied by the Commercial Bank, and the Albany City and Canal Banks. The building was refitted in 1876, and the banking-rooms refurnished and improved.

Canal Bank.—This institution was incorporated in 1829, with a capital of $300,000. The first Directors were John T. Norton, Jeremiah Clark, Edward C. Delavan, Lyman Root, Israel Smith, John I. Godfrey, Aaron Thorpe, David Wood, Henry L. Webb, James Goold, Alexander Marvin, Edwin Croswell, James Porter, Richard V. De Witt, Lyman Chapin.

From 1829 to 1835 John T. Norton was President. John Keyes Paige succeeded him, who a short time after was followed by Joseph Russell. The last President was Robert Hunter. Theodore Olcott was the first and only Cashier of this Bank.

The failure of this bank in July, 1848, was memorable as the first failure of a banking institution in Albany. It was closed by order of the Comptroller, and a commission appointed to examine into the affairs of the bank. At the time suspicions of fraud on the part of the bank officers were entertained by the people, but an investigation failed to reveal such a state of affairs.

The Albany City Bank was incorporated April 30, 1834, with a capital of $500,000.

The Commissioners were: Erastus Corning, Chauncey Humphrey, Martin Van Alstyne, John Knower, Samuel S. Fowler, John L. Schoolcraft, William Seymour, Peter Wendell, Garret W. Ryckman, Anthony Blanchard, William Smith, Thomas M. Burt, Albert Gallup.

The bank commenced business October 1, 1834, with the following officers: Erastus Corning, President; Samuel S. Fowler, Vice-President; Watts Sherman, Cashier.

The City Bank at that time was located on the south side of State street, in the Commercial Bank Building, No. 38. At that time the Commercial Bank was upstairs on the second floor. The stairs and hall divided the building. The City Bank occupied the east side; the Commercial Bank the west side.

Charles L. Garfield, of Troy, was appointed Clerk in October, 1836. In June, 1837, he was appointed Teller, in place of Moses B. Wright, resigned, a position he has held up to the present time.

About 1840 the City Bank bought from Joel Rathbone his store, 47 State street, which was converted into a bank building. It was then the finest bank building in this part of the country.

Watts Sherman continued as Cashier till 1847, when, his health failing, the Directors granted him three months vacation to visit Europe. Henry L. Lansing, late Assistant-Cashier of the Ontario Bank, N. Y., took his place during his absence. October, 1850, John V. L. Pruyn was elected Vice-President.

July, 1851, Watts Sherman resigned as Cashier. Henry H. Martin was elected in his place.

In 1857, during the heavy panic, the Albany City Bank suspended specie payment, but not until all the banks in New York City had suspended.

The Albany City Bank charter expired January 1, 1864, and was immdiately reorganized under

the New York State Banking Laws, with the same capital, $500,000, and the same officers.

Before closing the new State organization, it was resolved by the Board of Directors to pay the stockholders 80 per cent.—in addition to their regular dividends of 4 per cent. semi-annually—amounting to four hundred thousand dollars. Forty per cent. payable April 1, 1864; twenty per cent. payable October 1, 1864; and twenty per cent. payable Octobler 1, 1865.

June 1, 1865, the Albany City Bank organized as a National Bank under the corporate name of the Albany City National Bank, still retaining the same officers and capital. Ninety thousand dollars of the undivided profits of the old Albany City Bank was carried as a surplus fund of the new National Bank. December, 1870, Henry H. Martin resigned as Cashier, and Amos P. Palmer was elected in his place. By the death of Erastus Corning, April, 1872, the bank lost an officer of great and valuable experience, and to whose early care and labor the bank is largely indebted for its success. His son Erastus was elected in his place as President. The death of Ellis Baker, who had been connected with the bank for thirty-five years, occurred March, 1873.

In March, 1873, it was resolved to erect a new banking-house on the same ground, 47 State street. E. L. Roberts, an architect from New York, furnished the plans for the present bank building, which is three stories high, with granite front, and one of the finest public edifices in the city. During its building the bank occupied rooms in the Exchange Building, on the north side of the main floor.

June, 1874, the bank moved into the new building. February, 1874, the Board resolved to reduce its capital from $500,000 to $300,000.

The death of John V. L. Pruyn, who held the office of Vice-President, and was one of the oldest officers of the bank, occurred in November, 1877. The Hon. Eli Perry was elected in his place.

The present Board of Directors consists of the following, viz.: Erastus Corning, George H. Thacher, A. P. Palmer, Selden E. Marvin, Amasa J. Parker, Robert L. Banks, John V. L. Pruyn, Jr., Amasa J. Parker, Jr., Erastus Corning, Jr.

The Albany Exchange Bank was incorporated in 1838, to continue for 662 years, with a capital of $311,100, privileged to increase it to $10,000,000. It was among the earliest associations under the General Banking Act passed in April of that year. Its first Board of Directors was composed of John Q. Wilson, who was elected President, George W. Stanton, Alfred Douglas, Galen Batchelder, Frederick K. Barnard, Lansing G. Taylor, John Thomas, Robert Hunter, Oliver Steele, Henry Greene, John M. Newton, James McNaughton, Giles Sanford, Samuel Stevens, Robert L. Noyes. Soon after organization, and before business was commenced, John Q. Wilson and Robert Hunter resigned as Directors, and Ichabod L. Judson and Gaylor Sheldon were appointed to fill the vacancies. A vacancy thus occurring in the office of President, George W. Stanton was elected President, which office he filled until his death in April, 1849.

The early history of this bank is a record of unfortunate speculations. Notably was the purchase of $50,000 of the bonds of Arkansas, which proved worthless, thus rendering one-sixth of the actual capital of the bank wholly unavailable and unproductive. Besides this loss much money was lost by other bank failures. So severely had the bank suffered by losses, that at the outbreak of the Civil War its stock was offered at seventy cents on the dollar without finding buyers. But by careful management on the part of its officers, they managed to carry on its business, and when the affairs of the bank were wound up in 1865, preparatory to forming a National Bank, a creditable showing of its financial affairs was made. This was mainly accomplished by the wise efforts of C. P. Williams, the present President.

Samuel Pruyn succeeded Mr. Stanton as Cashier, and remained in this position until a National Bank was formed. The first Cashier of this Bank was Noah Lee, who was succeeded in 1853 by James M. Lovett, who in turn was succeeded by Chauncey P. Williams.

The Exchange Bank closed its business as a State association January 31, 1865, and the National Exchange Bank of Albany, having been organized for that purpose, succeeded to its business, and has done a prosperous and lucrative business ever since. Its capital is $300,000. Located at 450 Broadway.

The first President of this Bank was William Gould. He was succeeded by Ichabod L. Judson, who in turn was followed by Chauncey P. Williams. Mr. Williams was succeeded by Stephen H. Allen. In 1875, Chauncey P. Williams became President, and has most acceptably filled this position ever since. His entire connection with the banking institutions of Albany has been most creditable.

The first Cashier of this Bank was Chauncey P. Williams. In 1875, Thomas L. Scott was Cashier until his death in 1881, when he was succeeded by Jonas H. Brooks, the present Cashier.

The Merchants' Bank was incorporated January 19, 1853, under the general banking law, with a capital of $250,000. The first Board of Directors was composed of John Tweddle, Billings P. Learned, Richard Van Rensselaer, Matthew J. Hallenbeck, Gilbert L. Wilson, Maurice E. Viele, Henry P. Pulling, Joseph N. Bullock, John Sill.

It began business at No. 59 State street, April 7, 1853, with John Tweddle, President, and John Sill, Cashier.

It became a National Bank April 22, 1865, and is now known as the Merchants' National Bank. In 1869 it removed its location to its present quarters, 458 Broadway. In 1876, Richard Van Rensselaer became President. He was succeeded by J. Wilbur Tillinghast. Nathan D. Wendell was made Cashier in 1869, and was succeeded by J. Irving Wendell in 1874. Present capital, $200,000.

Union Bank.—This institution was first organized under the general banking law as the Bank of the

Union, June 8, 1853. It began business January 1, 1854, at No. 35 State street, with a capital of $250,000. The first Board of Directors was composed of Billings P. Learned, Gilbert C. Davidson, William N. Strong, Chauncey Vibbard, Amos P. Palmer, Charles Coates, George H. Thacher, William L. Learned, John H. Reynolds, Daniel D. T. Charles, Alfred Wild, Le Roy Mowry and Adam Cottrell. Billings P. Learned was the first President of this Bank, holding the position from the date of its organization to the time of his death, April 16, 1884, when he was succeeded by his son, Billings P. Learned.

Mr. Learned was born in Norwich, Connecticut, June 24, 1813; graduated from Yale College in 1834; studied law and practiced his profession for a short time at Lockport, N. Y., but soon after abandoned it on account of poor health. He afterward engaged in business at Troy for a short time, and then removed to Albany and engaged in the manufacture of stoves with George H. Thacher. When the Union Bank was established he was elected its President, and as a banker was known and respected for integrity and upright business habits.

John F. Batchelder was the first Cashier of this Bank, until he resigned in 1857, when he was succeeded by Adam Van Allen, who resigned in 1861, succeeded by Amos P. Palmer.

In the early part of the year 1865, the stockholders of the Union Bank decided to abandon their organization under the State law, and organize under the National Bank Act; and March 8, 1865, it was authorized to continue business, under the title of the Union National Bank of Albany, for twenty years. At the expiration of its charter, March 8, 1885, by agreement with the stockholders, this bank was satisfactorily closed and its affairs liquidated in full. Shortly after its organization as a National Bank, a bank building was erected at No. 446 Broadway, which was occupied until the expiration of its charter. The last Cashier was James C. Cook, who held this position from 1870.

Bank of the Capitol was incorporated in 1853, and went into operation April 1st of this year, with a capital of $300,000, on the corner of State and James streets. Its first Directors were Thomas Schuyler, M. H. Read, John G. White, Adam Van Allen, A. D. Shepard, James Van Nostrand, Matthew Vassar, Alfred Noxon and Noah Lee.

The first President was Noah Lee, who was succeeded by Thomas Schuyler, who was followed by John G. White. Horatio G. Gilbert was its first Cashier. He was followed by John Templeton. This bank failed May 18, 1861, when Matthew H. Read was appointed receiver.

National Bank.—This bank went into operation in 1856, at No. 53 State street, with a capital of $600,000. The first Directors were William E. Bleecker, Albion Ransom, James C. Kennedy, Richard J. Grant, Samuel W. Burnett, Charles Adams and Robert C. Martin. William E. Bleecker was chosen President, and Robert C. Martin, Cashier. Both of these officers remained in their positions until the failure of the bank May 23, 1861, being the last of the four Albany banks which failed during this month. James Edwards was appointed receiver.

The Bank of the Interior was incorporated under the general banking law in 1857, and went into operation at No. 61 State street July 22d of that year. Josiah B. Plumb, its principal founder, was elected President, and John F. Batchelder, Cashier, both of whom were in office when the bank failed, May 1, 1861. Orlando Meads was made receiver.

The First National Bank of Albany was organized January 26, 1864. Commenced business at its present location, Nos. 35 and 37 State street, February 25, 1864. It was the first bank in Albany organized under the laws of the United States, and became the financial agent of the Government for the receiving and disbursing of its funds in this city and vicinity.

Thomas Schuyler was its first President, Adam Van Allen was its first Cashier. Its first Board of Directors were: Thomas Schuyler, Garret A. Van Allen, Matthew H. Read, Charles H. Adams, Frank Chamberlain. Its capital in 1884 was $200,000; its surplus, $207,000. Aggregate amount of dividends paid to stockholders since its organization is $564,150.

Matthew H. Read was President from 1869 to his death, in 1883, when he was succeeded by Adam Van Allen, who, upon his death, in 1884, was succeeded by Garret A. Van Allen. Ledyard Cogswell is Cashier. The Directors are: Garret A. Van Allen, Albert Wing, Jesse C. Potts, J. Townsend Lansing, Joseph W. Russell.

Hope Bank was incorporated under the general banking law of the State, and commenced business at the corner of James and State streets in 1863. Capital, $100,000. James Hendrick was made President and William Young, Cashier. It was continued under these officers until 1874, when it was discontinued and its stockholders paid in full. It was succeeded in 1874 by the Hope Banking Company, which was controlled by a Board of Directors. James Hendrick was President of the company. It was discontinued in 1877.

Albany County Bank.—This institution was incorporated under the State banking law, and commenced business May 15, 1871, in Tweddle Hall Building. Removed to present building January 16, 1883. Capital, $200,000. Its first Board of Directors was composed of Jacob Learned, B. W. Wooster, Theodore D. Smith, A. W. Brumaghim, Royal Bancroft, Elvin Taylor, Francis M. Sill, Cornelius Smith, Joseph Mann, Henry A. Fonda and John Templeton. Jacob Learned was President from 1871 to 1878, when he was succeeded by B. W. Wooster, who still remains. John Templeton has been its only Cashier.

SAVINGS BANKS.

Albany Savings Bank.—In 1820, William James, Charles R. Webster, Jesse Buel, John Townsend and Joseph Alexander petitioned the Legislature to be made a corporate body, under the name of the Albany Savings Bank, that they might receive on deposit such sums of money as might be offered by

tradesmen, mechanics and others. An act of incorporation was passed March 25, 1820.

The first officers designated by the act of incorporation, consisted of Stephen Van Rensselaer, President; William James, First Vice-President; Joseph Alexander, Second Vice-President; John Townsend, Third Vice-President; Charles R. Webster, Jesse Buel, Thomas Russell, Volkert P. Douw, William Durant, Douw Fonda, Simeon DeWitt, Peter Boyd, John Spencer, John L. Winne, William McHarg, Matthew Gill, Harmanus Bleecker and Sylvanus P. Jermain, Managers, none of whom received directly or indirectly, pay for their services. The first meeting of these officers was held May 16, 1820, at the Chamber of Commerce room, when Sylvanus P. Jermain was appointed Secretary; and a short time after, John W. Yates was made Treasurer.

The first deposit was made June 10, 1820, the money being received at the New York State Bank, with which the Savings Bank had made arrangements for the safe keeping of its funds. The deposits received this day amounted to $527. The first depositor was Joseph T. Rice, a silversmith. The arrangements made with the New York State Bank continued until 1828, when a contract was made with the Commercial Bank to keep and invest the funds of the Savings Bank. In 1871 the business of the Savings Bank was conducted in the rooms formerly occupied by the First National Bank. Its present elegant building, No. 89 State street, was erected in 1874–75 and first occupied May 11, 1875.

The business of this institution has been conducted in such a manner as to gain unbounded public confidence. The amount of business done has been steadily on the increase. In the second year of its existence $14,333 were deposited, representing 297 depositors; in 1849, $707,595 were deposited, mostly in sums under $100; in 1874, $3,456,598; and on the 1st of January, 1885, the deposits in the bank amounted to $8,237,161.03; the assets, $9,592,005.18.

Mr. Van Rensselaer was succeeeded as President, in 1844, by John Townsend; in 1861, by Garrit Y. Lansing; by Harmon Pumpelly, in 1869; by Henry H. Martin, in 1882.

John W. Yates was succeeded as Treasurer, in 1844, by James Taylor; by Visscher Ten Eyck, 1861; James Martin, 1869; Henry H. Martin, 1874; Theodore Townsend in 1882.

The Albany City Savings Institution was incorporated on March 29, 1850, and began business, and still continues it, in the Albany City National Bank Building, 47 State street. The first Trustees were Erastus Corning, Sr., John Taylor, James Maher, Lansing Pruyn, James Kidd, James McNaughton, John V. L. Pruyn, William Humphrey, Watts Sherman, John T. Norton, James Goold, Samuel Pruyn, Henry H. Martin, John Knower, John McKnight, William Boardman, John G. White, Ellis Baker, Christopher W. Bender and Thomas Noonan. The first President was Erastus Corning, Sr., who was succeeded by his son, Erastus Corning. Watts Sherman was the first Treasurer of this Bank. He was succeeded by Henry H. Martin, who in 1874 was followed by Amos P. Palmer. The present Treasurer is Russell C. Case. The amount deposited in this bank, January 1, 1885, was $2,153,077.57; assets, $2,263,542.76.

The Mechanics and Farmers' Savings Bank was incorporated April 12, 1855, and commenced business in the Mechanics' and Farmers' Bank Building. Thomas W. Olcott was its first President. He was succeeded by his son, Dudley Olcott. Thomas Olcott and Dudley Olcott have both been Secretaries of this institution. The present Secretary is George G. Davidson. The amount deposited January 1, 1885, was $1,312,588.05; assets, $1,536,089.62.

The Albany Exchange Savings Bank was incorporated April, 1856, and commenced business at 450 Broadway. James McNaughton and William G. Thomas have been Presidents of this Bank. Isaac A. Chapman is the present President. Joseph M. Lovett was the first Treasurer. Chauncey P. Williams was elected in 1869, and has remained in this position ever since. Amount deposited January 1, 1885, $712,612.56; assets, $820,519.52.

The Hope Savings Bank commenced business in connection with the Hope Bank in 1866, and continued to do business until 1877, when its affairs were settled by paying its depositors in full and suspending business. Officers: John Tracey, President; B. W. Arnold and Hamilton Harris, Vice-Presidents; William A. Young, Treasurer.

The National Savings Bank was incorporated May 6, 1868, and commenced business at No. 57 State street, June 28, 1869. Its first President was Erastus Corning, Sr., who was succeeded by John H. Van Antwerp in 1872. Albert P. Stevens has been Treasurer and Secretary ever since it began operation. Amount deposited January 1, 1885, $3,344,369.71; assets, $4,022,172.87. Present location, 59 State street.

The Home Savings Bank was incorporated May 10, 1871, and commenced business at No. 40 State street. Its first President was William White, who was succeeded by the present officer, John D. Capron. Edmund L. Judson is Treasurer, and William Lacy, Secretary. Amount deposited January 1, 1885, $506,926.47; assets, $536,887.80.

Albany County Savings Bank was incorporated April 30. 1874, and commenced business in the Albany County Bank Building, No. 71 State street. James H. Pratt was its first President. He was succeeded by Jasper Van Wormer, its present head officer. Albert V. Benson has been Secretary, and John Templeton, Treasurer of this Bank ever since its organization. Amount deposited January 1, 1885, $833,994.98; assets, $916,297.91.

The following Albany Savings Banks have been incorporated at the dates given, but either failed to commence operations or continued business for a short period: Albany Dime Savings Bank, 1854; Sixpenny Savings Bank, 1854; Mercantile Savings Bank, 1855; and the Union Savings Bank, 1855.

Besides the incorporated banking institutions of Albany, a number of individuals at a comparatively

Erastus Corning

early date conducted a private banking and brokerage business in Albany. Among the earliest of these private bankers were Jacob Evertsen, George Jones, Washburn & Co., William Watson & Co., Thomas Squires, and Chauncey S. Titus. Probably the oldest private banker now doing business in Albany is Evert Evertsen, a son of Jacob Evertsen, who commenced business in 1843. Henry R. Pierson commenced a private banking and brokerage business in Albany in 1876, in the Museum Building. May, 1880, he removed to 38 State street. In 1883, his son, Henry R. Pierson, Jr., became a partner, under the firm name of Henry R. Pierson & Son.

In 1872, Babcock & Robinson commenced business. In 1882 the firm was changed to Robinson & Co.

A branch office of Spencer, Trask & Co. was established here in 1880, on the corner of Maiden lane and James street. In 1881 it was removed to the present location, corner State and James. The business at Albany is successfully and prudently conducted by George J. Peabody, a member of the firm.

John F. Smyth commenced a banking and brokerage business here in 1882; he failed in 1884, and was succeeded by the present firm of I. B. Newcomb & Co.

ERASTUS CORNING, Sr.

The men who leave the strongest and most enduring impressions upon the times in which they live, are those who possess indomitable energy, courage, and what may be called will-force, the central power, giving strength and propulsion to character.

"We often over-estimate the value of talent, because it dazzles us and obscures its weakness. We are apt to underrate the importance of will-power and exertion, because their works are less shining. Brilliant talents gracefully adorn life, but it is will, energy, enterprise, and plain practicability, without which apparatus of books, teachers, criticism, ancient language and literature are of little moment. Resolution to work, love of work, and ability to work are substitutes to everything except genius; they are, indeed, the rival of genius."

These remarks apply with great force to the character and career of Erastus Corning, who, with the possession of qualities we have described, rose to the front rank of distinguished men of the State of New York.

He also possessed a practical mind, which gave success to great financial schemes, to public improvements, and to large mechanical interests. Many of these interests bear the impress of his mind, and it can well be said that he has left upon the City of Albany impressions of his public spirit and influence that perpetuates his name and fame as visibly as did the public spirit and energy of Pericles on his native city, Athens.

Mr. Corning inherited his sterling mental and physical qualities from a stalwart English ancestry, who trace their genealogy far back in English history. Corning, originally spelled De Cornu, is a striking example of obtaining family names from trade, pursuit, or some special gift. The name, originally French, De Cornu, was acquired from the horn of the hunter, as the origin of the family was a famous hunter. After the edict of Nantes the De Cornus, with many ancient families, were compelled to leave the country and seek refuge, some in Holland, some in England. Of the De Cornus who went to England, some dropped the French prefix De, calling themselves Cornus, which, by a very easy transition, became Corning. This is proven by many things, one of the strongest being the horn of the hunter counterchanged on the shield, divided per fess, or and gules, with the motto *Crede Cornu*, as their arms, thus proving a common descent.

Some of the Corning family entered ardently into the support of Cromwell, and, after the Commonwealth was overthrown, one of the family most distinguished in its support was compelled to flee to America to avoid the vengeance of Charles II, and settled near Boston. He was the progenitor of the Corning family in America. From him Samuel Corning, of Beverly, Mass., was a direct descendant. He was a man of large influence and distinction, as appears by the records of Beverly as far back as 1641. He was one of those vigorous and intelligent persons for whom Massachussetts has ever been celebrated. The father of Erastus Corning was Bliss Corning, born in 1765, at Preston, Conn. He was a lineal descendant of Samuel Corning, inheriting all those virtues which characterized his ancestor.

It will be seen that Bliss Corning was born at that period of American history, amid those popular storms which were the preludes of the Revolutionary War. When the stirring scenes of Concord and Lexington awoke the colonies to a sense of the great struggle before them, the deepest patriotic ardor was aroused in Bliss Corning. He was then too young to join his countrymen in the conflict for freedom, but before four years of it were over he became a soldier in the Continental army, in which he manfully served during the remainder of the war. How valiantly and faithfully he served his country is evinced by the fact that a generous pension was assigned him, which he received down to the time of his death.

Soon after the close of the war he was united by marriage to Miss Lucinda Smith. The family of Miss Smith was of the highest respectability; her father and two of her brothers served with distinction in the Continental army.

Not long after the marriage of Bliss Corning, he removed to Norwich, Conn., where, on December 14, 1794, his son Erastus, whose biography we are tracing, was born. He was one of eleven children born to his father and mother.

When Erastus was thirteen years of age his father removed to Chatham, and there devoted himself to agricultural pursuits. The boy began his rudimentary education at Norwich, Conn. One of his last teachers here was Peletiah Perit, who after-

ward rose to distinction in the commercial circles of New York, and who, at the time of his death, was President of the Chamber of Commerce in that city.

After his removal to Chatham, the only institution of learning within the reach of young Corning was the common district school. In it, under the instruction of excellent teachers, he made the best use of his advantages, acquiring an excellent practical business education.

It soon became evident to his father that Erastus possessed a mind of uncommon business energy, and that it took the direction of mercantile pursuits. Fortunate advantages presented themselves for the gratification of his ambition. While at school in Chatham, his uncle, Benjamin Smith, was a prominent hardware and iron merchant at Troy, N. Y., doing business under the firm name of Hart & Smith.

Mr. Smith's intuitive knowledge of character saw the promising business qualities of his nephew, and solicited his father to permit him to become a clerk in his establishment. After the young man's education was sufficiently advanced, the father consented, and Erastus Corning became a clerk in the firm of Hart & Smith.

Both members of this firm were leading citizens of Troy, and his uncle held many important official positions in its government. Few young men, therefore, ever had a more useful, or more exemplary guide for a successful business education than young Corning had in his uncle.

When he first entered the employ of this firm it was his business to clean lamps, sweep the store, remove and replace the shutters, sleeping on a bunk in the store. His employers at first feared that on account of his lameness—being then compelled to use crutches—he would not be useful in the store. He soon taught them their error. From the position we have described he worked himself up to great usefulness and a conspicuous place, and finally to a fortune. While at Troy, his uncle, Mr. Smith, gave him permission to keep a box of oranges and lemons on the front steps for sale, and retain the proceeds of the sales. As he received the fruit from New York by sloop, he managed to secure a small income.

While in this establishment he laid the foundation of his great fortune, exhibiting there the same untiring energy and straightforward integrity which characterized him through life. With quiet persistence he began acquiring that knowledge of men and books that in after life became so conspicuous in him. Constantly engaged by day in the busy scenes of mercantile life, clear headed and clean, he devoted himself to the interest of his employers. When the busy hours of the day were over, books from the libraries gave him their richest treasures. How usefully to himself and the public he subsequently used these treasures will be seen.

It was while with his uncle that young Corning formed his political opinions, favoring the Democratic party. These opinions were strengthened by his own convictions as he advanced in years, and to which he firmly adhered during life, rendering him a power in the political field, ever acting boldly and conscientiously up to his convictions. With him the Jeffersonian creed, "Is he honest? Is he capable?" were the cardinal principles he demanded in office holders.

When the war of 1812 broke out, the firm of Hart & Smith was dissolved, Mr. Hart continuing the business, young Corning remaining with him. At length, desiring a larger sphere of action, more commensurate with his abilities, in 1822 he dissolved his relations with Mr. Hart and accepted the position of confidential clerk in the large hardware firm of John A. Spencer & Co., of Albany, N. Y. The confidence and esteem of the firm in young Corning increased, and at the end of two years he was admitted as a member of the firm. Then came his first real business responsibilities: the competitions of trade; the exercise of energies bringing substantial rewards; the contest for greater success, while holding securely those already attained, resulting in the control and power which made him a recognized leader, not only in his adopted city, but in the great State he loved so well, and whose interest he so strongly subserved. Few young men ever assimilated themselves so easily to the details of business as did Mr. Corning; few were more evenly balanced, under the sudden emergencies and vicissitudes of the commercial world than he; if the tide was against him, he breasted it courageously and hopefully; if in his favor, he was calm and complacent.

Erastus Corning did not drift into commercial success and high positions; he earned them by the exercise of extraordinary ability and energetic exertions. His history, therefore, presents an impressive example of what unaided efforts may obtain in this country, so full of rivalry and personal achievements. When he became a resident of Albany it was a comparatively small town, though even then the center which radiated much influence throughout the State, and somewhat great and commanding influences throughout the nation. In plainer language, it was just the place for him, and he was just the man for the place. Here, where legislators, statesmen and jurists assembled and reasoned; here, where legislative and executive wisdom and judicial learning showed its influence, was the place for the vigorous, athletic, original mind of Corning to apply itself to the commercial, financial and business development of the city. There was, therefore, a reciprocity of interest between the city and himself.

Before Mr. Corning's death the city had more than double its population, and had become the center of large commercial interests, of extensive railroad facilities and other great public improvements, largely the result of his enterprise and influence. Is it not natural, then, that Albany should venerate the memory of her large-hearted, energetic and gifted citizen, always a watchful guardian of her interests? Is it not also natural that the State itself, whose interests were advanced and enlarged by him, should share in this veneration?

It would, perhaps, be the work of supererogation to describe in detail his extended and varied career; but justice demands that we give some attention to it.

Mr. Corning remained in the hardware and iron business for nearly half a century. During that time he had several partners; among these was Mr. John T. Norton, with whom he purchased the rolling mill at Troy, N. Y., a successful adventure, its success being accelerated by the lapse of time. At the expiration of four years Mr. Norton retired from the firm. The succeeding members of this firm were James Horner, Gilbert C. Davidson, John F. Winslow and his son, Erastus Corning, Jr.

Through all the changes of succeeding partners the firm bore the name of Corning & Company. After rivaling in importance all other establishments in the country, it rose by the extent of its transactions and its wealth superior to all others. Though all its business was under the supervision of Mr. Corning, the details of it were attended to by his partners and clerks. One of the strong features in the character of Mr. Corning was the keen sagacity with which he read men and balanced their capacity and characteristics. This he applied successfully in his selections of partners and his subordinates; in this manner all his great business enterprises moved on without friction, without those jealousies and personal conceits which too often mar and interrupt the operations of extensive business affairs. In a word, Mr. Corning knew the men he called about him, and he knew how to place each man in his natural and appropriate sphere. This gave him opportunity for the exertion of his abilities in other important enterprises, which soon extended not only in various parts of this State, but into other States.

We have said it was a fortunate circumstance for him and for Albany that he made that city his home. As the house of Corning & Company was growing in importance and wealth, the day of railroads began to dawn over the country. These improvements found in the strong, adventurous public spirit of Erastus Corning a powerful assistant, and he embarked largely in their construction and management. He invested his means largely in them and became an extensive stockholder and director in a number of the leading lines in the country.

In 1831, when railroad projects were considered little more than "the stuff which dreams are made of," he was one of the projectors of the Mohawk and Hudson River road, completed three years later.

The connection of Erastus Corning with the railroad interest of the country may be briefly stated as follows:

He was one of the commissioners for organizing the Utica and Schenectady Railroad Company; its President from its organization till 1854, when it was consolidated with the roads between Albany and Buffalo. This arrangement was effected with great difficulty and against much opposition; but the rapidly increasing business of the railroads demanded it, and it found in Mr. Corning a warm and able advocate.

When the Erie Railway was completed to Lake Erie, and the Pennsylvania Central had finished its track, it was apparent that the several companies which afterward composed the New York Central, and which were operating under district organizations, could not successfully compete with those great lines, unless they were consolidated and managed by one controlling mind. Hence a consolidation was effected in 1854, under the name of the New York Central, and it found in Erastus Corning a controlling mind. On its consolidation he was elected President of the road, discharging the duties of that important position until 1865, when he resigned. In the meantime, Mr. Corning had gained a national fame as a railroad manager. When the project of constructing the famous St. Marie Ship Canal, now connecting Lake Superior with the great chain of lakes, terminating with Ontario, was committed to a company and the contract for constructing it awarded, Mr. Corning became President of the Company. Associated with him in this enterprise was J. W. Brooks, then Superintendent of the Michigan Central Railroad, one of the ablest and most distinguished railroad men of the time.

The work which involved the construction of a Canal around the Falls of the River St. Marie was rapidly pushed to a successful completion, proving an important auxiliary to the commerce of the lakes, aiding largely in the development of the rich mining interests of Lake Superior. It was to the ample resources and comprehensive mind of Mr. Corning that the early completion of the Michigan Central Railroad was principally due. This road, one of the most important links in the great line of railways connecting the Atlantic with the Pacific, was undertaken by the State of Michigan, but when completed as far as Kalamazoo, was brought to a standstill for want of means.

At this juncture Mr. Corning, with Mr. D. D. Williams, of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, and his former business associate, J. W. Brooks, took an assignment of the road from the State and completed it with great rapidity. Mr. Corning became a large stockholder in this road, and one of its Directors. He was also a Director of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad, of which he was one of the originators.

We have thus seen that he may, without affectation, in its literal sense be called a railroad magnate.

We have already referred to Mr. Corning's political sentiments, and to his connection with the Democratic party.

It would be impossible for a man situated as he was during his active business career, to avoid the political arena. He was never the mere politician, the man of present or ephemeral policy; a mere party manager, using the platitudes of the partisan for his own ambitious desires. The same enlightened, far-seeing qualities that governed his business relations was the motor of his political life.

He believed in the necessity of vigorous political action, and the necessity of organized parties; he felt that skill in party organization was an acquirement dangerous to the public will, unless accompanied by a high sense of honor and an

unselfish devotion to the welfare of the country. Though inflexibly devoted to his party, he never wavered in his hostility to an institution or to measures which, in his view, were violations of human rights of honor and probity. He never permitted himself to cherish any bitterness of feelings, even when party strife was the highest and most bitter; when high and great principles were at stake, he forgot the politician and the partisan in the remembrance that he was a citizen of a republic, a man and a Christian. So it happened that when he came to die, he left no personal or political enemy, but was at peace with all mankind.

It was not till 1828 that Mr. Corning entered public life. He was that year, with great unanimity, elected a member of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Albany, being re-elected to that office for several years. In 1834 he was chosen Mayor of the City by the Common Council, serving by re-election till 1837. The manner in which Mr. Corning discharged the duties of Chief Magistrate of the City of Albany has passed into history, which enrolls his name honorably on the long list of the honored names who have presided in the executive chair of this ancient city. His address on assuming the duties of his office, January 1, 1836, was particularly distinguished for its elevated and statesmanlike views in regard to the railroad interests of the city; and in regard to the duties of the co-ordinate branches of the city government, it was especially comprehensive and practical. Finally, the whole message written to meet the particular exigencies of the times, was regarded as a business-like, able and dignified document.

In 1833 he was elected a Regent of the University, and subsequently Vice-Chancellor of the Board.

In the fall of 1841, Mr. Corning was elected to the State Senate from the Third Senatorial District, which consisted of the Counties of Albany, Columbia, Greene, Schenectady, Schoharie and Delaware. His district colleagues were Alonzo C. Paige, of Schenectady; Erastus Root, of Delaware, and Henry W. Strong, of Troy. During all his senatorial career his colleagues were the ablest men in the district, and the history of that career ranks him as the peer not only of his colleagues, but of the most distinguished member in the Senate. The differences in men are rarely to be measured by their differences in purely intellectual endowments; they consist more commonly in the differences in zeal, physical and mental energy, perseverance, devotion to duty to friends and country, pride of success, love of honor, self-respect, and a desire to do good. That Mr. Corning, in the discharge of his legislative duties, possessed most, if not all, these endowments, is exhibited indubitably by the records of the parliamentary body in which he served.

He was a delegate to the Democratic National Conventions held in Baltimore in 1848 and 1852. At the latter he was President of the New York delegation.

It needs no other comment upon the estimate which the public placed upon his public services than the fact that they opened the way for his nomination and election in the fall of 1856, as a representative in Congress from the Fourteenth Congressional District of the State. He took his seat December 7, 1857, serving until the close of the 35th Congress, March 3, 1859. During this term he rendered important services as a member of the Committee on Claims, and on Naval Affairs. In 1861 he was returned to Congress, and was re-elected the following term, thus serving in the 35th, 37th and 38th Congresses. The two last were known as the "War Congresses."

He was a delegate to the Peace Convention held in Washington, February, 1861. His experience in legislative bodies, his high reputation for sound sense and discrimination, gave him a prominent position in this body. With other eminent members he was in favor of making honorable concessions to the South; but, when another policy prevailed, he gave his influence, his means, and his every exertion to the task of preserving the Union.

He was a Democrat—every inch a Democrat—and yet the words of the great expounder of the Constitution, "The Union now and forever; one and inseparable," guided him in his congressional career, and he gave his voice and influence in sustaining the authority of the Constitution and the supremacy of the law. He saw that Constitution and those laws vindicated; he saw those "who rashly took the sword punished by the sword; he saw the nation filled with the largest views of intense nationality, and rejoiced that the heart of the nation beat and throbbed in a united body politic."

On February 5, 1833, Mr. Corning was appointed a Regent of the University, a position he held until his death. On April 21, 1870, he was elected Vice-Chancellor of the Board of Regents. It will be seen that he served on the Board of Regents for the period of thirty-nine years.

In his second and third terms in Congress, he served on the Committee of Ways and Means. "The great problem before the country at that time, the solution of which devolved upon this committee, was to provide a circulating medium equal to the financial necessities of the country." Mr. Corning's experience in monetary affairs had not been extensive, but they had been intimate. In 1833 he was elected Vice-President of the New York State Bank, but retired from that position the following year to accept the presidency of the Albany City Bank, which he retained through life. He was, therefore, well acquainted with finance, and brought to the deliberations of the Ways and Means Committee a mature judgment which largely aided in the solution of the difficulties presented, providing a circulating medium for the country.

Mr. Corning resigned his seat in the House at the opening of the Second Session of the 38th Congress, determined to withdraw from public life; but he was induced to accept the position as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, which met at Albany, June, 1867. His colleagues were Wm. Cassidy, Amasa J. Parker, and James Roy. His legislative experience, his mastery of public affairs, and well-tried capacity rendered him one of the

most valuable members of that body. In private life, those who knew Mr. Corning best felt for him the sincerest affection.

At the age of twenty-five he was united in marriage to Miss Harriet Weld, of Roxbury, Mass. The family of this lady was one of the oldest and most eminent in that State, tracing their genealogy far back in English history. She was a woman of culture and intelligence, in every sense qualified to be the wife of a man like Erastus Corning. Therefore in his domestic relations he was happy and fortunate.

We have thus traced the public career of Mr. Corning. A discriminating writer has said, love of business and a capacity to conduct business stand next to affluence. In tracing the life of Mr. Corning from his youth to the great successes of his manhood, the truth of these words is fully demonstrated, for he possessed these qualities in a large degree. They were the talisman which brought his success.

His long career terminated by death on April 9, 1872.

He did the work of his maturer years with the same good faith, the same steady energy and self-reliance with which he filled out the tasks of his youth and early manhood. It is no affectation to say that his was an exemplary life; a character profitable to study; one which was its own eulogy, and of which no just description can be given without the use of some eulogistic language. In using it, however, we are but speaking the words of truth and soberness, and not undue panegyric.

Mr. Corning's moral and intellectual qualities were in harmony; his principles commanded the respect and confidence of the legislative, commercial and business circles in which he moved. In private life he gained affection and esteem. He was modest, claimed no merit, assumed no undue importance, accomplished his purpose not so much by reason of his great wealth, as by the strength, manliness and probity of his character. And thus, while his influence was almost unbounded, the people for whom he labored so long and effectually unite in the plaudit of "good and faithful servant" as they look back upon his long and useful career, feeling that "it is well" with any people when from its institutions, modes of life and thought, can spring a character like that of Erastus Corning's.

ERASTUS CORNING.

In the biography of Erastus Corning, Sr., we have seen with what ability, determination and success he established himself one of the chief mercantile, manufacturing and public-spirited men of the State, and perhaps in the nation.

We have seen that, subservient to his broad practical business policy, he developed the growth of railroads and other internal improvements, and became the founder of one of the greatest iron industries of the country. We have seen how, in all his great public and private enterprises, signal success attend him, and that he closed his life an eminently fortunate man. But amid all the fortunate circumstances of his life, not one could have been more gratifying to him than that which gave him a son who inherited those qualifications by which he had worked out his own success in life. A son, who, when he himself was past the period of his activity, and when called to leave the things of earth, would take his place and successfully carry forward his great designs and business projects, and give additional fame to the name of Corning.

Having sketched the life of the father, it becomes our pleasant duty to trace the career of the son from his birth to the present conspicuous place he now occupies in the community.

Erastus Corning was born at Albany, June 16, 1827. He was the third son of his parents. He first went to school in Greenbush in the house now occupied by Collender, the old fort; from there to College Hill, Poughkeepsie, and completed it at Union College. In his studies he was thorough and practical, and they were peculiarly adapted to the course of life that lay before him, with all its responsibilities.

On leaving college he entered a vast business school, under the tutorship of his father, where he received a training which, it is not too much to say, could not have been elsewhere acquired in this country. Two requisites for success in life are indispensable, neither of which can be counted on prior to experiment. The first is opportunity; the second is aptitude to turn it to the best account. Both of these requisites Mr. Corning possessed. At an early period he was brought into close companionship with the most accomplished and cultivated financiers, manufacturers, legislators, and statesmen. Hence he learned much from association of this kind. These circumstances, favorably turned by his own exertions and energy, soon placed him in the front rank of manufacturers and financiers, in which he displayed the useful characteristics which marked the career of his father.

We have seen that at an early date the elder Corning, in connection with John T. Norton, purchased the rolling mills at Troy, which subsequently developed into the Albany Iron-works.

In nothing, perhaps, is the transforming power of manufacturing industry—its ability to give to crude ore entirely new forms and new qualities—more strikingly evident than in the various ways in which iron ore is molded into forms of usefulness.

It is impossible to exaggerate the utility or the beauty of the materials thus wrought from it. In pausing to consider them, the intellect is almost staggered at their immensity, the vast variety of their usefulness, the subtlety into which they enter into almost everything which tends to the comfort and happiness of men.

It was reflections, doubtless, something like these that prompted the elder Corning to enter the great business of iron manufacture, and induced the son to become equally enthusiastic in carrying them forward to a state of perfection and success almost unrivaled. After several partners had succeeded Mr. Norton, and left the firm, Erastus Corning, Jr., became a partner in the concern, and the

firm was known as Erastus Corning & Company. In the meantime the transactions of the house became more extended and important than those of any other in the iron trade in America. The relations of Erastus Corning, Jr., with the firm continued until the death of his father, in 1872, when he succeeded to the ownership of these iron-works.

Possessing a vigorous constitution, with corresponding mental powers, and much experience, he was eminently prepared for the great responsibilities which now rested upon him.

In writing a biography, it is in relating what a man has done and achieved in life, rather than in pleasing panegyrics, which places the reader in possession of his true character and career.

"Permit me," said a great Athenian statesman, "to have my name carved on the public edifices that ornament the city which I have aided in erecting, and I will ask no other biography of myself." But the request was denied him.

In preparing our sketch of Erastus Corning, a plain and truthful description of the various great enterprises he has conducted will be the best panegyric that could be given any man; indeed, in looking over the wide extent of the enterprises which bear his name, we feel, as did the Athenian, that they are a sufficient biography without the interposition of our pen; but as "history is philosophy, teaching by example," and as biography is but the other side of history, we shall make a description of the manufacturing and other interests in which Mr. Corning is engaged, the material for his biography.

We shall begin with a description of the great

ALBANY IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTORIES.

From a very early period, to use the language of another, the waters of the Wynantskill were utilized as motive power by the Dutch settlers. In 1789 David De Forest erected a fulling mill at the foot of the falls in what is now the Sixth Ward of the City of Troy, but this was taken down to make way for the nail factory of John Brinkerhoff, who, in 1807, built a rolling-mill in the same glen. The operations of this little wooden rolling-mill were confined to converting Russian and Swedish bar-iron into plates, which were slit into narrow strips, cut to the required length and made into nails headed by hand. In 1826 Brinkerhoff's nail factory was put up at auction and bought by Erastus Corning, Sr., who gave it the name of the Albany Nail Factory. In order to follow the history of these iron-works, which must be interesting to all our readers, we must repeat some instances which appear in the biography of Erastus Corning, Sr.

Not long after purchasing the nail factory, Mr. Corning, Sr., formed his partnership with Mr. Norton, under the name and style of Norton & Corning. In 1830 the establishment had increased to such an extent that thirty-five persons were employed, with an annual production of 825 tons of rolled-iron, about half of which was cut into nails. That year Mr. Norton withdrew from the firm, and Mr. Corning found an admirable partner in James Horner. Slowly, but surely, the business increased, and in a few years its daily production was six and one-half tons of iron, a large portion of which was converted into nails. Thus it continued till 1838, when the firm was enlarged by the addition of John F. Winslow, taking the firm name of Corning, Horner & Winslow, while the establishment was called the Albany Iron-works. During the following year the first puddling or making of wrought-iron from pig iron in this city was done at these works. The only other establishment in the State where this process of manufacture was carried on, was at the Ulster Works, in Ulster County. In 1849 the steam mill was built and put in operation.

The firm continued to grow and extend itself, increasing its capacities for manufacturing, enlarging and extending its machinery, until it attracted the attention of the nation.

At the breaking out of the Rebellion, it became largely the resource of the North for productions not obtainable at any other establishment. It manufactured very largely for the Government the patent solid lip railroad chairs, which were invented in these works. Immense quantities of these chairs were used upon the military railroads in Virginia, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee and other States, upon which the supplies for the army were transported.

As the war advanced, it was the fortune of the Albany Iron-works to be connected with one of its most brilliant and decisive events—an event which not only relieved the nation from a fearful peril, but revolutionized maritime warfare, not only in this country, but in all the civilized world. This was the building of the Monitor. As one reads the history of that small but powerful craft, he almost fancies himself in the realms of romance, so singularly did entirely opposite and unexpected circumstances unite to turn a terrible defeat and impending ruin to the country to a wonderful and almost fabulous victory.

Before and during the events to which we have alluded, John A. Griswold was at the head of the Rensselaer Iron-works, and John F. Winslow, as we have seen, was connected with the Albany Iron-works. These gentlemen were profoundly impressed with the inefficiency of the wooden vessels of the United States Navy, and "earnestly urged upon the authorities the construction of that novel iron battery, the Monitor, invented by John Ericsson. For not only did these men strongly advocate the building of the vessel, but they had the courage and enterprise to willingly hazard their reputation and money in building this experimental iron war-craft. As has been truthfully said: 'They contracted to furnish in a given time, and that a short time, a shot-proof battery, such as had never before been known, original not only in general design, but in the arrangement of parts, with new methods of mounting guns—heavier guns than had before been used on shipboard—and they bound themselves to cause this novel vessel, with all her untried machinery, to work in all respects to the satisfaction of the department, or forfeit the money advanced, and that 25 per cent. of the whole amount they were to receive should remain unpaid until the Secretary

should be satisfied with the performance of the vessel. As a necessary consequence of the contract, the vessel was not accepted by the Government until after the fight at Hampton Roads.'"

Captain Ericsson had conceived the idea of building an iron ship; and made applications to the Secretary of the Navy for assistance. Some offers were made him which he did not accept, and it was not until C. S. Bushnell, John A. Griswold and John F. Winslow took the matter in hand and went to Washington, where, by President Lincoln's influence and that of several officers of the navy, they secured the contract for building such a vessel as Ericsson had planned.

In the report on iron-clad vessels made by the board, September 16, 1861, it was decided to accept the proposition offered by these gentlemen in regard to the vessel outlined by Captain Ericsson.

Immediately upon their return home, John A. Griswold and John F. Winslow, as if they were moved by Divine inspiration to build and complete the vessel in the required time of 100 days, and to clothe it with impregnable iron, began to make the necessary preparations for manufacturing the iron armor. Orders which could have been filled at any other time were refused by the Albany Iron-works to give preference to the manufacture of the plates, bar iron, spikes, etc., for the Government's vessel, and the other portions—the machinery, port stoppers, etc.—were contracted for by the associates of Captain Ericsson. The following extracts from letters addressed to the inventor exhibit the patriotic zeal, the practical purposes and constant diligence of the Troy contractors in forwarding the work of construction.

The building of the hull of the vessel was given to Thomas F. Rowland, agent of the Continental Iron-works at Greenpoint, L. I., the plates, bars and rivets being furnished him from the Albany Iron-works of this city. The Delamater Iron-works were assigned the manufacture of the steam machinery, boilers, propellers and internal apparatus of the turrets. The "port stoppers" to Charles D. De Laney, of Buffalo.

The contract with the Government was made October 25, 1861, by and between Thomas F. Rowland, agent in behalf of the Continental Iron-works, Greenpoint, L. I., of the first part, and Captain J. Ericsson, of New York, Messrs. John F. Winslow and John A. Griswold, of Troy, N. Y., and C. S. Bushnell, of New Haven, Conn., parties of the second part. The work on the battery began at once at Greenpoint, and was diligently prosecuted during the months of October, November, December and January. The Monitor has been so often described that a description here is needless. On March 4, 1862, she was ordered to sea, and on the afternoon of March 6 she left the lower Bay of New York on an expedition that has given her name to history.

As she passed Cape Henry at four o'clock on Saturday afternoon, March 8, Captain Worden and his crew listened to the heavy boom of cannon coming from the engagement in Hampton Roads between the rebel iron-clad Merrimac and the United States ship of war Minnesota, announcing to them that they and their little vessel were soon to engage in a terrible conflict. While on her way the Cumberland and Congress, two of the proudest ships of our navy, were destroyed by the Merrimac, the first of these vessels, having lost 117 men out of 800, sunk with her colors flying; and the second, after the escape of her crew, blew up, the fire reaching her magazine. It was nine at night when the Monitor reached the roads and anchored near the Merrimac. In the morning she engaged her formidable antagonist, flushed with the victory of the preceding day, and drove her back, crippled and disabled, from the scene of the contest. Thus we may say the Monitor saved the nation.

We have thus alluded to the Monitor because, through the mysterious ways of Providence, Erastus Corning, Sr., by the establishing of the Albany Iron-works, became instrumental in bringing about the construction of it.

A history and description of the great establishment of which Mr. Corning is the head, is interesting to the iron trade and profession on account of its high reputation for extent and quality of its products; because it embraces one of the oldest iron-works in the United States; and it is interesting to the general public because it is the pioneer Bessemer works of America.

Here were tried many of those experiments which have contributed to the development of its manufacture. Boiling was practiced at an early day; "puddled steel," as good as the imported article, had its course; spike, rivet and horseshoe machines were the subject of constant improvement; American iron and refractory materials for the Bessemer were tested; and the American system of Bessemer plant was worked out.

The group of works forming the present establishment were originally independent of each other. The Albany Iron-works grew up during seventy-five years under the principal ownership of Corning & Winslow. The Bessemer works were started by Winslow, Griswold & Holley in 1865. The Rensselaer works—a mile further up the Hudson—after thirty five years' growth, latterly under the ownership of Corning & Griswold, were joined to the Bessemer works. All the above mentioned works, and two blast furnaces, to be further referred to, are now owned by Erastus Corning. Their commercial affairs are administered by Mr. Corning, General S. E. Marvin and Chester Griswold; Mr. Robert W. Hunt is General Superintendent. These works, excepting two blast furnaces, are in the City of Troy, in an important railway center; the New York Central, Boston and Albany, Delaware and Hudson, Troy and Boston, Boston and Hoosac Tunnel and Western roads radiate respectively in every direction, to anthracite and bituminous coal fields, two hundred miles west; to Lake Champlain ore mines, one hundred miles north; and the immense deposit of the Hudson River Ore Company, on the Hudson, opposite Catskill.

During the last two or three years heavy and fast roll trains, economical engines and improved fur-

naces have been substituted for the older machinery, and extensive enlargement of the converting plant is largely completed. The distance of a mile between the bloom and the rail-rolling departments is practically overcome by special railroad facilities. The following is a description furnished us by Mr. Hunt.

BESSEMER PLANT.

Before it was begun, various American irons had been tried by the Bessemer process in Sheffield, in 1864, and a Lake Champlain iron, the Crown Point, was found especially good. A two-and-one-half-ton single vessel plant was started in February, 1865, and run till 1871, when it was changed into the ingot mold foundry. This five-ton Bessemer plant was started in 1867, partially destroyed by fire in 1868; rebuilt in 1869, it again began work in 1870. More recently, large cupolas, seven-ton vessels, were put in.

The Bessemer building is of brick, 148 feet by 98 feet in plan, with a cupola house 80 x 39 feet. This is the earliest specimen of the American type of plant, with vessels set high and side by side, and with three ingot cranes over a large shallow pit. The 7-ton vessels have 6-feet internal diameter, and 15 tuyeres with 12⅝-inch holes. The vessel bottoms are interchangeable, and are removable by means of lifts and of cars, which carry them laterally, for repairs, under the two-side ingot cranes. They are baked in adjacent ovens.

The blowing engine and pump-rooms are conveniently placed on the right of the vessels, and the blooming mill comes next.

By means of convenient transporting apparatus 500 tons of hot ingots per twenty-four hours are delivered by power into the blooming furnaces, and are rolled, cut up, and chipped, under a 7-ton hammer, and loaded hot on the rail-mill cars with reasonable facility. There are two large Worthington compound duplex pressure pumps.

These pumps are used almost exclusively in America for high-pressure pumping, and are employed to a greater extent than any other for the water supply of towns.

The boilers of the Bessemer and blooming departments are each cylinders 15 feet long and 5 feet in diameter, lying over a brick fire-place and combustion chamber, and having thirty-eight 4½-inch return tubes. There are eight of these boilers near the blowing engine, and six in an outside boiler-house. There is also a 28½-feet x 80 in. Galloway boiler of 112 horse-power, and one 87-inch steel drop-flue boiler of the Mars type.

The blooming plant was started in January, 1871. This was the first American blooming train, and, though extensive alterations have been made, the housings and stores remain. On the original tables the ingots were fed by hand. The Fritz power-feeding tables were introduced, and later Holley's system of actuating the feed rollers was introduced. The original train rolled 12-inch ingots to two-rail blooms; the present train at 45 revolutions rolls 15-inch ingots to 7-inch four-rail blooms, by the labor of four men and boys, at the rate of 2,500 tons per week; it can roll 3,000 tons.

The rail mill is a brick building, 375 x 98 feet, with wings. There are ten coal-fired heating furnaces, each having a horizontal overhead boiler 5 x 22 feet, with return flues. There are five auxiliary boilers like those in the Bessemer department. Materials and product are, at this group of works, received and delivered by the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad on one side, and by the Hudson River on the other side.

The merchant steel mill, just below the rail mill of the Rensselaer works, is a brick building 338 x 187 feet, with wings. The fast 16-inch, three-high train is of the most improved type. Its product at 100 revolutions is 50 tons per turn of 1⅛-inch 27-feet wire-rod billets from 7-inch blooms. The train is driven direct by a Porter-Allen engine of 22-inch cylinder and 3 feet stroke, to which is attached a Bulkley condenser. In the yard of the merchant and rail mills there is a large smith shop, with two steam hammers; also, suitable pattern and machine shops; the latter has, among other good tools, a lathe of ten feet swing, and a planer to take in seven feet square; also, a large and complete merchant steel warehouse.

The Albany Iron-works merchant mill is of brick, 329 x 156 feet, with wings and iron roof The 18-inch merchant train, the Belgian train, with their engines and Swindell gas furnaces; also the axle hammer, are quite new, and of the most improved type. This mill also contains a 400-pound steam helve hammer of excellent type. It produces 60 railway axles from rolled blanks per twenty-four hours. The nail factory contains 31 machines and produces excellent steel cut nails. Notwithstanding the pressure of business, especially in the nail trade, the Albany works have manufactured over 100,000 kegs of spikes, nails, rivets and bolts, in one year. To this department has been added machinery for the manufacture of steel disks of a very superior kind for a recently patented and highly approved cultivator.

The firm manufactures special steels, gun-barrel steel, receiver steel, cotton-roller steel, fork, hoe, and rake steels. Large quantities of billets are annually manufactured for barbed-wire fences, steel fence-posts for wire fences, also guard rails. The machine shop common to the Bessemer plant and Albany Iron-works, is a two-story 97 x 66 feet building, with a pattern shop in the upper story.

The Bessemer and blooming works and yard, and the rail mill and adjacent merchant mill and their yards, are lighted by the Brush apparatus. At each of the two groups of works there is a sixteen-light machine, driven by a 10 x 10 inch engine. About half the lights are outdoor. The cost of the apparatus was about $3,600 for each works.

Production—maximum:

	Tons per Week.
Ingots	3,000
Steel rails	2,000
Other manufactured steel	850
Merchant iron	775

Men employed, 2,800, when the works are running full.

The blast furnaces at Hudson and Fort Edward have been blown out, and steps are being taken to

erect three large furnaces at Troy, of the most improved type, at a cost of about $600,000. The monthly pay roll at present calls for about $50,000. When in full operation it reaches $125,000 to $150,000 a month.

Beside the large annual payment of money to the workmen at Troy by this establishment, the amount of taxes paid into the city treasury by the Company is a very important item, consisting of about one-fortieth of the sum collected.

Mr. Corning gives considerable attention to agriculture and the raising of blooded stock. A visit to his beautiful farm of over seven hundred acres, about two miles south of Albany, gives indubitable evidence of his taste as an agriculturist.

Here are seen flocks of Southdown sheep and a splendid herd of Jerseys and Herefords. This herd of Herefords is the oldest in this country, established in 1840. He has also extensive stables for his numerous horses, kept for stock purposes. This farm has been under the superintendence of Mr. John Vanderbelt for over thirty-four years. His horse trainer has been in his employ for twenty-one years, his coachman nineteen years, his herdsman twelve years.

It is delightfully located. To the east is seen the Hudson, with its varying scenery; to the north, from the rising ground is seen the great State Capitol, looming in grand proportions above the city; while all around the view is picturesque and inviting.

Perhaps Mr. Corning's leading characteristic is his natural love of flowers and his singular ability and success in their cultivation. Possessing ample means to gratify his fine taste, he has, at a vast expense, achieved a success as a floriculturist which leaves him almost without a rival in the world.

The choicest floral productions of the world are tributary to his immense conservatories. Here bloom plants from the tropics, from the temperate zones, and here, too, hang flowers from the high mountains of Mexico, Columbia, Peru, Bogota, Venezuela and Brazil, and from the Himalayas in India, China and Japan. Madagascar, Borneo, and other islands of the Pacific have here their floral offerings, while every choice plant in our own country and Europe is represented.

We have not the space to describe the many exceedingly choice varieties of roses, geraniums, pansies, calcelarias, camelias and other beautiful flowers found in these conservatories.

In the cultivation of orchids Mr. Corning is singularly successful. These have been so admirably and learnedly described in an essay, read before the New York Horticultural Society by Mr. William Grey, gardener to Mr. Corning, that a few extracts from it will be an embellishment to our work:

When it is taken into consideration, says Mr. Grey, the varied habitats where orchids are found growing, it is really surprising to find so many do well under cultivation. Out of over one thousand species and varieties in Mr. Corning's collection I do not find three per cent. difficult of culture. Admitting from the little resemblance or affinity in orchids found in the Eastern and Western Hemispheres, in many instances all that is known of their native places of abode is the East Indies or South America, which gives much trouble to find out the necessary requirements of plants terrestrial or epiphytal, which may have been found on the cloud-capped mountains of Borneo, Luzon or Colombia; the plains of Rangoon or Bogota; in the valleys of Assam, Java or Magdalena; the wet, shady forests of Brazil and Guatemala; the arid continent of Africa or hot lands of Mexico, the temperature ranging from 30° or less to 110° Fahrenheit or more in the shade, and in the sun the heat is intense, with very bright light. In some orchid districts it rains nearly every day; in others, often comparatively no rain for months. Many species grow in the full sun; others in partial shade; a few in deep, shaded forests.

Speaking of orchid houses, Mr. Grey continues:

It is well known that many of those beautiful and gorgeous floral windows—grotesque configurations of insects, birds and animals—are well grown with store and greenhouse plants, and the nucleus of all the large collections of the United States were so grown twenty-five years ago. * * * And only when the species increased in numbers it was found necessary to erect houses for their special culture. Mr. Corning has pursued the culture of orchids with much zeal for many years, and with the number of species at present in cultivation, experience has taught that it is necessary to grow them in six divisions, which are named phalænopsis, vauda, dendrobium, cattleya, oucidium and north house, with a house to rest plants in after they have done growing. The conclusions we have arrived at are, that low, span-roofed houses, about twenty feet wide, inside shelves three feet, paths three feet, center bench about seven feet are best. As far north as Albany it is positively necessary to have about four inches of space between the front wall and shelf to allow the heated air to pass up at the eaves and to prevent the hot current of heated air striking the plants. A slate or board rests on the shelf, reaching and secured to the under side of the rafters. By this means the hot air is conducted to the roof of the house and becomes ameliorated before coming in contact with the plants. There is no wood used except in the roof; no upright glass; side wall carried to the eaves; height of side walls to top of plate, four feet; center of house, ten feet; a lantern running the length of the house for ventilation in winter, when all sash is frozen fast.

Mr. Grey then describes the manner of heating, and governing the temperature and moisture. He furnishes us with a list of the orchids grown in Mr. Corning's conservatories, from which we mention some that are very rare, and some found nowhere else in cultivation.

Of the tribe *Vaudæ*, the Aerides (growing on trees, air-plant); *Schrödii*, a native of Bombay, is very rare; *Angræcum major*, very rare, Madagascar; *Anguloa eburnea*, very rare, Colombia.

Of the tribe *Epidendreæ*, the *Cattleya hybrida* is the only plant under cultivation; *Mendilii*, very rare, Colombia; *Citrina*, very sweet-scented, Mexico; *Cattleya Corningiæ*, only plant in Colombia; *Dodgsonii*, from Colombia (only Mr. Lee, of England, has this plant besides Mr. Corning); *Turvassagumshee*, only plant in Colombia.

Of the tribe *Malaxideæ*; the *Dendrobium* (growing on trees); *Corningii* (*nobile-litseiflorum*), two choice varieties, only plant.

Of the tribe *Vaudeæ*, the *Oucidium Rogersii* is the only plant in Brazil, and the *Phalænopsis Corningiana* is the only plant in the Philippines; *Fasciata* is the only plant.

Mr. Corning has the best collection of *Phalænopsis* in the world. In fact, we believe he has only one rival, Mr. Lee, of England. Mr. Grey has been in his profession for many years, having learned and followed it in Scotland, England and America. He has been with Mr. Corning for the past thirty years. To his courtesy we are under obligations for our information relative to the conservatories.

ALL SAINTS' CATHEDRAL.

The interest which Mr. Corning has taken in all public improvements in Albany are proverbial; not only in manufactories, but in churches, schools and their edifices has his liberality been seen and felt, but in no instance of public improvement has he exhibited so much zeal and munificence as in All Saints' Cathedral, now in process of erection in Albany. Without referring minutely to the valuable lands he has from time to time donated to this cathedral, and the exceedingly prosperous institutions connected with it, we shall give an outline history and description of the cathedral from its beginning.

The interest taken by Mr. Corning in the Cathedral of All Saints at Albany, renders a brief history of what is to be one of the most imposing buildings in Albany, and perhaps in the State, very appropriate in his biography.

The Legislature of the State of New York incorporated the Cathedral by an Act passed March 27, 1873 (Chap. 149). The first section created the following members "a body politic and corporate:" The Bishop, William Croswell Doane, John Ireland Tucker, John H. Hobart Brown, Hiram H. Beers, Theodore Babcock, John Townsend, Orlando Meads, Erastus Corning, Amos P. Palmer, Walter A. Wood and James Forsyth. The corporators are empowered by Section 3 "to fill vacancies in their own number," and, by Section 4, to adopt a constitution for the election of new trustees. The object and purposes of the corporation are, by Section 2, said to be "the establishment, erection, maintenance and management of a cathedral church and its appurtenances in the City of Albany;" and Section 5 declares "the seats for the worshipers in the said cathedral church shall always be free."

On All Saints' Day, 1872, the building at present occupied, formerly an iron foundry, was first used for Divine Service. It has been enlarged since.

On the festival of All Saints, 1881, the Bishop announced to the congregation his purpose to begin at once the execution of this one of the great purposes for which the corporation was created, the erection of a cathedral building, and laid before them his plans. At a meeting of the Chapter, held November 23, 1881, the following committee was appointed to select a site: The Bishop, Hon. Erastus Corning, Mr. Orlando Meads. It was resolved to endeavor to raise at once $150,000, to meet the cost of the building exclusive of the site. Mr. James Moir was appointed to act (under Gen. S. E. Marvin, Treasurer of the Chapter) as treasurer of the funds collected into the subscription books.

The committee on the site were then instructed "to obtain plans for the cathedral."

On April 30, 1883, the plans of R. W. Gibson, architect, were adopted, with a modification submitted to the Chapter on the 6th of June. On November 28, 1883, the grounds given by Hon. Erastus Corning, valued at $80,000, were accepted as the site, and, on motion of Mr. Corning, it was

"*Resolved*, That, in the judgment of the Chapter, it is expedient that measures be taken without delay to begin the work of building the cathedral, and that to that end preparations be made to remove the buildings now on the ground, and to procure the working plans and estimates for the excavation and laying of the foundations, and that the work be proceeded with as fast and as far as the means in the hands of the Chapter will permit."

At a meeting held March 22, 1884, it was resolved that the corner-stone be laid on Whit-Tuesday, June 3, 1884. This stone, with appropriate inscriptions, is the gift of Margaret Doane Gardiner, the Bishop's granddaughter. At the same meeting "a special subscription was authorized for the columns of the new cathedral, to be memorials of churchmen eminent in Church and State." They are to be twenty-four in number, and to cost $1,800 each. Twenty-one have already been appropriated. As the day appointed for the laying of the corner-stone approached, the contributions in money (distinguished from the gift of land) were nearly $100,000—no one gift exceeding $7,500, that of Hon. Walter A. Wood.

According to the modified plans presented by the architect, the building to be erected for immediate use is in every part, except the roof, a portion of the completed structure and will be built up to a height sufficient for a good appearance and with accommodation for seating practically the same. The style is Gothic, or pointed architecture of the first period; the plan is a Latin cross formed by the choir and nave to the east and west respectively, and of a central crossing with transepts to the north and south. The choir is ninety-one feet long and thirty-five feet wide, and is planned in five bays or divisions, the two eastern forming the sanctuary. The nave is ninety-nine feet long, forty wide, and has narrow side aisles its entire length. The transepts are one hundred and ten feet in breadth from north to south (including crossing), and forty feet wide, forming a square crossing with the nave. The crossing has four great arches corresponding with those of the nave and transepts; and above them breaks by pendants into an octagon, in the manner frequent in the early Gothic cathedrals. The main features of the interior are the great pillars made up of grouped shafts and pieces in pure constructural style; they are of unusual size and will give exceptional majesty to the perspective of the nave and choir. The main arcade upon them is simple, but can be at a future time enriched with carving. A triforium of coupled arches is carried along the nave and choir. Over this comes the clerestory with large coupled lancet windows in the nave and tracing in the choir; generally the choir has been given richer character than the nave, leading up to the traceried window in the square east end of the sanctuary. The western end of the nave has a rich circular window of radiating tracery. The side aisles are to be used as passages only; the nave is widened to the maximum, and the pillars are so arranged that none of the congregation are seated behind them. The heights of the interior

Truly Yours

are, from floor of nave to springing of arches of nave and transept vaults, forty-eight feet; to top of vaults, seventy feet; to top of ceiling of lantern over crossing, one hundred and thirteen feet; to springing of arches of choir vaults, forty-five feet; to top, sixty-six feet. The proportions and methods of the octagon lantern are designed to avoid acoustic difficulties. The exterior walling is to be of Potsdam stone. The west front is flanked by towers with belfries and spires. The height to top of belfry is one hundred and thirty-six feet, and to top of finial, two hundred and three feet. The central tower, or lantern over crossing, is one hundred and forty-four feet high at top of masonry, and one hundred and eighty feet to top of finial cross. The seating capacity is for fifteen hundred persons, and there are one hundred and fifty-three stalls for the clergy, and fifty-four choir seats, making a total of one thousand seven hundred and fifty-seven persons. If crowded, the edifice would hold two thousand.

We have seen in the biography of Erastus Corning, Sr., that through life he conscientiously gave his adherence to the Democratic party; that he became a power and a leader in that party; and it is easily seen that his son inherited the principles of Democracy, which have been strengthened by his own convictions as he has advanced in life and studied the best interests of his country. He believes that the division of the people into parties is essential to the balance of elective institutions. Having, therefore, early selected for his support the party that was, in his judgment, most conformable to the Constitution and the rights and liberties of the people, he adheres to his choice with all the tenacity of his nature. He has no confidence in half-way methods and expedients; whatever is right and proper, he holds is to be promoted by all legal, equitable, and proper means.

It would be natural that such a man should have large influence in the political field; and he does. He has never, however, sought official distinction, although easily within his reach. As has well been said: "He is reluctant to abandon his business for the uncertain, and often unsatisfactory, honors of the political arena." We believe the only political position he has held was that of Democratic elector for the Seventeenth Congressional District, to which he was elected in the autumn of 1884. Though adhering, as we have said, with tenacity to his political opinions, he gives respectful and courteous consideration to the opinions of others. He is prominent in all that relates to the interests of Albany and its citizens, who hold him in the highest respect. His manners are unassuming; he is true to his friends and to his duties. Unselfish, he has secured the confidence and regard of the people of Albany, and this confidence and regard is largely shared by the people of the State. Beside his important business relations already described, Mr. Corning is President of the Albany City National Bank; the Albany City Savings Institution; the Albany Rural Cemetery Association; and the Fort Orange Club. Was formerly a Water Commissioner and a member of the Albany City Hall Commission. He has served as Alderman of his Ward, but has held no other official position except that of presidential elector before mentioned. It will thus be seen that he is prominent in all that relates to the interests of Albany. In the fall of 1885 Mr. Corning was elected a Director of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad.

In 1850, Mr. Corning was united by marriage to Miss Gertrude Tibbitts, of Albany, by whom he had one son, his eldest child, Erastus Corning, Jr. Mrs. Corning died in 1869. In 1873, Mr. Corning married Miss Mary Parker, daughter of Hon. Amasa J Parker, of Albany. By this union he is the father of two sons and one daughter.

Mr. Corning is a practical man, and deals with men in a practical manner; he molds the influences which surround him and subordinates all minor matters to the object he desires to accomplish. In all that constitutes an active, intelligent, and high-minded business man, the typical enterprising American, in the most laudable signification of the term, he stands in the very front rank, pre-eminently the representative, public-spirited citizen, an honor to the age in which he lives.

HON. ELI PERRY.

Hon. Eli Perry, a distinguished citizen of Albany, Ex-Mayor of the City, and Ex-Member of Congress, was born in Washington County, N. Y., December 25, 1799, and died in Albany, May 17, 1881. He was a third cousin of the gallant Commodore Perry, U. S. N., whom he resembled somewhat in personal appearance. His early life was passed in Montgomery County, where his parents owned a fine farm and were considered prosperous people. When Eli was still a youth, his father sold the farm, and, with his family, removed to Albany, where he opened a tavern at the corner of Lion (now Washington avenue) and Swan streets. While engaged in this occupation, he took a contract to supply a portion of the American army with beef and other provisions. After the terms of the contract were fixed, the prices of provisions became very high, but, being thoroughly honorable, he held to the terms of his contract, and sacrificed all the property he had in the world. Young Eli was the eldest of six children—five boys and one girl—and it became necessary for him to assist in providing for the family. He cheerfully aided his father in the performance of his contract and was of great assistance to him for several years. He then took service with Elisha Wilcox, who kept a tavern in the old mansion formerly occupied by Governor Tompkins. By extreme frugality he saved from his wages, which were very small, during one whole winter the sum of fourteen dollars, and with this amount he determined to commence business. Mr. Angus, then a well-known grocer, encouraged the industrious and frugal young worker, and gave him a corner in his store in which to open a butcher stall. Young Perry then hired an old stable near Henry Y. Webb's malt-house, where his neat cattle were killed, and proceeded at

once to prepare his market for the sale of fresh meat. He attended closely to his business. Limited in means, of course his purchases of stock were necessarily small. He bought from the adjacent farmers and turned over his capital every twenty-four hours. By care and good management he not only supported himself, but saved enough money to buy a horse and wagon, with the aid of which he was enabled to supply with meat some fifteen or twenty taverns, situated on the Great-western Turnpike, then the only highway of communication with the West. His business increased rapidly. Everybody liked to help the young man who was so assiduous in helping himself; who was so attentive to his business; who was so accommodating; and who never thought anything he could do for them was any trouble. His business had increased to such an extent, that he could not always depend on the farmers to keep him supplied with the quantity he desired, and it became his practice to attend the cattle market at McKown's. His purchases, however, were always very light, compared with those made by others. One day, his good friend, Mr. Fowler, told him to buy a good drove of lambs and come and see him about the payment for them. Eli went out to McKown's and finding a nice drove, commenced examining them with a view to buying. The other larger dealers looked on in derision at young Perry competing with them in the purchase of some eighty or ninety head. They had already offered 9s. 6d. per head. Perry finally turned to Simpson, the owner, and said: "I'll give you ten shillings a head for them." He secured the lambs, and, when driving off, the others were very anxious to take his purchase off his hands at a premium. He went to Mr. Fowler and informed him of his purchase, when that gentleman sat down and drew a check for $100, "payable to Sheepskins or bearer," on the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank. This was the first time in his life that the boy had ever had a bank check in his hands. Mr. Olcott paid the money to Eli, who handed it over to Simpson, and they returned to McKown's. Young Perry drove his flock out of the yards before all the dealers assembled there, feeling as proud and rich as John Jacob Astor, and from that day no brother dealer ever laughed at Eli when he proposed to buy stock. Mr. Perry's business was constantly increasing, and he found himself at times unable to accommodate his customers as fully as he desired. John Cassidy, father of the editor of the *Albany Argus*, was then a heavy dealer in cattle. He also took an interest in Eli, and told the drovers to "give that boy all the cattle he wanted, and he would be his security." Eli then applied to the Common Council for a license for a market on the corner of Swan street and Washington avenue, where Robert M. King's house now stands. This was secured, and, through Mr. Cassidy's aid, Eli soon had a market second to none in the city. He was now on the high road to fortune. He was prosperous in all his undertakings, and soon took rank among the heaviest dealers. Nevertheless, his business always received his individual personal attention, early and late. The packing of beef in Albany, at that time, was done chiefly by John Russell and Ichabod Judson. Mr. Russell's establishment being offered for sale, Mr. Perry became its purchaser. He enlarged his facilities from year to year until he employed some seventy men. At times he packed from 80 to 100 head of cattle per day. It was while engaged in this business that Mr. Perry laid the foundation of his subsequent wealth. This business required large amounts of ready capital, and the late John Taylor, then carrying on the business of a tallow-chandler, frequently came to the assistance of Mr. Perry by indorsing his paper. Mr. Perry continued this business for some twenty years, making it more profitable each year. His business prosperity increased his wealth to such a degree, that he found himself possessed of a large surplus capital, which it became necessary to invest. Having the interest of the city in which he had so long been successful at heart, he felt it to be his duty to invest his capital in real estate. He entered upon these investments with the same spirit, energy and judgment which had characterized all his business transactions. He carefully studied the city and all its advantageous sites and localities. He took into consideration the interests of the city, investigated its municipal affairs, and made himself fully conversant with their management and their wants and needs. He very soon made himself master of these, and was recognized as such. In April, 1845, his fellow citizens of the Second Ward, appreciating his fitness for the office, elected him to represent them in the Common Council. In politics he was a Democrat, and was nominated on that ticket; and although the Ward had given a Whig majority of 300 in the previous election, Mr. Perry's personal popularity was so great, that he succeeded in completely reversing it, and obtaining a sufficient number of additional votes to insure his election. In 1850 he was elected to the Assembly, and, while holding this office, was elected Mayor of the City of Albany. This office he continued to hold at various times for nearly twelve years, and during that entire period not one breath of suspicion of wrong-doing was ever charged against him. While Mayor of the City he performed a service, in conjunction with Mayor Kingsland, of New York, which elicited wide-spread commendation and thanks from all classes of citizens. A bad class of emigrant runners had banded themselves together for the purpose of robbing emigrants. Their organization extended from New York to Buffalo, and the ringleaders had their quarters in New York and Albany. It was determined to break this gang up. But to do this required the personal action of Mayor Perry. Therefore, every morning by daylight, he was to be seen on the dock, with a few trusty policemen, driving away from the emigrants the robbers, and taking charge of them himself, sending or conducting them to honest stopping-places. This course was successful, and the disreputable business was broken up. Our adopted citizens, especially, appreciated this action very highly; but the runners, who held no little political influence, made it a pretext for bringing

against him a strong opposition when he ran again for office. But Mr. Perry's popularity was altogether too great, and he was re-elected by a greater majority than ever. Many stories are told of his personal courage and daring, which alone would fill a small volume. In the discharge of his duty as Alderman, he was present on the occasion of a fire in Green street. While directing the firemen, a wall of hot bricks fell on him, completely burying him from view. The engines near by, in their attempt to cool the bricks and thus save him from being burned to death or suffocated, poured such a volume of water upon them, that before he could be extricated he came very near death by drowning. Shortly after the War for the Union commenced, a serious strike occurred among the laborers of the New York Central Railroad Company; hundreds of armed men roaming the street, and finally assembling at the freight yard, then in Montgomery and Spencer streets, threatening to destroy all the property found there. Had the buildings been fired, as suggested by a few of the leaders, millions of dollars' worth of valuable property awaiting transhipment would have perished with the cars and freight-houses. The Mayor was at that time the head of the Police Force, and, with a posse of men, he hastened to the rendezvous of strikers, who were about carrying out the plans of destruction suggested by the leaders. He fearlessly forced his way right into their midst; expostulated with them about their proposed lawlessness; and assured them that, while their rights would be respected, he, as Mayor of the City, sworn to protect the peace and property of its citizens, would shoot down the first man who dare apply the torch. He remained with them the entire day, and the next morning no strikers could be found in the neighborhood of the company's depots. In a few days thereafter the men were at work quietly and peacefully. At a subsequent meeting of the ex-strikers, resolutions thanking Mayor Perry for the interest he had shown in their welfare, and for his firm, though kind, action in restraining them from deeds of lawlessness, and extending him pledges of their confidence and good-will, were unanimously adopted. How sacredly they kept this pledge was shown by their repeated evidences of love and high respect whenever they had the opportunity to manifest them. Mr. Perry's record as a good and worthy citizen—one who not only took a deep interest in all charitable, religious, and educational institutions, but performed a share of the labor that is required to carry them on—is long and full. He took an active part in organizing the Orphan Asylum, which was started in the building on the corner of Washington avenue and Swan street. He was a manager for a number of years, and until after the new building near the head of Washington street was completed. He was one of the first School Commissioners under the new law, and devoted twenty years of faithful service to aid every measure for the improvement and education of the children of the city. To this service he was particularly devoted, owing to his high appreciation of the benefits of education. No expense, no facilities, no encouragement, were, in his estimation, too great for this purpose. During the War for the Union, Mr. Perry took a very active part in the efforts in behalf of the Government. He was Chairman of the War Committee. He rendered great assistance, especially in raising Company B, 91st Regiment, which company was commanded by Captain Stackhouse, who was formerly in his employment. After Captain Stackhouse was wounded at Port Hudson and died, Mr. Perry had his remains brought to Albany and buried. He devoted much time and money to the welfare of the soldiers recruited in and about Albany, to whom he was well known. In recognition of his valuable services in behalf of the 43d Regiment, the following resolutions of thanks were adopted unanimously at a meeting of Company B of that command, held at Camp Griffin, Va., January 30, 1862.

"*Whereas*, The Hon. Eli Perry has proven himself a warm friend of the Union, the Constitution and the laws, by his many acts of patriotism, his zeal and loyalty to his country; and

"*Whereas*, He has manifested so much interest in the organization of the 43d Regiment, N. Y. S. V. (visiting the barracks frequently and contributing freely to make us comfortable during our organization), and has been so particularly kind and friendly towards Company B; therefore

"*Resolved*, That Company B of the 43d Regiment, N. Y. S. V., recognize in the Hon. Eli Perry the gentleman, the patriot, and a warm friend of the Union, the Constitution and the laws of our beloved county; therefore

"*Resolved*, That Company B of the 43d Regiment, N. Y. S. V., shall hereafter be known and reorganized as the Perry Guards of Albany, and they do adopt that as the name of the company."

Mr. Perry was always regarded as a direct and faithful representative of the people, unselfish in his views, and with an eye to the advancement of the public welfare, to which he never failed to give his full support. Although a party man, he was so in the best sense, and at no time allowed himself to serve any clique or further any private interest. Pecuniarily he was independent, and, possessed of stern honesty, he stood far above the reach of any ring influence. Hence the municipal affairs of Albany were rarely better conducted than when under his administration.

Mr. Perry was Mayor of Albany at the time of the visit of Jenny Lind to America. On the appearance of the great cantatrice in Albany, he presented her to his fellow-citizens, and subsequently paid her many courteous attentions. Just previous to her departure from the city she called at his office, and gave him a beautiful chain as a keepsake, and also the sum of $1,000 for the poor of Albany. At the time of the visit of Louis Kossuth, the Hungarian Apostle of Liberty, to America, Mr. Perry was also the chief magistrate of the city, and in that capacity presided at the meeting to welcome the distinguished exile. Speaking for the citizens of Albany, he said:

"Governor Kossuth: As chief magistrate of this city, the agreeable duty is devolved on me of bidding you a cordial welcome. The citizens of this capital—the capital of the most powerful and most prosperous State in the confederacy—rejoice at the opportunity now offered them of receiving you as their guest. They recognize in you the representative of a principle to which freemen are always glad to do homage. They greet you as a distinguished advocate of political rights—as a brother in the great contest for liberty—who has struggled so powerfully for your country's cause. With deep emotion they extend their arms to welcome you to their hearts and their firesides. They watched with intense interest the changes of light and shadow in your national struggle. They rejoiced at your temporary success, and they mourned, oh, how deeply, the unfortunate issue of the conflict. But we have confidence that the progress of human affairs is onward. National and individual rights are becoming more thoroughly understood and more highly valued; and we trust the time is not far distant when Hungary, free and republican, shall take her proper place among the nations of the earth. On behalf of our fellow-citizens, allow me again, sir, to welcome you to the capital of the Empire State."

Mayor Perry presided at the great welcome given by the citizens of Albany to General McClellan, just previous to the latter's nomination to the Presidency. In Joel Munsell's excellent "Collections on the History of Albany," mention is made of a remarkable instance of Mr. Perry's generosity in connection with the Washington avenue Baptist Church. Though he had an opportunity of disposing of his interest in the State street Calvary Church at a great pecuniary advantage, he preferred to keep the sacred edifice in the hands of his brother church-members, and accordingly donated his entire interest in the building to the Washington avenue Baptist Church, who at once removed to State street. Again, in connection with the Pearl street Baptist Church Building, the edifice had actually gone begging for a purchaser. In the meantime, work on the new edifice on State street lagged for want of means, which the sale of the old House of Worship would bring. Finally, the trustees turned, as a forlorn hope, to Mr. Perry. He came to their rescue at once, and paid them the price—$35,000—at which the property had been in the market for months without finding a purchaser. He subsequently remodeled the building, and though great inducements were offered to him for a lease of the upper part of the building for theatrical purposes, he answered in the negative. He would not lend his aid in turning a church into a theatre. Mr. Perry was nominated by acclamation for the Forty-second Congress, and was elected by over 3,000 majority. He was likewise nominated for the Forty-third Congress, and again elected by about the same majority. Mr. Perry's career in the National Legislature was distinguished not only by his marked devotion to the interests of his constituents, but also by a careful attention to the interests of the country at large. A most important bill presented by him, in an able speech delivered in the House of Representatives on the 13th of February, 1872, advocated the erection of public buildings in Albany by the National Government, on a scale commensurate with the present and prospective wants of that city. This speech, which embodied, in terse but vigorous language, a statistical presentation of the population, industries, wealth, educational facilities and growing importance of the capital of the Empire State, bore the impress of profound thought in every sentence. Its admirable common-sense view of the whole subject and its unanswerable logic, won an appropriation of $350,000 for the purpose specified, the sole condition imposed by Congress being that the City of Albany should furnish the site. On the passage of the bill granting the appropriation, Mr. Perry sent the following dispatch to the Postmaster of Albany:

"WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 13, 1872.

"Hon. Jno. F. Smyth, P. M., Albany,

"I have succeeded in the passage of my bill in the House for $350,000 for a Government building, the City of Albany to procure a site.

"Yours truly,

"ELI PERRY."

The satisfaction of the citizens of Albany at the success of Mr. Perry's efforts was unbounded. Men of all parties sent him their warm congratulations, and the general sentiment was that he deserved every praise. The *Albany Argus*, in an editorial headed by the above dispatch, said: "Mr. Perry has certainly earned the thanks of our citizens for his energy in urging upon the attention of Congress the necessity of a Government building here. It is the first bill of the kind reported this session, and though it met with some little opposition, on the ground that it was opening the door to similar appropriations for other localities, it finally passed the house without division." Another Albany journal, in announcing the passage of the bill, said: "Mr. Perry has done in a month what all our former Congressmen failed to do for thirty years." On the 2d of June, 1874, the House of Representatives having under discussion a bill providing for the construction of the Girls' Reform School in the District of Columbia, toward which the National Government had been asked to apply the Conscience Fund, the district authorities agreeing to furnish the site, Mr. Perry delivered a speech in favor of the measure, showing in his remarks that Congress was not called upon to do more than its bounden duty in making an appropriation for the carrying out of this measure, which was called for by every honorable and philanthropic sentiment, and adducing as a precedent for this application of a special fund in charge of the Government, but not covered into the Treasury, the employment, for the erection of the National Soldiers' Home, of the unexpended sum (amounting to $118,000) of the contributions levied upon Mexican cities during the War with Mexico. Mr. Perry was a man of large business capacity, and had been prominently identified for many years with several of the most important corporations in Albany. Among these were the Albany City Bank,

of which he had been a Director twenty-five years, and was, at the time of his death, Vice-President; the Albany City Savings Bank, of which he was also Vice-President; and the Mutual Insurance Company, with which he had been connected as a Director since its incorporation, and of which he was President. He was also a Director of the Albany Gas Company, and one of the Inspectors of the Penitentiary. He was a man of fixed principles and strongly marked character, and always identified himself with the masses of the people, whose best interests he at all times warmly supported and championed. His death was universally lamented in Albany, and wherever he was known.

HARMON PUMPELLY.

The late Harmon Pumpelly was born August 1, 1795, in Salisbury, Conn. His father, John Pumpelly, was of English descent, and occupied a prominent social and business position in the State in which he lived. Mr. Pumpelly was one of four brothers, all of whom were among the most influential of the early inhabitants of Owego, N. Y. Their Christian names were James, Charles, William and Harmon. The latter survived his three brothers. At the date of the settlement of his family in Owego he was only six years old. He early learned to rely upon his own resources, and without education, except what he gathered from a constantly interrupted reading of books, he set out in the battle of life with an equipment in which sturdy energy and indomitable perseverance more than compensated for any lack of educational training. He was an omniverous reader, and from every book he read he gleaned some useful knowledge and laid it by in memory's storehouse for future use. Among other accomplishments of a practical kind he gained a knowledge of surveying. Long before he had reached his majority he had begun to lay the foundation of that competence which he afterward amassed. Together with his brothers, he dealt in lumber and cattle, always showing great business tact, and not unfrequently clearing large sums in his transactions. Subsequently he became the accredited agent of a lot of New York land owners, and by the sale of farm and other lands in the southern tier of New York County, still further increased his fortune. In 1841 Mr. Pumpelly removed to Albany, and resided in that city thereafter until his death. After that date he never engaged actively in business, but identified himself prominently with several well-known Albany institutions, the great prosperity of which was due in no small degree to his wise business management, clear foresight and sound counsel—for in business affairs he was quick, exact and always reliable. He was successful in nearly all that he undertook, and preserved all his mental faculties to the very last day of his life; and up to within a few days of his death he had always enjoyed excellent health, for he had been endowed by nature with a wonderfully vigorous constitution, and though always active and energetic, and capable of a vast amount of continuous mental labor, he never permitted himself to abuse nature's gifts, but adhered to a systematic course of physical exercise. A great lover of good horses, and an accomplished equestrian, he undoubtedly prolonged his life several years by his daily habit of horseback riding. He never lost his love of books, and, notwithstanding his diminishing eyesight, was a constant reader until his fatal illness. He came of a family remarkable for longevity, his father and grandfather having lived to upwards of ninety years of age. He died, after only a few days' illness, September 28, 1882, in his eighty-eighth year. He was then President of three important corporations: the Albany Gaslight Company, the Albany Savings Bank, and the Albany Insurance Company. At a meeting of the Directors of the Albany Gaslight Company held soon after his death, the following resolutions were passed:

"*Resolved*, That this Board learns with profound regret of the death of Harmon Pumpelly, who, for the last thirty-six years, has been the President of the Board and chief manager of the affairs of the company. Mr. Pumpelly was a man of marked business capacity, of excellent judgment, of stern integrity, and of great fidelity to his trust as connected with this company. The prosperity of the company is greatly due to him, and the Board feel the loss of his counsel and long experience. Mr. Pumpelly had not only the respect and confidence of the Board, but the friendship and personal regard of all its members, and although his great age advised them that this event could not long be postponed, yet its coming saddens their hearts. They sympathize with his bereaved widow and the rest of his family, and feel that they have some share with them in the grief occasioned by his death.

"*Resolved*, That the Secretary communicate the foregoing resolution as expressive of the feelings of this Board.

"H. H. MARTIN, *Vice-President.*
"S. W. WHITNEY, *Secretary.*"

Similar resolutions were passed by the other corporations with which Mr. Pumpelly was identified. He never engaged actively in politics, but nevertheless in his younger days took a lively interest in all political movements. He was originally an old-fashioned Whig, but became a Republican upon the organization of that party, and acted with it during the balance of his life. For many years he had been a communicant of St. Peter's Church, and for a considerable time before his death served that organization as Senior Warden. He was always munificent in his gifts to the church. At a meeting of the vestry of St. Peter's Church to take action touching the death of Mr. Pumpelly, the following minutes and resolutions were adopted:

"The death of Harmon Pumpelly, Senior Warden of St. Peter's Church, removes from the vestry its head. So long and so lovingly had he lived and labored among us, that his death takes him away ripe and ready for the harvest. His even temper, his great sagacity, his unyielding fidelity, and his genial manner, made him at once a wise counselor,

M. H. Read

a discreet leader and a charming companion. He loved the church and contributed liberally toward its support. Though a man of strong will and positive opinion, he was broad and charitable toward those with whom he differed in deed or doctrine. He left us the record of a life unsullied. In character a true Christian gentleman, we shall miss him as we miss a loving brother, and we mingle our sorrow with that of the dear wife and loving children, bereaved as they are bereaved.

"*Resolved*, That we will attend the funeral in a body and wear the usual badge of mourning.

"*Resolved*, That these minutes and resolution be published in the daily papers, and a copy sent to the family of the deceased by the Rector.

"W. W. BATTERSHALL, *Rector.*
"JOHN S. PERRY, *Clerk.*"

Mr. Pumpelly was twice married. His first wife was Miss Delphine Drake, daughter of the late Hon. John R. Drake, by whom he had two children, Mrs. James Kidd, of Albany, and Mrs. John Meredith Read, whose husband was recently American Minister at Athens and who now resides in Paris. It was after the death of his first wife that he removed to Albany. In 1841 he married Miss Maria Brinckerhoff, of Albany, a lady belonging to one of the oldest and most distinguished families of the State, who survives him. He had no children by his second marriage. Even in his old age he was remarkably youthful in his feelings, and fond of having young people about him. Socially, few men were more captivating or knew better how to entertain. About two weeks previous to his death, the first symptoms of what proved to be a fatal illness made themselves manifest in an affection of the heart. For several days his family and friends were prepared for the inevitable termination of his malady, and by the ministrations of affectionate devotion they did all in human power to render painless the end which they beheld approaching all too rapidly, and which came peacefully, and without a pang, amid that unconsciousness with which kindly nature often comes to the relief of flickering humanity. His funeral was largely attended at St. Peter's Church, on Sunday, October 1, 1882. His lot was

"An old age serene and bright
And lovely as a Lapland night."

MATTHEW H. READ.

The late Matthew H. Read was born in New Haven, Conn., on the 2d of September, 1804. His father was Matthew Read, son of Matthew Read, of Attlebero, Conn.; his mother, Lydia Hotchkiss, daughter of Silas Hotchkiss, of New Haven. His early education was limited, and he began his active business life as a clerk in the store of his father in New Haven, developing into a hard-working, faithful and sagacious business man. Until 1840, when he removed to Albany, he was a

resident of New Haven, and was more or less prominently connected with various important interests in that city, He was a Lieutenant, and, dating from May, 1832, ranked as Captain in the Governor's Foot Guards, and was honorably discharged from service in 1833.

Upon taking up his residence in Albany, he embarked in the flour and grain commission trade. Once established, he bent his energies to the task, which he successfully accomplished, of making the business one of the most extensive of its kind in the country. His New England acquaintance served him so well, that he was a large shipper to Eastern ports; owned a line of schooners; and at one time supplied almost the whole of New England through his house.

The business was at one time carried on under the firm name and style of Read & Rawls, and later under that of Matthew H. Read & Son, Mr. Read's eldest son, Robert, having been taken into partnership on the retirement of Mr. Rawls.

Mr. Read served as President of the Board of Trade of the City of Albany, and was interested in the leading financial corporations of the city. Indeed, of some of them he was one of the originators and incorporators. He was one of the incorporators of the First National Bank, and at the time of his death had been its President during a period of fourteen years. He was an incorporator and one of the Trustees of the National Savings Bank, and he was also one of the organizers and directors of the Commerce Insurance Company, and a member of the executive committee of that corporation.

About twenty-five years ago, having amassed a comfortable competence, and being desirous of spending his remaining years in the peaceful retirement of his home, he withdrew permanently from commerce and was retired from business, except as the corporations named claimed his counsel and advice from time to time. In religion he was a Congregationalist, and in politics a Republican. But he was as unostentatious in the one as in the other. Political life had no charm for him. His mind was of too quiet a mold for active partisanship, but his interest in the prominent issues of the day was keen and intelligent. He was married early in life, and a family, consisting of his wife, his sons, Robert, William, Matthew and Daniel P., and three daughters, survive him. His death occurred September 7, 1883, at his residence, No. 60 Willett street.

HON. JOHN TWEDDLE.

There are monuments more enduring than marble, which are seen and known of all men, and whose inscriptions are intuitively realized, not read. Such monuments are reared by men who pass busy, useful and blameless lives—lives whose imprint is upon the communities in which they live, and whose influence shall be recognized long after shaft of granite shall have crumbled away to fade from view, no more to mark the resting-place of a man that has lived and died. Such a monument was built up unconsciously and unosentatiously by the late John Tweddle, whose death was a public bereavement, and whose memory has grown bright through an interval of nearly a decade since he passed from earth to be seen no more of men.

Mr. Tweddle was born at Temple Sowerby, County of Westmoreland, England, February 14, 1798, and died in Albany, March 9, 1875, in his seventy-eighth year. Orphaned by the death of his father when he was only nine years old, he was early thrown on his own resources, and while yet a mere lad entered earnestly upon the stern battle of life. He became an apprentice to a wheelwright in Carlisle, County of Cumberland, England, where the remnant of his father's family then lived, his mother having remarried. He was employed at his trade, which yielded him but a meager living in his native land, until he had grown to manhood. As he approached his majority, the determination grew stronger and stronger within him to seek greater prosperity in America. He was without means, but was enabled to realize his desire by the loan of £20, which he secured from his step-father. It will be interesting to note here that this was the only borrowed money he handled during his whole life, and was repaid with interest out of his first earnings in the United States.

An ocean voyage was then (1819) a more serious matter than now. Seven weeks were consumed in the passage. Young Tweddle disembarked at Philadelphia, which was then a much more formidable rival of New York than it has been during the last third of a century. No opening presenting itself to him there, he soon went to West Chester, Pa., with the intention of securing work at his trade as a journeyman.

The advantages of opening a wheelwright shop on his own account were manifest to him, and the opportunity was not wanting. He was soon established in business on a limited scale, though his establishment comprehended a forge and he had a blacksmith in his employ. He prospered, and after a time found himself in possession of a limited capital.

A brewery was for sale in West Chester on advantageous terms, and he concluded to buy it and change his business for another promising larger and more rapid profits. The young man's self-reliance was now strikingly illustrated. He was not a brewer. He knew nothing of the craft, but he bought the brewery and learned the trade in it under the tutelage of his own employees. He became master of it; but before that was foreman of the brewery, perfecting his skill as a brewer, and at the same time protecting his interests as proprietor by a judicious oversight of his entire business. He made money quite rapidly for a time, and counted himself worth $20,000 at least. But West Chester was not destined to be the scene of his financial triumphs. Reverses came, and everything was swept away. Its brewing interests had then made the City of Albany well known to the entire fraternity of brewers. Thither John Tweddle turned his steps, with the hope of retrieving his broken fortunes. It will be a surprise to many

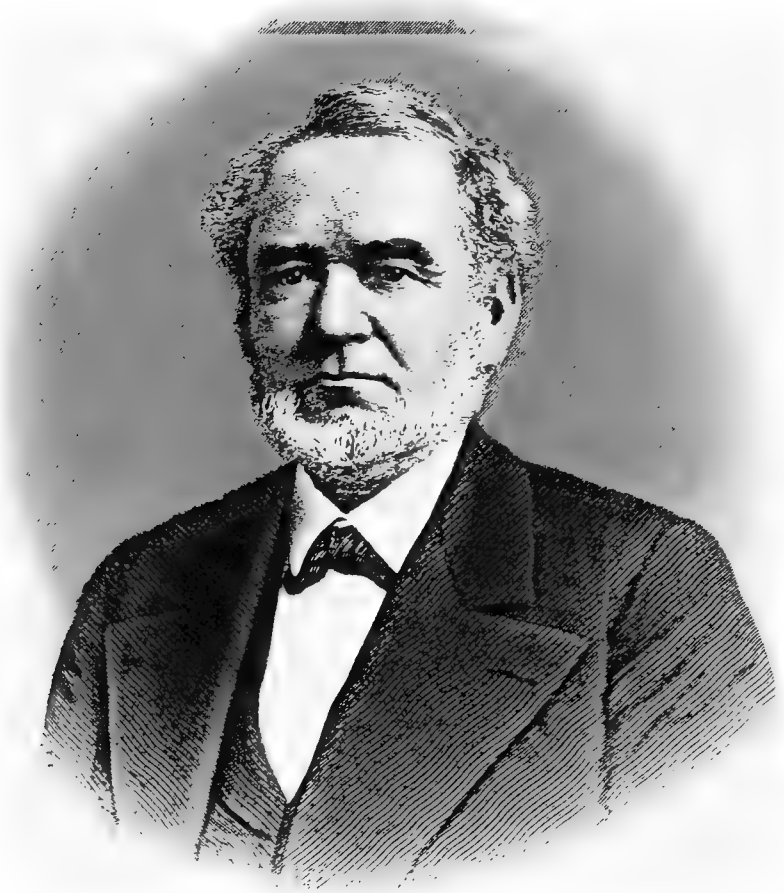
Jas. Tweddle

who read this, to learn that he came to Albany $7,000 in debt, though with sufficient ready funds to begin business on a limited scale; but, placing dependence on his good health as much as anything, he started upon a career which placed his name upon the list of Albany's most persevering and successful business men. In 1847 he rented the malt-house of John Taylor, and thus launched propitiously upon the broad, uncertain sea of enterprise. His business qualifications were of a high order, circumstances were not unfavorable, and he succeeded where other men failed. His success was all the more remarkable, in that it was not marred by losses, for every year during his connection with the brewing interest he realized a profit; sometimes it was small, but it was always a balance on the right side. His business assumed such proportions, that for years he had two large malt-houses in Albany and two in New York.

As a citizen, the influence of Mr. Tweddle was widely felt. He was for many years actively and intimately connected with the commercial interests of Albany. A man of spotless personal integrity, he was singularly faithful in the discharge of corporate trusts. From the date of the organization of the Merchants' Bank in 1853, until his death twenty-two years later, he was its President, and its success was in no small degree attributable to his sagacity, integrity, energy and admirable management. He occupied prominent positions in various civic organizations. As President of St. George's Society, he retained a strong bond of sympathy with all resident citizens of English nativity, and by his example and counsel aided them to freely and fully enter into the spirit of all good American institutions. He was also one of the original, and later one of the most active and influential, members of the Albany Board of Trade, and through his connection therewith, his counsels were made effective upon the commercial prosperity of the city.

In various parts of the city are many visible and tangible evidences of Mr. Tweddle's enterprise and liberality, and, above all, of his love for Albany and its people. The Tweddle chimes of St. Peter's Church recall his name to nearly a hundred thousand citizens, though they were the gifts, after his death, of members of his family. The massive tower from which their voices issue forth, stands as an enduring memento of his beneficence. Tweddle Hall was long the most convenient and accessible assembling place of Albanians, and on its site now stands the Tweddle Building, the most sightly, beautiful, commodious and elegantly-finished business structure in Albany.

In his social and domestic relations, Mr. Tweddle was conspicuous for his urbanity of manner and his devotion to his friends. His confidence, per-



Adam Van Allen

haps not easily won, was rarely alienated or shaken when once secured. He was kind and affectionate as a husband and father, genial as a friend and associate, and always safe as a counselor. The foundation of his worldly success was his unquestioned and unquestionable purity of character. He took no active part in politics, but he was firmly grounded in the principles of the faith of the Republican party. Only once was his name publicly mentioned in connection with any official position. That was in 1864, when he was chosen a Presidential elector, and thus became one of those who placed the lamented Lincoln in the Presidential chair for his second, short, and fatal term of service. During the rebellion he was a liberal giver in support of the Union cause, and was interested in every question the solution of which, through peaceful discussion or the arbitrament of the battle-field, promised weal or woe to our country. He was three times married: first to Sarah Dent, of Carlisle, England; second to Clara Maria Pulling, daughter of Dr. Pulling, of Amsterdam, N. Y.; and third to Miss Frances M. Warren, a descendant of the old and patriotic Warren family, of New England. His widow and six children survive him.

Mr. Tweddle's benevolence is a subject which deserves more extended treatment than can be given it. In fact it seems to be impossible to do it simple justice. It was too unostentatious to be known of all men to anything like the half of its bountiful extent. The few public benefactions he made were regarded by him with less of satisfaction than the many private ones, which proved him a friend indeed to the poor and deserving. His spirit was an essentially liberal and helpful one, and the instances in which he aided his fellow-men to help themselves were almost numberless.

Speaking of the "tower, and the chimes which give it voice," of St. Peter's Church, the Rector, Rev. W. W. Battershall, has beautifully said: "I wish here, however, in behalf of the parish, to express our appreciation of the munificence which has secured the long-delayed completion of this beautiful House of God. It is an illustrious example of the reproductive power of a good deed. I know not whether John Tweddle expected that his dying gift would bear such instantaneous and generous fruitage. I know, however, that it was thoroughly characteristic of the man, thoroughly in accord with his habit of broad and unselfish good-doing, to make those whom he loved sharers in his deeds of benevolence. And I to-day cannot resist the impulse to utter for you, and as your voice, our gratitude to Almighty God that, simultaneous with the walls of our Sunday School and Parish Building, shall arise the majestic proportions of that tower which shall crown this edifice with a coronet of blossoming stone, and shall stand beside this broad avenue of traffic and politics through the future years as a tribute to the glory of Christ and the memorial of one who loved this church, and who for many years of a worthy life worshiped at its altar."

Of the congregation of St. Peter's, Mr. Tweddle had for many years been a member, and during most of the time he had served the parish as Vestryman, and latterly as Warden. He had formerly been actively connected with St. Paul's Church when its place of worship was in the building on South Pearl street, where the Opera House now stands. His death cast a gloom over the entire congregation of St. Peter's, and the large circle of his acquaintances, both in social and business life, lost a friend who had ever been true and trustworthy. He had lived a good, pure and useful life—a life which had made his fellow-men better for his existence—and he died, past the allotted age, as die those who pass into eternity full of trust in the promises of the Saviour of the world.

HON. ADAM VAN ALLEN.

Among the oldest and most highly respected families of Albany County are those of Van Allen and Winne, both of that Dutch stock of New York which has furnished the most conspicuous examples, in successive generations, of all those qualities which constitute true manhood and insure successful careers to their possessors. The first of the family of Van Allen in America came from Holland about 1640, and located in New Scotland, Albany County. There Garret W. Van Allen was born August 1, 1790, and died May 13, 1851. His wife, Hannah Winne, was born October 20, 1790, and died March 8, 1874.

Adam Van Allen, one of the sons of Garret W. and Hannah (Winne) Van Allen, was born in New Scotland September, 20, 1813, and died in Albany August 11, 1884. Born and reared on his father's farm, he early acquired those principles which combined to render him very successful in a business life upon which he entered, poor and friendless, at a very early age, after a very meager schooling, under the tutelage of Harman Van Huysen, in one of the earlier public schools of his native town—a schooling which terminated when he was only twelve years old. The succeeding six months he passed at Athens, Greene County, where he was an inmate of the household of his uncle, Peter Winne. Returning to Albany County, he secured employment as a clerk in the store of George Crawford, at the southwest corner of South Pearl street and Lydius street (now Madison avenue), Albany, where he remained three years, at $60 per annum. During this time he had demonstrated his fine natural aptitude for business, and, incredible as it may appear, saved a small sum of money from his scanty earnings. Mr. Crawford now admitted him to a partnership in the business, which existed four years when Mr. Van Allen desiring to withdraw, sold his interest to his former employer for $500. In May, 1835, he opened a dry goods store at the corner of South Pearl street and Hudson avenue. In 1837 he took his brother, Conrad Van Allen, as an assistant, and subsequently as a partner; and after four years' successful trade, sold the business to him outright, retiring permanently from mercantile life.

Previous to this time, Mr. Van Allen's attention had been directed to the manufacture of pottery

and fire-brick, which had come to be one of the most prominent of Albany's industries, and in 1841, in partnership with Jacob Henry, he embarked in the business on the south side of Hudson avenue, between Eagle and High streets, investing as his share of the capital $4,000, which he had up to that time been able to save from the proceeds of his former enterprises. The establishment was destroyed by fire two years later, and Mr. Van Allen sustained a considerable loss; but, nothing daunted, the firm purchased ground on Hawk street and Hudson avenue, extending back to Jay street, on which they erected suitable buildings and appliances, and resumed the manufacture of fire-brick and stoneware on a still greater scale. This business was continued with success until 1848, when failing health compelled Mr. Van Allen to relinquish it, and Messrs. Van Allen & Henry sold it to John Gott & Amos P. Palmer.

Mr. Van Allen soon after removed, with his family, to a farm of two hundred acres which he had purchased in Bethlehem, known as the homestead farm of Solomon Luke. With improved health he returned to Albany in 1850, to be thereafter a permanent resident, and to still more closely identify himself with several of the city's most prominent interests. In connection with his former partner, Jacob Henry, he purchased a two-thirds interest in the old fire-brick establishment, the entire ownership of which had previously passed to Amos P. Palmer; and during the next four years the business was conducted by Messrs. Van Allen, Henry & Palmer, until the admission to the firm of Horace B. Newton, after which the four were partners, until, at the expiration of the period mentioned, Mr. Van Allen disposed of his interest to Messrs. Henry, Palmer & Newton. In 1854 he engaged in the wholesale lumber trade in the Lumber District, which he continued successfully, doing an average annual business of $300,000 to $350,000, until the financial crisis of 1857 prostrated the lumber trade in common with most other interests, and rendered Mr. Van Allen's relinquishment of his share in it advisable.

Meantime, Mr. Van Allen had become prominent in connection with commercial institutions in the city. Upon the organization of the Bank of the Capitol in 1844, he was chosen one of its Directors. As such he continued until, in 1857, he was appointed Cashier of the Union Bank. In 1861 he resigned as Director and Cashier of the Union Bank, and was elected Cashier of the Bank of Albany. On assuming his new duties, he discovered large defalcations, which had been perpetrated by his prececessor in office, which involved the loss of the bank's capital and necessitated the closing of its doors and the appointment of a receiver to wind up its affairs. By the unanimous request of the stockholders, Mr. Van Allen accepted the appointment of receiver. On the first of the following September, he was appointed Cashier of the Albany Exchange Bank, but declined to accept the position. In October, 1861, he was made Cashier of the National Exchange Bank. As he had done upon entering upon his duties as Cashier of the Bank of Albany, he discovered evidences of serious defalcations and unwise management of the affairs of this institution, which had caused the loss of its surplus and fully one-half of its capital. With the assent of the stockholders, Mr. Van Allen secured the reduction of its capital stock from $400,000 to $200,000, and so managed its affairs that it was enabled to continue business and retain the public confidence. Upon the organization of the First National Bank in 1864, he was chosen its Cashier, and resigned his connection with the Merchants' Bank to accept the position, which he held until he was made President of the institution in 1883. At the organization of the National Savings Bank in 1868, he was chosen its Vice-President. As far back as 1854, he was elected a Director of the Schuyler Line, and in 1864 he was chosen Director of the Albany Gaslight Company, and became its President in 1882. With Mr. Silas B. Hamilton, he was prominent in the organization of the Commerce Insurance Company in 1859; in 1860 he was elected its Vice-President; and at Mr. Hamilton's death, in 1861, he succeeded to the Presidency and retained the position during the balance of his life.

In early life, Mr. Van Allen was a Whig of the school of Clay and Webster, and his first vote was cast in 1834 for Hon. William H. Seward for Governor. In 1836 he voted for William H. Harrison for President. Subsequently he adopted the anti-slavery idea, as advocated by Mr. Seward, and was one of the first and firmest supporters of the principles of the Republican party. Though never an aspirant for political preferment, he was repeatedly chosen to places of public trust under the Municipal, County and State governments. In 1838 he was elected Inspctor of Schools in the old First Ward, and was several times re-elected. He was Supervisor of his Ward in 1847, 1848 and 1850. In 1856 he represented the Second District in the Assembly. The following year he was elected Treasurer of Albany County and held that position three years. In 1862, and again in 1882, he received the Republican nomination to the Mayoralty, but disliking political life and being engaged in other pusuits more congenial to his tastes and habits, he declined to be a candidate.

In early life, Mr. Van Allen had been familiar with the forms, ceremonies and general features of the Protestant Episcopal Church. When he came to Albany, he became an attendant upon the services of the Second Reformed Church. He united with it in 1836, and was soon chosen one of its Elders. In 1848 he was chosen one of its Trustees, and as such served much of the time as President of the Board for more than thirty years. In 1850 he became Superintendent of its Sunday School, and continued in the office during nine consecutive years. In 1880, he became a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and his connection with it was terminated only by his death. In his relations with both of the churches named, he was ever zealous, liberal, kind and helpful.

February 18, 1834, Mr. Van Allen was married to Miss Eleanor Slingerland, daughter of Teunis

Slingerland, of Onesquethau, in the town of New Scotland.

To Mr. and Mrs. Van Allen were born ten children, named Garret A., William H., Adam, Jr., Charles H., Magdalen, Anna M., Helen, Cornelia, Christiana and Ella. Four of the daughters are dead, the four sons and Misses Christiana and Ella, with their mother, surviving. The family home, No. 40 Lancaster street, was built about thirty years ago.

Mr. Van Allen's death was sudden and unexpected, a shock alike to those nearest and dearest to him, and to the large circle of warm personal friends and business associates who had so long known him. A man of high character, unstinted benevolence, steady perseverance, lofty integrity, and business capacity of an unusual order, he was one of the most prominent and progressive citizens of Albany and left his impress on its varied interests, with which he was identified from boyhood. Though his energies were brought to bear chiefly on the field of finance, where his ability and judgment caused him to take high rank, he did not a little toward developing Albany's commercial interests and forwarding her general prosperity. He will long be remembered as one who was instrumental in purifying the financial atmosphere of the city at a time when some of her leading monetary institutions were on the brink of shameful disaster; for he was, above all, honest, and, as a banker, conservative, safe and eminently trustworthy. Courtly in manner, and possessed of fine literary tastes, he was at once an agreeable and an instructive companion; and he reared up a home rich in evidences of his appreciation of the beautiful in art and literature, and of his love for those who shared it with him. Far more beautifully than we could allude to them, are the prominent traits of his character referred to in the following extract from a sermon preached by Rev. J. Livingston Reese, Pastor of St. Paul's Church, of Albany, Sunday, September 7, 1884:

"Since last we knelt round God's holy table, the loving Lord has taken to himself from our church family one whose honored name will long be cherished by us all, and whose bright, Christian example will long live to speak for that Master he loved and served in life. Gentle in his affections as a child, he was yet firm as a rock to his principles. He ever had the courage of his convictions and never feared to confess them. Though it was in the latter part of his Christian life he connected himself with the Church whose services he attended in his early years, he soon learned the spiritual depths of the Church's liturgy, and its wonderful power in developing and strengthening the character. Loyal as a Christian to his adorable Christ; loyal as a churchman to the forms and usages of his Church; true in his friendships; upright and honorable in his business; he has left to us and his children, as his best legacy, the bright example of one whose religion brought forth fruit, and that fruit the daily doing of his duty both to God and man. His big heart, while resting ever on the love of those who leaned upon him in the endearments of his bright and happy home, was yet ever gathering to itself all that was beautiful and lovable in the world of men and letters. Whatsoever things were true and honest, and pure and lovely, and of good report, these were his companions and his delight. And when we think of his beautiful life ended here, only to enter upon its enlarged sphere of activity and work, where are ever fresh treasures of wisdom and love, we must this day lift the song of praise that nearer the great throne he drinks of the living waters and tastes of the joys which God hath prepared for them that love Him."

MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF ALBANY.

ALBANY can hardly be called a manufacturing city. Yet taking away the trade engendered by its manufactories, and the commercial progress has not, latterly, been remarkable. Commerce here is now mainly dependent upon the productive industries. Albany has changed from a purely trading to more of a producing district. In the manufactories of the city, with all the complex interchange of labor, wage-money, and products, we find Albany's firmest financial basis.

Albany has many natural advantages which help make up an economical and successful manufacturing district. Its facilities for receiving and sending by river, canal, and railroad are unusually good. Cheapness and expedition, so necessary in these competitive times to profitable business, are thus secured.

In 1820, the domestic manufactories produced carpeting, coverlets, blankets, milled cloths, coarse and superfine flannels, coarse and fine linen; beaver, castor, roram, napt, and wool hats; Leghorn and straw hats; sole, upper, harness, and milled leather; hollow-ware and solid castings of various kinds for machinery and other uses; pot and pearl-ash, whiskey, molasses-rum, ale, cider, and maple-sugar.

Except for family use there were no woolen factories, and there was in the town of Watervliet one cotton factory.

There were seventeen carding machines, as follows: Bethlehem, 3; Coeymans, 2; Westerlo, 2; Berne, 3; Rensselaerville, 3; Guilderland, 1; Watervliet, 3.

The fulling machines numbered sixteen, viz., in Bethlehem, 2; Coeymans, 3; Westerlo, 2; Rens-

selaerville, 3; Berne, 3; Guilderland, 1; Watervliet, 2.

Grist-mills, thirty-four, viz.: Bethlehem, 6; Coeymans, 4; Westerlo, 4; Rensselaerville, 6; Berne, 5; Guilderland, 2; Watervliet, 7.

Saw-mills, sixty-eight, viz.: Bethlehem, 11; Coeymans, 11; Westerlo, 9; Rensselaerville, 7; Berne, 21; Guilderland, 4; Watervliet, 5.

Tanneries, forty-three, viz.: Bethlehem, 4; Coeymans, 3; Westerlo, 9; Rensselaerville, 9; Berne, 10; Guilderland, 3; Watervliet, 2; Albany, 3.

There were four breweries in the City of Albany, as follows: Boyd & McCulloch, who brewed 3,000 barrels; Robert Dunlop, who brewed 3,000 barrels; Fidler & Co., who brewed 1,500 barrels; and Henry Birrel, who brewed 1,000 barrels; amounting annually to 8,500 barrels; and four distilleries in the county, as follows: Daniel Hale, Albany, molasses-rum, 36,000 gallons; Roderick Sedgwick, Bethlehem, whiskey, 40,000 gallons; Stephen Willes, Berne, whiskey, 850 gallons; Asa Colvard, Westerlo, whiskey, 11,000 gallons; amounting annually to 87,850 gallons.

There were also four air furnaces for casting hollow-ware, cannon balls, shot, etc., in the city; and a variety of solid castings for machinery were made.

In the eastern district of the county, pitch and white pine; black, white, and rock, or chestnut oak; chestnut and hickory or walnut timber prevailed. Elm was plentifully scattered over the wet lands, and hemlock was often found near the streams. The western district was timbered with hemlock, beech, sugar-maple, black birch, basswood, and white ash. The swamps afforded, mainly, black ash and white or soft maple, and some elm. One peculiarity in the distribution of timber in this district was, that while the eastern sides of the hills abounded with sugar-maple, beech, basswood, and white ash, the ridges and western aspects were covered with a greater proportion of hemlock. Thus an abundance of lumber was supplied.

In the eastern district, the natural growth succeeding the first clearing was nearly the same as the first growth, but in the western, beech, black birch, sugar-maple, white ash, a small quantity of black cherry, and plenty of a species of wild red cherry obtained.

BREWING.

Albany, as it is at the terminus of the canal and the head of navigation on the Hudson River, is well located for any manufacture. The hop and barley districts are near by, and Albany has established a national reputation in malt products. This important industry had its beginning with the infancy of the city, and the beer and ale interest has grown immensely.

In 1661, Arent Van Corlear was engaged in brewing here, and some authorities have it that in 1635, a brewery was located at Rensselaerwyck. In 1695, Ben. C. Corlaer and Albert Ryckman "were authorized and directed to brew, for the use of the Common Council, three pipes of beer at £10 13s." One of the prominent brewers of the last century was Harme Gansevoort, who died in 1801. His brewery stood at the corner of Maiden lane and Dean street, and was demolished in 1807. As late as 1833, when the dome of Stanwix Hall was raised, the aged Dutchmen of the city compared it to the capacious brew-kettle of old Harme Gansevoort, whose fame was fresh in their memories.

About the beginning of the present century, a Mr. Gill was proud of the fact that he produced 150 barrels of beer yearly. In this city, during the year ending May 1, 1884, there were manufactured 359,203 barrels of malt liquors, an increase over the previous year of 26,409 barrels. The four breweries in Albany in 1820, are named on a near page.

Robert Dunlop was the first brewer in this city known to persons now living. He started a little brewery at the corner of Broadway and Quackenbush street. This was destroyed forty years ago. Andrew Kirk's brewery on Upper Broadway, now occupied by the Fort Orange Brewing Company, dates back to 1838. James K. Carroll is Treasurer of this Company; Edward F. Carroll, Secretary; and D. McDonald, Brewer. The John McKnight Brewery, on Hawk street, has not been used for years, and the premises are now owned and used by Thomas McCredie, maltster. Uri Burt started a small brewery in a dwelling-house at the corner of Colonie and Montgomery streets, having a capacity of about twenty barrels.

Of the old breweries now in use, the Albany Brewing Company is one. It was founded in 1797 by James Boyd, and to this day the Boyd family retain an interest in it. The original building was 24 by 30 feet. Its buildings now cover the block bounded by Arch, Green, South Ferry and Franklin streets, and are of brick, from two to eight stories high, with fine cellars, their capacity being 150,000 barrels of ale and porter annually. Two hundred thousand bushels of malt also are made yearly, and 125 workmen find employment. The Albany Brewing Company is the successor of Coolidge, Pratt & Co. The officers for 1884 were John S. Boyd, President; James H. Pratt, Secretary and Treasurer; J. M. Knapp, Member of the Executive Committee. John S. Boyd is a grandson of the founder of the establishment. Their products are shipped through the New England States and to New York City, in which they have a depot on West street. G. W. Robinson is Brewer of this Company, and T. C Rowe, Superintendent.

The Taylor Brewery was started October 12, 1822. Mr. John Taylor, its founder, erected the present building on South Broadway in 1851 and 1852. Upon the death of Mr. Taylor in 1863, the firm name was changed to John Taylor's Sons. The Messrs. Taylor who now conduct the business are not relatives of the founder. Their product is shipped mostly through New England and New York.

George I. and Theodore M. Amsdell Brothers are brewers of ale and porter. Their father at one time

was engaged as a brewer at the Taylor brewery. He afterwards started a little brewery in the country. The present institution began in 1850, and has increased until the area occupied by them is 354 by 150 feet, on which are six large brick buildings, five and six stories in hight. They employ 150 men and turn out 80,000 barrels of ale and 160,000 bushels of malt annually. W. T. Amsdell is Superintendent of this brewery, G. A. Hargrave is Brewer.

What is now the Fort Orange Brewing Company, was established in 1839 by Mr Goewey. He was succeded by Mr. Kirk. Messrs. Kearney & McQuade; Wilson & Co.; Smythe & Walker, who remained until May, 1882, succeeded in turn, when the present Company was formed. Alexander Gregory, the President of the Company, is an experienced brewer.

The establishment of James K. Carroll and Duncan McDonald, at 900 to 912 Broadway, is two stories, 50 x 120 feet, with an annual capacity of 30,000 barrels. They manufacture India Pale Ale XXX, Amber XX, Cream Ales, Pale XXX, Amber XX, Stock Ales and Porter.

Besides the above breweries are those of T. D. Coleman & Brothers, at 132 to 154 Chestnut street, and Granger's brewery, corner of Church and Fourth avenue, of which George F. Granger is proprietor. Ale is the only malt liquor brewed at these two establishments.

Lager Beer.

The manufacture of Lager Beer in this country is comparatively of recent date. In Albany the Beverwyck Brewery on North Ferry street is the largest. This was started forty years ago by James Quinn, who brewed ale on the same street In 1866, Terence J. Quinn and Michael N. Nolan formed a partnership, which continued until 1878, the year of Mr. Quinn's death; since then the business has been conducted by Mr. Nolan, the firm name remaining unchanged. The buildings on North Ferry street are first-class. The cost of the Beverwyck Brewery was $350,000, and it is now manufacturing 60,000 barrels of beer and over 50,000 barrels of ale annually. Mr. Nolan is President and Treasurer; Augustus Kampfer, Secretary; M. Schrodt, General Manager; W. Hoffman, Superintendent; and Alexander Hargrave, Brewer.

The Cataract Brewery was established in 1857, between Park avenue, South Swan street and Myrtle avenue, by Frederick Hinckel and A. Schimerer; the former conducting the business until his death, in 1882. His successors are his brother, A. C. Hinckel, who is Business Manager, and his sons, Frederick and Charles A., the latter being Treasurer. About 75 workmen are employed, and the annual output is 35,000 barrels.

The following statement shows the number of barrels of ale and lager beer manufactured in Albany for the years ending April 30, 1883, and April 30, 1884:

Ale.

1883.....236,491 barrels.
1884.....263,459 "
Increase, 26,968 barrels.

Lager Beer.

1883.....95,743 barrels.
1884.....94,475 "
Decrease, 1,268 barrels.

MALTSTERS.

The senior member of the firm of John G. White & Sons, maltsters, 125 Hudson avenue, has been engaged in this business for over 60 years, as in 1823, he, with his brother William, first began the industry in this city. The business has enlarged until they have plants in New York, Philadelphia, and in Bath, opposite Albany. Their malt-house here is seven stories in hight, brick, 150 by 70 feet, with an L 30 by 50 feet, and an annual capacity of 450,000 bushels. The malt-house in New York is five stories, 200 by 80 feet, capacity 350,000 bushels; and at Philadelphia is six stories, 160 by 60 feet, with a capacity of 100,000 bushels. The business done by them is one of the largest in this country, and their trade extends throughout New York, Pennsylvania and New England. The members of the firm are John G. White and his son, Andrew G. White. Matthew White, another son, is manager of the house located in New York, and Mr. William Little, of the one in Philadelphia.

A leading representative of the malting trade of Albany is the house of J. W. Tillinghast, which was founded in 1850 by the late John Tweddle, the business coming into the possession of the present proprietor in 1870. Two plants are operated by Mr. Tillinghast, one located at No 105 Montgomery street, and the other on the corner of State and Lark streets. The former is a five-story structure, 195 by 100 feet in dimensions, the latter is three stories high and covers an area of 74 by 140 feet, the two having an aggregate capacity for the production of about 300,000 bushels of malt annually. The equipment of these malt-houses embraces all the latest improved machinery and appliances known to the trade, operated by steam, employment being furnished to about thirty skilled workmen.

Thomas McCredie, maltster, 34 Clinton avenue, began his business in barley malting in 1847. His productions have grown from a few hundred bushels annually, to 250,000 bushels, the present output. His four establishments are as follows: first, on Canal, Orange and Hawk street, size 200 by 50 feet, six stories, brick; second, on Clinton avenue, 50 x 200 feet, three stories; third, on Central avenue, Robin and Bradford streets, two stories, 65 x 100 feet; and the last, on North Pearl street, three stories, 50 x 140 feet. Twenty-five workmen are employed.

The house of Messrs. Story Brothers was founded in 1868. The present proprietors are J. T., William and R. R. Story. The firm has two malt-houses, one on Broadway and Cherry street, which is four-stories high, 140 x 70 feet, with a two-story addition, 35 x 35 feet; the other on Broadway and Plum street, which is two-stories high, 137 x 45 feet. The storage warehouse is four stories, 137 x 35 feet in dimensions. The annual

product is 175,000 bushels. Fifteen workmen are employed.

William Kirk, son of Andrew Kirk, one of the earlier maltsters in Albany, is the proprietor of a malt-house, 3 Kirk place.

WILLIAM APPLETON.

The life of William Appleton, of Albany, was an eminently successful one, both from a moral and a financial point of view. He was born in 1811 at Goodmanham, Yorkshire, England, and died in Albany, February 11, 1883. His father and mother, springing from influential families, occupied the farm which for generations back had been in his mother's family. The town of Goodmanham is one of the oldest in England, and contains many quaint and interesting buildings, among which is a small church constructed out of what originally was a heathen temple, erected in the year 627. The house in which he was born was a large, fine structure of graystone, with solid beams and doors of oak, and windows of horn. Though very old, it still stands, an example of the substantial manner in which such structures were built in those days. Mr. Appleton was unfortunate in losing his parents before his boyhood had passed. Upon the death of his mother he fell heir to quite a large landed estate. At this time he was a mere lad, and those whom the law had placed over him to control his property conspired to deprive him of it. How well they succeeded appears from the fact, that before he had attained his majority it had all been taken from him, and involved in such a manner that it was impossible for him to regain it. Still this did not crush and dishearten him, as it would have done many, but served rather to kindle the talent, energies and personalities which were to characterize him in his after life. After having lost his heritage, anticipating the fruitlessness of any efforts that he might make to regain it, he resolved to cast his lot in America, where he fancied he could more successfully lay the foundation and rear the superstructure of his after-life. Accordingly, in 1832, he left his native soil and came directly to Albany, where he determined to make his future home. He commenced business as a grain merchant on Washington street, and soon became widely known throughout the States as being one of the best judges of grain in the country. He was very successful, and his advice was sought by merchants from far and near. Soon he determined to extend his interests, and in 1847 entered the malting business, which proved so remunerative that he erected a large malt-house on Washington street, near the place where he had begun his business career. Still later he formed a partnership in New York City, and there carried on the largest business in oats done in the metropolis. He was also the proprietor of a line of barges plying on the Hudson between Albany and New York.

Mr. Appleton acquired a large amount of landed property, and, at the time of his death, was one of the largest real estate owners in Albany. He was a member of the Boards of Trade of Albany and New York, and was connected as trustee and director with a number of banks and other corporations. He was a man of strong convictions and a decided individuality, which in no small degree contributed to his successful career. His life, though quiet and retiring, was full of good deeds. He was, in an unostentatious way, one of the most benevolent of men, and many poor people of Albany, to whom his death brought sadness, can testify to his kindness and liberality. Highly esteemed by all who knew him, he was one of the most welcome of friends and companions; and his extensive knowledge of a wide range of subjects made him very interesting in conversation. He was a model husband and father, and with his family he was exceptionally liberal and painstaking. His home was the place of all places where he loved to spend his time, and upon it he lavished care and expense without stint.

Mr. Appleton was married in 1844 to Miss Jerusha, daughter of Luther Frisbee. Eight children were the fruits of their marriage, five of whom have died. The remaining three are Mrs. Clement H. Warren, Mrs. Clifford D. Gregory and William Appleton, Jr. The latter is since deceased.

Herewith is given as complete a list of brewers, maltsters, and distillers, with the year in which they commenced, as we are able to obtain.

(Abbreviations.—B., Brewer; M., Maltster; D., Distiller.)

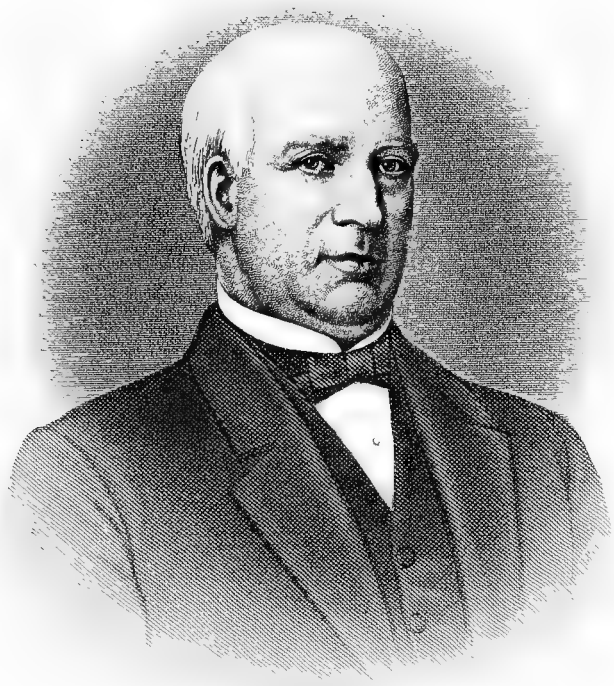
1816.—McLeish & Birrell, B., 38 North Pearl street; Henry G. Webb, M., Schenectady Turnpike.

1817.—Jacob Cole, B., 168 Washington street; Joseph Ketcham, B., 206 North Market street; Hathorn McCulloch, B. (partner of Robert Boyd), Ferry street; William Wake, B., Schenectady Turnpike; Abraham Slawson, M., 214 North Market street; Daniel Hale, Jr., D., 82 North Market street; David Lent, D., 93 Washington street; Charles P. Poinier, cordial, 254 Washington street.

1825.—Boyd & McCulloch, B. (1819 to 1825); Henry Birrell, B., North Market; Fiddler & Taylor, B., 51 Hamilton street; John Gardner, B.; Stephen Humphries, B., 236 North Market street; Peter Snyder, B., Schuyler street; Charles Fields, M.; Christopher Robertson, M., 85 Orange street; James Oliver, cordial distiller and rum coloring, South Market street.

1830.—William Amsdell, B. (father of Amsdell Brothers), 14 Rose street; Patrick Connelly, B., 52 Church street; Robert Dunlap, B., 208 North Market street; John Gardner, B., Montgomery street; Reuben Pearl, B., Franklin street; Sinclair & Walsh, B., South Market and Hudson streets; John Taylor, B.; John & George Birdsall, M.; James Cahall, M., South Lansing street; T. Mounsey, M., Washington and Western Turnpike; Adam Dows, D., Water street; J. Root, rectifier, 36 Dean street.

1840.—Baker & Pruyn, B., 9 Dean street; Howard & Ryckman, B., 210 South Market street;



Fred Winkler

Andrew Kirk, B., 17 North Market street; John Taylor, B., 81 Green streeet; Simpson Bayo, M., 417 State street; William Birley, M., 45 Van Woert; James Breeman, M., 66 Franklin street; James Buchanan, M., 41 Colonie street; George W. Knowlton & Co., rectifiers of whiskey, 198 South Market street; Michael O'Sullivan, cordials, North Market and Columbia streets.

1852.—Boyd & Bro., B. and M., Franklin, corner Arch; Eggleston & Mix, B., 9 and 11 Dean street; Appleton & Welsh, 309 Washington street; A. A. Dunlop, B. and M., 28 Quay; Andrew Kirk, B. and M., 904 Broadway; R. Kirkpatrick, M., 415 State street; William A. McCulloch, M.; John McKnight, B. and M., Hawk and Canal streets; Hiram Perry, M., 388 Washington street; John G. White, B. and M., Quay, corner Bleecker; John Taylor & Sons, M., Broadway, corner Arch; H. Classen, D., 840 Broadway; Cyrus Edson, D., 11 Hudson street; H. Knowlton, D., 197 Broadway; George Tweddle, M., State, corner Lark street; Uri Burt, B., Montgomery and Colonie streets; James Chester, small beer, South Pearl street; Sands & Pennie, B., 5 Steuben street; C. W. Schindler, lager beer, 43 Division street; Amsdell Brothers, B., Jay street.

1857.—Cyrus Edson & Co., D.; A. A. Dunlop, D. (son of Robert Dunlop), 63 Quay street; J. Evers, D., Chapel street; J. Tracey, D.; J. Williamson & Sons, rectifiers; Amsdell Brothers, B., Jay street.

1865.—John H. Trowbridge, rectifier, 12 State street; Coolidge, Pratt & Co., B., Arch, corner Franklin street; John McKnight's Son, B., Hawk, corner Canal street; James P. Quinn, B., 24 North Ferry street; Henry Weber, B., 65 Bowery, weiss beer; D. S. Wood & Co., B., Swan, corner West Ferry street; George W. Hoxsie, brewed Hoxsie bottled.

1870.—Michael Aud, B., 130 Chestnut street; F. D. Coleman & Bro., B., 146 Chestnut street; Frederick Hinckel, B., Swan street, corner Park avenue; Quinn & Nolan, B., North Ferry street.

1875.—George Weber, weiss beer, 44 Third avenue; J. Tracey & Son, D.; Smyth & Walker, B., 904 Broadway; John G. Schneider, B., 133 Fourth avenue; McNamara & McLoughlin, B., 31 Central avenue; Marshall & Rapp, B., 65 Central avenue; Alexander Gregory, B., 70 Central avenue; J. F. Hedrick, B., 422 Central avenue; John Dobler, B., Swan and Myrtle avenues; Fred. Dietz, B.

Granger's Brewery, Fourth avenue, corner of Church street, is under the sole proprietorship of George F. Granger, formerly with the Albany Brewing Company, He manufactures Cream, Pale, India, Stock, and California Ales. He also brews a brand called the Burton Ales.

John S. Dobler conducts an ale-brewing establishment at the corner of Swan street and Myrtle avenue.

For a number of years Jacob Kirchner conducted an ale brewery in Albany. He died a few years ago, since which the business has been conducted by his heirs.

Cook & Meutsch, 129 Fourth avenue, and Geo. Weber, 42, 44, and 46 Third avenue, brews weiss beer.

FREDERICK HINCKEL.

The record of a man's life is the most enduring memorial that can be erected to his memory. The story of his efforts to reach a place among the honored and successful men of his time must always remain as a valuable and inspiring example, whose far-reaching influence and ennobling effect testify in strongest eloquence to the worth of well-directed energies. Especial stress may well be placed upon such a life history when the achievement has been effected from the humblest of beginnings; in short, when the man who accomplished such a work is, in the strongest sense, a self-made man.

Frederick Hinckel, one of Albany's honored German citizens, was such a man. He came of that sturdy, staunch, and honored class from whose members Albany has gained vastly in enterprise, industry, and good citizenship. He honored alike the race from which he sprang and the community with which his life labors were identified, and towards the development of whose prosperous interests his ambition was directed. He was born in Germany, October 29, 1832, and in his youth passed through a rugged experience which while bringing, mayhap, a volume of denials and struggling efforts, surely established the foundation of self-reliance and determined energy that worked out the successful purposes of his later life. He began the battle of existence a poor boy, but he set before his feet the resolve to waste no opportunity that might help him along the pathway to success. German thrift and industrious application, joined with ambitious ardor, soon bore wholesome and abundant fruit. In 1857, Mr. Hinckel founded in a small way the business of beer brewing, and once with his ground sure beneath him, he pressed vigorously and confidently onward. He looked to become ultimately a prominent figure among the brewers of his time, and his determination naturally and necessarily wrought out that end. His progress and success were rapid. Integrity and diligence were the watchwords of his career, and by the light of their guidance and counsel he moved forward, winning not only prosperity as a manufacturer, but enduring and substantial worth as a citizen. He began in 1857 as a brewer, in a very humble capacity; in 1881, when he died, he was the owner of one of the best equipped, as well as one of the costliest breweries in the country. His business had grown to such proportions that more than a hundred men were required to conduct it, while in far-reaching details it may be noted that his commercial transactions extended over the entire State of New York. Unhappily for him the last summons came to him just as he had reached the culmination of his ambition, in the successful inauguration of the great enterprise that still bears his name. He died October 29, 1881, and in that year the present Hinckel Brewery was completed.

He saw, however, that he had won the triumph he had worked for, and that was to him a proud consolation. He passed away, if not full of years (for he was still in the strength of vigorous manhood), assuredly full of respect and esteem as a citizen. As an employer he was more of a friend to his people than a master, and thus it was that he held in their affections a warm place. Many of his servitors boasted with pardonable pride that they had remained with him during the entire period of his business career. Mr. Hinckel was fully abreast the age as a citizen of public spirit, and untiringly urged and assisted any project having for its object the promotion of the popular welfare. He was a member the community could ill spare, and one whose absence will continue to be felt for some time to come. His influence and example live, however, and they will to much worthy purpose albeit their author and builder has laid down the burden of life for ever.

THOMAS McCREDIE.

Thomas McCredie, one of the oldest, most successful and highly esteemed business men of Albany, was born in Glasgow, Scotland, November 30, 1808. His father, Thomas McCredie, a wholesale wine and liquor merchant, and his mother, Sarah (Gamble) McCredie, both died when he was only four years old, leaving him to the care and guardianship of an uncle and an aunt, each possessing in full measure all the distinguishing traits of Scottish character. With them, his early youth was spent, in Ayrshire, not in idleness, but in attending school, and in learning to do and doing the innumerable things so useful and necessary on a farm. Then and there his faculties were exercised and sharpened, and by precept and example he was taught lessons of industry, economy, perseverance and self-reliance which he never forgot. When Mr. McCredie was young, parents thought it prudent that their sons should learn some useful trade, the better to qualify them, should circumstances require it, to earn a living and render them less dependent upon others. Accordingly when he was fourteen years old, his uncle apprenticed him for three years and a half to a carpenter, to learn that honorable trade.

There he developed mechanical and constructive faculties which were of great service to him later in life. He saw, however, a larger and a better field open for him. Thinking of his father led him to consider the business in which he had been engaged, and then to gain all the knowledge concerning it, in its various branches and kindred subjects, that he could. The subject of malting early engaged his earnest attention, and he determined to learn it as soon as an opportunity should offer.

Mr. McCredie had heard and read much about America; its free institutions and the honors and the rewards that were there open to competition for all, and he determined to visit the United States to learn about it for himself. The 30th day of October, 1838, he reached Albany. It was cold and gloomy; the ground was covered with three inches of snow; and his first impressions were quite unfavorable. Dear old Scotland seemed to him dearer than ever before, and he wished himself back there. Soon, however, he made the acquaintance of Peter Ballantine, a brother Scotchman, from near his own home, the famous maltster and brewer, and by his advice he at once began work in Howard & Ryckman's malt-house, where he remained during that season. His next three years were spent in the Kirk Malt-houses and Brewery, two of them as Superintendent. Then for six years he was the Superintendent of the malt houses in West Troy owned by Robert Dunlop, another Scotchman, who, with all his peculiarities, was in his business far ahead of his day and generation. From West Troy Mr. McCredie went to Philadelphia to superintend Mr. Paul's large malt-house, and after remaining there one season he was offered an interest in the business; but a like offer having been made him by Robert Dunlop, he accepted the latter and returned to Albany. In 1848, he married Miss Eilen Dunlop, youngest daughter of his partner. She died two years later, an only daughter surviving her for a short time. The partnership of Robert Dunlop and Mr. McCredie continued three years, when it was terminated by the death of the former, when Mr. McCredie and his brother-in-law, Archibald Dunlop, entered into a partnership of short duration. In settling up the estate of his father-in-law, Mr. McCredie became the purchaser of the Dunlop Malt-house on Clinton avenue, which he has since owned and operated. About the time of this purchase, an arrangement was entered into whereby Mr. McCredie obtained sole management of the large malt-house of John McKnight, at the corner of Hawk and Orange streets. Mr. McKnight died soon after, when that property passed into the hands of the Albany City Bank, but was subsequently purchased by Mr. McCredie, who still owns and manages it. More than thirty years ago Mr. McCredie had taken rank among the leading maltsters, not only in Albany but also in the United States, and although he kept increasing his malting facilities, so desirable was the quality of his malt that he could not fully supply the demand. He now owns and operates four large malt-houses in Albany, and another in Boston, Mass.

The career of Mr. McCredie justly entitles him to a high rank among the leading self-made men of our time, and should serve as an incentive and example. He comes of a family remarkable for many superior traits of character. He inherits a good constitution, a cheerful disposition and a warm and generous heart, and has developed an excellent judgment in all business affairs. His promptness, faithful attention to every detail, devotion and complete mastery of his business in every department; his steadfast and unyielding determination to excel in whatever he undertook, as well as his inflexible integrity, fair dealing and unsullied honor, has won and retained for him hosts

Thomas McCredie

of friends, and enabled him to accumulate a very large fortune and gain a widely extended and most enviable reputation.

Kind and considerate of the welfare of his employees, he commands their respect and confidence, and strongly attaches them to himself and his interests. His hand is extended with cordiality to the humblest as readily as to the highest, and a cheering word, a God-speed, is given to all. For a great many years he has been an active and honored member of the First Reformed Church of Albany; the President of its Board of Trustees; and foremost among its liberal supporters. A hearty hater of all shams and hypocrisy, he regards good works rather than great professions of goodness. In church, as in business and everywhere, he believes that God works by and through human as well as other agencies, and that suitable means must be used to attain the desired end. Practical beneficence, helping others to help themselves, is a fundamental part of his religion. The needy and suffering testify to his sympathy and relief.

The Albany Hospital, than which no worthier intitution exists in this city, is, and for many years has been, greatly indebted to Thomas McCredie, the oldest in service as well as in years of its Board of Governors, who has given so liberally not only to sustain it, but to increase its usefulness. In the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank and in the Mechanics and Farmers' Savings Bank, admirably managed and successful institutions, he has long been one of the most prudent of the Directors and Trustees. One of the oldest members of the Board of Trade of the City of Albany, he cherishes a warm interest in its prosperity and has received its highest honor. Repeatedly and earnestly has he been urged to accept the highest municipal offices in Albany, but always declined. Formerly a Whig he regards himself a Republican, but entirely free to vote for whomsoever he prefers and especially in the administration of city affairs. An American in its truest and best sense—ever willing and ready to discharge all the duties the land of his adoption imposes, and zealous for her prosperity and progress, he is none the less a lover of the land of his nativity—the land of Wallace and Bruce, of Burns and Scott, whose chivalric deeds and whose unsurpassed imagery and glowing words ever animate and inspire him. Burns, his favorite poet, he knows by heart, and in apt illustration and quotation he liberally draws on him, and his drafts are always honored. Four times has he gone back to Scotland, there relighting all the Scottish fires in him, and yet returned well content with and in the land where such signal success has crowned his efforts.

Neither an absence of forty-six years, nor a distance of three thousand miles, has lessened his love for the national game of Scotland. He is a bonny good curler, right up to the Tee. For many years he has been the President and the inspiration and life of the Albany City Curling Club. The St. Andrew's Society has no member more active or honored than Thomas McCredie, formerly its President.

In 1854, Mr. McCredie married Miss Margaret Smith, daughter of Peter Smith, of Albany, and to them have been born two daughters and three sons, all now living except the eldest daughter.

The sons are all actively engaged with him in his business, the elder two having an interest therein, and all promise to be worthy successors of their honored father.

DISTILLING.

In the early history of Albany quite a number of individuals were engaged in distilling whiskey on a small scale. In 1778, the attention of the Common Council was called to this subject, and the following resolution passed:

"*Whereas*, Divers Persons in this County purchase large quantities of Wheat for distilling into Whiskey, and sell the same at exhorbitant prices; and whereas the Legislature of this State, in pursuance of a recommendation by Congress, have now under consideration the Regulation of the prices of all Commodities, as well as the necessaries of life; "therefore *Resolved*, That no Wheat or other Grain be distilled into Whiskey within this County until the Legislature shall have regulated the prices."

For many years after this date, distilling was carried on in and around Albany; but it was not until 1838, when John Tracy commenced the business, that it began to assume much proportion. Mr. Tracy carried it on for many years, and was an influential and respected citizen of Albany. He died a few years ago, and was succeeded by his son, Colonel Charles Tracy.

MILLING BUSINESS.

The small creeks which abound in the vicinity of Albany were early utilized in producing power for grinding wheat and other grain. Milling was among the first industries which engaged the attention of the early settlers. The products of these mills were principally used for home consumption. The transportation of flour and meal did not form much of a factor in trade until the beginning of the present century. After that date it began to form quite an important part in the commercial affairs of Albany, and continued so until the rapid growth of the great West materially modified it. The bulk of the milling business of the country is now confined to the West, and in most of the Eastern cities, as in Albany, it is not carried on very extensively.

The Columbia Steam Mill and Elevator of Capron & Woolverton was established by M. L. Crittenden & Co. in 1857. John D. Capron became associated with the business in 1870, and in 1882 the present firm was organized, C. B. Woolverton having been connected with the old firm for twelve years previously as book-keeper. The premises of the firm, located on the Pier, consist of a mill and elevator 180 by 50 feet in dimensions. The plant is equipped with five run of stones, power being furnished by a 250 horse-power engine. The ele-

vator has a capacity for handling about 2,000 bushels of grain per hour.

The leading specialties of the house are rye flour, corn meal and feed. Their trade extends through New York and New England, south as far as Washington, and west as far as Cleveland. They own and employ four canal-boats in shipping their products.

The Albany Feed and Plaster Mills of Franklin D. Tower, consist of a four-story brick building, 90 by 180 feet in dimensions, equipped with a 40 horse-power engine, four run of stones and the usual complement of milling machinery. About six men are employed, including expert millers. A trade is transacted which extends throughout the North and Northwest. The products of the house are plaster for agricultural purposes, and feed for horses and cattle.

In 1878, Mr. Tower carried on the milling business in the old stone mill near the Manor House, North Broadway. This mill was erected by one of the Patroons over two hundred years ago, and was well known throughout the country as the Patroon's Mill. In 1880 it was destroyed by fire, after which Mr. Tower began the business in which he is now engaged. He is recognized as one of the leading flour and feed merchants of Albany. A more extended notice of his career will be found in the biographical sketch of him published in this volume.

The firm of John B. Cleminshaw & Son, manufacturers of self-raising flour, No. 11 Hudson avenue, was organized in 1883. John B. Cleminshaw conducted the business for seventeen years previously. They are largely engaged in manufacturing self-raising flour for buckwheat and wheat cakes. Six men are employed at this factory, capable of producing 400 barrels of flour and meal per week.

The products of the water-mill of John M. Batterman, 344 Broadway and 22 Liberty street, have gained an excellent reputation for quality. Mr. Batterman has been engaged in the milling business in Guilderland many years. His mill is especially noted for its fine grade of Indian meal.

BAKERS.

No one subject was the cause of more legislation by the early municipal authorities than the regulation of the quality, size and price of bread. The size, weight and price per loaf was determined by city ordinances; but infringement of these laws was frequent and occasioned much complaint and litigation. The size of the loaves was formerly much larger than at present. Up to 1847 they were required to weigh three pounds; after that date two pounds was the legal weight. The law requiring the latter weight was not repealed until 1855.

Probably the oldest living baker now engaged in business is Thomas Mayes, located at 171 Madison avenue. He came here in 1837 and became apprenticed to John Hodge on Market street. About this time Marcus Andrews, John Marshall, John Hodge, William Pester, Jonas C. Wellington, John S. Graves, J. Pallat, and Stephen Paddock were engaged in the baking business. The firm of Adams & Sprang for many years conducted a bakery at 186 Washington avenue. They were the first to introduce machines for making crackers, and used to send teams out in the country with their produce, a novel thing in 1840. John Osborne did quite an extensive business on South Market street many years ago. He sold out in 1845. John Clarke, the father of the extensive baker of the same name now located on Hudson avenue, was for many years engaged in business on the east side of Broad street.

Owen McCarthy began the bakery business on Van Voast street in 1842. In 1847 he moved to Water Street, and in 1852 removed to his present location, 70 Canal street.

John Imrie opened a bakery on the corner of Chestnut and Hawk streets in 1855. In 1864 he built a store on the corner of Jay & Hawk streets. He died in 1882, since which his wife has conducted the business.

John Younger established a bakery at 405 South Pearl street in 1865, which he has conducted ever since.

The bakery of Mrs. Amelia Moench was established in 1869 at 50 South Ferry street. In 1881 she bought her present property, 28 South Ferry street.

L. Ebert began to conduct a bakery in Albany, on Myrtle avenue, in 1875. He removed to his present quarters in 1876.

George Frank began business in 1878 on Madison avenue, where he remained for a year and a half. He opened his present place in 1882.

Buehler Brothers, corner Alexander and Clinton streets, bought their present business of Mr. Schepper in 1880. He established it in 1859.

Fred Kahl began business in 1865 as a baker, at 323 Sherman street, and still continues at the same place.

John A. Stock, baker, corner Green and Schuyler streets, began business in 1877. He resides at 50 South Ferry street.

William G. Ebel, baker, confectioner, etc., was established at 73 Green street, in May, 1877. Seven years later, owing to increasing business, the premises 73½ Green street, and an extension, were added. Ten hands are employed.

The Earing Bros. (Charles A. & Martin L.) established their present business in 1879, at 372 Madison avenue. They erected their present building, 368 Madison avenue, and moved into it, in 1883. It is three stories, brick, 21 by 166 feet in dimensions They also opened a bakery at 10 Bleecker street, which they still operate.

Charles Krien established a bakery at 683 Broadway in 1883. His building is 30 by 50 feet in dimensions. He is a native of Prussia and has been in this business for ten years.

Beside those already mentioned, the following are at present engaged in the bakery business: Henry Brimhall, Horace F. Brimhall, John Clarke's Sons, Mrs. Michael Crummy, W. L. Greenman, F. J. Harflinger, Lester Hulbert, Martin Iliohan, Anthony Maxstadt, John Peel, Mrs. Michael Pet-

tengill, Harmon V. Swart, Isaac A. Swart, and many others.

MICHAEL PETTENGILL

was born at Newburgh, N. Y., December 20, 1819. At the age of fifteen years he began to work in the bakery of George W. Whiting, in Greenbush. In 1836, with a partner, he went into business for himself in Green street, Albany, under the firm name of Pettengill & Metcalf. From Green street he removed to Herkimer street, and from Herkimer street to Washington street. The firm had now changed to Pettengill & Emerson. In 1840, Mr. Pettengill bought Mr. Emerson's interest in the business. About 184– he removed to No. 91 Beaver street, and remained there till February, 1852, when he occupied his new house, No. 97 Beaver street, where he lived and carried on his business until his death, which occurred suddenly, April 22, 1882. He united with the Emmanuel Baptist Church February 22, 1872, and was ever an earnest and active member of that organization. He was much interested in mission work, particularly at Paigeville, and at the Home for the Friendless, where he was ever ready to give words of counsel or comfort, and to do his part financially.

THE LARRABEE BISCUIT WORKS.

The firm of E. J. Larrabee & Co., of Albany and New York, has now become a hosehold word, so excellent are the Larrabee Biscuits and so extensive is the trade of this house. A brief historical sketch will doubtless interest our readers, and call attention to an industry that does honor to our city.

It was started in 1861 under the name of the Albany Aerated Bread Company, by Belcher & Larrabee. They were the first to introduce that process of bread-making north of New York City. In 1862 they put in machinery and commenced in a small way the manufacture of the common kinds of crackers or biscuits then in use, and made by hand, using only the best materials. The demand for their goods increased so rapidly, they were compelled, in 1866, to cast about for more room, and purchased a large corner building, once St. Joseph's Church; made the necessary alterations in 1867, and built two vast ovens.

Their business then took a fresh start, steadily growing to such an extent, that the firm ordered from England a complete set of the most expensive machinery for their special line of goods, being at that time far superior to any similar machines made in this country. Messrs. Larrabee & Co. were then prepared to compete successfully with English biscuits, at that time very largely imported into this country. In 1871 Mr. Belcher died, and W. G. Thomas became a partner with E. J. Larrabee, the senior member of the present firm of E. J. Larrabee & Co. Their business prospered and, in 1872, property was purchased on the east, and another building with four more ovens was erected in 1873.

In 1876, Charles H. Thomas became a general partner in the firm; new and improved machinery was added to meet the requirements of their trade. Yet such was the demand for their goods, that, in 1881 they were obliged to buy still more property on the north, and enlarge their works, until now they have three five-story buildings, all connected and conveniently arranged, filled with the best and most approved biscuit machinery that can be obtained. The facilities of this house now enable them to use annually 40,000 barrels of flour, 2,000 tierces of lard, 75 tons of butter, 450 barrels of molasses, 3,000 barrels of sugar, and other materials in corresponding quantities.

E. J. Larrabee & Co. employ about 350 hands, and make over 300 different kinds of plain and fancy biscuits. Their trade extends to nearly all parts of the world. This house was the pioneer in this country in the manufacture of fancy or London biscuits, and their success has effectually replaced the English biscuits in the United States. This firm has always received the highest awards wherever they have exhibited their goods, both at home and in foreign countries. At the Centennial they received a medal and diploma; at the Paris Exposition in 1878, the first and only gold medal ever awarded to American biscuits. Their branch house in New York City is managed by C. H. Thomas, the junior partner. A business success such as is shown by the house of E. J. Larrabee & Co., clearly demonstrates the capabilities of its founders and managers. It is an honor to Albany and the State of New York.

BAKING POWDERS.

Cleveland Brothers, manufacturers of baking powder, 911 and 913 Broadway, began business in 1870. They also manufacture flavoring extracts. The factory is a five-story brick building, 44 by 100 feet in dimensions. A large number of workmen are employed, and the annual sales reach many thousands of dollars annually. The individual members of the firm are George and Frederick Cleveland. Those who use the Cleveland powder, the sale of which is widely extended, desire no better.

Walter McEwan, corner of Maiden lane and James street, a large dealer in coffee and spices, manufactures the National Baking Powder, a pure, wholesome, and unquestionably reliable article.

Stephen H. Parsons, since 1877 sole proprietor of the Coffee and Spice Premium Mills, 41 and 43 Dean street, also makes a baking powder of undoubted merit, but does not make it the prominent article in his manufacture.

BUTCHERING AND MARKETING.—BEEF, MUTTON, AND PORK.

There were many butchers who carried on a profitable trade in and about the city during the period of the Revolution. From this branch of

business large fortunes were gained. The ancestors of some of the wealthiest families in Albany acquired the nucleus of their fortunes in the business. During the Revolution, Albany butchers largely supplied the American army with meat. This they did also in the War of 1812. During recent years the establishment ef the West Albany Cattle Market has made Albany an advantageous location for carrying on this trade.

Among the large and successful dealers in cattle many years ago were John Cassidy, John Russell, and Ichabod L. Judson. Eli Perry, a biography of whom appears elsewhere, was very extensively engaged in this business. Some account of the once extensive West Albany Cattle Market appears elsewhere. Among the well-known meat dealers were the Fredenrich family, a member of which continues the trade on Beaver street. John Battersby, the present County Treasurer, is better known by his first-class meat market, which was established by his father in 1840. He sells $210,000 worth of meat annually from his store at corner of North Pearl street and Clinton avenue. John Featherly, D. J. Hartnett, Joseph McQuade, Ignatius Wiley, George Wiley, and Ithamar Spencer, are long established and well-known meat dealers. The Chicago dressed beef has recently taken much from the local business of beef butchering and dressing. Pork packing was once carried on extensively by some firms, notably by the senior George Schwartz. Among those who still carry on the business are George Schwartz & Co., 167 South Pearl street; Thomas P. Crook & Co., 209 Hudson avenue; Bridge & Davis, 355 Broadway; John T. Carrier & Co., 7 Clinton avenue; and R. P. Cornell, 288 South Pearl street.

COFFEE AND SPICE MILLS.

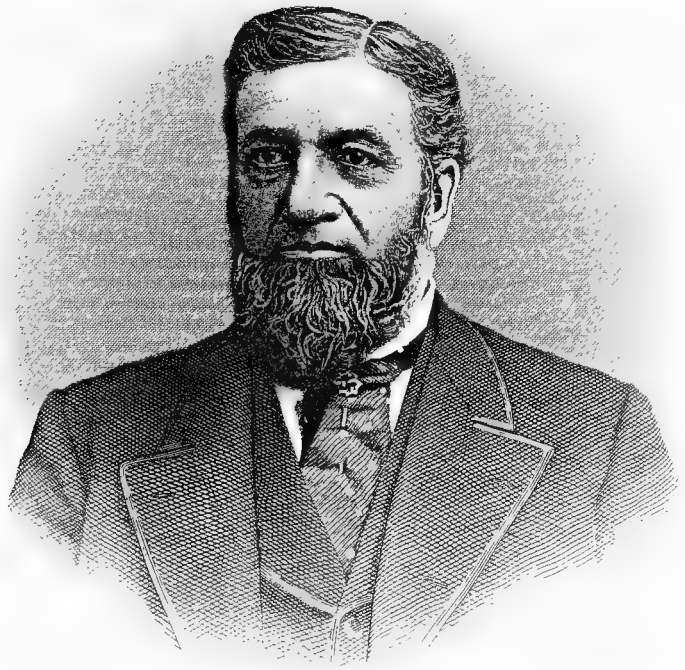
The Empire Steam Coffee and Spice Mills of Bacon, Stickney & Co., Nos. 35, 37, 39 Dean street, and 11 Exchange street, are the most extensive mills of the kind in the State outside of the City of New York. It was established in 1833 by Mr. Froment. The subsequent changes in proprietorship will be found in the biographical sketches of Samuel N. Bacon and Leander Stickney. The stores, warehouses and manufacturing departments of the firm are comprised in a five-story brick building, 100 by 65 feet in dimensions. The firm manufacture an extensive variety of ground spices, coffee and mustard. They also manufacture baking and soap powders, yeast cakes, starch, extracts, oatmeal, being wholesale agents for one of the largest oatmeal mills in the country, with a jobbing trade immense in its proportions, and extending throughout New York, New England and other States. A large force of men are employed at these works, which require the services of twenty-nine superintendents in the various departments.

The Coffee and Spice Mills of Stephen H. Parsons, Nos. 41 and 43 Dean Street and 12 Exchange Street, known as the Premium Mills, were founded in 1836 by John Thomas, Jr., who was succeeded in 1865 by Judson, Parsons & Haskell, and they in turn by the present proprietor in 1877, who had been connected with the business since 1860. The premises consist of a five-story brick structure, 40 by 60 feet in dimensions. Mr. Parsons grinds his own spices, roasts and grinds coffee, and manufactures baking powder, cream of tartar, etc., and deals in a general line of grocers' supplies.

The National Mills of Walter McEwan, corner of Maiden lane and James street, were established in 1865, and came into the possession of the present proprietor in 1872. The premises are comprised in a four-story brick building, 25 by 65 feet in dimensions. The products of this house consist of every variety of ground coffee and spices. A special feature of the mills is the manufacture of baking powder and flavoring extracts.

SAMUEL N. BACON,

of the well-known firm of Bacon, Stickney & Co., dealers in coffees and spices, is a son of Samuel and Alma E. Bacon, and was born in Harvard, Mass., January 25, 1829. He lived and worked on a farm until 1848, when he came to Albany and found employment with the formerly prominent merchant, Mr. L. A. Chase, at thirteen dollars per month and board. Mr. Bacon's attention to his duties, and his manifest great business ability, won him such rapid promotion that, in 1853, five years after this humble beginning, he was admitted to a partnership with Mr. Chase, the business being continued under the firm name of L. A. Chase & Co. Mr. Stickney died early in 1857, and March 21st of that year Mr. Bacon formed a copartnership with Messrs. M. W. Stickney and L. Stickney, under the style of Bacon & Stickneys; and soon afterward two five-story stores (Nos. 37 and 39 Dean Street) and a four-story store (No. 9 Exchange Street) were built to accommodate increasing trade. In 1865, Mr. James Ten Eyck was admitted to an interest in the firm, the title of which was then changed to Bacon, Stickney & Co. In March, 1881, following the death of Mr. M. W. Stickney, the remaining partners decided to continue the business under the same firm name, a measure from which they did not depart when, in March, 1882, Mr. L. Stickney died, and the business was continued by Messrs. Samuel N. Bacon, James Ten Eyck, H. W. Stickney, and John L. Baldwin, as partners. During the year last mentioned, the five-story store adjoining the firm's Dean Street stores was added, on account of the greatly increased demands of their business, and they have since occupied Nos. 35, 37 and 39 Dean Street, together with No. 9 Exchange Street, which, combined, render their establishment one of the most extensive in Albany. The motto of this old and always popular house has been "Good goods at fair prices, and honorable dealing to all, with the closest attention to business," and it has been the practical demonstration of the sterling principles thus expressed, that has rendered theirs one of the most successful houses in their line outside of New York City.



Samuel M. Bacon

L Stickney

Mr. Bacon, the now senior member of this firm, is in all ways a self-made man, as the term is usually applied. Without wealth or influence to aid him in his early struggle, he has worked his way up literally from the foot of the ladder. The only legacy he ever received, to which he ascribes in any degree his success in life, was the following advice from his father, which he followed for many years, and which he gratefully acknowledges has been worth thousands of dollars to him: "Never buy anything until you have the money in your pocket to pay for it. When you have the money, and it is your own, buy anything you want." If all young men of the present day would adopt this as their rule of life, it is probable that many of them would prove much more successful business men than the statistics of a score of years hence will show them to have become. Mr. Bacon is a member of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Albany, of which he was Trustee for twenty-one years, and was elected Elder in 1883. In politics he is a Republican. He married Miss Sarah E. Harlow, daughter of Mr. George Harlow, of Lawrence, Mass., and has a daughter and two sons. For seventeen years his home has been in the beautiful and growing village of Loudonville, four miles from Albany.

LEANDER STICKNEY

was born and passed his boyhood in Antrim, N. H. In 1838 he came to Albany, and with characteristic perseverance and energy set about the task of carving out his own fortune.

He found employment as a clerk, and his abilities were so marked that, in 1853, he was admitted as a partner in the coffee and spice firm of L. A. Chase & Co. Mr. Chase retiring in 1857, the firm name was changed to Bacon & Stickneys, his brother having also become associated with the house. In 1866 another change in the firm made it known as Bacon, Stickneys & Co.

A man of high character and the strictest integrity, Mr. Stickney was quiet and unassuming in manner, very devoted to his home circle, and benevolent in disposition. He was never appealed to in vain in the cause of charity, and his bounty was given with that freedom from ostentation which characterizes the true man. He was, when in health, a regular attendant at the Hudson Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church. Soon after becoming established in business he married Miss Mary Ellen Dowling, who, with a son and daughter, survive him. He was well and widely known, both in the business com-

munity and socially. He was taken ill in March, 1882, and was a patient sufferer until his death, which occurred January 14, 1883.

The business of which Mr. Stickney was long one of the recognized heads, takes rank among Albany's leading mercantile interests.

VINEGAR.

Charles H. Burton, manufacturer of cider vinegar, 78 Green street.—This business was established 1839 at 73 Green street by Francis Vail, continued there until 1867, when he purchased the old Universalist Church at 78 Green street, and converted it into a vinegar depot. The business was bought out by Mr. Burton in 1882. It is the oldest cider vinegar manufactory in the State, and one of the best. The manufacture is carried on under the immediate supervision of the proprietor, and the product has a large sale.

SOAP AND CANDLE-MAKING.

The making of soap and candles at one time was an important local industry in Albany, but during late years has measurably declined. This is due principally to the fact that candles are largely superseded by other means of illumination, and soap manufacture has been absorbed by the large factories. The first soap and candle manufactory of importance established in Albany, so far as we can find, was started by Peter Van Heusen and Jacob Van der Bilt in 1788. In an advertisement stating their intentions to engage in this useful branch of industry, they say that such a factory had long been wanted in the city. To induce the citizens to encourage these home industries, they offer these articles at New York prices.

The next factory of importance was established by John Taylor, Jr., about 1820. A few years after, Mr. Fidler become a partner, under the firm name of Fidler & Taylor. This establishment was destroyed by fire in 1829. Patrick Murphy about this time had a factory in Albany. Agur Wells was for a long time, engaged in this business. He was succeeded by his son, Thomas D. Wells, at 259 South Pearl street.

In 1840 the business had grown to such dimensions, that 1,330,000 pounds of soap and 660,000 pounds of candles were made. There were at this time twelve factories, employing about 60 men. Capital to the amount of $122,000 was invested in this industry in the city.

The two principal firms now conducting this business are those of Clinton Ten Eyck and Stein & Co. The former begun this business many years ago, and now employs steam in manufacturing soap and candles. His factory is located on the corner of Chapel and Canal streets. He makes the Troy Laundry Soap, and bar and pressed cake soap.

Stein & Co. are successors to John M. Christian & Brothers, engaged in this business many years in Albany. Stein & Co. manufacture family, laundry, chemical and pressed soaps. Their factory is located at 16 and 17 Delaware avenue.

OILS.

In 1823, S. J. Penniman established what is now the firm of Murphey & Liscomb, manufacturers of oils, with warehouse at 13 Hudson avenue, and factory on Colonie street.

Their factory with its various buildings covers 1½ acres. They also have a four-story storage house. The chief products are sperm, whale, elephant and lard oils; machinery, cylinder and signal oils; argand oil; and spermaceti and sperm candles.

The individual firm members are Elijah W. Murphey and Orlando P. Liscomb, whose names are favorably and extensively known in this line throughout the United States.

STOVES.

Albany and Troy have long been prominent centers for the manufacture of stoves. The business, as at first conducted, consisted in simply putting together the castings, which were made at other places, generally at blast-furnaces in New Jersey and Pensylvania. The early castings were of great thickness, and, compared with those of the present day, were rough and imperfect.

Besides the well-known Franklin stove, the invention of the eminent early philosopher whose name it bore, the first made was a box-stove; then the oblong plate-stoves, such as are yet in use to some extent for heating school-houses and churches. The first advance towards a cooking-stove consisted in making the last named with an oven, and the first that deserves the name of a cooking-stove was an oblong affair having an oven running the whole length, the door of which was in front and directly over the door for supplying fuel; having also a boiler-hole and boiler on the back part of the top, near the pipe. Then a stove similar in arrangement, with swelling or elliptical sides, was made, generally called the nine-plate stove. In Albany it was known as the Philadelphia stove.

About the year 1812, cooking-stoves were made at Hudson from patterns made by a Mr. Hoxie, who was the first to elevate the fire-box above the bottom. This improvement was patented, and sustained in suits against parties who elevated the fire from the bottom. In Hoxie's stove the fire was made above and upon the oven. He was the first who made a stove in which the flame was made to descend from the top to the bottom of the oven.

In 1815, William T. James, of Lansingburgh, made the stove known as the "James" stove, which not only continued a leading stove for nearly a quarter of a century, but may yet be seen on board small Eastern coasting vessels, where, being cheap and durable, it supplies the place of a caboose. James' stove is probably better known as the "saddle-bags" stove.

In 1833, the editor of the *Albany Daily Advertiser*, from observation and inquiry, formed the opinion that the manufacture of iron castings was brought to greater perfection in Albany than in any other place in the country, or even in Europe. The hollow-ware of Bartlett, Bent & Co. was preferred

to the best Scotch; the stoves of Dr. Eliphalet Nott received the preference wherever they were known; and the machinery castings of Maney & Ward were equal to those of any foundry in the world. The quantity of castings were stated as follows:

Howard, Nott & Co.	1,000 tons.
Bartlett, Bent & Co.	350 "
I. & J. Townsend	300 "
Rathbone & Silliman.	200 "
Maney & Ward	450 "
	2,300

About one thousand persons were employed in these establishments. Besides these productions, the house of Heermans, Rathbone & Co. sold annually 750 tons of stove-plates brought from Philadelphia, and Gill, Cooper & Co., about 300 tons from the same place. From the best information that could be obtained, it was found that about 2,300 tons were manufactured and sold in the city, and about 1,250 tons imported and sold, making in all 3,550 tons.

While, previous to 1836, some stoves had been made in Albany, the bulk of them had been cast direct from the ore in blast-furnaces in New Jersey and Pennsylvania; they were shipped here in loose plates to be mounted. At this time new and lighter patterns were gotten up.

The oldest foundry in Albany was the one at 110 Beaver street, which was occupied by Treadwell & Perry in 1843. It doubtless antedates the present century. In 1808, Warner Daniels was making stoves there. In 1820, the firm became Spencer, Daniels & Co.—Warren Spencer, John Daniels and Thomas Gould. They were succeeded by Erastus Corning and Norton in 1826; they by William V. Maney and Ward in 1828, who continued until 1836, when Mr. Maney became sole proprietor, he selling to Messrs. Treadwell & Perry in 1843.

As early as 1813, Warner Daniels, and, in 1815, Francis Low were conducting the Clinton Furnace.

In 1820, Spencer Stafford made stoves in a foundry which was located at the junction of Washington and Central avenues.

About 1827, H. Nott & Co., composed of Howard Nott and sons of Dr. Eliphalet Nott, at the junction of Washington and Central avenues, manufactured the celebrated "Nott" stoves. These works were subsequently removed to New York City, becoming the Novelty Works.

In 1830, Joel Rathbone, W. B. Hermance and Corning & Norton, under the firm name of Hermance, Rathbone & Co., began business. Upon the death of Mr. Hermance, in 1830, Mr. Rathbone became sole proprietor. He continued with various partners down to 1841, when he sold to John F. Rathbone and Samuel H. Ransom, who composed the firm of Ransom & Rathbone. They continued till 1844, when they separated and formed the separate firms of S. H. Ransom & Co. and Rathbone & Co. S. H. Ransom & Co. remained in business until 1881, when Clarence Rathbone purchased the property of the firm, adopting the present firm name of the Ransom Stove Works.

For more than thirty years, George P. Lynd has been a Superintendent in the Ransom Works. Peter Thompson is another old employee. E. Myer, for over thirty years, has been connected with the firm in the capacity of a stove-mounting contractor.

The firm of Rathbone & Co., 1844 to 1854, was composed of John F. Rathbone, James C. Kennedy and Lewis Rathbone.

From 1854 to 1857, this firm was known as Rathbone & Kennedy, composed of Lewis Rathbone, James C. Kennedy and John F. Rathbone. From 1858 to 1860 it was composed of Lewis Rathbone, Theodore Townsend and Joseph P. Sanford, under the firm name of Rathbone & Co.

From 1860 to 1865, John F. Rathbone was the sole manager and proprietor of this concern. At the latter date Lewis Rathbone and Eben C. Beach were admitted as partners. In 1868 the firm was composed of John F. Rathbone, Lewis Rathbone and Grange Sard, Jr., and thus continued until 1873, when the firm of Rathbone, Sard & Co. was established, composed of John F. Rathbone, Robert S. Oliver, Edward Bowditch and Grange Sard, Jr. From 1876 to 1883, William H. Sard was a partner.

In 1883 the corporation of Rathbone, Sard & Co. was formed, with a capital of $800,000. The following are the officers: John F. Rathbone, President; Grange Sard, First Vice-President and General Manager; William H. Sard, Second Vice-President and Manager of Chicago branch; Edward Bowditch, Secretary and Treasurer; Robert S. Oliver, Superintendent; Walter P. Kellogg, Manager of Detroit branch.

The extensive works of this Company are situated in the upper part of the city. There are five modeling floors and five cupola furnaces. Ninety tons of iron are melted daily, and 75,000 stoves annually made. 950 men and 400 molders are employed, to whom are paid annually $450,000. The yearly sales aggregate $1,500,000.

The cupola furnace was built by Joel Rathbone in 1838, and was one of the first in this country for making stove-castings. By this process, castings were made smoother, and by dispensing with superfluous materials were finished cheaper.

Josiah P. Eldridge and R. Horner for many years have been foremen of separate departments in this foundry. For many years William H. Van Loon and John F. Hyatt, stove-mounting contractors, have done work for this firm.

In 1833, and for a short time afterwards, Bennington Gill, William Cooper, John Webster and Maynard French, under the firm name of Gill, Cooper & Co., although they had no foundry, manufactured stoves.

In 1835, Thomas & Potts were established on Hudson street. This is the first record we have of the use of a cupola furnace for stove-castings in the county. Before this they were cast in the furnace on Beaver street, known as the Eagle air-furnace. Thomas & Potts were succeeded by Thomas & Wells in 1836, who continued until 1837, when Mr. Thomas retired, the firm becoming Hoffman & Potts, which remained unchanged until 1847,

when Mr. Jesse C. Potts became the sole proprietor. Mr. Potts continued as such until 1857, when he became one of the company of Shear, Packard & Co. In 1870 the firm was dissolved.

Jacob H. Shear and Mr. De Graff were in the business in 1837.

In 1837, Messrs. Elisha N. Pratt and John G. Treadwell, as Pratt & Treadwell, had stoves manufactured for them.

In 1838, Mr. S. B. McCoy had a foundry on Water street. In 1839, the firm became McCoy & Quackenboss; in 1846, McCoy, Clark & Co.; and in 1852, McCoy & Clark. When Augustus Quackenboss left the Water street foundry in 1846, he opened another in Montgomery street, continuing alone until 1855, when Mr. Wasson joined him. Messrs. Borden & Stowe now occupy the premises formerly used by S. B. McCoy.

From 1845 to 1848, Messrs. Low & Leake had a foundry located on the dock.

From 1845 until 1857, Samuel D. Vose, Henry and William E. Bleecker, as Vose & Co., had large foundries which they had erected at the lower end of Broadway, below Ferry street.

In 1848, B. P. Learned & Co. occupied the foundry now used by Thacher & Co., car-wheel manufacturers. In 1851, the firm became Learned & Thacher, and soon after discontinued this business.

In 1852, Weller, Goodwin & Adams made a few stoves in a foundry located on Washington avenue, a little below Clark street. In 1843, and for a short time previous thereto, William Cobb manufactured a few stoves in the same foundry.

In 1854, the Temperance Furnace, at 53 Water street, was controlled by O. G. De Graff and Henry and Amos Adams, under the name of O. G. De Graff & Co.

The Albany Co-operative Stove Company has been in business since about 1863; 50 men are employed, and 5,000 stoves annually made.

The Perry Stove Company, doing business on Hudson avenue, and at Sing Sing, is an old established concern, the senior member, John S. Perry, commencing in 1843. He then used the old foundry at 110 Beaver street, his partner being William C. Treadwell, the firm name Treadwell & Perry.

In 1860, the firm was dissolved, and shortly thereafter organized under the name of Perry, Treadwell & Norton. Upon the dissolution of this firm, Messrs. Treadwell & Perry and Ira Jagger continued the business until 1864, when the present firm was organized. The members are John S. Perry, Nathan B. Perry, Andrew Dickey (of Sing Sing) and John Hughes (of Chicago). The buildings now in use were built in 1856. The bulk of the manufacturing is now done at Sing Sing.

The first stove manufactured by Treadwell & Perry was in 1843, and was named the "Premium," but was more generally known as the "Step Stove," from the fact of its rear boiler being raised. They now make several leading kinds of stoves.

Annually they make from 8,000 to 10,000 tons of stoves, equal to 75,000 to 90,000 stoves, representing a value of $1,250,000. About 1,500 workmen are employed, including those working at Sing Sing.

The firm now known as the Ransom Stove Company was founded in 1836 by Joel Rathbone.

Mr. Rathbone retired in 1841, and in 1845 was succeeded by S. H. Ransom & Co. The firm was then known as the Ransom Stove Works. In 1883 the present Company was incorporated.

The officers are: Clarence Rathbone, President; Benjamin Butler, Vice-President; and Albion Ransom, Superintendent. The manufacturing plant occupies four blocks, and is bounded by Mulberry, Church and Cherry streets, and on the east by the Hudson River. Three hundred workmen are employed, the weekly wage list amounting to about $4,000.

William Doyle, 108 and 110 Beaver street, has carried on stove manufacturing steadily for many years. A patent was obtained by Edward H. Doyle for a hot-air furnace, first used on a popular stove, now manufactured by Mr. Doyle, called the "America." He expends $50,000 annually in the manufacture of stoves at this manufactory, and employs twenty-five workmen.

The Littlefield Stove Company was organized in 1865 by D. G. Littlefield, who was the inventor of the first successful base-burner stove ever used, for which he received a patent in 1854. The use of this invention has demonstrated its superiority over all heating stoves in use. Their plant, on the corner of North Pearl and Pleasant streets, covers an area of three acres. Here twenty-five stoves per day are manufactured. The Treasurer of the Company is H. C. Littlefield.

Albany Stove Company, Tivoli Hollow, was founded in 1868, the proprietors being Messrs. Carroll, Gutman and others. In 1880 the present Company took control of the works. The officers of the Company are: James H. Carroll, President and Treasurer; William G. Schultz, Secretary; and John Gutman, Superintendent. The location in Tivoli Hollow is particularly adapted to the Company's purpose. The works cover an area of two acres. Here from forty to sixty molders and skilled iron-workers are employed; from six to eight tons of castings are daily made; and from twenty-eight to thirty-five complete stoves put upon the market.

The foundry of Jasper Van Wormer, located on the corner of Broadway and Arch street, was erected in 1867. Mr. Van Wormer is the surviving partner of the firm of Van Wormer & McGarvey formed in 1846. For twenty years they manufactured stoves through contracts with other parties owning foundries. In 1867 their business had grown so extensive, that it became desirable, if not absolutely necessary, to erect a building exclusively devoted to the manufacture of stoves, and the present foundry, which occupies an entire square, was erected. Mr. McGarvey remained as partner until his death in 1876, when his son, Charles M. McGarvey, assumed his father's interest in the firm, which continued until the latter's death in 1884, since which Mr. Van Wormer has conducted the business alone. Mr. Van Wormer is one of

Wm McGarvey

the oldest and best known men now engaged in the stove business of Albany. The specialty of this concern is the American base-burner, although a general assortment of heating-stoves is made. The biographical sketches of the Messrs. McGarveys published in this work, furnish considerable valuable data in relation to this foundry.

The National Stove Association was formed in 1872, through the efforts of Mr. John S. Perry and others. This association held its first meeting in New York City during that year, Mr. Perry being elected President. From that time semi-annual meetings have been held. The object desired by originators of this organization was to promote good feeling, extend acquaintances, and exchange views as to the best means of securing a healthy, natural trade. The result has met the expectations. Mr. Grange Sard is now President of the Association.

In 1860, there were seven establishments in Albany County for the manufacture of stoves, with an aggregate capital of $1,013,000; employing 850 hands; paying $285,600 wages annually; manufacturing raw material worth $345,800, into products valued at $1,038,700. In 1870 there were fifteen establishments; $3,022,800 capital invested; employing some 1,946 men, whose yearly wages were $1,209,873; converting raw material valued at $1,004,208 into manufactured products worth $3,216,431. In 1880 there were twelve establishments, but the census statistics are exceedingly unreliable.

From the best authorities obtainable we give the following statement, to show the present development of the stove trade in Albany.

Capital invested	$2,500,000
Producing annually	3,000,000

About 2,700 workmen are employed, the result of their labor being 24,000 tons of stoves, or about 220,000 stoves, annually.

MICHAEL McGARVEY.

The late Michael McGarvey long occupied a leading position among the most enterprising and successful business men of Albany. Born in Albany, June 19, 1824, he was bred in his native city, and grew to manhood with few of the material advantages of this world. His parents were poor, and at an early age he was obliged to earn his own livelihood. Nearly forty years ago, he and Jasper Van Wormer worked together as apprentices. They toiled at the same bench and became more to each other than acquaintances. Men of the same moral type, they were earnest friends, and the tie that is often nearer than that of relationship was severed only by the hand of death. When the time of their apprenticeship had expired, the two lads started business on their own account at No. 12 Green street. Their only capital was indomitable pluck and an honest purpose; but those characteristics won, as they always must, and it was not long before their little retail shop blossomed out into an ambitious manufacturing establishment. It was in the winter of 1846 that they began business, and it is believed that, at the time of Mr. McGarvey's death, the firm was the oldest in the city in a certain sense, for it had been for nearly thirty years under one management.

Mr. McGarvey was married in 1846 to Miss Elizabeth Town, who survives him. A member of the Tabernacle Baptist Church, he was munificent in his contributions for the completion of the present House of Worship of that organization, in the progress of the construction of which, during his fatal illness, he took great interest. He was a man of great moral force and of the very nicest sense of commercial honor. His word was a bond which was never broken. Unostentatious and reticent concerning whatever he did for others, very few knew the depth of his sympathies for the suffering or the extent of his benevolent contributions. Such a character as his dignifies any department of business and receives the homage of all honorable men. He died October 12, 1876. The following from the pen of one who knew him well, is a fitting estimate of the man:

"During the years of his prosperity, Michael McGarvey never forgot his early days. He was always a workingman, proud of the dignity that appellation should give. Unobtrusive in manner, he was also a man of great decision of character, firmness of will, and vigor of intellect. He was in fact, an every-day man, without veneering or superficial glitter, and won friends to keep. He was not one to make a display of religion, nor was he a stickler for sect. His creed was that of humanity; and if benevelence is the soul of religion, then the true metal was in him to a great degree. He was not ambitious in the modern way, for political honors were repeatedly declined. His aim was to respect his Creator, to love his wife, to educate his children, and to pass an existence of simple but honorable event. During his life he diffused much happiness, mitigated considerable distress, and called down many a blessing from the stricken poor. During his career we know of no great achievement, no gigantic success, no brilliant action to be recorded for him; but George Eliot says the world owes its greatness to unhistoric lives, and, remembering Michael McGarvey, we appreciate her words."

CHARLES M. McGARVEY.

The late Charles M. McGarvey was born in Albany (a son of the late Michael McGarvey) July 1, 1851, and died April 26, 1884. He was educated at the Albany Academy, and after his graduation was for some years connected with his father's business. At his father's death, being the eldest son, he naturally took his place among the manufacturers of Albany as a member of the firm of J. Van Wormer & Co., which succeeded the old and widely-known firm of Van Wormer & McGarvey, of which his father had long been a member, a relation which he continued creditably and successfully until his death.

Mr. McGarvey was possessed of a hearty friendliness and spontaneous geniality which endeared him to all who knew him. No man was better known in Albany business and social circles. In one way or another, he was identified with most of the popular interests of the town. The older members of the Washington Continentals remember him as one who served the prescribed time and became a faithful and well-beloved member of that celebrated organization. He was married December 13, 1876, to Miss Lydia D. Courtney of Albany, who, with two children, survives him. He

Charles M. McGarvey.

had been ailing for several months, but his death came suddenly and somewhat unexpectedly. His funeral was the occasion of a demonstration of almost universal sorrow, and tokens of respect were given by relatives, friends, business and social organizations and employers. Gathered around the house of mourning were friends who had grown up with him from boyhood—friends who could testify to the geniality of his companionship, his warm-hearted disposition and the manner in which he clung to those he loved and respected. Every one knew him, and all present had good words to say of him who had passed from their midst. The bearers were his brothers, William, Henry and Archie; his brothers-in-law, William Van Wormer, Dickinson Courtney and Benjamin W. Wooster, Jr.; Joseph C. Barnes, for many years book-keeper of the firm with which Mr. McGarvey had been identified; and J. Johnson, foreman of the molding-shop. Mr. McGarvey was one of those whole-souled, helpful men, whose words of kindness and deeds of friendship are the most speaking epitaphs, and whose prolonged earthly life could not but have brought good to his fellow-men.

JOHN S. PERRY.

Albany is justly distinguished for the elevated character, success, and liberal enterprise of its business men; perhaps none of its sister cities outrank it in this respect.

Her manufactories and manufacturers take a high position, particularly in the manufacture of stoves and other products of her foundries.

John S. Perry is not only eminent as a business man, but as a citizen largely interested in things touching the prosperity and advancement of the city. He has occupied this position so long and with such public respect, that a sketch of his life naturally belongs to and makes a part of the history of our city and county. Such a history will always be read with interest and pleasure, not only as an example of encouragement for young men preparing to act in responsible and honorable positions in life, but to those more advanced in a business career; because, the success which one man has attained, others may hope to achieve, by imitating his example, making true the oft-repeated maxim, that biography is history and philosophy teaching by example.

John Strong Perry was born in Farmington, Conn., December 17, 1815. This beautiful town is situated on the river of the same name, with scenery which has been the admiration of tourists, and has excited the imagination of the poet and painter for many generations. It is a lovely stream, blending the pleasures of angling, fowling, boating, and other aquatic sports, presenting to the young advantages for physical exercise that develop the health and strength of well-formed manhood. Mr. Perry traces an honorable ancestry far back in the annals of NewEngland history. His maternal grandfather, a descendant of the Pilgrims, was Governor John Treadwell, LL. D., of Connecticut, the last of the Puritan line of Governors His paternal grandfather was the Rev. David Perry, of Richmond, Mass., who was settled over the Congregational Church in that town for about forty years. Indeed, his ancestors on both sides, including the Pomeroys, of Northampton, Mass.; the Lords, of Colchester, Conn.; and the Leavenworths, of Woodbury, Conn., are all of the old Mayflower stock.

Mr. Perry's Christian name, John Strong, is derived from a relative, the Rev. John Strong, a Puritan minister of Connecticut.

Mr. Perry is a self-made man, the successful artificer of his own fortune, which he has carved out by that indomitable energy and practicability which to young men is of more value than wealth.

He began his education in the district schools in his native town, where he made good progress in his studies; so good that, when, at the age of thirteen, circumstances compelled him to leave school, he was prepared to enter a counting-house in Hartford, Conn., where at that early age he began his business career.

After remaining there for some time, he entered the store of his uncle, John B. Perry, in Lee, Mass., where after spending several months, he came to Albany, which was destined to be his future home.

John S Perry

Arriving in that city on the 23d of October, 1830, he entered the crockery store of that old and well-known firm composed of Henry L. and Charles B. Webb and Alfred Douglas, honorable and high-minded merchants, from whom he received during thirteen years that rigid and thorough training that tended so largely to his future success.

From 1843 to 1860 he was largely engaged in the manufacture and sale of stoves, but from well-remembered causes, which wrecked so many prominent houses at that time, his firm, known under the name of Treadwell, Perry & Norton, was compelled to suspend. This embarrassment, however, did not discourage him; he still had the confidence of the public, and what is, perhaps, of equal value, unconquerable energy. These advantages soon enabled him to resume business, and so successfully, that in a few years it far exceeded any former limits. It will be readily perceived that this success was due to Mr. Perry's habits and business capabilities. His experience enlarged his views of the relations of business, quickened his insight into difficult problems, rendering him more vigilant in keeping well informed in all the details of business life. Few men are more accomplished in the particulars which make the successful business man than he.

Notwithstanding the great demands upon his time, he allows nothing to suffer for lack of attention. Having devoted, through many years, the early hours of morning and late hours of the night to his pursuits, he may justly be considered one of the most industrious and laborious of men. Promptness and method are among his most prominent characteristics, and it is in a large degree owing to these qualities that he has been enabled to accomplish so much. By his quick perception and intuition, his decisions, soon reached, are rarely wrong.

Identified from an early period of his life with the stove interests of the country, he has perhaps done as much as any man to make that industry a power of acknowledged influence. Chief among the causes that have contributed to this result, has been the formation of the National Association of Stove Manufacturers, of which he held the office of First President for several years, the object being to cement more closely, both in business and social bonds, the different members of the trade throughout the United States. In the formation and development of this organization, Mr. Perry has been one of the chief actors and its early and persistent advocate. He saw other trades rising rapidly in wealth and influence by similar organizations, and he asked the co-operation of the stove trade for the same end, believing that the principle of co-operation was a correct one, and that "in the multitude of counselors there is wisdom." Having thus determined upon the course to be pursued, he was not content to sit and theorize, but threw himself heartily into the work both by voice and pen. Under his auspices six or more important conventions were held in different parts of the country, and more than twenty since under his successors, and the result is that to-day the stove manufacture is one of our most important industries, and its history is replete with interest. But it is not our purpose here to pursue it in detail. It is a specialty of modern date, little being known of it sixty years ago. It was inaugurated to a great extent by Joel Rathbone and William V. Many & Co., in Albany, N. Y., some fifty-five years ago, since which time it has continued to increase from year to year, until, in 1885, not less than 300,000 tons of iron were converted into over 2,500,000 stoves and various utensils, for which some $40,000,000 was realized by the manufacturers. At present there are in the United States over 250 stove and hollow-ware foundries. The headquarters of the manufacture in this State may be said to be in Albany and Troy, these two cities together probably manufacturing more stoves, hollow-ware, furnaces and their appliances, than any other two cities in the Union. Among the great establishments in Albany which are regarded as truly representative, is the house of Perry & Co., composed of John S. Perry and Nathan B. Perry, of Albany; Andrew Dickey, of Sing Sing; and John B. Hughes, of Chicago, Ill., their works being one of the oldest for the manufacture of iron-castings north of the Highlands.

Warner Daniels, their early predecessor, made stoves as early as 1813. The immediate successors of Mr. Daniels were William V. Many & Co., before mentioned, who were also pioneers in this business. Previous to 1835, stoves were mostly made in blast-furnaces in New Jersey and Pennsylvania direct from the ore, instead of from the pig metal as at present. In 1843, William B. Treadwell and John S. Perry succeeded to the business, and conducted it with some intervening changes until 1862, since which it has been carried on by Perry & Co. The offices and ware-rooms of the firm are three, viz.: 115 Hudson avenue, Albany; 84 Beekman street, New York; and 15 & 17 Lake street, Chicago, Ill. The Albany works employ about 250 men and produce 3,000 tons of stoves annually, and the works in Sing Sing Prison employ 900 convicts and 200 citizens, and produce in the same time 6,500 tons, thus giving a total production of 9,500 tons, or about 90,000 stoves, representing in sales about $1,250,000. The market for these goods is not confined to the United States, orders coming from almost every part of the world—from China, Japan, Germany, Norway, Turkey, Africa, South America and other countries being of considerable importance.

Such are Mr. Perry's manufacturing interests, and such his extended relations to this great American industry, relations which, as we have said, give Albany a place in the stove business second to none in the Union.

We will now speak of his character as a citizen.

In 1846, he was united in marriage to Mary J. Willard, of Plattsburgh, N. Y. Eight children were born to this marriage, four of whom survive. Mrs. Perry died in 1864.

His second marriage took place in 1867, to Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Thompson, of Woburn, Mass., by

whom he had one daughter. This lady dying in 1869, his third marriage took place, in 1871, to Adaline L. Jones, of Brooklyn, N. Y., who still survives.

His eldest daughter is the wife of Rev. William Tatlock, D.D., of Stamford, Conn.

Mr. Perry has long been a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Albany, one of the oldest churches in the United States, and is now Senior Warden of that Parish.

He is a member of the Advisory Board of the Young Men's Christian Association, and of the Albany Philharmonic Society; also one of the Board of Trustees of the Albany Railroad Christian Association.

He is a Director of the National Exchange Bank of Albany, and a Trustee of the Albany Exchange Savings Bank.

It is thus seen that Mr. Perry's life has not only been active and enterprising, but useful; devoted to the promotion of religion, education, and whatever tends to the refinement and cultivation of the capital city. He has never sought nor accepted political preferment of any kind. He divides his time, to a certain extent, in agricultural pursuits, which tends largely to the preservation of his health.

He is what may be termed a well-preserved man; vigorous, both mentally and physically. He possesses many attractive social qualities and a fondness for society, in which he is a favorite.

Mr. Perry is very fond of music and books, and an appreciative and somewhat diligent reader of some of the best authors. There are very few men whose life, habits and associations tend more directly to rational and high-minded enjoyments; it is therefore no affectation to say that, in a work like this, which contains a record of the men and of the events which make up the history of the capital city, no one is entitled to more honorable mention in it than this gentleman.

NAIL WORKS.

In colonial days nails were manufactured altogether by hand. Previous to 1750, the rolling-mills of New England were chiefly employed in making nail rods, from which spikes, or large nails were hammered out. The farmers, in leisure hours, made large nails for their own use.

The act of Parliament of 1750, prohibiting the erection of slitting or rolling-mills in the colonies, made the importation of nails necessary until the Revolution. In 1775, Jeremiah Wilkinson, of Connecticut, commenced making cut tacks for his own use, cutting them from sheet iron, and heading them in a smith's vice. The process was afterwards extended to small nails. In 1795 the Connecticut Legislature regulated the manufacture of nails made for sale or exportation, fixing their length and the weight per thousand of each of the several sizes from two to twenty pennies.

In 1787, Garret Whitbeck opened a nail factory in Orange street, near the high Dutch Church, making 8s and 10s at a shilling per pound, and 20s and 24s at eleven pence. In the same year Stevenson, Douw & Ten Eyck erected a similar establishment in the city. Jacob Perkins' machine for cutting and heading nails was patented January 16, 1795. The world is indebted to Thomas Blanchard, of Massachusetts, for the wonderful modern machinery for making all kinds of nails. In 1819, John Brinkerhoff, of Albany, erected on the east side of the river, now in Troy, a small rolling-mill for making iron plates, that were cut into nails and headed by hand. These works were among the first then in existence in the State of New York, and were afterwards bought by Corning & Norton, of Albany, which firm subsequently became Corning, Winslow & Co. and Erastus Corning. The works included rolling-mills, carriage-axle factory, spike and nail factories, the annual product being about 30,000 tons.

TOWNSEND FURNACE AND MACHINE-SHOP.

No single family has done more for the progress of Albany's manufacturing interests, and the promotion of its commercial welfare than that of Townsend. The present furnace and machine-shop was founded by Isaiah and John Townsend, who were born at Sterling, Orange County, where were forged, during the Revolution, the links of the chain which was to have been stretched across the Hudson River to prevent the ascent of the British ships of war. A part of this chain can now be seen in the State Geological Hall. Mr. Townsend acquired a knowledge of the iron business from his relative, Solomon Townsend, an iron merchant in New York. His brother John, in 1804, became associated in the foundry business, and together they were the pioneers in this industry in this part of the State. This partnership was terminated in February, 1838, by the death of Isaiah. They were prominently identified with many of the enterprises by which this city has been benefited. They were in intimate relationship with all the foremost business men of their day, and materially aided De Witt Clinton in his project of the Erie Canal.

From 1838 to 1849, John Townsend carried on the foundry business as the surviving member of the firm of I. & J. Townsend. At the latter date it passed into the hands of Franklin and Theodore Townsend, the former a son of Isaiah, and the latter a son of John Townsend, the original proprietors. This partnership was continued for seven years, when Theodore withdrew and Franklin became sole proprietor, remaining as such until 1867, when George P. Jackson, who had acted as General Superintendent since 1851, became a partner, the firm becoming Townsend & Jackson. Rufus K. Townsend, son of Franklin, took his father's place in the firm, and in 1882, the year of Mr. Jackson's death, became sole owner.

The plant is of brick, four stories high; walls 130 x 180 feet, and is located on Broadway, Rensselaer and Mulberry streets, fronting on the Hudson. They have a large collection of patterns, the accumulation of three generations, to which they

have added those of the Albany Eagle Furnace, the West Troy Foundry, the Archimedes Works, New York, and the McGinnis Machine Works. Mill gearing and machinery castings of all kinds are made; 100 men are employed. Annual output, $125,000. Zethro Wood, inventor of the cast-iron plowshare, had his first plows made in this foundry.

Under the able management of Rufus K. Townsend, this establishment has not merely maintained, but increased its reputation in manufacturing circles.

John T. Brady is book-keeper for this house. In 1884 he was elected Supervisor, to represent the Fifteenth Ward.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

The Wheeler and Melick Company, founded in 1830 by Messrs. Wheeler, Melick & Co., are the leading manufacturers of agricultural machinery in the county. In 1872 the firm took in associates, and a stock company, with $200,000 capital, was organized, the present firm name being adopted.

The works are on Hamilton and Liberty streets, and cover nearly an entire block. The main building is of brick, three-stories high. Horse-powers, steam engines, power-threshers and cleaners, plow-sulkies, improved harrows, dump-rakes, clover-hullers, fodder-cutters, mills, etc., are made. One hundred and twenty-five men are employed, and the annual output reaches $500,000.

The present officers are E. Wacterhagen, President; Peter Melick, Treasurer; George C. Lee, Secretary; and James H. Melick, Superintendent.

The products of this Company find a market throughout the country and the world. Their machines are of modern styles, and are kept up to the latest improvements, and include a supply of everything called for in progressive agriculture. No firm has done more to produce labor-saving machines for the farmer.

The extensive agricultural and machine works of Peter K. Dederick & Co. are located at Tivoli Hollow. They are the sole manufacturers of the Dederick Patent Hand and Power Presses; also wire-baling ties, and all tools used in connection with baling hay; horse and steam hoisting-engines, self-dumping wood and iron cars, horse and steam-power brick machines, and portable steam engines.

The popular Wood Mowing Machine and Reaper was manufactured here a few years ago; but its works have lately been transferred to the West.

IRON-WORKS.

The iron foundry of Isaiah Page & Son, 58, 60 and 62 Liberty street, was established in 1832 by Isaiah Page, Sr., at Federal Stores, but in 1835 was removed to Chatham. In 1850 the present site was secured. Isaiah Page's son, William B., was admitted as a partner in 1883. Isaiah Page died in 1885, since which time his son has conducted the business. The foundry is 100 x 180 feet in dimensions. Sixty molders and other skilled iron workers are employed. Mr. Page is a member of the firm of Page & Sill, succeeding to the interest of his father in this firm. Isaiah Page was one of the great iron manufacturers of Albany, and a business man of great energy and worth.

The iron and machine-works of Prince & Ott was established by Starks & Pruyn in 1845, who were shortly afterwards succeeded by Pruyn & Lansing, and they, in turn, in 1869, by Henry C. Haskell. In 1884, Lawrence J. Prince and Herman Ott became proprietors of the works. The establishment is located at Nos. 9 and 11 Church street, and is embraced in a four-story brick building, 30 by 75 feet in dimensions. About fifteen skilled mechanics are employed. The products consist of steam engines and machinery of all kinds, wrought and cast-iron railings, castings, gratings, steam-pipes and fittings, bank vaults and doors. They built the 320 horse-power engine now in use at the Albany blast furnace, and the engine now in use at the Government Printing office at Washington. The work of this establishment is known for its general excellence.

The firm composed of T. J. Sullivan and P. Ehler, under the firm name of Sullivan & Ehler, makes a specialty of manufacturing steam engines. Their plant is located at 166, 168 and 170 Broadway, and consists of a two-story brick building. Sixty men are employed in the various departments, and their products are sold throughout the United States. They also manufacture bridge and iron-work, safes and bank vaults, iron roofs, shutters, railings, filter presses, pumps, cast and wrought-iron tanks, and iron machinery of all kinds. The products of this house bear a high reputation in the trade.

James McKinney & Son are well-known iron-founders and manufacturers of architectural iron furnishings, such as pillars, gates, railings, and all kinds of iron cornices, caps, etc., for building purposes, at 925 to 933 Broadway.

Peter C. Lauder, who resides at 102 North Pearl street, is a practical machinist of recognized ability. For twenty-eight years he has been in the employ of the New York Central Locomotive Works at West Albany, and for twenty-one years foreman of the machinist department. He was born in the City of Schenectady in 1835.

The Novelty Iron Foundry was founded May 1, 1881, the members of the firm being S. J. Haight and J. W. Clark.

Their works at 16 and 18 DeWitt street consist of a three-story brick building and a one-story foundry, where forty workmen are employed. They manufacture fine machinery castings, piano and organ castings, and those for ornamental work. They make a specialty of small gray iron castings of great smoothness and fine quality of iron.

The Capital City Malleable Iron Company was incorporated in 1882. The works, corner Fourth Avenue and Broadway, are a one-story foundry, 130 x 180 feet, and a five-story brick building, containing machine and pattern-shops, office, etc. Mower and reaper castings for all agricultural implements, also carriage irons and unfinished sad-

dlery hardware, are made. Mr. A. Winterburn is President. Seventy-five men are employed.

DARIUS S. WOOD

was born in Westboro, Worcester County, Mass., in July, 1821, and died in Albany, February 15, 1881. He was a son of Joel A. and Louisa (Simpson) Wood. Acquiring such education as was available to him, he studied engineering at the shops of the Boston and Worcester Railroad in Boston. Familiarizing himself with the construction and operation of the locomotive, he entered the ranks of the early locomotive engineers, and is distinguished in the local history of railroading as having run the first locomotive attached to a passenger train on the Boston and Albany Railroad into Greenbush.

February 18, 1862, he was appointed by the late Erastus Corning, Superintendent of the Wood-work Department of the New York Central Railroad Company at Niagara Falls, and later he was promoted to the superintendency of the Company's works at West Albany.

The bent of his mind was original and inventive, and while thus employed he invented and patented a box-car of very ingenious construction, which was much in use at a later period; and at the time of his death he had many improvements under way, which, had he lived to complete them, it is believed would have become valuable in their application to mechanical uses. He was justly regarded as one of the most skillful workers in iron in Albany. The making of the larger and more bulky, as well as the finer and more delicate, parts of machinery, were alike easy to him. About 1866 he became proprietor of the Malleable Iron-works at the corner of Westerlo and Franklin streets, which he managed with success and profit until his death. These were sold to the present proprietors in the settlement of his estate. For a time, previous to embarking in this enterprise, he was owner and manager of the brewery now known as Dobler's. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Malleable Iron-works at Oshawa, Canada, where he gave the benefit of his counsel, as well as of his means, and remained for weeks supervising the construction of the works. In everything that pertained to the manufacturing and commercial interests of Albany, and to its general prosperity, Mr. Wood was deeply interested, and he was known as one of the city's most prominent and public-spirited citizens. A Republican in political faith, he took an intelligent interest in all public affairs; but he had no ambition to shine in politics, and though often solicited to accept office, resolutely kept out of political life. A genial, whole-souled man, his social qualities made him popular with all classes. He was married, in 1842, to Miss Adeline Smith, of Pittsfield, Mass., who, with one daughter, survives him. His career was that of a man self-made in the best and truest sense of the term. His most conspicuous characteristics were industry, integrity and foresight—qualities which insured his success in business life and gained him the honor and admiration of all with whom he associated. His nature was kindly, he was liberal in his thoughts, just in his dealings and charitable in an unostentatious way. His death was regretted as deeply and as sincerely as that of any man who has died in Albany for years, and he is referred to as having left the impress of his energetic personality on the town and its institutions.

ALBANY STEAM TRAP COMPANY.

The manufacture of return steam traps was begun in this city, in 1871, by Townsend & Blessing, and conducted by them until 1875, when the present Albany Steam Trap Company was incorporated. The steam trap was the invention of James H. Blessing, of this city, and it is claimed was the first practical device for returning the water of condensation, under pressure, back to the boiler, ever used. It has now been in successful use for fourteen years, and has become a necessity wherever steam is used.

The Company own and control about twenty-five patents on steam traps and processes of returning condensed water to the boiler under pressure.

The executive officers of the Company are as follows: General Frederick Townsend, President; J. H. Blessing, Secretary, Treasurer and General Superintendent; and H. H. Martin, Trustee. Office and works, 78 and 80 Church street.

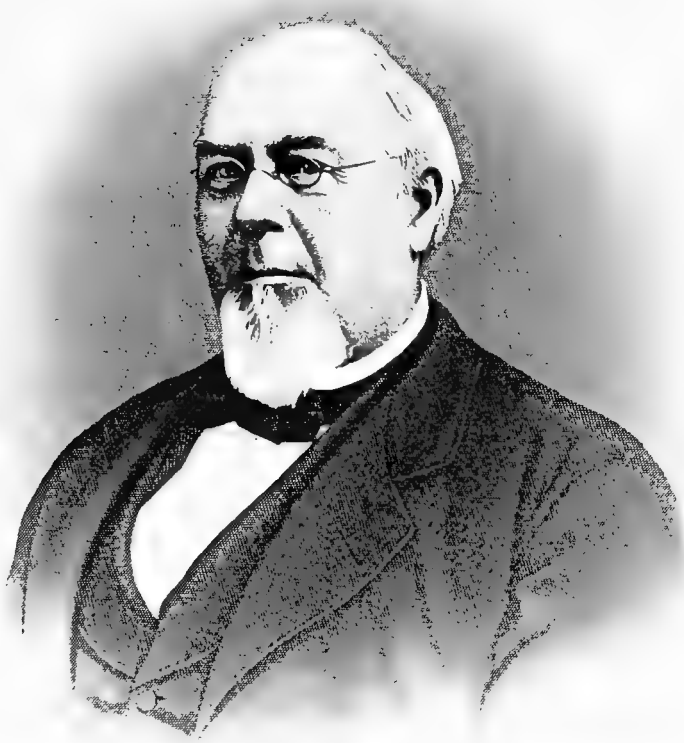
BOILERS, ENGINES AND OTHER BULKY IRON MACHINES AND FURNISHINGS.

In 1863, David F. Skinner and Joseph Arnold began the manufacture of steam engines and boilers in this city, on the south side of Herkimer street, and removed to 199 Broadway, their present location, in 1869. Their boiler shop is 35 x 200 feet in dimensions. They employ seventy-five to one hundred men, and manufacture engines, boilers, steam pumps, elevators and tanks.

Robert Livingston and Patrick Shevlin commenced the manufacture of boilers and tanks in 1866, under the firm name of Livingston & Shevlin. January 10, 1877, the firm was dissolved. Since then the business has been conducted solely by Mr. Shevlin. The premises consist of a two-story brick building, 34 x 74 feet and an addition 29 x 60 feet, on the corner of Church and Herkimer streets. Twenty-four men are employed in the manufacture of all kinds of stationary and marine boilers.

E. D. Ransom & Co., corner Church and Mulberry streets, manufacturers of foundry facings and founders' supplies, succeeded Messrs. Charles & Co. in 1883, the house having been founded in 1879 by the latter. The manufactory is a two-story stone building, supplied with a fifty horse-power steam engine. Fifteen men are employed. They also make the "Charles" stove polish. The members of the firm are E. D. Ransom, James D. Wasson and J. Sanford Ransom.

Michael Huber & John J. Hartnett established their iron foundry, 37 Liberty street, in 1880.



D. J. Wood

They occupy the old Cornell foundry, 35 x 45 feet. Fifteen mechanics are employed. Iron castings of all kinds are made.

ALBANY SAW WORKS

were established in 1855 by Messrs. Robert H. Pruyn and Charles B. Lansing, under the name of the Albany Iron and Saw Works, in connection with the Albany Iron-works. In 1879, the present firm, consisting of Edward Y. Lansing, a son of the founder, and James Goodwin, who has been connected with the business from its foundation, succeeded to it, their predecessors being J. T. Lansing & Co., of which firm both were members.

All styles of saws are made by them, and they also deal in files, grindstones, etc. They have invented many improvements for the manufacture of their goods. Their factory, a three story brick building, is located on the corner of Church and Bleecker streets, having a frontage of 100 feet on each street, and runs through to Herkimer street.

FILES AND RASPS.

John A. Smyth, in 1859, founded the present firm of Smyth & Sons, manufacturers of the "Beehive" files and rasps. Their works are the oldest of the kind in Albany, and are located on Church and Herkimer streets. Frederick S. Morris became a member of the firm in 1878. All styles of files and rasps are produced. They also recut files.

CAR-WHEELS.

In 1852, George H. Thacher began the manufacture of car-wheels and railroad castings in Albany. In 1857, Daniel S. Lathrop became a partner, under the firm name of G. H. Thacher & Co. In 1873, John Boyd Thacher became a partner. The firm became known as Thacher, Lathrop & Co. This continued until the death of Mr. Lathrop, in 1883, Since 1873, John Boyd Thacher and his brother, George H. Thacher, Jr., have had charge of the works. Most of the car-wheels of the New York Central Railway are made by this firm. The works are located on the corner of Learned and Thacher streets. Daniel P. Fales has been Superintendent of these works for several years. Personal biographies of the individual members of this enterprising firm follow.

DANIEL S. LATHROP

was born in Albany, April 13, 1825, the eldest son of Dyer and Jane (Shields) Lathrop. "His first American ancestor," says his memorialist, "was the Rev. John Lathrop, of Barnstable, who was the first to enlighten the dark regions of America with the Christian ministry, and whose name shines brilliantly upon the pages of that catalogue which Cotton Mather made of New England worthies." It was at the old Albany Academy that Mr. Lathrop gained his rudimentary education. He was sent at the age of about fourteen to the boarding school of Rev. Mr. Bulkley, in Rensselaer County, N. Y. "After having acquired here," continues his memorialists, "a useful, and the foundation of a classical, education, he returned home and remained for a time in his father's mercantile house." About the time he attained his majority, he secured a position with Messrs. F. J. Bernard & Co., at that time a prominent firm of lumber dealers, having previously served as a clerk in one of the State Departments, and also as a clerk in one of the banking institutions of Albany. Industrious and frugal, he saved much of his salary, intending to engage in business. He formed the acquaintance of a prominent railroad magnate named Morgan, well known in the western part of the State, who, divining the material of which the young man was made, assisted him by advice in making some investments by which Mr. Lathrop added to his capital, and was thus enabled, in 1857, to purchase an interest in the car-wheel manufacturing business of Mr. George H. Thacher. The firm name was then changed to George H. Thacher & Co.; and again, in 1873, by the admission of Hon. John Boyd Thacher to a partnership in the business, to Thacher, Lathrop & Co. Mr. Lathrop's relations in this enterprise terminated only with his death. Mr. Lathrop though never mingling much in the politics of the day, was induced, in 1850, to represent his ward in the Common Council, a duty which he discharged with credit and honor. This was the only public position he ever occupied. He was actively interested in some of Albany's home institutions. He was prominently identified with the Albany City Bank and the Union National Bank, and at the time of his death was a Trustee of the Rural Cemetery Association; of the Albany Gaslight Company; and of the Watervliet Turnpike and Horse Railroad Company.

The following extract from Hon. John Boyd Thacher's admirable memorial of Mr. Lathrop, which has already been quoted from, will afford no more than a just estimate of his character and life.

"Mr. Lathrop was best known to the public as one engaged in commercial pursuits, and it is proper to refer briefly to his characteristics as a business man. That was the field of his largest activities. In the college and university there obtains a notion, as fallacious as it is hampering and narrowing, that, compared to the professional life, a career devoted to business pursuits is low, sordid, base. But if there is a sphere which requires moral culture and intellectual ability, it is that in which the labor of man receives and develops the labor of the earth. The credit of a nation depends not so much upon the professional man; not so much upon the public man and statesman; not so much upon the yeoman; as upon those men of brain and nerve who initiate and prosecute to successful issue great industries and commercial missions.

"Mr. Lathrop at an early age made choice of a business life, and his career reflects credit on himself and offers to the youth of this generation an eminent example. Honor and truth were

natural to him and he soon acquired order, obedience, a conception of the true value of money, and a knowledge of life. He never valued money for itself, nor sought it as an end, but simply because he saw that, rightly used, it contributes to the sum of human happiness and the advancement of the human race. He conducted business upon so firm a basis, and in regions so unexposed, that his affairs seldom touched precarious or doubtful ground. So nicely did caution wait on impulse, that success was the natural end of venture. His sense of commercial honor was keen and sensitive. In the conducting of affairs he was always consistent with the worth and greatness of his own nature. He exhibited in his transactions with others that element of honor which we sometimes speak of as dignity. The highest motives, the best principles, governed all that he did, and he bent his work to square with his design. Perhaps one of the most prominent features of his character was his inherent and positive love of the truthful. His veracity was that of fact. His statements were actual and real; no man's saying was ever falsely colored by him. His speech of other men was never insincere. His devotion to truth was the old knightly spirit of devotion, and having fought his fight, he laid down his escutcheon, fair, bright, spotless.

"Lord Shaftesbury says we should observe and speak of a man's understanding as we would of his face. That nature characterizes a mind as peculiarly and distinctly as she sets her hand to features. As nature gave to Mr. Lathrop a face strikingly comely and attractive, so with plenary indulgence, she gave him an understanding of uncommon power and symmetry.

"A philosopher would require us to include in understanding, the power to perceive and the power to make use of perceptions. The cast of Mr. Lathrop's mind was such that it mirrored a subject by almost instantaneous mental photography, and then by combination and comparison it perfected its relation to a point or query. Mental operations were performed by him apparently without the tedious steps traveled by the ordinary mind. Nor was the work of his mind less perfect for its winged flight, nor less sound for its quick construction. This peculiar power was of use to him in those calculations of pennies and of pounds incidental to business life. They were of a better use. On questions of moment they enabled him to foretell an end to problems for the detailed working of which years had to be enrolled, and the answer the years gave was his. One could follow his leading safely and adopt his judgment with assurance. To this quickness of perception he united a research that never wearied. All the enthusiasm of the ardent explorer burned within him. Men, measuring his success by the field in which he seemed to work, were wont to attribute to chance and good fortune that which was the result of purpose and of aim. They sometimes mistook the production of toil and care for benevolence fallen from the wind. But those who knew him knew how careful were his investigations and how constant his watchfulness. His coins were not stamped by the fingers of Midas, but rather they recorded the quest of Jason.

"He was a student of geography, of history, and of the world's physical requirements. Particularly he studied the needs of localities in our own country, and the resources from which they might satisfy and gratify these needs.

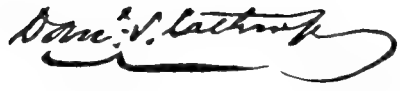
"The intricate net-work of railways which lie between the two oceans, were as familiar to him as were his own garden-paths. Surely there must be a difference between that position which makes a man buy railroad interests, and railroad promises, when he has no knowledge of the location of the railway, and is ignorant of the force of its obligation, and that disposition which decides a man in acquiring ownership in railways, when he is familiar with their relative positions, conditions and prospects.

"Wealth, properly obtained, comes to no man spontaneously. Acquaintance with the circumstances of its possession will generally reveal the mental shovel and the intellectual barrow. It was so with the acquired property of Mr. Lathrop. It came to him as the legitimate wages of mind and body. It grew and increased because fostered with prudence and management.

"He was much given to the serious study of political economy, and held and argued the belief of our nation's commercial liberty. He thought the ability of a nation to fight unassisted would certainly argue its ability to stand alone. He was not only familiar with the writings of those who had given their opinions and theories to the world upon the commercial relations of nations, but he corresponded not infrequently with some very capable modern writers upon this subject, and was accustomed, when in conversation upon this topic, to maintain his opinions with vigor and persistency.

"He carefully considered the relation existing, and which should exist, between the government and the governed. Here too he held very strong and pronounced views. During the dark days of our civil war, Mr. Lathrop's purse and hand were at the service of his country. He was a bitter foe to those principles which were hostile to our happiness, prosperity and continuance as a people. At this time, when many were accustomed to construe very loosely their duty in responding by proportionate exactions to the support of the public service, he cheerfully and generously contributed whatever the Government required of him. What was a civil burden to others, was to him a civil and solemn duty.

"Mr. Lathrop indulged in but few relaxations from the cares of business. The only prominent pursuit leading at all away from his daily occupation, was the breeding of horses, and even here his motive was practical, and by care and wisdom he sought to develop a race of horses which should prove more serviceable to man. He studied the anatomy of the horse, and could learnedly explain at which point nature had made provision for higher development. He knew almost immedi-



ately when he saw a horse in distress how and where to apply relief.

"He was accustomed frequently to express his views as to the treatment and development of this faithful servant of the human race in the different journals devoted to this important subject, and more than all he directly, and through unsuspected channels, worked constantly and effectively to prevent the ignorant and reckless use upon the horse of those modern appliances which, while they are supposed to increase, only destroy his strength, his speed and his beauty. Mr. Lathrop belonged to several organizations whose object it is to improve the horse, and here he was recognized as the intelligent breeder and the charming gentleman.

"The social element in Mr. Lathrop's, character was strong and conspicuous. Not that he cared for what we generically term society. It was in the little coterie where friend was knit to friend by sincere affection, that his light most brilliantly shone. His humor was pleasant and happy, never harmful or degenerate. The grasp of his hand meant confidence. His smile was an invitation to amity. A Christian minister has said that he never met him but that he felt that he was in the sunshine. In his friendship he was frank, sincere, true and loyal. His manners belonged not to our generation, but to that of our fathers, when courtesy between man and man was cultivated; when politeness was reciprocal; when there was deportment without affectation and formality without coldness. Prosperity gave him all the chastening worth of adversity.

"The conversational powers possessed by Mr. Lathrop were generally commented upon by those who know him. His discourse was rich in word and thought. The well-filled storehouse of his information was drawn upon readily by his facile tongue, and he generously provided his hearers with the wholesomeness of instruction and the delicacy of entertainment.

"His descriptive powers were marvelous. His friends will remember how familiar he made them with the scenes through which he passed when on a visit to California in 1866. He displayed all the richness of imagery without intrenching upon the ground of imagination. The extent of his vocabulary was shown by his seldom clothing an idea twice with the same words or terms. Thus the repetition of a story had ever a new charm. In some of his talking moods we have never heard a professional advocate speak with such clearness of argument or such flow of diction.

"Though he wrote remarkably well, the mere mechanical act of writing seemed to make him guarded in his words, and over-careful of his expressions. The fountain of his thought had its flow through the tongue rather than the pen.

"A man's charity and his religion are two subjects which always seem hedged about by a certain sacredness. In these days benevolence is often easily described by the word *subscription*, and religion by the word *ceremony*.

"To one who heard the anxious inquiries of the poor for Mr. Lathrop's condition from day to day as he lay ill, and their tender expressions of solicitude as he drew near the time of his departure, there would be little need to speak of him as their friend; made so by a lively interest in their poverty, and the warmth of a helpful hand.

"Surely Mr. Lathrop ought not to reap sparingly, for he did not sow sparingly. He gave without stint, and the pensioners who were about him did him more honor and sincere service than hired or liveried retinues. He preferred not to have his name appear upon subscription books, but we known of no charities, without distinction of sect, to which he did not contribute. His benevolence did not have its rise in the annoyance which comes from importunity, but from quick and deep sympathy with the unfortunate, and his abiding reverence for the Divine commandments which encircle duty.

"Mr. Lathrop never made a parade of the views he entertained concerning his relations to the Creator. He occupied the attitude of one who stood with reverence and faith before that which he did not comprehend. He was like one who held a hand in the darkness. The evanescence of all earthly things; the obligations of rectitude and honor; the certainty of death, and, after death, the resurrection, were mementoes embodied in his creed. Some weeks before his death, when his spirits were vigorous, and there was hope of his soon regaining his bodily powers, he told the writer in earnest words of his entire submission to the Divine will, and of the peace and contentment he felt in the Divine guidance.

"How excellent then were the qualities of him we mourn; how fragrant shall be his memory! As we dwell upon his character, whatever of failure the most sifting search can find, we shall perceive to be but the imperfection which belongs to incompleteness. The earthly tabernacle man erects is never faultless. His was a sturdy and withal a stately building.

"If he had great business sagacity, it was mortised to the most unyielding probity. If he had forethought, there was with it exceeding great charity. If in his giving he was profuse, yet never was he wasteful. If he was genial and companionable, he practiced the restraint of temperance. If he exacted equity, he rendered to all men justice and their rights. If he exhibited the strength of unusual activity and energy, he likewise displayed the strength of reserve force and funded power. If he at times gave the rein to impatience, the sun and his wrath never traveled far together. If he recognized the responsibility of human agency in the making of events, he relegated to the Deity the providence, the mystery and the glory of the Divine government."

Mr. Lathrop was married, in 1855, to Miss Harriet Wilson, who, with their three daughters, Jeannie W., Christine M., and Aimee G. Lathrop, survive him.

Nothing that could be introduced here by way of comment upon Mr. Lathrop's charities would add to the measure of apprecation thereof expressed in Mr. Thacher's memorial. A brief mention of some of their most prominent objects may be indulged in, however, more as a gratification to those

who have such good cause to remember him gratefully than because it is at all necessary as an addition to what has already been so well said of Mr. Lathrop in that respect. He was specially interested in, and more than generous to, St. Peter's Hospital, Bishop Doane's Children's Convalescent Home, and the Old Ladies' Home. Many will remember his noble charity, in the summer of 1882, to the crippled children sojourning at Saratoga—how he took them on an excursion to the head of the lake, and gave them a handsome dinner there; how in person he carried some of the disabled ones, and spoke words of kindness to them all; how, when a generous neighbor proposed to share the expense with him, he said, "No, this is my treat; you can, if you please, take them another time." He was accustomed to remark that "people are very apt to be generous when it is not necessary that they should be so. A man will loan $100, or $500, or perhaps give to a friend in the form of a present; but if by reverse of fortune that friend should come to poverty, and in his distress should wish to borrow $10, very likely it will be refused or loaned grudgingly." He was opposed to such misnamed frindship as this, and contended that if a person were really worthy of assistance and needed it, it should be accorded to him freely and in such a spirit as not to humiliate him or make him sorry to be its recipient.

HON. GEORGE H. THACHER.

The biography we have now to relate tells its own significant story. In firm courage under all difficulties; in a sublime moral heroism in the execution of the plans of a lifetime; and in marked results from perseverance, industry and integrity, it affords an example such as is seldom found.

Hon. George H. Thacher was born in Hornellsville, Steuben County, N. Y., June 4, 1818. His mother's maiden name was Hornell, and that town takes its name from the same family. At the age of four years he was cast upon the world in a condition of utter poverty, without friends, and as helpless as a leaf upon the waters. After many intervening struggles, he obtained, when sixteen years old, in 1834, the position of cabin-boy on a steamer on Lake Erie. There he earned his first money, which he expended in procuring an education, working early and late, before and after school, to pay his board. His was a reflective mind. While he was engaged in the humble, and even menial, duties of a cabin-boy, it was often occupied with thoughts of the future. He determined to rise above the station in which poverty and friendlessness had left him, and he foresaw that one of the most effective agencies in the battle before him would be an education. This he set about saving money to obtain, and at length, to his inexpressible joy, began his studies.

Not long after this he entered an academy, boarding himself during term time. He obtained the requisite amount of money by earning something each day in extra hours and in the vacations. All this required self-denial and providence of the most severe kind, but he felt fully repaid in the advancement which he was making on the road to knowledge. In a like manner he managed to get a passable collegiate education, graduating at Union College, Schenectady, in 1843.

Continuing the struggle of life with an indomitable will, he acquired a few thousand dollars. In 1849 he came to Albany, and entered into the business of manufacturing stoves, with a partner. This partnership was dissolved in 1852. Mr. Thacher then began the manufacture of car-wheels and other railroad castings which he has continued to the present time. During the first three years he labored daily at the foundry, at all kinds of manual work. He was constantly with his men, like them having his dinner sent to him, and in addition to this he kept his own books, wrote all receipts, statements, etc., and made all purchases and collections. The business has since largely increased from year to year. The New York Central Railway and other important roads are chiefly supplied with the wheels of this foundry.

It has not been alone to the commercial prosperity of the City of Albany that Mr. Thacher has contributed by his enterprise and public spirit; and his interest has not been confined to his own immediate business, however admirably the latter has been conducted. Long identified with municipal interests, his public life has been characterized by a devotion to duty and an integrity that have secured to him the highest esteem of his fellow-citizens. He was first elected to office in 1859, when he became an Alderman, but served only one year. In the spring of 1860 he resigned, in order to accept the nomination for Mayor, to which office he was triumphantly elected. In 1866 he was re-elected, and in 1870 he was a third time elected by a large vote. He was called to fill the same honorable position for the fourth time in 1872.

In every popular movement which for years has occurred, Mr. Thacher has been particularly conspicuous for his zeal, his generosity and his patriotism. In the support of the United States Government during the civil war, he was conspicuous—even above many whose labors and sacrifices in behalf of the Union cause were noteworthy. During his long and prominent identification with the history of the city, he has been called to take part in scenes of great importance and even national significance, which are detailed in his valuable and interesting reminiscences published elsewhere in this volume—scenes which, though Mr. Thacher was one of the most prominent actors in them, were of too great general interest, and belonged too much to history in its broader sense, to be dismissed in a mere sketch of his life.

Mr. Thacher is a man who has reached success by the most thorough personal identity with every plan of his life and its execution. Fortunate circumstances were in no sense means by which he sought or secured his ends. He did not expect anything of the kind, and he never lost time and patience, as so many do, in looking for them. He

Geo. H. Thacher

looked solely into his own heart and mind for the resolution and ability that were necessary to carve out success. This was not vanity, but the calm resolution of that higher nature which asserts and displays itself in those persons destined for victorious struggles with fortune.

He has now an ample competency, which it is his aim to use not simply for himself and family, but for the benefit of others. Remembering his own vicissitudes of life, and his hard battles with the world, he hopes to render himself useful to those who are struggling in the same way. Pure in character, generous with his means, enterprising in business, and public-spirited as a citizen, he fills the highest conceptions of a noble manhood.

In a personal conversation with Mr. Thacher, he said to the writer of this sketch: "Many people have an erroneous idea in regard to self-made men. The truth is that all men who attain meritorious distinction, whether born in affluence or poverty, are self-made men. Every man builds himself. He who is born to wealth; who is nursed and reared in luxury; whose entire surroundings are so many temptations to idleness, dissipation, or a life of pleasure; and yet, despite all these influences, makes a man of himself, deserves, in my judgment, more credit than he who rises from obscurity and poverty. Both are deserving, but the former exhibits the moral grandeur of self-denial, while the latter acts from the spur of necessity. I do not, therefore, lay claim to extra credit for the comparative success which I have achieved."

HON. JOHN B. THACHER.

Hon. John Boyd Thacher was born at Ballston Springs, N. Y., September 11, 1847. He is the eldest son of Hon. George H. Thacher, who was for many years Mayor of Albany. His mother was Ursula J. Boyd, daughter of David Boyd, Esq., of Schenectady. His first American ancestor was Rev. Thomas Thacher, who was the first pastor of the Old South Church of Boston. His father's maternal grandfather, Judge Hornell, was the founder of the important town of Hornellsville, N. Y.

To ex-Mayor George H. Thacher it is needless to allude in this connection, more than to pay, in passing, a tribute of respect to one who was once one of the most prominent business men of Albany, and who has been referred to as "that old war-horse of the Democracy, who, in years gone by, so often led the party to victory." In nothing the elder Thacher ever did, did he show sounder common sense than in the education he gave his son, John B., to fit him for the duties of life—an education so practical as to fully inform him upon the little understood conflicting claims of capital and labor. After the usual preparatory course, Senator Thacher entered Williams College, from which institution he graduated with honor in 1869. Far too many college graduates, and far too many fathers of college graduates, imagine that with a diploma and a degree the work of education comes to a full stop. The Thachers, father and son, made no such mistake. Throwing aside the broadcloth and white linen of the student, John B. Thacher entered his father's foundry, and, step by step, was taught the trade of a molder. He learned iron as he had previously learned books, and became as industrious a workingman as he had been a diligent student. His evenings were passed in taking a thorough course of book-keeping and accounts in Folsom's Business College. Having mastered his trade of molder, and become proficient in the details of the office work connected with his father's business, he became a member of his father's firm January 1, 1873, and not long afterward assumed active management of the concern.

With his brother, George H. Thacher, Jr., Senator Thacher carries on the manufacture of car-wheels, which business they inherited from their father, who established it more than thirty-five years ago. Their establishment, known as the Thacher Car Works, is one of the most extensive manufactories in Albany, and is located on Thacher street, east of Broadway.

During the protracted period mentioned, there have been many strikes in the city and county, and other serious labor troubles, growing out of one cause or another; but in all these years the firm of which Senator Thacher is a member has never had a word of difficulty with its employees. It is likely that the principal reason for this is to be discovered in the fact that the firm has always paid the highest price for skilled labor, and to-day is paying exactly the same schedule that it paid during the war, when wages were higher than they ever were before. Is there another firm in the country of which more can be said?

There is nothing of the professional labor reformer about Senator Thacher, but the simple statement of such a fact is worth more than columns of the most elaborate argument to any intelligent man.

Mr. Thacher's first active connection with public affairs was as a member of the Board of Health of Albany. While serving in that capacity, his attention was called to the subject of tenement houses and their relation to public health. While in New York during the winter of 1883–84, he further examined this subject, as a result of which investigation he introduced and carried through the Legislature a bill appointing a Commission, which afterward organized with Joseph W. Drexel, Esq., as Chairman, to examine into the character and condition of the tenement houses in the City of New York. From this Commission, so admirably adapted to pursue an inquiry of this kind, it is believed great benefits and much remedial legislation will flow. When Mr. Thacher stood before the public as the nominee of the Democracy for State Senator, to represent the Seventeenth District, he was referred to thus in one of the leading newspapers of Albany:

"In selecting a man to represent the County of Albany in the State Senate for the next two years, the Democratic party has acted with wisdom and discretion. It was important that the candidate placed in nomination should, in as large a sense as

possible, represent the whole people—labor as well as capital, brain as well as brawn, business as well as culture, thought as well as action. Such a man is John Boyd Thacher—young, active, enterprising, honorably ambitious, an Albanian by early adoption, by family, and by business and social interests.

* * * * * *

"Mr. Thacher has never held a political office, for membership in the Board of Health can hardly be called such; but from his youth he has taken an active and healthy interest in the affairs of the city, State and nation. In 1876 he tried public speaking for the national Democratic ticket, and did some effective work in this line in the southern tier of counties, in company with Mr. D. Cady Herrick and other Albanians; but with the modesty that so becomes him, he has waited for duty to call in unmistakable tones before accepting the nomination to any elective office. This honor came unsought; it was accepted with hesitation. Many a young man surrounded, as is Mr. Thacher, with the circumstances so well suited to his tastes, would have declined any demand that the party might make upon him; but the sentiment of the Democracy was so united, so cordial, so complimentary, that he decided to accept; upon which both he and the party are to be congratulated.

"He will bring to the office of State Senator the enthusiasm of youth and the method of a trained student. The county may expect from him the like care in relation to legislative matters that he has bestowed upon his own successful private business and upon the affairs of the Albany Board of Health. This was the first City Board of Health to organize under the new law. Mr. Thacher is Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Board, and he also compiled the rules and regulations. It was characteristic of him, before doing this, to collect from the principal cities in the Union copies of their rules and regulations on this subject; to con them carefully; to collate, to arrange, to adopt, to originate; and finally to report a set of rules and regulations, that, so far as Albany is concerned, could not be bettered. He will bring the same thoroughness to all public affairs intrusted to him. In him the New Capitol will find a firm friend, and an advocate of pushing the work to speedy and economical completion. In all the reforms instituted by Governor Cleveland, the Senator from the Seventeenth will be active and earnest. By instinct and by education, Mr. Thacher is Liberal in sentiment and Democratic in principle. On all the great questions of the day it is safe to assume that he will be found voting and acting with his party, and for the best interests of the district and of the State. He is a man of ideas; he knows how to present them. He will be a valuable man in committee, and on the floor of the Senate he can say all that is necessary, and in a manner convincing and effective. His reputation is without a stain. He is not only a man who cannot be bought, but he is a man whom no lobbyist would ever think of attempting to buy. He will represent Albany County thoroughly and well. Let us make his majority as large as possible."

Senator Thacher, as the resident Senator, took charge of the appropriation bill for carrying on work upon the New Capitol, and, after great opposition, successfully carried through a bill appropriating $1,000,000 for this purpose for the year 1884. He took pronounced grounds against the prison contract system, and made the first speech against it in the Senate February 6, 1884; a speech which appeared in full in the *Albany Argus* of February 7th, and was widely and favorably commented upon by true friends of the American workingman of all shades of political belief. He was instrumental in also passing a bill in the Senate appropriating money for clothing the National Guard of the State of New York. The bill had passed in the Assembly, but a majority of the Senators were opposed to it. Senator Thacher ably demonstrated the necessity of properly uniforming the only military organization upon which the citizens were dependent, and succeeded in inducing a sufficient number of Senators of both parties to vote for the bill, so that, during the last hours of the session, it was passed and became a law. Every measure which he thought likely to better the condition of the laboring man was ardently advocated by him. Perhaps the measure which he most persistently urged was an item in the appropriation bill to continue the State Trigonometrical Survey. This he contended for with vehemence, but after he had carried it through the Senate the item was stricken out by the Governor. This measure is of such a character as to attract the support of every intelligent citizen. It was because of the slow manner in which the work was carried on, it being restricted to a merely Trigonometrical Survey, and only $15,000 yearly being appropriated to it, that the Governor vetoed it, and not because he did not recognize, as Senator Thacher had done, the importance of the measure. Senator Thacher proposes to introduce a bill providing for supplementing the survey with one of a topographical and hydrographical character. The great State of New York is to-day absolutely without an even approximately correct map of its surface, an almost shameful deficiency which Senator Thacher is determined to do all within his power to remedy.

Senator Thacher was married to Miss Emma Treadwell, daughter of George C. Treadwell, Esq., of Albany, September 11, 1872. He devotes much of his time to literature and collecting rare and forgotten books, especially those produced in the infancy of printing, of which sort he has one of the largest libraries known. His library of Bibliographical works, his examples of Americana, and his collection of autographs are notable.

ICE BOXES.—SAW SETS.

Charles and John Croissant, sons of M. Croissant, under the firm name of Croissant & Brother, began in 1884 the manufacture of Keller's Patent Saw Set and Maas' Ice Box, at 204 Washington avenue. They also make Maas' Ice Box Lever and Pull.

John Boyd Thacher

WIRE GOODS.

A. Van Allen, Jr., 24 Beaver street, began manufacturing Wire Cloth and Wire Goods in this city in 1875, his concern being known as the Albany Steam Wire Works. His building is three stories, brick, 20 by 45 feet. About fifteen men are employed. Bank, office, and counter-railings, window screens, netting, arches, trellis frames, locomotive spark cloth, florists' designs, bird cages, and such like, are made.

IRON BRACKETS, SHOE-HOLDERS, HEEL STIFFENERS.

Nelson Lyon, in 1872, began the manufacture of heel stiffeners, show brackets, and shoe-holders. The business has grown from one ton yearly to over thirty tons, and they are sold in nearly all countries.

The factory is five stories, brick, 35 by 80 feet. Forty workmen are employed, beside trading agents. George Lyons became a member in 1875.

HARNESS AND SADDLERY GOODS, TRUNKS, AND COACH FURNISHINGS.

The business house now managed by Lyman J. Lloyd in the manufacture and sale of harness, saddles and trunks, dates back to 1801. Mr. Lloyd has continued the business since 1832, and ranks among the first in extent, variety, and excellence of articles in his line. He is widely and favorably known, and takes an honest pride in the long and honorable record of his house in this city. The building occupied is situated at 340 and 342 Broadway, is four stories, 32 by 75 feet in extent, and employs, besides salesmen, fifteen skilled workmen.

The business house of Woodward & Hill, dealers in carriage and saddlery hardware, was founded by Nathaniel Wright in 1819, on South Market street, now Broadway, a few doors north of the present location. Subsequently he moved to more pretentious quarters at 414 Broadway, corner of Beaver street; and in 1850, after the destruction of the Eagle Tavern by the great fire of 1848, to 324 Broadway, corner of Hamilton street. Mr. Wright was born in Wethersfield, Conn., and died in St. Peter's, Minn. February, 1854, the firm of Nathaniel Wright & Co., consisting of Nathaniel Wright, John Woodward, Jr., and William Washington Hill, was formed, continuing without change until the death of Mr. Wright, January, 1860, when the surviving partners, under the firm name of Woodward & Hill, continued the business, which has remained without further change to the present time. Their building is of brick, 30 by 120 feet, five stories and basement, erected by Edward C. Delevan.

W. W. Hill was born September 19, 1833, in Pittsfield, Mass. When three months old the family moved to Albany; thence to Hudson; back to Albany; thence to Lynn, where he had several terms of schooling at the Lynn Union Academy; and he returned with the family to Albany, entered the employ of Nathaniel Wright and became a member of the firm at the age of twenty. He is a student of nature as well as a business man, and has made extensive collections in entomology.

John Woodward entered the service of the late Nathaniel Wright when about fifteen years of age, and after several years accepted an offer of a position from the late Roswell Steele in the same line of business. About seven years after he re-entered that of Mr. Wright, who in 1854 took him and Mr. Hill in as partners.

The coach and saddlery hardware now at 420 Broadway, was established fifteen years ago by Roswell Steele, and conducted by him until his death, in 1864; succeeded by Taylor, Wendell & Co. Mr. Wendell retired in 1866, the firm then becoming Taylor, Hamlin & Co. Upon the death of Mr. Hamlin in 1872, the present firm name was adopted. They import and manufacture all kinds of coach and saddlery hardware and trimmings, and are manufacturers of carriage woodwork. The latter branch is in New Albany, Ind., where they employ one hundred workmen. The premises here consist of a five-story brick building, 26 by 75 feet. The firm consists of Elvin Taylor and his two sons, Joseph E. and Benjamin K. Taylor. Six clerks are employed in the store, and two representatives on the road.

DREDGES.

The Osgood Dredge Company has an office in this city at 37 State street. This Company makes the celebrated Osgood Boom Dredges, extensively used by the United States, Mexican and Chinese Governments, Panama Canal Company, New York State Canals, New York City Docks, Montreal Harbors, and the principal railroad and canal contractors throughout the country. It controls a number of American and foreign patents. This Company has been in existence over thirty years. Its machines are unsurpassed. Ralph R. Osgood, President; James McNaughten, Vice-President; and John K. Howe, Secretary and Treasurer.

Dredges are also made by the Townsend Furnace and Machine Shop.

EMERY WHEELS.

The Albany Emery Wheel Company was incorporated in 1881, with a capital of $30,000. The buildings, on the corner of Hudson avenue and Dove street, are of brick, two-stories high, and 50 by 100 feet in dimensions.

Solid emery and corundum wheels are made, also emery grinding machinery. A specialty is made of furnishing emery and corundum wheels from special designs.

The officers are W. B. Melick, President; E. Wackerhagen, Vice-President; M. Wackerhagen, Secretary and Treasurer; and James R. Melick, Superintendent.

TIN-PLATE GOODS AND JAPANNED WARE.

In 1847, John Hoy, Jr., and E. D. Goodrich commenced business at No. 15 Green street as dealers in and manufacturers of tin-plate goods and stamped and japanned ware. After the first year Mr. Goodrich withdrew his interest, and three years afterwards Mr. Hoy moved to No. 18 Green street, where he remained for twenty years, and eleven years ago took possession of his present quarters, No. 27 Green street. In May, 1850, Henry L. Wilson was taken into partnership. In 1853 Mr. Wilson withdrew from the firm, from which time, till 1873, Mr. Hoy conducted the business alone. At the latter date Thomas B. Kenney became a partner, and the firm as thus constituted remains. A business of $150,000 to $200,000 is done yearly, this trade extending to every part of the United States and Canada.

SILVER WARE.

The silver-ware manufactory of S. D. Brower & Son is one of the oldest of its kind in the country. The enterprise was established in 1815. In 1868 the present firm was organized, and consists of S. D. Brower and his son, Walter S. Brower. Their factory is located on Plain street, where employment is furnished to from twelve to twenty men. The products include a general line of silver ware.

The firm of R. Strickland & Co. is also engaged in this line of business at 516 and 518 Broadway.

NICKEL WORKS.

The Capital City Nickel Works, 29 Herkimer street, was founded in 1880 by John P. Moore, the present manager. The premises occupied consist of a two-story brick-building, 40 by 50 feet. All kinds of nickel-plate work is done, a specialty being the plating of stove ornaments, knobs, hinges, etc., etc.; polishing, grinding and finishing all work of this class. Twenty operatives are employed.

BRIDGES.

The Hilton Bridge Construction Company, building wrought-iron and railway bridges, was organized in 1880. The plant of the Company covers two acres, and consists of five buildings in which are 100 workmen, and 35 are employed on outside bridge work. The main building is two-stories high, and 120 by 44 feet. The machine shop is 130 by 82 feet, one-story high, and the engine-house is 30 by 30 feet.

This Company built a number of bridges for the West Shore Railroad, the Boston and Albany, the New York Central, the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, the Boston and Hoosac Tunnel Route, and for the Canada Pacific Railroad.

The officers are E. Sweet, Jr., President; A. P. Palmer, Secretary and Treasurer; and Charles Hilton, Manager. Mr. Hilton had charge of the construction of the Boston and Albany Railroad Bridge across the Connecticut River at Springfield, Mass., and the Vincent Place Viaduct at Rochester, N. Y. Mr. Hilton's death, which occurred last year, was much regretted by all who knew him.

BRICK MANUFACTURERS.

Among the very earliest industries of Albany was that of brick-making. The natural clay in this vicinity was particularly adapted to this business, and was utilized for this purpose as early as 1656–57, when Johan De Hulter, who came from Amsterdam, Holland, in 1653, was engaged in brick-making. He was, without doubt, the first person to conduct this kind of business in this part of the New World. In 1657, his kiln was sold by his wife to Adrian Jansen Ilpendam. In 1662, Abraham Staets and Pieter Jacobsen each had a kiln at Albany. The Corporation of Albany in 1732, granted to Lambert Radley and Jonathan Broecks, one acre of ground on Gallows Hill for the term of twenty years, for twenty shillings yearly, they to use the clay to make bricks. Near this site was the kiln of Luykas Hoghkerks. In 1736, Abraham Harpelse Van Deusen and Hendrick Gerritse Van Ness had a kiln on the north side of Foxen Creek. Wynant Vandenburgh made bricks near them.

It is often remarked that the earliest brick structures in this city were built of brick brought over from Holland. We think this is true of only a very few of them. The early Holland settlers understood the art of brick-making and found the material for it in plenty. No doubt they supplied the usual demand by home manufacture. Brick-yards, small and large, were very numerous in the clay beds near the creeks from earliest times.

In the first quarter of the present century, brick-making had grown to be an important industry in Albany. The average yield for many years after 1832 amounted to 16,000,000. In 1840 one hundred and thirty-three persons were engaged in brick-making here, representing a business in which $190,000 was invested. There are now ten brick-yards in Albany, which produce annually 30,000,000 to 40,000,000 bricks, most of which are used in the city and vicinity. One hundred and fifty men are employed in this industry.

In 1708, John Bryant commenced the manufacture of bricks in Albany, which he sold by the pound. Bryant's business grew to be quite extensive, and at one time he was considered the largest manufacturer in the State, and employed over one hundred men. His bricks sold for $10 and $12 per thousand. He continued the business for thirty-five years, when he sold his yard to Angus McDuffie, who conducted the business very extensively for a number of years. He employed two hundred men, and succeeded in realizing a large fortune from his business. In the latter years of his life he entered public life, and held a number of elective and appointive positions. At one time was Sheriff of Albany County, and was for many years Superintendent of Sing Sing Prison. He died November 3, 1845, highly esteemed as a citizen and public servant.

James C Moore

WILLIAM MOORE.—For many years the name of Moore has been one well known in Albany in connection with the manufacture of bricks. The first of the name connected with this interest of whom we have any record, was William Moore, father of James C. Moore, the present prominent brick manufacturer. Mr. Moore was born in County Down, Ireland, in 1795. He came to this country in 1822, and located in Albany soon after his arrival. For a time he was successfully engaged in carting, his business increasing gradually until it demanded the use of several wagons and teams. In 1844 he embarked in a small way in the manufacture of bricks at the head of Fourth avenue. His business rapidly assumed large proportions, and, after a time, in order to enlarge his facilities, he was compelled to remove his yard to the corner of Morton and Hawk streets. Mr. Moore retired in 1860, and was succeeded by his son, James C. Moore, who was so successful, that, about 1865, he found it expedient to establish a second yard south of Third avenue. Mr. Moore nndoubtedly manufactures more bricks than any other manufacturer in Albany. He makes both common and pressed brick; brings into requisition the latest and most costly facilities; and gives employment to not less than fifty workmen.

William Moore married Jane Campbell in Ireland before he sought a home in America. She bore him seven children, of whom only two are living. These are James C. Moore, who has been referred to above, and Robert H. Moore, of the firm of Moore & Zimmerman, lumber dealers. The former was born in 1831, and in 1875 was married to Anna Babcock, who has borne him one child. Mrs. William Moore died in 1869, her husband in 1876. Mr. Moore was a Whig, and later a Republican in politics. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Albany. James C. Moore is identified with the Third Reformed Church, upon the services of which he and his family are regular attendants. Politically he is inclined to be independent, holding principles above party, and advocating the choice of honest men for positions of public trust.

George Stanwix commenced brick-making at the corner of Warren and Elizabeth streets in 1799. He died in 1836. His son George succeeded to the business in 1825. He died in 1880. His son, Thomas C., assumed the business about 1860. He died in 1885. The yard was moved to its present location on Morton street in 1851. The business is still conducted by his heirs, who employ about fifteen men and manufacture about 1,500,000 bricks annually.

John Artcher, at the age of eighty-five, is one of the oldest brick-makers of Albany. He was for-

merly a stage-driver between Albany and Buffalo. He was engaged in the latter business as early as 1818. For a number of years he was an extensive manufacturer of bricks.

William Moore, Edward Fisher, George Briant Basset, and Ebenezer Wright were among the early brick manufacturers of Albany, none of whom are now in business.

Capt. M. V. B. Wagoner, manufacturer of brick and slip clay for glazing of pottery, now conducts the business which was established by his father, near the present location, in 1845. The works are bounded by Lark, Canal, Orange and Knox streets, and a portion of the blocks west of Knox street. The present owner has been identified with the business since it was established, with the exception of about five years, when he and three of his brothers were engaged in the late civil war.

James Smith began the manufacture of bricks in Albany in 1870. In 1877 Mr. Roberts became a partner in the business, and continued as such until 1882, when he retired, since which Mr. Smith has conducted the business alone. His yard is located on Morton street, corner of Eagle. 1,800,000 bricks are manufactured yearly, employing the labor of twenty men.

James C. Moore carries on the manufacture of bricks at the corner of Morton and Hawk streets, as the successor of his father, William Moore. He manufactures pressed front, paving, and all kinds of common bricks.

The firm of Newton & Co., composed of Horace B., John M. and Walter M. Newton, manufacture, very extensively, fire-bricks of every variety and shape for stoves, ranges and heater linings. They are the sole manufacturers of ironstone for hard or soft coal stoves. This firm has been engaged in this business for many years, requiring the labor of a large force of men, and constituting one of the leading industries of the city. They succeeded their father, John M. Newton, the founder of the business, and in honor of whom the village of Newtonville was named. The factory is located on the corner of Rathbone and North Ferry Streets.

The following are either manufacturers or are prominent in connection with brick-making industry: Alfred Hunter, Thomas McCarthy, Robert Marcelis and Joshua Babcock.

Patrick H. McCall established a brick-yard in Albany in 1845, and furnished the bricks for the Albany Penitentiary, then in course of construction. He was succeeded by the present proprietor, Edward Fisher.

JOHN ARTCHER.

Some time before the Revolution, William Artcher came from the North of Ireland, and purchased and located on a tract of land which embraced the present site of Johnstown, N. Y. His wife was a woman named Joyce. The years succeeding his settlement were full of trouble, hardship and adventure, and after the outbreak of the war they were fraught with deadly peril. Leaving his wife and his two sons, George and John, and his daughter at home, Mr. Artcher one day set out for Albany, driving some cattle to market. On the way he was attacked and killed by the Indians. About the same time the savages made a descent upon the pioneer's family at the site of Johnstown. The house was burned. Mrs. Artcher and her son John and her daughter made their escape to Albany, and George was made a captive by the Indians, who set out with him and other prisoners to Canada. At night the lad was confined with another boy in the wigwam. By some means he made his escape. What became of his companion he never learned. He returned home to find his house in ruins and supposed his mother and his brother and sister had been massacred. He made his way to Albany and was overjoyed to find all of the members of his family, except his father, alive and well. They made their home in Albany from that time, their possessions at Johnstown having been lost through the fortunes of war, the death of their husband and father, and their inability to prove a title to the land. Mrs. Artcher taught school for many years and brought up her little family. She was long remembered by many prominent men in Albany who were once her pupils.

John Artcher, son of William, was the proprietor of a saw-pit in Albany, where he was well known until his death. William Artcher's daughter married Hill Wood, lived near Albany for a time, and finally removed to Ohio. George Artcher married Mary, daughter of Michael Bruce, of Guilderland. They had seven children, named William, James, George, Michael, Jane, John (the subject of this notice), and Edward. William lived and died in Albany; James became a farmer and removed to a point between Herkimer and Utica, where he owned a farm; George was known as a tavern-keeper on the Schenectady Turnpike; Michael became Sheriff of Albany County; Jane became the wife of Dr. Jacob Miller, once prominent in Albany County; Edward became a merchant, and died in Albany.

John Artcher was born July 4, 1802, in a house which stood at the corner of Eagle and Pine streets, on the site of the State Hall. He received a plain, useful education in private schools, and, when but a boy, began to drive a team. While yet quite young, he made a memorable trip to Plattsburgh, N. Y., to carry two officers who were conveying medicines and other necessaries to the United States soldiers in that vicinity—for the War of 1812 was then begun. A companion of young Artcher at that time was William Lloyd, who afterwards, at Albany, fought and defeated Reynolds, the champion pugilist of England. Mr. Artcher's reminiscences of this encounter are most interesting, and deserve a permanent place in the records of the prize ring, though the fight was forced upon Lloyd and was waged with no hope of pecuniary gain on either side. For eleven years John Artcher drove a team over the old route between Albany and Buffalo, and at times elsewhere, as occasion required. During that time he carried safely thousands and thousands of dollars in money, and millions of dollars' worth of merchandise. He refers to one six-

Thomas McCarty

horse wagon load of silks as having been especially valuable. It was a labor requiring the highest skill as a horseman, united with the greatest personal courage, the most stable perseverance and the strictest and most unyielding integrity, qualities combined in young Artcher to a remarkable degree.

For two years afterwards he was engaged in carting in Albany, a business which he relinquished to establish a brick yard on Chestnut street, south of State. Eleven years later he removed his business to Jay street, and from there to Hudson street (now Hudson avenue), occupying the two sites eleven years more. Thence he removed to Western avenue where he continued business eleven years, at the expiration of which he abandoned brick-making, in which it will be seen he had employed himself and his capital for a period of thirty-three years. Establishing himself as a brewer on Western avenue, he continued successfully in that business for a few years until his brewery was burned. He then (1865) removed to his present residence on Madison avenue and engaged in the coal trade, in which he continued eight years, finally retiring from active life altogether.

In 1826, Mr. Artcher married Phebe Brice, of New Scotland, who died two years afterward. In 1829 he was again married; this time to Susan Turner, of Albany, who died about five years ago. Five of his children grew to manhood and womanhood, and married and had children. One of them, a daughter, is dead. Mr. Artcher was early a Whig, and later a Republican. Though taking an intelligent interest in public affairs, he has kept out of political life, resolutely refusing every office tendered him. Though not a member of any religious body, he has always been a liberal supporter of the Gospel, and is an attendant upon the services of Rev. Dr. Holmes, of the Presbyterian Church.

THOMAS McCARTHY.

Hon. Thomas McCarthy was born near Newry, County Down, Ireland, February 14, 1833, a son of John and Elizabeth (McSorley) McCarthy. He was educated in private schools, and in 1852 came to America and located in Albany, where he found employment upon Fuller's old express line between Albany and Troy. A year later Mr. McCarthy succeeded Mr. Fuller, and conducted a successful business for about three years, when he relinquished it to engage in trucking, which at that time seemed to offer superior inducements. In 1858 he embarked in the manufacture of bricks on Morton street, buying the old yard of John McEvoy. In 1872 he removed to his present location on First Avenue, near South Pearl street, where he has done a large and constantly increasing business.

Mr. McCarthy was married in 1866 to Miss Ellen White, of Albany, who has borne him eight children, six of whom are living. He is known as a wide-awake, enterprising, business man, with the interests of Albany, and the country at large, at heart; and his influence in the conduct of local and general political affairs is recognized and appreciated. His sympathies are with the great objects sought to be gained by the Democratic party, and every measure calculated to purify and elevate politics receives his unqualified support. In 1861 he was elected Alderman from the Second Ward of Albany, and his re-election in 1863 followed. In the fall of the latter year he was chosen to represent the Third Assembly District of Albany County in the Legislature, and served with much honor to himself and greatly to the satisfaction of his constituents. Since then, though always active in public affairs, and using his influence to further the interests of the party of which he is a member, he has chosen to devote his undivided attention to his business rather than to accept any public trust. His identification with various leading enterprises is well known, but it is deemed sufficient in this connection to advert to the fact that he was the first Superintendent of the Albany Railway. A man of persevering energy, thrift and exceptional business capacity, he has made his way steadily from an humble beginning to a position which renders him conspicuous among the leading business men of the city, alive to every interest of the people at large, himself a large employer of labor, and a true friend of the laboring man everywhere.

DRAIN TILE.

The earliest manufacturer of drain tiles in Albany of whom we have authentic knowledge, was the father of George and John H. Jackson. The latter still carry on this business on Third avenue, above Sloan street, and are the only persons engaged in this industry in Albany.

MARBLE AND MONUMENTAL WORKS.

The oldest house in Albany that manufactures marble and granite monumental work is that of William Manson. This was founded in 1826 by John Dixon, who controlled the business until 1855, when Mr. Manson entered the firm. Mr. Dixon died in 1860, when Mr. Manson became sole proprietor.

The salerooms are on the corner of Lodge and Howard streets. About twenty-five workmen are employed. His biography in this work will give interesting facts in regard to the work and character of Mr Manson.

James Gazeley established his marble works in Albany in 1861. His steam granite works are now near the Rural Cemetery. He is the inventor and sole proprietor of the machine for cutting cylindrical forms from stone, and his work is seen among the best monuments in the cemetery.

John McClelland and Simon Graef, under the firm name of McClelland & Graef, conduct marble works at 133 Madison Avenue.

Edward Hanlon began the manufacture of marble and monumental work in this city in 1851, at the corner of State and Swan streets. Twenty-five years later he removed to 154 Madison Avenue, where his premises cover an area of 33 by 100 feet, upon which suitable buildings are now located. Curbing posts and mantels are also made. Fifteen workmen are employed.

William Manson

Andrew McMurray and Charles Brooksby, under the firm name of McMurray & Brooksby, are extensively engaged in cutting stone. They manufacture every variety of Italian and American marble, Ohio and Connecticut freestone monuments, and also in form suitable for building purposes. Their yard is located on the corner of Green and Westerlo Streets.

WILLIAM MANSON

was born in Glasgow, Scotland, March 28, 1827, a son of Donald and Ann (Weir) Manson. His father was a marble worker. While William was yet an infant, the family removed to Edinburgh, where he was reared, receiving his education in the parish schools, and served a five years' apprenticeship to his trade with Mr. David Ness, a marble-worker of that city. In 1847, at the age of twenty, he married Miss Margaret Williamson, a native of Stirling, and they came to America immediately afterward. Arrived at New York, Mr. Manson found employment during the succeeeding two years with Joseph Oatwell, a Scotch marble-worker, who was doing business there. Later he removed to Albany, to become a partner of Mr. John Dixon's in the proprietorship and management of the oldest and most important marble works in the city, and of which he became sole proprietor upon the death of Mr. Dixon in 1860.

This business was established by Mr. Dixon in 1826, at the same place where Mr. Manson is now carrying on business, at the corner of Lodge and Howard streets. Mr. Manson is regarded as an artist in his profession, and some of the finest work in the cemeteries throughout the country has emanated from his establishment. As an instance, special reference may be made to the monument erected in Rural Cemetery in memory of the late Colonel Mills, which is a magnificent piece of work, and the recently completed monument for the estate of William Appleton, which was erected at a cost of $9,000, of solid granite; its cap-stone, weighing over twenty tons, being one of the largest pieces of granite ever used for a monument in this country. The superiority of the products of this establishment has led to a wide and growing trade, which extends throughout all parts of the country, and is annually increasing. In the show-rooms of Mr. Manson's establishment are to be found beautiful specimens of monuments, head-stones, statuary and memorials, all of designs embodying artistic taste and conception to a high degree. Besides monumental work, a leading feature

of his business is the manufacture of marble-work for interior decorations, such as mantels, tile-flooring, wainscoting, etc. The elaborately sculptured mantels in the Assembly Chamber and Court of Appeals in the New Capitol, and the beautiful wainscoting, made from a variety of American and imported marbles, in the corridor leading to the Court of Appeals, were all made at his works.

The premises occupied for show-rooms at the workshop are ample for any demands that may be made upon them. In the workshop about twenty-five skilled workmen are employed, who have at their command all the latest improved machinery and tools known to the trade, power being furnished by a twenty-horse power engine, Another shop is occupied near the cemetery. Mr. Manson is himself a practical marble-worker, familiar with all of the details of his business, to the supervision of which he brings much knowledge and long experience. He is in the prime of life, a thorough artist and able business man. His success is the natural consequence of the manifestation of ability, intelligence and integrity, while the genuine courtesy which he extends to all is another factor of his prosperity. One of the most gratifying evidences of the spread of correct artistic tastes among all classes of society is the great attention that is now paid to the production of beautiful designs in stone, slate, marble, and granite. The American productions in this line are not equaled by those of any other country, our natural excellence in this branch becoming more and more marked with each passing year. It is the aim of Mr. Manson to furnish strictly first-class work at reasonable prices, so that the public taste may be both gratified and educated; and with this end in view he is prepared with all facilities and modern conveniences sufficient to turn out anything that may be desired in the way of marble or granite work. He has an advantage over most competitors in that he quarries all the marble he uses in West Rutland, Vt.

Upon coming to the United States, Mr. Manson sought, by association and by gaining a knowledge of American history and American public affairs, to identify himself thoroughly with the institutions of his adopted country; but he never sought to throw off a certain allegiance to his native land. No Scotchman ever does. The Scottish societies in Albany have found in Mr. Manson, since his residence in this city, an earnest and liberal member and supporter. He was formerly President of St. Andrew's Society, and was for several years chief of the Caledonian Club. With an innate Scottish love of liberty he was not long in allying himself with the Republican party, at a period when it was entering upon the great work it has done; and, though not in any common sense a politician, he has taken a citizen's intelligent interest in public affairs and in the municipal affairs of Albany. In 1876–77, he represented the Sixth Ward in the Board of Aldermen, and he is now President of the Citizens' Association. For seven years he was a member of the Scotch company of light infantry which composed a portion of the twenty-fifth regiment, and during four years of that period he was the company's first lieutenant. Raised in the Presbyterian faith, he was for years identified with that Church; but latterly he has been united with the Dutch Reformed Church. Mr. Manson became a widower in 1866, and in 1868 was a second time married to Miss Eleanor L. Dixon, daughter of Mr. John Dixon. By this marriage he has three children.

POTTERY.

The pottery of S. Pepson was established by Mr. Orcutt on Hamilton street in 1861. Mr. Pepson purchased it, and in 1869 built his present store and ware-room at 222 Hudson avenue. His pottery manufactory is now located at Fort Edward.

The Messrs. Ammenheusers make vases and other fancy pottery for ornamentation, as well as plain pottery, on Hawk and Osborn streets.

BUILDINGS AND BUILDERS.

The public and private buildings of Albany reflect the skill and proficiency of the artisans, who, in many notable instances, not only did the mechanical work upon them, but also planned them, acting in the dual capacity of architect and builder. The biographical sketches of many of the foremost builders in this city, which appear elsewhere in this volume, will give the reader a fair idea of the general character and mechanical skill of these men. Among those at present actively engaged as building contractors, either as carpenters or masons, are the following: C. De Tiere, James W. Eaton, W. H. Gick, William Sayles, Morton H. Havens, Calvin Holmes, Gibson Oliver, R. K. Oliver, John McCabe, Thomas Reilly, Thomas Stephens, Alexander Simpson, James A. Shattuck, J. Austin Van Patten, Richard Wickham, John H. & Edmund A. Walsh, W. E. Washburn, Patrick McCann, C. Van Wormer & Sons, Robert Bryce, Alfred Guy, William Kelly, John Skillicorn, Philip H. Smith, Richard Hunter, and Eugene S. Saxton.

William Freeman, of 118 Chestnut street, has been a mason and builder in this city since 1871.

John McCabe, mason, contractor and builder, Hawk street, south of Elm, began business in 1866. He built the German Catholic Church, corner of Central avenue and Robin street, in 1868; raised Calvary Baptist Church, North Pearl street, and constructed Perry Building in 1870; School 21 in 1875; Tabernacle Baptist Church in 1876; and other buildings in and out of Albany.

J. Austin Van Patten, contractor and builder, and carpenter, Central avenue, began business March 1, 1877. Mr. Van Patten is of Holland descent, and his ancestors were granted a coat of arms when they emigrated to this country. His residence is at 352 Hamilton street.

In connection with the buildings of Albany the following table is interesting. It was made out by Clerk Boyle, of the Board of Assessors, and shows the number of the buildings in the city, frame and brick, and also the number of manufactories. The table is prepared from the data at hand before the

John N. Parker

last assessment began in April, 1885. It is probable, therefore, that the number of buildings in the city is larger than appears below. There has been no important change, however, in the aggregate of manufactories.

The total number of manufactories in the city is 111, as will appear by the following table:

Wards.	Brick Buildings.	Frame Buildings.	Manufactories.
1st.	142	613	3
2d.	285	359	2
3d.	298	269	12
4th.	635	152	16
5th.	470	223	2
6th.	911	89	13
7th.	501	69	5
8th.	211	342	7
9th.	231	434	21
10th.	180	900	6
11th.	347	618	..
12th.	327	431	4
13th.	425	274	9
14th.	828	62	5
15th.	531	365	3
16th.	523	576	3
17th.	188	805	..
	6,833	6,581	111
	Total	buildings...	13,525

The Tenth Ward has the largest number of buildings, 1,080, of which 900 are frame. The Fourteenth Ward has the least number of frame houses, 62; and the Sixth the greatest number of brick, 911.

The Ninth Ward leads in manufactories, having 21; and two wards, the Eleventh and the Seventeenth, have none.

The Tenth Ward, which has the largest number of dwellings, has also the largest population. By the last census there were in the Ward 8,345 people, an average of about eight to a house. The average for the city is about seven. In the Fourteenth Ward the average is only five.

JOHN N. PARKER,

who died November 11, 1885, was for many years a contractor and builder in Albany. He was born in Deal, County Kent, England, in 1821, and while yet an infant was brought to America by his parents, who located in Utica, where his father, William Parker, was at one time engaged in the grocery trade. He received his education in the public schools of Utica, and learned his trade with a well-known carpenter of that town. In 1844 he came to Albany, where he became very successful as a contractor and builder, a business in which he embarked in 1849.

James A. Shattuck

The Delavan House and the Geological Hall were among the earlier of his works; the beautiful Kenmore Hotel one of his most recent works. The printing-house of Weed, Parsons & Co., and many other business houses of lesser note, all bear evidence of his handiwork. In his active business life he found relaxation by taking an interest in politics. Originally a Whig, when the Republican party was formed he became one of its most earnest and devoted adherents. He was then a resident of what was known as the old Fifth Ward. In 1862, being then Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue, he was nominated by the Republicans of the Ward for Supervisor. In 1865 he was chosen to represent the Ward in the Common Council and was re-elected in 1867, 1869; and when the charter of 1870 went into effect he was again elected as a representative of the Seventh Ward, serving for two years. In 1868 he was nominated for Mayor against Charles E. Bleecker, but, notwithstanding the vote he received demonstrated his popularity, he was defeated.

In all the positions of public trust which he held, Mr. Parker acquitted himself faithfully and conscientiously, casting his vote for only such measures as were beneficial to the interests of the city at large.

He was a member of the Albany Burgesses Corps and at one time held the office of President of the Corps and served on its staff. He was a member of Temple Lodge, F. A. M., and the St. George Society, and a life member of the Utica Citizens' Corps and the Volunteer Fire Department of Utica. He was a life member of the Young Men's Association. He was a member of Eagle Engine Company No. 7, of the McQuade Association, and the Beaverwyck Club. Mr. Parker had been twice married. By his first wife, who was Catharine Murphy, of Albany, whom he married in April, 1849, he had two sons, John T. and Theodore J., and a daughter, who is now Mrs. George F. Durand, of London, Ont. There are four grandchildren.

His second wife was Harriet, daughter of Warren T. Williams, of Clinton, Oneida County, whom he married June 19, 1873.

Mr. Parker was pre-eminently a self-made man. His energy of purpose, perseverance, honorable character, high-minded principles, strict integrity, genial, sunny nature and kindliness to employees were the elements of the man which attained for him the success which crowned a busy life and made him esteemed among men.

JAMES A. SHATTUCK.

This gentleman ranks high among Albany's foremost contractors and builders. He was born in Albany, August 29, 1840. His father was James A. Shattuck, Sr., himself a mason, who married Miss Hannah Hutchinson. Both his parents were natives of Vermont. He was educated in the common schools of Albany, and at the age of seventeen years was apprenticed to Henry Knight, then a well-known builder of Albany, to learn the mason's trade, serving four years, mostly under the instruction of his father, who was, for nineteen years, Mr. Knight's foreman. At the time Mr. Shattuck attained his majority, the War of the Rebellion had begun. He enlisted as a private in Company B of the 91st New York Regiment, Captain Stackhouse commanding. He was promoted to be successively Second Sergeant, First Sergeant, Second Lieutenant and First Lieutenant, having in the meantime been transferred to other companies in the same regiment. He served as Assistant Provost-Marshal at Fort Henry, Baltimore, and as Assistant Ordnance Officer of the Thirteenth and Nineteenth Army Corps, with headquarters at Brashear City, La. In 1864, his term of service having expired, he re-enlisted, and was with the Army of the Potomac until the war had closed, and he was mustered out of service July 7, 1865.

Upon his return to Albany, he engaged in the grocery trade, in which he continued about a year. During this time he married Miss Katharine H. Sheppard, daughter of Samuel Sheppard, Esq., who has borne him twelve children,—ten sons and two daughters—of whom seven are living. In this venture in the grocery business Mr. Shattuck was only moderately successful, and he relinquished it to resume work at his trade. He labored as a journeyman a year, and in 1867 took his first contract.

His business ability proved to be so good that he gradually advanced to a leading place among the contractors of the city. He has done the mason work of hundreds of dwellings, numerous business blocks and stores, and many factories and public buildings in Albany and elsewhere.

Among the latter class may be mentioned Rathbone, Sard & Co.'s storehouse, the Kenmore Hotel and additions thereto; the Albany Hospital; additions to the Child's Hospital of St. Agnes' School; a large addition to the Albany Orphan Asylum; Dederick Brothers' agricultural machinery and hay-press factories; Pruyn & Lansing's saw works; the factories of the Bonsilate Company; two of the Public School Buildings of Albany; and the New State Normal School Building on Willett street, fronting the Park.

Mr. Shattuck is a Republican, and has been a Member of the Board of Supervisors of Albany County, representing the Sixteenth Ward. Since 1867 he has been connected with the Burgesses' Corps, the oldest military organization in the city, and at present serves on the Commander's staff with the rank of Major. He is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and of various other organizations, secret, social and beneficent, and as a citizen, is popular with all classes.

ROBERT K. OLIVER

was born in Albany in 1842, a son of Gibson and Lydia (Kelsey) Oliver, and was orphaned by the death of his mother when only two years old. His father, a native of England, came to America at the

Robert K. Oliver

age of nine years, learned the trade of carpenter in Albany, and has for many years been a leading contractor and builder; also an extensive dealer in real estate. He has erected hundreds of buildings in all parts of the city, and by building on lots and selling them upon advantageous terms has contributed not a little to the growth of the city. His son, Robert K., learned his trade with him and was identified with his business most of the time until 1871, when he established himself as a builder, and has since conducted an increasing and successful business. He has built, in different parts of the city and elsewhere, many fine residences, those of Colonel R. C. Pruyn, Charles E. Pruyn and John Keeler deserving special mention.

Educated in the public schools of Albany, and from his youth on familiar terms with many of the leading men in the city, both in social and business relations, Mr. Oliver has, by long association and by participation in local affairs, closely identified himself with Albany's most important public interests. With other Albanians he enlisted in the 91st Regiment New York Volunteers at the outbreak of the late war, and in 1862 re-enlisted in the 177th Regiment. He served until the expiration of his second term of enlistment, participating in the Banks campaign in Louisiana, and passing through other scenes of danger celebrated in the history of that great struggle. From 1863, to and including 1884, he has been a member of the Republican General Committee, and it may be worthy of note that he has attended every County, City, State and National Nominating Convention of his party from 1864 to 1884 inclusive. In 1874 he was elected to the Board of Aldermen, representing the Sixth Ward, and was re-elected in 1876. In 1879, he became one of the Assessors of the City of Albany and was reappointed in 1882.

In 1862, Mr. Oliver married Miss Sarah C. Hilton, a daughter of Philip Hilton, of Albany, who has borne him two daughters and a son. One of these, Miss Ritie H. Oliver, is a young lady possessing unusual artistic talent, and has executed numerous fine oil paintings and crayon portraits that have caused her to be well known in art circles in Albany and elsewhere.

Thomas Stephens

THOMAS STEPHENS.

Few of the contractors and builders of Albany are better or more favorably known than Thomas Stephens, who has been identified with the erection of numerous elegant and imposing public buildings, business blocks and private residences, both in the city and elsewhere. Mr. Stephens was born in the Isle of Man, December 26, 1845, a son of Thomas and Jane (Christian) Stephens. He received his education in good private schools, and when still under fifteen years of age he began to serve his apprenticeship at his trade, which was finished in five years. At its expiration he removed to England and worked there one year as a journeyman. In April, 1866, he came to the United States, the New World seeming to offer him better opportunities for advancement than his native land, and located in Albany, where he has since lived, with the exception of a short time spent in the West. For fifteen months he worked at his trade in Albany; then went to Chicago, where he was similarly employed for a year. Returning to Albany, he pushed his fortunes with such success, that he was soon enabled to begin business for himself, which he did April 1, 1870, establishing himself as a contractor and builder at 348 Madison avenue. About a year later he removed to 18 and 20 Hamilton street, above Knox, a point within the borders of the Park as now bounded. Here he was located from 1871 to 1880, when he removed to 277 Lark street, where he erected a factory and put into it all necessary machinery and the latest and most improved facilities for manufacturing all kinds of wood-work required in building the finest and most substantial structure, as well as in manufacturing to order the most elegant and expensive furniture and interior decorations, employing the most skillful and experienced wood-workers and carvers and numerous carpenters, his pay-roll often containing the names of from thirty to seventy employees. Attention may be directed to a few of the many familiar buildings in Albany, which Mr. Stephens has built wholly or in part. Among them are Stanwix Hall, the Lake House in the Park, Calvary Baptist Church, and the United States Custom House and Post Office Building. He has also done much fine work for Hon. Erastus Corning, rebuilding his country residence, building greenhouses and making other improvements; and has built many residences in Albany as well as in Rochester, Cobleskill, Troy, Hoosac Falls and other places. He has lately made extensive improvements and additions to the buildings occupied by St. Agnes' School.

RICHARD WICKHAM.

The subject of this memoir was born in Wetford, Ireland, in May, 1833. His father and mother both died when he was only nine years old. In 1850 he came to the United States, and apprenticed himself to Messrs. Crab & Doig, of Rome, N. Y., to learn the carpenter's trade and study architecture. His apprenticeship lasted four years, and during that time eight other boys began apprenticeships with the same firm. It is a fact worthy of note, as illustrating young Wickham's sterling character, that of the whole number he was the only one who remained during the entire time covered by the agreement of the apprentices with their instructors. The knowledge of architecture which he obtained he has since found very serviceable in many of his large and complicated jobs. Completing his apprenticeship, he came to Albany and has since been a resident of the city. He embarked in business as a builder in 1860, and his pushing, energetic character and great mechanical ability soon placed him in the front rank of builders, not only of Albany, but of the State of New York, and it is stated, that for twenty years his shop has ruled the wages paid both bosses and journeymen in Albany. He has employed on an average eighty men during the entire year, all the time providing work for from sixty to one hundred and thirty on the various jobs which he has had in progress. An idea of the extent of his operations may be gained from the fact that at one time, on a single building, he employed one hundred carpenters and thirty painters.

Mr. Wickham's factory and shop is the most complete establishment of the kind in the State. It is a large structure on Broadway, built of Croton brick, three stories high, with a large wing, the main building being 42 by 70 feet and the wing 15 by 38 feet in size. The engine and boiler are located in the wing, and the entire factory is heated by steam, there not being any fire in or about the main building. Here Mr. Wickham manufactures everything required on his jobs, and sells nothing to the trade, his own large business usually keeping the factory running to nearly or quite its full capacity. Everything necessary to building or furnishing is manufactured—from the heaviest framing to the finest cabinet work—even to gilding, upholstering and carving.

Mr. Wickham has never sought political work, or jobs on public buildings, preferring to work for individuals and citizen corporations, to whom his work itself, irrespective of political or other influence, would be his strongest recommendation. He can produce numerous complimentary letters from distinguished men, among them Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, Rev. C. A. Walworth, Rev. Dr. Bridgman, the late George Dawson, long the editor of the *Albany Evening Journal*, W. C. Little, Hon. G. S. Batcheller, and others. Careful and painstaking, and, above all, giving to all the details of his work his own thorough personal supervision, he has won the reputation for doing good, substantial, and elegant work, whether he takes a contract at a high rate or a low one, that commends him to all who regard excellence in all departments of building; for there is no department with which Mr. Wickham is not familiar, and it has been remarked of him, that he is truly "a builder—not a carpenter only." Remarkable as it may seem, he has at different times built a part or the whole of most of the churches in Albany, and several in other places, and he did the largest single carpentering job ever done in Albany—that of the Emmanuel Baptist Church—at a cost of $42,000.

Mr. Wickham has built, wholly or in part, many of the finest public and private houses in various parts of New York and other States, including many of the suburban residences about Albany, among them those of Theophilus Roessle, J. K. Emmet, the Watson Brothers, Thomas Olcott, William Barnes, Andrew White, Frederick Cleveland, J. W. Tillinghast, C. B. Tillinghast, W. C. Little, Rev. Dr. Bridgman, S. Anable, G. L. Stedman, J. Waterman, and others no less well known. He has also built some of the most elegant private residences in the city. Among them are those of George S. Weaver, the late Senator Ira Harris, B. W. Wooster, J. H. King, Rufus H. King, Ledyard Cogswell, W. H. McNaughton, Townsend Fondey (two houses, one of them now owned by Hon. Daniel Manning), and many others. He has done much work in nearly all the cities and towns along the Hudson River, and in many west of Albany on the New York Central road, and elsewhere; chiefly in Hudson, Catskill, Tivoli, Saugerties, Rhinebeck, Poughkeepsie, Fishkill, Peekskill, Tarrytown, Schenectady, Amsterdam, Fonda, Fort Plains, and Herkimer. During one year he traveled over 30,000 miles in attending to his business. He built General Batcheller's residence at Saratoga; James Mix's at Kinderhook; General Rathbone's at Lenox, Mass.; Rev. Henry Ward Beecher's, at Peekskill; C. H. Evans', at Hudson; C. H. McCormick's (of Chicago), at Richfield Springs; G. P. Folts, at Herkimer; and Dr. McKim's (of New York), at Cooperstown. Several of these residences cost from $25,000 to $50,000 each. Another structure erected by Mr. Wickham was the Old Man's Home in Albany; and he built the Refectory Building and Well Shelter at Washington Park. As an evidence of his inventive ingenuity, it may be stated that he designed and constructed the traveling buggy derricks which enabled the contractors to construct the Cohoes Dam in one year, while without their use three years would have been consumed in doing the same work. One of these machines received and unloaded all of the stone used in the building of the new State Capitol.

During eight consecutive years Mr. Wickham worked for the late Alexander T. Stewart, the great merchant prince of New York, and Hon. Henry Hilton, the executor of his estate, and during that time was paid by them over $300,000. He built both wings of the Grand Union Hotel, at Saratoga; built the Windsor Hotel and several buildings for Judge Hilton in Woodlawn Park; Stewart's factory

Richard Wickham

at Glenham; and the Park Avenue Hotel, New York; did much work on Judge Hilton's residence in Thirty-fourth street, New York; and the principal part of the joiner's work on the Stewart Memorial College, at Garden City, Long Island, and built parts of the bishop's house, stables, and coach-house at the same place. He built the large office and did other work for the Winchester Repeating Arms Company at New Haven, and fitted up their show-room, office, and store at 312 Broadway, New York. He also fitted up the office of the Great Western Importation Company, of New York; built the Clarendon Hotel and the Ornamental Band Stand and Ticket Office of Congress Springs Park, Saratoga, and the Chapter House of Williams College, which cost $30,000; and has done several jobs for the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, receiving a single payment therefor of over $9,000. As an illustration of the extent of the resources at Mr. Wickham's command, it may be stated that, a few years ago, he built for W. C. Coup, and delivered in Troy, N. Y., the wood and iron-work (including all poles, posts, seats, and other fixtures) of the largest circus canvas ever made to that time, weighing over eight tons, within ten days after taking the contract. The material was much of it procured in New York and shipped to Albany, and the actual work was done in four days after all material was in hand, the iron-work, weighing over two tons, being turned out in two days, a remarkably short space of time.

There are probably very few men in the country who can more closely and accurately estimate the cost of any given job, large or small, than Mr. Wickham. So well known is his ability in this respect, that he has been frequently called upon to assist in the settlement between the owners of burned buildings and insurance companies in important fire losses. He settled the loss upon the Tweddle Building when it was destroyed, and rebuilt it within seven months. Estimates of the losses sustained upon mills, factories, and private houses have frequently been made by him, the last of which was that upon the loss of C. H. Housman, at Valatia, N. Y., amounting to the large sum of $62,000.

BLINDS, SASHES, DOORS, ETC.

The La Rose Manufacturing Company, corner Rose and Hamilton streets, A. F. La Rose, President and Treasurer, A. W. La Rose, Secretary, was started in 1882 by A. F. La Rose. In 1884 it was organized as a stock company, with a capital of $50,000.

They use a 100 horse-power engine. Seventy-five workmen are employed, and the amount of $150,000 is their annual production.

Their specialty is carpenters' supplies.

George H. Cheney established his manufactory of sashes, doors, blinds, etc., at 13 North Lansing street, in 1870.

The factory is a two-story building, where about forty men find work.

CARRIAGES, SLEIGHS AND TRUCKS.

The Albany Coach Manufactory was established in 1813 by James Goold, a native of New England. After several years had elapsed, his nephew, W. R. Bush, and son-in-law, J. N. Cutler, became partners; later on, his son, John S. Goold became a partner; the latter dying in 1873, John Chester Goold, a grandson, became a member of the firm. Mr. James Goold died in 1879. In 1883 the present firm was incorporated, John Chester Goold, President; William D. Goold, Secretary.

From 1817 to 1831, stage-coaches were the main features of this concern. When the Albany and Schenectady Railway was built, this firm built its first cars. These cars were but little more than stage-coaches on trucks. The firm now manufacture fine carriages and sleighs. The manufactory is bounded by Division, Union and Hamilton streets, and sixty workmen are employed.

Carriages and sleighs are manufactured at 131 and 133 Hudson avenue, by John Kingsbury.

This business was established in 1854 by James Kingsbury, Jeremiah Whitehead and Stephen Whitehead. After a while the latter partner dropped out, and the firm was Kingsbury & Whitehead till 1874, when Mr. Kingsbury bought his partner's interest and conducted the business alone till February, 1876, when the present proprietor bought the ground and buildings. He built the back shops in 1880, and the present fine front building, 46 by 54, five-stories high, in 1884. He has made his establishment very popular and profitable. He manufactures buggies, two-seat carriages and landau sleighs—the latter a specialty. Their excellence and style are far-famed, and are a credit to the manufactured products of the city.

In 1832, Messrs. Selkirk & Gardinier began manufacturing carriages and sleighs, and continued in the business until 1865, when they were succeeded by Messrs. Shaw & Rose. Mr. Shaw became sole proprietor and remained such until 1881, when the present firm of Shaw & Barnett became owners. Mr. Abraham Barnett is the present owner.

Their factory, 832 and 834 Broadway, is four-story brick, 70 by 200 feet; and at 307 North Pearl street, directly back of the factory, is their office, etc. All kinds of family and pleasure carriages and sleighs, and hose carriages and fire department wagons are made. About forty workmen are employed.

Samuel H. Lloyd founded in 1842 the present house of S. H. Lloyd & Co., manufacturers of trucks and wagons. Mr. Lloyd continued in charge until 1878, when the firm name now used was adopted, and Ralph P. Lathrop assumed management of the same.

The premises at 64 to 68 Hamilton street consists of a two story-brick factory 200 by 30 feet, and a three-story brick sales-room, 70 by 130 feet.

They manufacture business wagons, heavy trucks, etc., and are also dealers in carriages, buggies, etc., being agents for several large and well-known manufactories.

The carriage and sleigh manufactory of Henry Van Hoesen, Nos. 122 and 124 Madison avenue, was established by the present proprietor in 1863. The manufacturing facilities of the house embrace a two-story factory, 44 by 65 feet in dimensions, where all the wood and iron-working, trimming, upholstering, and painting pertaining to first-class work in his line, are carried on by skilled workmen.

SPOKES.

In 1879 E. Wendell Crosby established the Phœnix Spoke Works. The factory on Bleecker, Church, and Herkimer streets is a two-story brick building, 125 by 100 feet, where about 20 workmen are employed. Oak and hickory are used in the manufacture of the spokes; the wood, before making up, being dried by a process, the invention of N. S. McOmber, their Superintendent. Over one-half million are made yearly. By the invention of Mr. McOmber, cold, fresh, dry air is introduced into the drying rooms. This absorbs the moisture, but does not expel the resins and gums.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

One of the leading houses in Albany engaged in the manufacture and sale of harness-leather, is that of Adam Cook & Son, No. 29 Hudson avenue, established in 1860 by Adam Cook, and came in the possession of the present firm, consisting of the founder and his son, George C. Cook, in 1879. This factory consists of a four-story brick building, 35 by 105 feet in dimensions, which is divided into the manufacturing department and the sales-rooms. Fifteen workmen are employed. The products of the house consist of oak, union and hemlock harness-leather, and hemlock sole-leather, all noted for superior quality. A large trade is also done in harness-makers' supplies. Mr. Cook and his son have both resided in Albany for a number of years, and are thoroughly acquainted with the leather trade.

WOOD MACHINERY.

Daniel Doncaster in 1858 began the manufacturing of wood-working machinery, and the business is at present carried on by his son, Daniel Doncaster, at 7 and 9 Railroad avenue and 313 to 317 North Pearl street. Twenty-five mechanics are employed. The manufacture of planing, resawing, and molding machines are the specialties. All kinds of wood-working machinery, shafting, pulleys, etc., are also made.

WOOD PACKING-BOXES.

T. F. Romeyn began the manufacturing of packing-boxes in 1865. His factory is located at 214 Hudson avenue and is a two-story building, 30 by 100 feet in dimensions. All the work is done by machinery, the stamping even being done by a printing-press. One million feet of lumber is annually used, and about 160,000 boxes are made yearly.

PATTERN WORKS.—BRASS, IRON, STOVE.

The Albany Pattern Works was established by Herbert G. Avery in 1882, at 70 Church street, where he employs six assistants.

Patterns for all kinds of brass and iron foundings, designs and drafts of complicated machinery in sections or otherwise are made. A specialty is stove patterns.

Hailes' Pattern Works, corner Broadway and Hamilton street, was established by William Hailes, in 1872, for the manufacture of patterns for stoves and machinery. In this business Mr. Hailes is justly recognized as a skillful artisan. In 1878 James Gray and Peter Kinnear became associated with Mr. Hailes in the manufacture of their improved "Brilliant" oil-stove. This they continued for three years, when the right to manufacture was sold to the Richmond Stove Company, Norwich, Conn., and is now known as the "Richmond" stove. Mr. Hailes' business is now confined to pattern making. All the Thacher car-wheel patterns are made at this establishment.

John C. Mull has been a pattern-maker for more than forty-five years at the Ransom Stove Works. Mr. Mull has taken active interest in the Albany Firemen's Association for nearly half a century, and, although sixty-four years of age, is still in active service in the Fire Department.

COOPERAGE.

The extensive brewing interests of Albany early led to the establishment of other industries chiefly dependent upon them. Among the most important was the manufacture of barrels and hogsheads for the transportation of malt liquors. So extensive grew this industry at Albany, that at one time most of the coopers in the United States were located here, and most of the ale barrels used in this country were manufactured here. Of late years, large manufactories have sprung up in different parts of the country, which have materially decreased the amount of business done. Still Albany occupies a prominent position in regard to the extent and quality of its cooperage work.

The oldest house engaged in this branch of manufacture is that of M. A. Hawe, established by Matthew Hawe in 1836, whose father began a similar business many years previously. Mr. Hawe conducted it until his death in 1880, since which time it has been carried on under the management of his son, Daniel Hawe. Two buildings are occupied in the prosecution of this business, 63 Liberty and 58 Union street. Employment is furnished to about twenty skilled mechanics. The capacity of the works is about seventy-five ale and beer casks and one hundred and fifty barrels per week. The biography of Matthew Hawe, the founder of this house, printed in another part of this volume, contains matter, personal and general, relative to this industry.

Matthew Hawe

John Pennie, Jr., stave dealer and cooper, commenced the cooperage business in Herkimer street, in connection with his brother, J. C., in 1843, and has been carried on by them ever since. The works are located No. 39 Arch street.

In 1849 John Le Gallez began the coopering business in Albany. He conducted it alone until 1871, when A. Le Gallez was admitted to an interest in the business. The founder died in 1873, and in 1876 the present firm, A. & W. Le Gallez, succeeded to the business, which is now conducted at 51 to 61 Liberty street. Twenty mechanics are employed. A large share of the business consists in remodeling barrels of all kinds.

Samuel C. Harris carries on a cedar and pine-ware cooperage business at 122 Washington avenue as the successor of his father, who was engaged in a similar calling many years. His work is well known for excellence of workmanship and material. Mr. Harris has been a useful member of the City Government.

MATTHEW HAWE

was born in Charleville, Ireland, October 18, 1814, and died in Albany, April 24, 1880, in his sixty-sixth year. He came to America with his parents in 1816, and was educated in the Albany Academy. Leaving school, he was interested in his father's (William Hawe's) extensive cooperage business until 1836, when he engaged in the same business on his own account, manufacturing beer barrels, half-barrels and hogsheads, a business which his widow, under the name of M. A. Hawe, has continued since his death. Mr. Hawe made the manufacture of his specialties in cooperage a study, and invented improvements in ale and beer casks which render the heads and other jointures with the staves as strong as any other part of the barrel, whereas, as they were previously made, the heads, however strong with the timber they were constructed, were always weak at their jointure with the staves. The advantages of barrels and other vessels constructed with Mr. Hawe's improvements are these :

1st. By a more obtuse angle of the bevel of the edge of the head, the quantity of material for resistance of all strain is increased. 2d. The bevels of the edge of the head, supported by the howel, prevents all crushing in of the head. 3d. The manner in which the edge of the head is held in the croze, and supported by the howel, effectually prevents the wood in the head from splitting up. 4th. The convex form given to the head in one direction, makes the head itself as strong as the body of the barrel. 5th. The beveled jointing surface of the several pieces forming the head insures the perfect tightness of all the

jointures of the head, and counteracts all tendency of the end hoops to break in the chime. 6th. The head and its jointure, with the staves, are made as strong as the other parts of the barrel. 7th. Ample opportunity is afforded for the removal of sediment that may accumulate around the howel and the beveling of the head. These improvements have been variously and severally tested, and in every case they have been found to meet the utmost expectations of Mr. Hawe and brewers who have used them.

The loss of ten per cent., annually experienced by brewers, from the waste of ale and cost of repairs caused by the bursting of the heads, is effectually prevented by the use of barrels and other vessels constructed with Mr. Hawe's improvements.

These casks became very popular with brewers, and Mr. Hawe manufactured them under letters patent, and shipped them in large quantities to New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Buffalo, Rochester, and many other manufacturing centers. But no sooner had he succeeded in proving the superiority of his barrels than unscrupulous coopers began, in different places, to manufacture and sell similar ones in infringement of his patent. Suits were brought for damages and royalties, which are still pending in the courts, and which, promising to result favorably to the claims of Mr. Hawe, will undoubtedly bring to his heirs at least a portion of the legitimate reward of his ingenuity and enterprise.

In 1840 Mr. Hawe was married to Miss Mary A. Griffith, of New York. They have had fifteen children, thirteen of whom lived to be men and women, and nine of whom survived their father.

He was esteemed for his kindly nature, his dignified bearing, and his unquestionable business probity. This last mentioned characteristic was so marked, that it was once said of him by Thurlow Weed: "Matthew Hawe's word was truly as good as his bond." An influential citizen, he was identified with many of Albany's most important interests, and counted among his warm personal friends such men as Mr. Weed, John L. Schoolcraft, William H. Seward, and others of equal note.

The formerly well-known Dr. E. B. O'Callaghan was his brother-in-law. For a time Mr. Hawe was a partner in the flour business in Albany with his brother John, carrying on his cooperage business at the same time. He also dealt heavily in stoves, a branch of his business which is now carried on by his son. He was a business man in every sense of the word—energetic, original, honest, shrewd and successful. He never connected himself with secret societies, and, though he had pronounced convictions upon all public questions, never mingled actively in political life, always refusing to accept any office, though urged to accept many. In early life he was an old school Democrat. Later he became a Whig, and a second change to Republicanism was but natural. In religion he followed the faith of his fathers, and he was a Corporate Member of the Parish of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, and a Trustee of St. Agnes' Cemetery. He was prominent and liberal in support of the interests of the Cathedral, and his memory is preserved by inscription on the chime of bells belonging to that institution. He was generous to his fellow men and helpful to the poor. His life was upright in the sight of God and man, and he was beloved not only by those who enjoyed the happiness of sharing with him the blessings of his fireside, but by a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

His last illness was of long duration, but he bore his affliction with a Christian's fortitude. The sorrow at his death was general among the many who had known him. The Committee of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception met at the episcopal residence, April 25, 1880, to take action in reference to his death. There were present Rt. Rev. Bishop McNierney, D.D.; Very Rev. P. Ludden, V.G.; P. McHugh, John Connick, Michael Delehanty; P. J. Wallace, Treasurer, and Thomas J. Lanahan, Secretary.

The following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"*Whereas*, Death has again, in the brief space of one month, removed from our midst another member of this Committee, Mr. Matthew Hawe, be it

"*Resolved*, That we deeply regret the decease of Matthew Hawe, who for more than twenty-eight years has been a member of this Board.

"That his long service in this Committee, marked as it was by a singleness of purpose, purity of motive and courteous bearing, has endeared him to us, and merits our highest consideration and respect.

"That his constant and unremitting attention to his duties, his zeal and energy in advancing the interests of this Cathedral, is deserving of the pious remembrance of the congregation.

"That we tender to his family our sincere sympathy in their bereavement, and that the Secretary transmit to them a copy of these resolutions."

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of St. Agnes' Cemetery, held Monday, April 26, 1880, to take action concerning the death of Mr. Matthew Hawe, Mr. John Stuart offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

"*Whereas*, Information of the death of our late esteemed associate, Mr. Matthew Hawe, has been communicated to this Board, and it is proper that, uniting in the regret occasioned by his loss, we should signify our appreciation of his many excellent qualities; therefore

"*Resolved*, That in the death of Mr. Hawe, one of our Finance Committee, this Board loses an active and worthy member, who always manifested pride and zealous interest in the welfare of this organization, and who spared no exertion to secure its prosperity.

Peter Kinnear

"*Resolved*, That we tender our sympathy to the family of our deceased friend; that we attend his funeral in a body; and that these resolutions, signed by our President and Secretary, be published in the daily papers of the city, and a copy transmitted to the family of deceased.

"FRANCIS MCNEIRNY,
"*President.*
"W. D. MORANGE,
"*Secretary.*"

The Board of Trade of the City of Albany, of which Mr. Hawe had long been a Member, also adopted appropriate resolutions. Such lives as Mr. Hawe's are not without their benefit upon the communities where they are passed. Yielding to every man what was honestly his due; active in business and enterprising beyond many of his fellow townsmen; he gave employment to many skilled laborers, and performed his part in bringing Albany into notice as a manufacturing town. He built industriously and with fidelity a reputation which is a rich heritage to his family and a pleasure to many who were his friends.

LASTS.

In 1828, Jared Holt began manufacturing lasts in Albany. This probably was the first establishment of the kind in this country. Mr. Holt's business was only a small one, which he conducted until 1857, when he formed a partnership with George H. Graves, which partnership continued until 1864, when Dayton Ball was added, the firm being called Graves, Ball & Co., the members being Messrs. Graves & Ball, and J. & C. B. Holt. Since the death of Mr. Graves in 1882, Ball and Rebhun have controlled the business, under the firm name of Dayton Ball & Co. They have two factories, one at 3 Pruyn street, in which 25 workmen are employed, and the other at 12 Elm street, New York. The products of the two are about 125,000 pairs of lasts yearly. Persimmon wood from North Carolina is mainly used by them.

BILLIARD BALLS.

The Albany Billiard Ball Company was organized in 1875, succeeding the Hyatt Manufacturing Co., organized in 1868, which was the pioneer manufacturing company in the world to make composition billiard balls. The factory, corner Grand and Plain streets, is a three-story brick building, 68 by 50 feet in dimensions. The billiard balls are now made from bonsilate, a product of another Albany industry, which is mentioned elsewhere. The colors of bonsilate balls are permanent, and they will not burn. Pool and bagatelle balls are also made.

The officers are: Peter Kinnear, President and Treasurer; J. W. Hyatt, Vice-President; Louis Dietz, Secretary; and B. P. Wayne, Superintendent.

The bonsilate billiard balls are taking the place all others for perfection of finish, durability and of cheapness.

PETER KINNEAR.

One of the names most prominent in connection with the manufacturing and industrial interests of Albany, is that which heads this sketch. Peter Kinnear was born in Dundee, Scotland, April 24, 1826.

He was educated in his native town, and later served a six years' apprenticeship there to the machinist's trade. As he grew to manhood, the desire within him to seek a home in the New World, grew stronger and more irresistible. When scarcely more than a youth he bade farewell to kin and friends, and set out upon a perilous journey across the ocean. His love of his native land was strong, but his ambition to make a name and place for himself among men on the far-away shores of America was stronger still.

At the very outset he met with an accident which nearly cost him his life, but he was not daunted and, without repining or turning back, he pursued his way. It was in 1847 that he came to the United States.

He tried to obtain employment at his trade in New York, Rochester and Toronto successively, and finding it impossible to get such work to do as he wished, did that which every true man must see it his duty to do — did such work as came in his way, which in his case was cutting timber in a Canadian forest, during all of one winter. Returning to the States, he again sought employment as a machinist at Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, Utica and Albany. He was again unsuccessful until he reached Albany, when he entered the employment of William Orr, at his foundry, 64 Beaver street.

This establishment was founded by Lewis Aspinwall over half a century ago, and is therefore intimately connected with the industrial development of Albany. From Mr. Aspinwall its ownership passed to Mr. Orr. Mr. Orr was succeeded by the firm of Orr & Blair, of which he was himself a member. In 1872 Mr. Kinnear became the owner of Mr. Orr's share, and the firm of Blair & Kinnear was in existence till Mr. Kinnear became sole proprietor.

May, 1884, Mr. Kinnear purchased the lots at the corner of Beaver and Grand streets, known as No. 64 and 66 Beaver street. Here Mr. Kinnear made great improvements, so marked in their character as to entitle him to the credit of having beautified that portion of Beaver street in which his factory is located.

The great variety of goods embraced under the head of brass castings, and the varied application of this valuable composition metal to the manufacture of articles of mechanical and household use, present an interesting study. A house devoted to the manufacture of the innumerable pieces of brass, bronze and other soft metal castings, for the countless purposes to which these metals are now put, is a very important helper in promoting the general good of any manufacturing center. In Albany that of Mr. Kinnear is the most prominent one of its kind. This enterprise embraces the manu-

facture of all kinds of brass, bronze, composition, nickel, white and other soft metal castings; steam-cocks and valves, plumber brass work, brass work for breweries, lager beer apparatus, steam-engine work, etc. Faithful attention is given to whatever may be desired in this line, and great care is taken in the selection of proper qualities of metal and in the delicate process of casting, especially where soundness and accuracy are required in the finished articles.

The premises occupied for the prosecution of this industry consist of a two-story brick building, 60 by 22 feet in dimensions, with an L of same size used for the molding-shop, which are supplied with all modern facilities, thoroughly equipped with all necessary tools, appliances and furnaces, and furnished with an engine of six-horse power. With an experience of so many years in the business, Mr. Kinnear may be rightly supposed to be eminently capacitated to carry on the enterprise with success and satisfaction to his trade. Nor does his identification with this community stop with his interest in this business, since he is also President of the Albany Billiard Ball Co., President of the Bonsilate Button Co., and a Director in both the Bonsilate Co. (limited) and the Newark Filtering Co.

With the history of the manufactory of billiard balls in Albany, Mr. Kinnear's name is prominently identified. The most unique industry in Albany, and, indeed, the only one of the kind in the world, is that of the Albany Billiard Ball Company. This Company was organized in 1875, and is the legitimate successor of the Hyatt Manufacturing Company, organized in 1868, which was the pioneer in the attempt to make composition billiard balls. It is not our purpose to go into the details of the trials and failures of the original organization in its experiments to produce billiard balls of pyroxiline and later of celluloid that would take the place of ivory. Let it suffice to say that thousands of dollars were spent and much valuable time lost in experimenting with little or no practical results, until the formation of the present Company, since which time, by the use of perfected processes and machinery, the invention of J. W. Hyatt, the Company has succeeded in producing billiard balls that are more perfect than ivory balls, while at the same time they are far less expensive.

The management of the Company is in the hands of the following named officers: Peter Kinnear, President and Treasurer; J. W. Hyatt, Vice-President; Lewis Dietz, Secretary; and B. P. Wayne, Superintendent; all gentlemen closely identified with the industrial advancement of this city. Mr. Kinnear's identification with this enterprise dates from a time when failure and disaster had stripped it of the confidence of most of the capitalists of Albany. He had faith in the scheme, and unbounded faith in Mr. Hyatt, through the utilization of whose inventions he was certain success would be won for it.

At considerable personal trouble and no small temporary sacrifice, he invested in the enterprise, taking risks which made some of his friends tremble for the results; and he induced others of Albany's progressive men to take stock in the Company. The result has more than justified his most sanguine hopes. The enterprise is one of Albany's notable successes.

No man in the city has taken a greater interest in its industrial enterprises than Mr. Kinnear, and no one has worked more steadily and more earnestly to advance them. He has ever been among the first to welcome new manufacturing industries, and one of those most ready to encourage and foster them by substantial aid to the extent of his ability. There are many who to-day admit that, had his judgment been respected and his advice taken relative to proposed enterprises which have been seated elsewhere, only after proper encouragement had been refused them in Albany, the city's material prosperity at this time would be much greater than it is, and its intelligent working population much larger.

Born in the land of Wallace, and imbibing a love of freedom with the very air he breathed, Mr. Kinnear was a lover of American institutions even before, as a very young man, he had placed his feet on American soil. He believed in universal freedom, and early placed himself in the ranks of those who ultimately united with others of more pronounced views to free the African slaves in the United States. A lover of freedom and a protectionist, a Whig originally, he was one of the earliest to array himself in the Republican ranks, and with the Republican party he has voted and labored ever since.

Mr. Kinnear was for two years a member of the Board of Supervisors of Albany County, and has several times been the nominee of his party for Alderman to represent his Ward, and it is only the greatly preponderating Democratic vote that has prevented his repeated election, for personally he is recognized as the most popular man in his Ward. With all of a Scotchman's love for Scotland and its history and traditions, Mr. Kinnear is at the same time a most thorough-going American, taking a deep and most intelligent interest in all questions of public moment, and exerting his influence, and freely using his means to promote American industry and elevate that great class who are our best citizens either in peace or war—the honest mechanics, of whom he is proud to number himself as one.

During his sojourn in Canada, previously referred to, Mr. Kinnear, in 1849, married Miss Annie Gilchrist, a native of Scotland. It was soon afterward that they came to Albany and Mr. Kinnear entered upon that career which has made him so widely known and respected. It has been a career of honest endeavor, of well-directed effort—whose rewards have not been bestowed with a stingy hand. Such a career as best illustrates the certainty that skill, industry, integrity, perseverance and whole-souled friendliness will win for their possessor that degree of success which ought to be the earthly object of every citizen, and which is often the envy of those who do not themselves deserve it.

BONSILATE.

The Bonsilate Company, corner Church and Pruyn streets, was organized in 1878. The factory is of four stories, brick, where 20 workmen are employed. This Company produces bonsilate in bulk and in manufactured goods.

The officers are Robert C. Pruyn, President; David M. Kinnear, Secretary and Treasurer; John W. Hyatt, Expert; and Charles S. Lockwood, Superintendent. The Directors are Messrs. Pruyn & Hyatt, S. W. Rosendale, Peter Kinnear, Theodore Townsend, Charles M. Hyatt, and David M. Kinnear.

Bonsilate is the discovery of John W. Hyatt, the inventor also of celluloid. It has been improved by Charles S. Lockwood. It is already used in making many articles of utility and ornament, for which its qualities of hardness, elasticity, susceptibility of taking any color and a high polish, render it very valuable. It is also a non-conductor of electricity, and incombustible. It is valuable as a substitute for ivory, amber, jet, coral, celluloid and all like substances.

FURNITURE AND OTHER HOUSE SUPPLIES.

Most of the household furniture sold in Albany is manufactured in New England, Michigan and Ohio, where timber is now plenty and facilities for manufacture more abundant and cheap. It comes often in parts and is put together and finished in our city.

The B. W. Wooster Furniture Company, 51 and 53 North Pearl street, incorporated in 1884, with B. W. Wooster, President, succeeded the business of B. W. Wooster, which was established in 1843. This Company supplies for buildings the entire interior wood-work, such as staircases, floors, ceilings, wainscot, mantels; also paper-hangings, furniture, upholstering, curtains, frescoing, and stained glass. In short, as soon as the masons have completed their work upon a residence, they complete it ready for occupancy.

Nelson Lyon has, during the past seven years, worked up and established a large furniture manufactory on Central avenue, with still larger salesrooms at 65 Hudson avenue. His trade has grown rapidly. Among other well-known makers and dealers in this important class of industry in this city within recent years may be named Butler, Senrick, Watson, Westcott; also Hertz, Hicks, Gloeckner, now in the business. Several large stores on North Pearl street deal in furniture extensively.

The small cabinet makers of other days are no more. They did honest work and supplied the demand for substantial chairs, stands, tables, desks, bedsteads, and such like simple furniture for household use in earlier days.

SCHOOL FURNITURE.

An eastern office of the Union School Furniture Company, of Battle Creek, Mich., was established in this city, at 508 Broadway, in 1882. W. A. Choate, Manager.

Their specialty is the "Automatic," or rear-folding school-seat. They also manufacture school-desks, seats, and all kinds of school furniture. Harlan P. French preceded Mr. Choate in this business, successfully pursuing it several years.

PLAIN AND DECORATIVE PAINTING.

Very little attention was given in Albany to decorative painting until a recent date. When paint was laid on wood-work at all, nothing was thought of but preservation from decay thereby. But within a few years great attention has been given to the art as an ornament pleasing to the eye.

John Palmer, painter and decorator, started in business at 25 Washington avenue, in 1866, and has occupied the premises since that time. He has had some of the best contracts in his art in and out of the city, including the State Capitol. Mr. Palmer is a charter member of Post 5, G. A. R., the first organized in the city. He has twice been Commander of the G. A. R., S. N. Y. and Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R., U. S., and is at present Trustee and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the State Soldiers' Home, of which he, as an active member of the G. A. R., was one of the originators. Few men are more active and efficient, or better known in public affairs.

James Blocksidge, who came here from England some years ago, has acquired quite a reputation as a well-informed, tasteful, faithful house-painter, including fresco and decorative work. He is doing some of the best work of the kind in Albany and vicinity.

Daniel P. Gladding has for many years been the successor of his father, one of the early painters in this city, in doing excellent work.

Robert Jefferson, 47 Beaver street, is justly recognized as one of the best sign and banner painters of the city.

The Bantham Brothers rank among our best patronized painters. John S. Hurdis can hardly be surpassed as a painter of signs and banners. The Mickels are superior artists in decoration, designing, and painting. William Prescott, from Massachusetts, has been a leading house and sign-painter for many years. John Cook is not only one of our most esteemed citizens, but best of house-painters.

TABLE AND ENAMELED OIL-CLOTHS.

The manufacture of enameled oil-cloths was first successfully accomplished in this country about a third of a century ago. In 1855, John Walters established a manufactory in Albany for this purpose, and has conducted it with success ever since. His plant is located at 334 to 344 Central avenue, and covers an area of several acres, upon which are erected five substantial brick buildings. A fifty horse-power engine furnishes the necessary

motive power, and employment is afforded to about seventy operatives. The production of this establishment comprises table and enameled oil-cloths in all varieties, a specialty being made in superior styles in imitation of mahogany, rose-wood, oak, and marble. During the first years of the establishment of this factory the production was only 120 yards per day. At present the factory is turning out about 700 rolls per day, or a total of 8,400 yards per day. The products are sold in all parts of the United States and largely exported to foreign countries. The buildings have several times been severely damaged by fire, originating in the processes of manufacture, requiring so much heat in the application of the oil.

SHIP-BUILDING.

In the latter part of the preceding and the first quarter of the present century, the building of sloops and schooners formed an important industry at Albany. Much capital was invested and a large number of men employed. When steamboats came generally in use, some of the earlier ones were built here. Probably the largest vessel ever constructed in Albany was the Victory, referred to in another part of this volume. During late years this industry has almost become extinct, being confined principally to repairing, and the construction of small crafts. At present the principal ship-builders in Albany are John A. Davis & Sons, whose yard is located on the corner of Quay and Columbia streets. They began business in 1879. The sectional dock used by the firm was built twenty-eight years ago. The dock is in five sections, and is 130 feet long by 54 feet wide. Ten pumps on each side of the dock, operated by steam, are used for operating the dock. Thirty-five ship carpenters and calkers are employed.

GLOBE MANUFACTURER.

The first globe manufacturer in the United States was James Wilson, who was born in Londonderry, N. H., in the latter part of the eighteenth century, and died in Bradford, Vt., in extreme old age. He at first made his globes by hand. About 1820, his sons, John and Samuel Wilson, established a globe manufactory in Albany, the first of the kind in this country. It was claimed for them that they were the best globe-makers, not only in America, but in the world. So much did they improve the art of globe-making as to elicit the admission of English manufacturers, that their globes were geographically and mechanically superior to their own. John Wilson died in 1833, and his brother Samuel near that date. After their death the business was discontinued in Albany.

CORK WORKS.

Cork is the outer bark of a species of oak that grows in Southwestern Europe. The tree, when reaching its thirtieth year, is of marketable value. It is then deprived of its bark. From five to ten years thereafter the bark is again removed, and in time another growth in its turn is taken off. The cork grows finer every cutting as long as the tree retains its vigor. After stripping, the bark is scraped to relieve it of adhering moss, and placed in a hot-water bath, kept at a high temperature. Then it is reduced to flat sheets by pressure. It is afterwards made up into bales of 150 pounds. each, ready for shipment. Spain and Portugal furnish all the raw material sent to this country, the production of France and Italy being consumed at home.

The application of machinery to the cutting of corks is of American origin. Thirty years ago all corks were cut by hand, by means of an instrument similar to a butcher's cleaver; 1,500 corks made in this way was a good day's work, while now, with machinery, a girl will turn out 20,000 daily; and the machine-made, from their uniformity of size and finish, are superior to those done by hand.

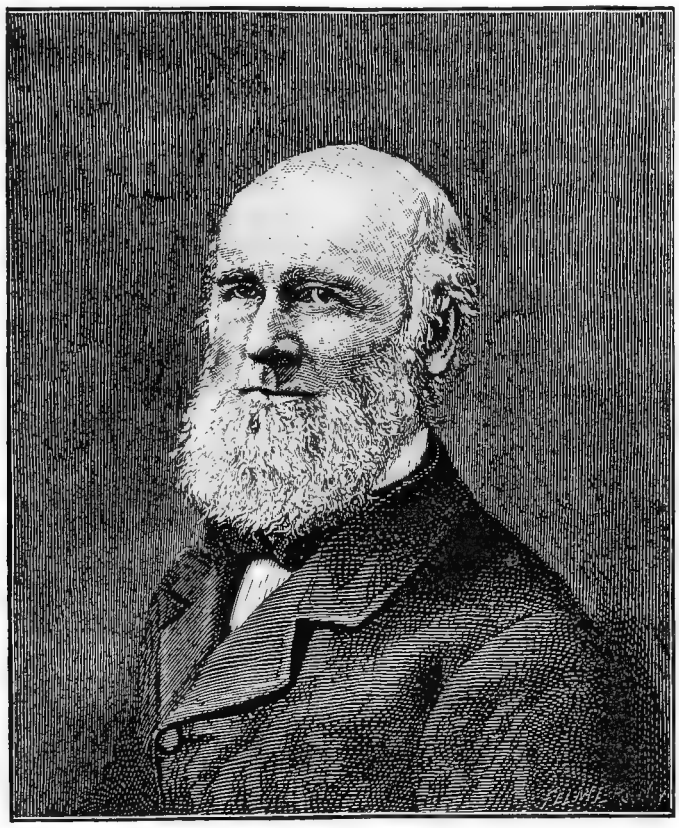
The cork is purchased by the pound in the bale, and the manufactured article is sold by the gross. Besides its ordinary use as stoppers, it is used for net floats, for life preservers, and for shoe soles.

The only manufactory of corks in Albany is that of the Albany Cork Works, corner Maiden lane and James street, which was established in 1866, by Ira B. Sampson, on Pruyn street. He is still the manager.

PIANO MANUFACTURING.

Jonas Chickering, a native of New Ipswich, N. H., a cabinet-maker by trade, made the first American piano in America, and offered it for sale April 15, 1823. He pursued the piano-making business successfully in Boston for many years, and left his honored name and business as a rich legacy to his family.

The first manufacturer of pianos in Albany was James A. Gray, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere. He began this business in Albany as early as 1825. For a number of years he carried on the manufacture of pianos alone. In 1837 he became associated with William G. Boardman, under the firm name of Boardman & Gray. The factory was originally situated on the corner of Broadway and De Witt street, and was subsequently removed to the Old Elm Tree Corner, where the business was carried on for a number of years. They next established their factory at the corner of North Ferry and Broadway. In 1866 they removed to the three-story brick building, No. 239 North Pearl street, lately destroyed by the fire that caused the death of John A. Luby, D. Wheeler and F. J. Wallen. Here a large force of skilled workmen were employed, the establishment turning out twenty complete instruments monthly. From 1840 to 1860 this firm was one of the leading piano-forte establishments in the country. In 1877, Mr. Gray's son, William J. Gray, became a member of the firm. Mr. Boardman died in 1881, and the business was continued by the Grays, father and son, under the old firm name of Boardman & Gray. This firm first introduced the *dolce campana*, which made their pianos famous throughout the musical world.



JAMES A. GRAY.

In 1853, Messrs. Marshall & Traver began the manufacture of pianos in Albany on James street. They were succeeded two years later by Marshall, James & Traver. Thirteen years then ensued, when the proprietorship of the house underwent another change, the firm becoming Marshall & Wendell.

In April, 1882, the firm, under the title of the Marshall & Wendell Piano-forte Manufacturing Company, was incorporated as a limited liability company, with Henry Russell, President; J. V. Marshall, Superintendent; Harvey Wendell, Manager and Treasurer; and John Loughran, Secretary. Capital stock, $100,000. Manufactory and principal office, erected in 1872, 911 to 923 Broadway. This building is of brick, five stories high, 145 by 40 feet, with 40-feet wings. Seventy-five skilled workmen are employed. Annual output, over six hundred pianos. Ware-rooms and music store, 88 North Pearl street, under direction of C. E. Wendell & Co.

In connection with the piano-making industry, it is proper to mention the firm of R. W. Tanner & Son. Mr. Tanner has been in connection with the piano manufacturing business for nearly thirty years. One of the specialties of this firm is the manufacture of piano hardware. They employ about thirty workmen in their establishment at 858 Broadway. George E. Kemp makes piano plates and R. B. Russell supplies the piano action.

Many years ago, William McCammon, a machinist by trade, began the manufacture of pianos, which enterprise he successfully continued until his decease a few years ago, since which it has been carried on by his son, Edward McCammon.

George Johnson has made pianos many years.

Mrs. F. W. Tietz continues the piano making business begun in 1860.

Musical instruments of all kinds, and book and sheet music, have long been sold in this city, notably by Jason Collier, J. Hidley, Cluett & Sons, Haines Brothers, J. A. Reed, and W. C. Gomph.

JAMES A. GRAY.

It is probable that the first person to manufacture pianos in the City of Albany was John Osborn, an Englishman, about the year 1825, who continued for a short time on his own account. and then became associated with J. & H. Meacham, who was manufacturing other musical instruments, and had a music store at State street. About the year 1833, F. P. Burns, Wm. Ballentine & Co. commenced manufacturing for I. P. Cole, who furnished the capital and sold the instruments, he being engaged in teaching vocal music, and dealing in musical goods on State street. It seems that Wm. G. Boardman, a wholesale grocery merchant at the time, was Cole's indorser at the bank, and in 1836, during the depression in trade, Cole

failed in business, and, to protect his indorsement, Mr. Boardman had to buy out Cole's business, which carried the manufacturing of pianos with it; and Mr. Boardman found it necessary to abandon his grocery business and assume the manufacturing of pianos. Being an experienced business man, he found it necessary to change Cole's arrangement and organize anew, which he did by building a factory on the corner of Broadway and De Witt street, and being unacquainted practically with the making of pianos he employed a man by the name of H. Davis to superintend the factory for him, he attending to the music store in State street. In the reorganization of the business of manufacturing pianos, the services of James A. Gray, Hine, Hazelton (now of New York) and some other skilled workmen from New York, who filled important branches in the construction of the pianos. This was in the year 1837. In the year 1838 the Superintendent (Davis) having committed some breach of trust, James A. Gray was appointed superintendent of the manufactory, and soon after became a partner in the firm of Boardman & Gray.

The Meachams and F. P. Burns continued to manufacture up to about 1860, and, having died, their business ceased.

In 185– three young men who had been in the employ of Boardman & Gray commenced the manufacture of pianos in Albany. The firm was Marshall, James & Traver, which was continued for some time, James having retired in 1862, and Traver some years later selling out his interest to Harvey Wendell, the firm being in 1885 Marshall & Wendell.

In 1866, Mr. Boardman having engaged in other business, assigned all his interest in the manufacture of the Boardman & Gray piano to his former partner, James A. Gray, who, in partnership with his brother, William H. Gray, continued to make the Boardman & Gray piano until 1880, when he died, and William H. Gray, son of James A. Gray, became a partner in the firm.

In 1862, William McCammon & Co. commenced the manufacture of pianos on Broadway, and continued until 1881, when on his death at that date his son Edward assumed the business.

In the year 1860 the large factory of Boardman & Gray, on Broadway and North Ferry street, was burned, and in 1885 their factory at 239 North Pearl street was also destroyed by fire.

PAPER WORKS, ETC.

Mr. J. C. Dubuque established himself here in 1839 as a manufacturer of paper boxes, being the pioneer in this branch of industry in the city. After an interruption of several years, Mr. Dubuque re-established the present house in 1880, now conducted by his son, L. R. Dubuque.

The premises are three-stories, each 35 by 60 feet, and are located at 9 and 11 Green street, where all kinds of paper boxes are made, generally upon special orders.

The Albany Paper Box Manufactory, 293 and 295 Broadway, for the manufacture of all kinds of paper boxes, was founded in 1870 by Messrs. Cozine & Co. The factory consists of four floors, each of which are 50 by 100 feet in area. Fifty operatives are employed. Estimates are given for any size or style of paper box desired.

Great improvement has been made in the past few years in this branch of American industries, and the uses to which paper boxes are put are manifold.

Messrs. D. Chapin & Co. succeeded Cozine & Co., and in 1878 Mr. Hench, the present owner, became the proprietor.

Albany Perforated Wrapping Paper Company, 2 and 4 Hudson avenue, corner Quay street, was organized in 1877, with a capital of $50,000, to produce perforated wrapping, writing and toilet papers, and rolled paper of all descriptions, under patents controlled by them. Their specialty is hotel toilet paper with fixture. The output is about 1,000 pounds of wrapping paper and three tons of toilet paper daily. Their building is six-story, brick, 44 by 44 feet; motive power, twelve-horse power engine. Forty hands are employed.

Branch offices are established in New York, 1475 Broadway; Manager, H. B. Smith. Philadelphia, 1031 Chestnut street; Manager, Wm. A. Hamilton. Chicago, 44 La Salle street; Manager, Louis L. Munson, and Boston, 114 Milk street, Moulton & Goodwin, General Agents for the New England States. The officers are Seth Wheeler, President; R. M. Hamilton, Treasurer; E. J. Wheeler, Secretary.

The Albany Card and Paper Company was incorporated in 1868. The building, 315 to 321 Hamilton street, in which they manufacture and have their offices, was begun about 1860, and was gradually built in detachments, until it now occupies an area of 90 by 212 feet. Is five stories high and made of brick. Seventy-five males and an equal number of females are employed.

They surface-coat and finish colored paper for lithographing, for printers and for box-makers. Card-board of all kinds is manufactured.

Their trade extends throughout the States, Canada, and even reaches Brazil.

James M. Warner is President; J. H. McClure, Vice-President; and E. J. Miller, Secretary, of this extensive manufactory.

Allston Adams conducts a card-board manufactory at the corner of North Pearl and Pleasant streets.

PAPER-HANGINGS.

Lemuel Steele was perhaps the first Albany merchant who engaged in manufacturing and importing paper-hangings. He came to Albany from Hartford, Conn., in 1815, and began business at No. 453 South Market street, now Broadway. Mr. Steele was prominent in public affairs; was Alderman for ten years, Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, Director in the Mechanics' & Farmers' Bank over twenty years, and held various other public offices. He died December 26, 1853. He was succeeded, in 1852, by the firm of

George B. Steele & Robert M. King, who are now succeeded by Frank B. King.

TOBACCO, SNUFF AND CIGAR MANUFACTURE.

The first tobacco manufactory in Albany was erected by James Caldwell, a man closley identified with many of the earlier successful manufacturing interests of this city. The establishment was in operation in 1790, situated near the mansion-house of the Patroons. It was regarded as the most extensive and perfect of its kind in the country. Here a large force of men was employed in making snuff and cigars, and drying and curing tobacco. The snuff-mill was considered capable of making more snuff in nine months than was consumed annually in the northern part of the country. In 1794 the works were destroyed by fire, but soon after rebuilt. In 1810 Levi Solomon became a partner of Mr. Caldwell, the partnership continuing until 1820, when Mr. Caldwell retired. Mr. Solomon carried on the business until 1832, when he sold the concern to Charles Chapman, who continued the business for several years.

The tobacco factory of Benjamin Payn's Sons was established by Benjamin Payn in 1835. He conducted the business until his death in 1881, when he was succeeded by his sons, Arthur S. and Howard K., under the present firm title. The factory and sales-rooms, corner of Maiden lane and James street are comprised in a five-story brick building, 35 by 90 feet in dimensions, with machinery and appliances for producing about 100,000 cigars and 25,000 pounds of tobacco per month; employment being furnished to seventy skilled workmen.

Alexander Greer commenced the manufacture of tobacco, snuff and cigars in Albany in 1847. In 1858 his sons were admitted as partners, and the senior member dying in 1873, the present firm was organized, consisting of Thomas H., John and Alexander Greer, under the firm name of Alexander Greer's Sons. The factory is situated at 820 and 822 Broadway, where fifty hands are employed in the various departments on the four floors of this large building. The annual product amounts to 1,200,000 cigars annually.

Moses Strasser founded the present tobacco manufacturing firm of M. Strasser & Co. in 1852. The individual members are Moses, Benjamin and Solomon Strasser. Their plant, at No 27 Hudson avenue, consists of a four-story brick building 25 by 70 feet in dimensions, where a large force of workmen are employed. The trade of this house is extensive and growing.

In 1867, Gee & Van Slyke commenced to manufacture cigars in Albany, and continued the business until 1870, when the firm was changed by the retirement of Mr. Gee, after which the business was continued by G. W. Van Slyke until 1881, when Walter Horton was admitted as partner, under the firm name of G. W. Van Slyke & Co. Their factory and sales-room, 471 Broadway, comprises a five-story brick building, 23 by 180 feet in dimensions. Here is furnished employment to about two hundred operatives, whose annual production aggregates about 7,000,000 cigars.

Besides the above manufacturers, the following are engaged in this business: Frank Chamberlain, 26 and 28 State street; James Jones, 627 Broadway; S. Levy & Brother, 36 Green street; F. B. Mooney, 9 South Pearl; Shield & Sons, 37 Church street; M. G. McNamara & Co., 71 North Pearl street; W. A. Rapine, 451 Madison avenue; J. J. Franklin, 500 Broadway; Julius Fish & Brother, 14 South Pearl; and D. A. Lawler & Son, 776 Broadway.

HATS AND FUR GOODS.

The making of felt and beaver hats in New England, New York and Virginia, began to be a large industry in the latter part of the seventeenth and early part of the eighteenth century; but was checked by parliamentary law as interfering with British industry, and thus restrained until after the Revolution. After this it was revived.

The manufacturing of fur goods and hats was at one time one of the most important industries in Albany. It was claimed that the Albany furriers excelled all others in the world in the important art of dying their furs. Among the pioneers in this industry of whom we have authentic record, were John W. Wendell, who in 1783 was engaged in manufacturing hats; Elisha Dorr, who in 1793 followed this business. William Mayell, who came from England in 1795, settled in Albany and began to make hats. In an advertisement in the newspapers in 1820 his store was designated as opposite the Eagle Tavern. He was at this time the most extensive manufacturer of hats in the city. Besides being a good mechanic, he made some pretension to science. He was an active member of the Mechanics' Society, and afterwards of the Albany Institute, of which he is said to have been the founder.

In the first quarter of the present century J. H. Prentice, Packer & Co., established a manufactory of fur goods here, which grew to immense proportions. Some years after it was continued by Prentice, Finn & Co. In 1844, it was considered the largest of its kind in the world; 700 to 800 hands were constantly employed, and over 2,000 caps were manufactured daily. Their products, as fast as manufactured, were shipped to a branch establishment in New York, whence they were distributed to all parts of this and foreign countries.

About this same time Taaffe & Gough conducted a similar business at No. 1 Exchange Building, where they employed about 150 hands in this business. A large quantity of muffs, collars and trimmings were manufactured by them.

Edward S. Willett, about 1825, had a hat manufactory on the corner of Green and Bassett streets. He was the first to commence the manufacture of silk hats in Albany.

In 1844, Williams, Parke & Co. conducted a cap, muff, glove and robe manufactory in this city, at

No. 71 Broadway. Their work was noted for its excellence and was well known all over the country at this date.

In 1832, Joshua G. Cotrell founded the business now conducted by Messrs. Edgar Cotrell and Daniel Leonard, under the firm name of Cotrell & Leonard, at 472 and 474 Broadway. Messrs. E. Cotrell and Leonard entered the firm in 1867, and gained control of the same in 1878, the year of the senior Mr. Cotrell's death. They built the premises 46 State street in 1870, occupying the same until 1884, when they removed to their present quarters. Their annual sales are about $250,000.

About sixty years ago, Denison Williams dressed and dyed seal-skins. He was succeeded by Packer, Prentice & Co., whose manufactures in 1831 reached the value of $500,000. John Bryan, James Chase, Robert Cheesebrough and John S. Smith were also engaged in this business. Twenty thousand fur seals per year were dressed, which were made into caps. When these caps went out of fashion the trade waned. In 1858 it revived, since which time seal-skin sacques have been manufactured.

The firm of George C. Treadwell & Co., manufacturers and dealers in furs, from its small beginnings in 1832, when it was established by George C. Treadwell, late deceased, has grown until it now ranks with the leading fur establishments of the country. They manufacture and deal in all kinds of fine furs, sacques, boas, caps, gloves, robes, etc. The present fine process by which fur seal, otter and beaver are dyed and dressed, is the result of Mr Treadwell's industry and skill. Their premises are 60 by 30 feet, four-stories high, brick. The first floor is used for displaying goods, the others for manufacturing and storing. The successor of Mr. Treadwell is his son, George H. Treadwell. The house has a branch store at No. 676 Broadway, New York City, under the supervision of Henry Treadwell. In 1844, Mr. Treadwell, Sr., had acquired the reputation of being one of the best cap manufacturers in the United States, and as especially excelling in dressing and coloring furs.

There are now, and long have been, extensive dealers in every variety of hats, caps and furs, and fur goods, in this city who are referred to under the head of the Beaver and Fur Trade, and Trade and Commerce.

GEORGE CURTIS TREADWELL

was born in Farmington, Conn., October 24, 1812, and died in Albany, N. Y., October 3, 1885.

His father was George Treadwell, of Farmington. His grandfather was Hon. John Treadwell, Governor of Connecticut and first President of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. His mother was Nancy Curtis, daughter of Eleazer Curtis, of Farmington, Conn.

Mr. Treadwell left his home when nine years of age, and lived with his uncle, Major Roger Hooker, till he was fourteen, when he removed to Albany, N. Y., and entered the dry goods house of Chandler, Starr, & Co. and remained till 1829, when he was employed by Packer, Prentice & Co., manufacturers of furs. He remained with them till he commenced business for himself, April 1, 1832. James Chase entered the firm of George C. Treadwell & Co. February 1, 1846, and retired February 1, 1872. Thomas Treadwell entered the concern February 1, 1846, and retired February 1, 1853. Moses P. Whitcomb entered the concern February 1, 1854, and retired February 1, 1857. Henry Treadwell entered the concern February 1, 1854. George C. Treadwell retired from the concern February 1, 1884, and the firm of Treadwell & Co., consisting of Henry Treadwell, his brother, and George H. Treadwell, his son, was formed February 1, 1885.

Upon Mr. Treadwell's retirement, the following notice appeared in the *Albany Argus*:

"The retirement of George C. Treadwell from active business after a career of over half a century, merits a passing notice. Brought up in the strictness of a New England home, Mr. Treadwell came to this city a youth, and soon engaged in the fur business, bringing with its prosecution the habits of industry, integrity and close application, which were the fruits of his early training. During the whole period he has won the esteem and confidence of the entire community. Of somewhat retiring habits, Mr. Treadwell has never filled any public position, except that of a director in one of our banks, where he remained but for a brief period. But his interest in the public welfare has always been manifested by his liberal gifts to all worthy public and charitable objects. In retiring from business, which he does in consequence of impaired health, he carries with him the sympathy and respect of all who are acquainted with him. In the card announcing his retirement, after thanking his friends for their patronage and recommending his successors to the public, he closes with his 'acknowledgment to Almighty God for the material welfare he has enjoyed.' This, which might seem like cant if it came from some men, is so characteristic of Mr. Treadwell, that all who know him will appreciate his sincerity in thus publicly making known his gratitude to the Author and Giver of all blessings."

He married Amy D. Roberts March 2, 1836. Their children are George Hooker, Lucy, Julia, Charles, Edgar, Ezra Prentice, Emma, Alice, and Howard.

To the advice and example of Major Hooker his uncle, William Gay and John T. Norton, and the early training of his mother, he is indebted for those sterling traits of character which have made him such a bright example of true Christian manhood in the Church and the world.

To the habit of making every transaction of his life a matter of conscience, with a firm reliance upon his Maker, and following the Bible as his only guide, was due his success, the result of which was a competency of this world's goods and the good-will of all his acquaintances.

GEORGE C TREADWELL

He has always given liberally to those objects of charity which commended themselves to his judgment as being right and for the public good.

Mr. Treadwell never held any public office, except to serve as a Director of the Commercial Bank for a short period; a Trustee of the Second Presbyterian Church from 1849 to 1876 (twenty-seven years); and as Elder in the same church.

He devoted his time to his business and was regular and steady in his habits, and, though suffering all his life from asthma, he had never been sick enough to be obliged to remain at home till October 24, 1883, since which time he only went out to drive.

BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURE.

The making of boots and shoes on orders for customers, is a business that has been carried on for ages, and the sons of St. Crispin, following their useful craft, have been found in nearly every neighborhood in this country, from the earliest settlement, alongside the blacksmith, the house joiner, the Jack of all trades. Their occupation is not yet gone, but the large establishments that supply shoes to the trade, reaching even to foreign lands, had their origin and development in New England, beginning in the early part of this century. Their introduction in Albany has been more recent, but equally successful.

The present firm of Willard Bellows, manufacturer of boots and shoes, was founded in 1856 by Messrs. Munson & Co., who were succeeded in 1864 by Bellows & Moore, who continued in business until 1879, when Mr. Bellows became sole owner. It is one of the leading manufactories of its kind in Albany. The factory and sales-rooms, 411 Broadway, occupy four floors, 20 by 70 feet in dimensions. About twenty-five workmen are constantly employed.

The boot and shoe manufactory of Woolverton & Co., 369 and 371 Broadway, was established by G. A. Woolverton & Co. in 1831. It was continued by the founders for over half a century, when, January 1, 1881, the present firm, composed of Monroe Woolverton and Marcus E. Stone, succeeded to the business. This factory is comprised in a four-story brick building, 50 by 100 feet in dimensions, where are employed one hundred and fifty operators, producing fifty thousand pairs of shoes annually.

Fearey Manufacturing Company.—This, the largest boot and shoe manufactory in Albany, was founded by Thomas Fearey in 1844. Up to 1854 goods were manufactured only to supply the several retail stores conducted by the founder. In this year the manufacture of boots and shoes was begun at the foot of Beaver street to supply the wholesale trade. In 1865, his two sons, Thomas H. and George D. Fearey, became associated with the founder under the firm name of Thomas Fearey & Sons. At this time large apartments were secured at Nos. 51 and 53 Liberty street. In 1867 the firm purchased the building Nos. 9 and 11 Liberty street, and removed to that location. These frequent removals were made for the purpose of accommodating their growing business, but this last location was soon found too small, and in 1869 they completed and first occupied their present quarters on Union, Division and Liberty streets. This plant covers nearly an entire square, upon which are erected two large four-story brick buildings. The capacity of the factory is about one thousand five hundred pairs of shoes per day. About five hundred operatives are employed.

In 1882 a stock company was formed called the Fearey Manufacturing Company, as successors to Thomas Fearey & Sons. The business is controlled by a Board of Trustees. The following are the officers and trustees: George L. Stedman, President; George D. Fearey, Vice-President and Manager; William K. Templeton, Secretary and Treasurer; B. F. Fayerweather, Louis Schoellkopf, Jonas M. Barnet, James Abbot, Joseph R. Harper, John F. Shaffer.

East New York Boot and Shoe Manufacturing Company has a branch factory at 226 to 232 Hamilton street. The plant of this Company is one of the most extensive in the city devoted to this branch of industry. The factory consists of a four-story brick building. About four hundred operatives are employed in the several processes of manufacture. This house was originally established in 1858, at East New York, L. I., by John R. Pitkin. A portion of the works was removed to Albany in 1860. The present officers of the Company are George D. Pitkin, President; Walcott H. Pitkin, Vice-President; and Frederick E. Pitkin, Secretary and Treasurer. Two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars are expended annually in Albany for wages and salaries. C. C. Ballou is Superintendent of this factory, Edwin W. Ober is Cashier, and Charles G. Hoy, Accountant. James G. Cummings and John H. Fotens are foremen of separate departments.

The boot and shoe manufactory of M. W. Dodge was founded by the present proprietor in 1877. The factory occupies the three upper stories of the building, Nos. 416 and 418 Broadway. An average of sixty hands are employed, and all the latest and most improved machinery is used. Mr. Dodge sells the product of his factory principally to the retail dealers.

In 1877, Messrs. A. McD. Shoemaker and William Pabst, under the firm name of Shoemaker & Pabst, began manufacturing boots and shoes. Their establishment at 35 and 37 Hamilton street is a three-story brick building, 42 by 30 feet, and seventy-five operatives find employment there. The products are women's, misses' and children's medium grade goat and kid boots and shoes.

Stephen Munson was among the earliest manufacturers of shoes in Albany, and carried on this business for many years. He is still a resident of this city, but not engaged in active business.

J. R. Busley, at present Superintendent in the shoe manufactory of Herrick & Freeman, claims to be the first person to use steam power in making shoes, not only in Albany, but in America.

SHIRTS, COLLARS, AND CUFFS.

The Albany Linen Collar Company.—The manufacture of shirts, linen collars and cuffs for the wholesale trade, in this city, has, with a single notable exception, that of the firm of S. L. Munson, been prosecuted only to a limited extent. The first successful attempt to establish an extensive collar manufactory in this city was made in 1867 by the firm of Munson, Richardson & Co., composed of S. L. Munson, J. A. Richardson and L. R. Dwight. In 1869 the firm dissolved and S. L. Munson, the present proprietor of the concern, became sole owner. The business was first carried on at 372 and 374 Broadway. It was afterwards removed to 463 and 465 Broadway. Other removals were soon occasioned by the rapidly growing business. In 1884 Mr. Munson purchased the old Hudson avenue Church, which since, at an outlay of much money, he has converted into a handsome and well-arranged manufactory. Here every facility is afforded for his large and growing business. About three hundred hands are employed, of whom a greater part work on the premises.

The manufacture of paper collars was begun in Albany, in 1869, by Edward Elisha Mack and Stephen Jarvis, and for some years a prosperous business was done. It was finally abandoned when the senior member of the firm founded the present house of Mack & Co., manufacturers of cloth-faced and linen collars, cuffs and shirts. The manufacturing plant is located at No. 6 Pruyn street, and embraces a four-story brick building. About sixty operatives are employed at the factory, and about the same number are furnished with work at their own homes. The individual members of the firm are Edward Elisha Mack and William M. Ticknor.

BRUSHES.

Bristles, wire, broom corn, wool, leather, camel's hair and other material are at this day used in the manufacture of brushes for the various purposes of cleaning and painting.

In 1833, J. B. Armour began the manufacture of brushes from bristles for domestic purposes and for manufacturing and machine uses. The business was afterward conducted by Ferris & Armour. In 1880, John Ferris, Jr., the present proprietor, became sole owner, and is improving the style and finish. The premises, a four-story brick structure, 20 by 75 feet, are located at 400 Broadway. Nearly five-sixths of the bristles used in American brushes are obtained from Russia.

The quality of the brushes made by Mr. Ferris is giving him an increasing trade.

SAMUEL L. MUNSON.

Among the men who founded New Haven in 1638, was Thomas A. Munson, who came to America in 1621. Richard Lyman was of the band who, in 1635, hewed their way from Boston to the Connecticut River, and located the town of Hartford. Both of these men were of noble English families. After exactly two hundred years, and in the eighth generation in America, these two Puritan families were united by the marriage in 1835, at Chester, Mass., of Garry Munson and Harriet Lyman. Of their seven children, the fifth and youngest son is Samuel Lyman Munson, who was born in the town of Norwich (now Huntington) Mass., June 14, 1844. His father was the most prominent man in that section of the State, and served the State, county, town and church all officially during a long and busy life. His advice and counsel were much sought by his neighbors, and a remarkable illustration of his reputation for sagacity and integrity is found in the fact that he was at one time administrating on no less than fifteen different estates, while his possession of extraordinary business qualifications was demonstrated by the fact, that during this period, as a farmer, a dealer in wool and a manufacturer, he gave careful attention to his own large interests, with results satisfactory both to himself and others interested. In religion and morals a Puritan, in secular affairs always just and liberal, and in all things fearless, he died after having achieved the allotted three score and ten years, leaving a spotless reputation, which is held as a sacred legacy by his children.

Samuel Lyman Munson attended the district school of his neighborhood, assisting, betimes, in the farm work, until, at the age of twelve, he was sent to Williston Seminary, at East Hampton, Mass., where he was a student during the succeeding three years. At the age of fifteen he entered a large dry goods house in Boston, where, during the next two years, he learned the elements of business and placed himself in the way of substantial advancement; but his health, never robust, failed perceptibly during his confinement, and, obliged to relinquish his position on that account, he returned home and resumed his old, health-giving farm life. Thus passed a year greatly to his physical benefit. He then engaged himself to Messrs. Wick & Strong, manufacturers of clothing, in Albany, to undertake the development of their business in the West. Four years later, in 1867, with Messrs. J. A. Richardson and L. R. Dwight, two young men of Albany, he embarked in the manufacture of linen collars. Without experience, and with limited means, the partners did not make the venture a success, and they severed their relations at the expiration of two years, when Mr. Munson reorganized the business and continued it alone. Its history has been one of constant growth and uniform success. Its requirements having necessitated frequent removals to larger and still larger quarters; in 1884, foreseeing that for the same reason another removal would soon be necessary, Mr. Munson purchased the old Hudson avenue Church, which he will remodel into an immense factory, where will be located permanently an establishment which, beginning a few years ago with only two sewing machines, now numbers its employees by hundreds, and distributes its wares through the trade in nearly every town from Boston to San Francisco.

In 1868, Mr. Munson married Susan B., daughter of Lemuel J. Hopkins, of Albany, and has three sons and two daughters. Retiring in his habits, and spending among his books most of the time not necessarily devoted to his large and increasing business, he yet takes a lively interest in public affairs, and is identified with the principal literary, Masonic, athletic, and social organizations of the city. He is also a Trustee of the Home Savings Bank. Yet a comparatively young man, and endowed with business ability of an uncommon order, and possessing the confidence of the commercial community in a marked degree; full of energy and perseverance; he seems destined to achieve very high rank among the business men and manufacturers of the capital city.

STEAM DYEING AND SCOURING.

The application of aniline dyes twenty-five years ago to dyeing processes, marked an important era. Previous to this time, coloring matter was expensive, and not so easily applied as those now in universal use.

The oldest dye-works for the cleansing and dyeing of fabrics, etc., in this city, is the one now owned by Messrs. Robert F. and William D. Macfarlane, 24 Norton street, who have branches at 80 Hudson avenue and 40 Orange street. This was founded, in 1830, by Robert Martin at No. 20 of the same street. He was succeeded in 1840 by William Giffen, who conducted the business for ten years, when Peter Leddy became owner, and continued as such until 1855, the year of his death. His widow, Elizabeth, then assumed control, selling out, in 1864, to Robert Macfarlane, the father of the present proprietors.

Robert Macfarlane died in Brooklyn, December 21, 1883, from paralysis. He was born in Rutherglen, near Glasgow, Scotland, on St. George's Day, 1815. Having learned the art of dyeing at his father's establishment in Paisley, Scotland, he came to America when a boy, and settled in Albany in 1840. He was a close student and graceful writer. In 1842 he gained the Young Men's Association prize medal for his excellent essay on the Life and Character of General Anthony Wayne. He first became known as a writer for the press in a series of articles on scientific subjects contained in a magazine called the *Mechanics' Mirror*, published, in partnership with the late Joel Munsell, in 1846. In 1847 he was called to the editorial chair of the *Scientific American* in New York, and was connected with that paper for seventeen years, during which time it acquired a world-wide reputation for ability and accuracy. During this time he was much sought as a lecturer on scientific subjects. He published a work on the steam engine, and a hand-book for dyers and practical chemists, both of which passed through many editions. About twenty-five years ago he returned to Albany, and bought out a dyeing establishment, which is under his name at the present time, though for the last twelve years his sons, Robert F. and William D. Macfarlane, have had entire charge of the business. His life was eminently pure and free from reproach. Retiring from active business about twelve years ago, he revisited his native land, and while there contributed a series of interesting letters, which were published in the *Scottish American Journal*, attracting much attention.

Mr. Macfarlane was a member of the Albany Institute for many years, and President of the St. Andrew's Society of Albany. He was a consistent Christian man, of a gentle and noble spirit, for over fifty years a member of the Presbyterian Church and Sabbath-school Teacher and Superintendent.

William Giffen was one of the pioneers in this business in Albany, upwards of 60 years ago. He became eminently successful in it for a number of years, and retired after having accumulated a competency. He was succeeded by his daughter, Mrs. John McDuffie. She has a thorough practical knowledge of the business in its most minute details, and has been very successful financially. She still conducts the business, as owner and proprietress, at 37 Beaver street. Her trade is rapidly increasing, and she has a number of branch offices in this city and the adjoining counties. Mrs. McDuffie originally introduced steam-power in the dyeing and scouring business.

LUMBER.

GILBERT HUNTER

was born in Pittstown, Rensselaer County, N. Y., October 20, 1818. His parents, Robert and Ziptha Anderson Hunter, were both of Scotch descent, and among the earliest settlers of the northern part of Rensselaer County, having removed from Westchester County soon after the close of the Revolution.

His childhood and youth were spent upon the family homestead, near which place, in Millertown, N. Y., he subsequently learned the trade of carriage-making. When about 21 years of age he removed to Valley Falls, and began on his own account the business of manufacturing carriages and sleighs. He followed this business for about eight years, then abandoned it and removed to Albany, which, during the remainder of his life, with but one or two interruptions, was his residence.

His first venture at Albany was in connection with an important contract on the Hudson River Railroad, then being constructed from Albany to New York. He was subsequently engaged in the manufacture of lumber at Potsdam, St. Lawrence County; also in Oneida County; and, lastly, at Jacksonville, Fla., where, in the years 1876 and 1877, in company with his eldest son, Dexter Hunter, he established the extensive saw-mill business to which the latter succeeded after his death.

In the year 1865 he began the lumber trade in Albany, and in company with Mr. Dexter Hunter continued this business until his death, which occurred at Jacksonville, Fla., June 29, 1881, at 63 years of age. Mr. Hunter was thrice married, and there survives him his widow, Mrs. Josephine R.

Hunter, four sons, Dexter, Gilbert, Paul, and Royal Hunter. He had three brothers, John, Robert, and Harvey Hunter, the last named being the only one surviving him, and who is now engaged in the lumber trade at Albany. Early in life Mr. Hunter connected himself with the Methodist Church at Valley Falls, and throughout the period of his residence in that village contributed to the utmost of his ability, in time and money, to the support of that organization. Upon removing to Albany he united with the Hudson Avenue Methodist Church. About the year 1866 he severed his connection with this church, and united with the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Albany. This relationship continued until his death. In business Mr. Hunter was a thoroughly honest, straightforward man, of more than ordinary foresight and enterprise. He did not follow in the wake of other men, but originated almost every business venture with which he was ever connected. Striking boldly out in paths not trodden by others, with a faith that never wavered and a courage that never failed, no matter how unpropitious the outlook, he carried most of his enterprises to a successful issue. Employing, as he did in the last years of his life, several hundred men of different nationalities and almost every grade, from the skilled mechanic to the humblest day laborer, he made it a rule to acquaint himself personally with every employee. And while, on the one hand, exacting the most faithful service from each, on the other, he took a personal interest in the welfare of all, giving them kindly advice and substantial assistance in every time of need. By his men he was universally respected; and the most touching tributes that have since his death been contributed to his memory were, in notable instances, those uttered by these employees.

In all social relations Mr. Hunter was all that any man could be. A kind husband and father, and absolutely true to every requirement of social life, he was possessed of a generous nature, a sanguine temperament, and a modest and retiring disposition.

While he preferred the seclusion of his own home to the allurements of public life, he never failed to take an active interest in all matters of public concern, or to cast his vote and exert his influence as his conscience dictated; or to aid, to the extent of his means, every worthy charity.

Throughout his life his physical strength and mental faculties were absorbed in the successful prosecution of his business. His religion was to him the symbol and ideal of all that was sacred, pure and true, while his family always held the first place in his heart, as the place of all others where piety and every virtue should manifest themselves.

According to the census returns of 1860, there were in the county 594 manufacturing establishments, with an aggregate capital of $9,534,079, which employed 8,032 males and 3,671 females, and produced a value of $16,585,025 annually. This, however, included the large cotton and woolen mills and hosiery and other factories of Watervliet and Cohoes. Deducting them, it would leave for the City of Albany 337 establishments, with an aggregate capital of $5,501,119, employing 4,084 males and 2,516 females, and producing a value of $9,586,314 annually.

The principal manufacturers, as shown by the census of 1860, are given below. This statement is only approximately correct on account of errors in census taking:

Manufactures.	No. of Establishments.	Capital.	Male Hands.	Female Hands.	Value of Products.
Agricultural Implements	4	$85,000	102	.....	$214,060
Alcohol	2	260,000	60	.....	950,000
Bricks	10	127,500	202	.....	106,600
Brooms	3	22,300	159	.....	57,664
Cabinet-ware, Chairs and Bedsteads	15	243,250	287	10	363,050
Carriages	11	97,400	222	.....	211,740
Cigars	17	67,200	200	.....	221,008
Clothing	46	326,500	459	855	713,912
Coffee and Spice Mills	2	40,000	22	.....	51,500
Cotton Goods	5	1,400,800	612	940	1,937,500
Drain Tile	3	26,000	50	.....	35,000
Edge Tools	2	231,000	320	.....	269,200
Fire-brick	1	50,000	25	.....	50,000
Flour and Meal	22	357,700	75	.....	823,170
Hats	10	73,000	90	.....	281,200
Hosiery	8	802,000	365	1,295	1,099,905
Iron-founding	3	20,000	33	.....	44,900
Leather	4	40,700	17	.....	65,611
Linseed Oil	1	40,000	15	.....	70,000
Machinery and Steam Engines	8	175,000	182	.....	205,200
Malting	9	510,300	68	.....	561,000
Malt Liquors	13	641,000	241	.....	804,211
Paper	4	62,000	55	6	67,494
Patent Medicines	2	5,300	5	6	76,100
Pianos	2	120,450	152	.....	126,400
Planed Lumber	4	140,000	237	.....	861,075
Saddlery and Harness	14	30,100	86	20	83,700
Soap and Candles	5	32,800	14	.....	110,485
Stove Founding	7	1,013,000	840	.....	1,038,700
Woolen Goods and Hosiery	13	964,000	582	1,421	1,515,180

According to the census of 1880, the employment of a portion of the inhabitants of Albany was as follows: Apprentices, 266; bakers, 352; bankers and brokers, 105; barbers, 207; blacksmiths, 370; boarding-house keepers, 52; bookbinders, 136; boot and shoe-makers, 1,217; brewers and maltsters, 208; brick-makers, 82; butchers, 323; cabinet-makers, 195; carpenters, 1,127; carriage and car-makers, 101; cigar-makers, 424; clerks and book-keepers in manufactories, 62; clerks in stores, 2,362; clerks and copyists, 171; clergymen, 94; commercial travelers, peddlers, etc., 547; coopers, 113; cotton and wool mill operatives, 16; dentists, 22; domestics, 2,993; draymen and hackmen, 731; employees in manufactories not specified, 216; engineers and firemen, 337; factory operatives not specified, 40; farmers, 67; farm laborers, 74; fish and oystermen, 6; gardeners, 176; Government officials, 441; harness-makers, 95; hotel and restaurant keepers and employees, 441; in express companies, 51; in railroad companies, 750; iron and steel, 932; insurance, 111; jewelers, 84; journalists, 61; laborers, 4,130; laundry employees, 258; lawyers, 211; leather, 79; livery-stable keepers and employees, 129; lumbermen, 9; machinists, 383; masons and stone-cutters, 965; manufacturers,

Gillett. Hunter

266; millers, 12; miners, 2; musicians and music-teachers, 148; on street railroads, 39; painters, 553; paper-mill operatives, 101; physicians, 181; plumbers and gas-fitters, 153; printers, 513; saloon keepers, 434; saw-mill operatives, 39; ship carpenters, 31; steamboats, canals, etc., 204; stock raisers and drovers, 20; tailors, dressmakers and milliners, 2,003; telegraph companies, 85; teachers, 448; traders and dealers, 1,889; tinners, 142; and wheelwrights, 29.

COMMERCIAL INTERESTS OF ALBANY.

THE interests of the industries of Agriculture, Manufactures and Trade are too closely commingled in practical life to admit of well-defined separation. Production calls for consumption; consumption calls for production. The trader is the agent for both the producer and consumer. They are all mutually related. Often the same parties produce and sell and consume. All over-production beyond the wants of the consumer goes to the trader to exchange or to sell. In a city like Albany there are few tradesmen who confine themselves to one class of goods, and few makers who do not trade with any buyer who is ready to purchase. Hence the difficulty of making our classification a sharp one. We endeavor to transmit, on the historic page, the names of the chief men in manufactures and trade, so far as we can, in our limited time and space, gather them. They have done much to make our city what it is, and their names should live and be held in honor.

Previous to the Revolution, the trade of Albany consisted principally in furs. The extent, character and value of this trade have been described under the head of "The Beaver and the Fur Trade." It remains to give a general idea of the commercial interests of the city from that date to the present.

About 1780, adventurers, led by hopes of wealth, began to flock to this natural entrepot of trade. Up to this date the trade of Albany had been restricted by the illiberal policy of the Dutch, who looked with jealous eyes upon all progressive foreigners. At the outbreak of hostilities between this country and England, enterprising residents were quick to see the advantages which the place afforded for supplying the American armies with provisions; and during the Revolution they took advantage of this trade, which grew to immense proportions and more than compensated for the loss of the fur trade. In winter the farmers of the surrounding regions brought their grain to the city and sold it to the merchants. During this period Albany grew to be a large grain center, from which a good share of the provisions used by the American army were received. After the close of the war, immense houses for storing grain were built, in which it was stored until the opening of navigation in the spring, when it was transported to New York.

The best idea of the extent of the commerce of Albany from 1780 to 1800, is gained from the observation of intelligent writers at this date. "About 1781," says a local writer, "not more than seventy, at the utmost calculation, shops and stores were kept in this city, nor had we manufactories of any kind, but depended on importation for every manufactured article." And to show the rapid increase in trade seven or eight years after, he says. "Now we behold Market and State streets crowded with stores, and rents in those streets enhanced to such a degree as to put houses out of the reach of inconsiderable traders." Indeed, for ten or fifteen years after the Revolution, Albany made rapid strides in its commercial affairs, and perhaps, according to the population of the city, made more real progress than at any one period of its history. February 8, 1794, was a notable day for trade. The *Gazette* of that day says: "On a moderate estimate, it is presumed the purchases and sales of produce and merchandise exceeded $50,000. Of the article of wheat, between 25 and 30,000 bushels were brought to this market; a quantity far exceeding the receipts of any one day since the settlement of this country. The price of wheat rose during the day from 7s. 7d. to 8s., or the highest price between this and the first of March. The last mode of purchase is truly novel and must be convincing to the farmer that the merchants of this city are too independent to form combinations."

Count Liancourt, who visited Albany in 1795, says in regard to trade: "The trade of Albany is chiefly carried on with the produce of the Mohawk country, and extends eastward as far as agriculture and cultivated lands expand. The State of Vermont and a part of New Hampshire furnish many articles of trade, and the exports chiefly consist in timber and lumber of every sort and description, potatoes, potash and pearl ashes, all species of grain, lastly, in manufactured articles. These articles are most of them transported to Albany in winter on sledges, housed by the merchants, and by them successively transmitted to New York, where they are either sold for bills on England or exchanged for English goods, which are in return sent from Albany to the provinces, whence the articles for transportation were drawn. * * * The trade of Albany is carried on in ninety vessels, forty-five of which belong to the inhabitants of the town, and the rest to New York or other places."

At this time no Albany ships went directly from this port to Europe, and yet provisions were sent thither from Albany. Liancourt marveled at this

lack of enterprise on the part of Albany ship-owners, which deprived the merchants of Albany of a considerable profit, and threw it into the hands of the New York ship-owners, who made voyages to England, Holland, and other countries.

In the winter of 1795, the tide of emigration toward the western part of the State, through Albany, reached proportions of considerable magnitude, and furnished no small revenue to the city. In one day a citizen of Albany counted five hundred sleighs laden with families of emigrants and their family goods, going through the city.

Albany contained in 1796 one hundred and thirty one stores — almost double the number sixteen years previously — and sixty-eight storehouses.

During the War of 1812, Albany was one of the principal places from which Government supplies were obtained for the army. The transportation of these goods from Albany to Buffalo costs from $20.00 to $30.00 per ton. It was estimated that 9,000 tons were shipped from this port alone, the profits upon which were enjoyed almost entirely by Albany merchants and shippers.

Spafford's Gazetteer for 1813, makes this note as to trade in Albany: "Situated on one of the finest rivers in the world, at a distance of two hundred miles from the ocean, whose tide it enjoys; with an uninterupted sloop navigation; and in the center of an extensive and fertile country, of which it becomes the natural mart, Albany carries on an immense trade already, and seems destined to become one of the greatest inland towns in America. * * * Of the shipping belonging to Albany I am not precisely informed, but, agreeable to information derived from the dock-master, there are fifty Albany sloops that pay wharfage by the year; sixty belonging to Troy, Lansingburgh and Waterford; twenty-six from Tarrytown and New York; seventy from New Jersey and the Eastern states, including twenty schooners, in all two hundred and six; and about one hundred and fifty from different places have paid wharfage by the day, being engaged in different kinds of trade, during the season of 1812, making a total of three hundred and fifty-six. The quantity of wheat purchased annually in Albany is immensely great; and good judges have estimated it at near a million bushels. Other grain, and every article of the agricultural and other common products, nearly in the same proportion, swell the aggregate exports from this city to an enormous amount."

At this date the great road of intercourse between the Eastern States and the Western Country centered at Albany. More teams visited Albany than any other place in the country. This naturally had an important effect upon its trade. In 1826 it was claimed that 150,000 travelers passed through Albany. In 1822 the construction of the Erie Canal being then in rapid progress to completion, the freight by land carriage between Utica and Albany was greatly increased. It is said that one mercantile house paid upwards of $2,000 for a single day's transportation. A traveler passing west had the curiosity to count the number of wagons which he met on the road between Schenectady and Utica, and found them to exceed 350 loaded with flour, from 12 to 14 barrels each, making the quantity transported by land in one day to exceed 4,300 barrels. The quantity transported by water was supposed to be still greater.

The completion of the canal had a wonderful effect upon the commercial welfare of the city, contrary to the opinion of many unprogressive men of that day, who firmly argued that "Clinton's Ditch" would prove the ruin of Albany! In 1826 there had been an increase of 2,000 boats since 1824. During the former year it was claimed that five millions of dollars' worth of goods were sold by not more than fifty houses.

The following table shows the increase in the amount of produce and merchandise arriving at Albany by way of the canal in two years, from 1832 to 1834:

	1832.	1834.	
Domestic spirits	21,285	20,839	bbls.
" "	1,274	....	hhds.
Boards and Scantlings	36,020,594	62,103,000	feet.
Timber	55,569	104,145	"
Flour	422,695	795,182	bbls.
Provisions	21,274	20,864	"
Salt	23,117	19,070	bush.
Wheat	145,960	233,574	"
Coarse grain	208,943	490,880	"
No. of boats arrived and cleared	14,300	18,550	
No. of tons	109,300	156,804	

It will be noticed that the increase in the greatest articles of merchandise—lumber in its various shape, and flour and grain — is from 70 to 100 per cent. This table is given to show the rapid growth of the trade in Albany at this period. In the one article of lumber, Albany occupied a foremost position in the United States, a position it still holds. About this same date there were twenty-five regular trading vessels between Albany and Boston, which, it was estimated, brought to Albany about 25,000 quintals of codfish during the season, and about 25,000 barrels of mackerel, besides large quantities of merchandise which passed up the canal or stopped for a market here. These vessels took from Albany to Boston, in return, about 75,000 barrels of flour each season, together with large quantities of grain. The indirect trade between Boston and Albany, which was transhipped at New York, was also great. A number of vessels were also engaged in carrying on a coasting trade between Albany and the seaport towns of New England. In 1821 only 41 vessels visited Albany from eastern ports; in 1824 the number was 59; in 1827 it had increased to 123.

Between 1830 and 1840, Albany's commercial prosperity was augmented in a remarkable degree by railroads. The opening of internal canals furnished a highway from the Hudson to the lakes of the West, and by them to the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, and the Gulf of Mexico. But this important thoroughfare could be used only a portion of the year, and while it did much to increase the population and wealth of the city, it was not till the completion of the railroad that Albany can be said to have assumed much commercial impor-

tance, making it accessible for merchandise during the entire year, and for many years the chief entrepot for almost all the exports and imports to New York, the great maritime emporium.

From the books of the Harbor-master, we ascertain the total tonnage of vessels employed in the Albany trade for the following years:

	Tons.		Tons.
1838	36,721	1844	65,507
1839	40,369	1845	70,985
1840	39,416	1846	71,011
1841	50,797	1847	97,019
1842	49,356	1848	77,983
1843	55,354	1849	79,123

From the foregoing it will be seen that for a period of twelve years there was a steady, healthy increase of business. In 1847 there was a large increase. This, it will be remembered, was an extraordinary period. There was a large export demand for bread-stuff, and everything that could float either on the river or canal was brought into requisition, and an immense business was done. During this period much was accomplished in the construction of railroads. Their great carrying capacity must be taken into consideration in forming an idea of the volume of trade which was annually pouring into Albany. By the construction of the Boston and Albany Railroad a vast amount of property was diverted from shipment by vessels—the article of flour alone sent over in 1843 was 12,384 tons, or 123,360 barrels—while the continuous line of railroads from Albany to Buffalo caused a great falling off of freight business on the canals. In view of these improved facilities for transportation, the fact that the number and tonnage of vessels from 1838 to 1849 more than doubled, shows a surprisingly healthy growth of trade in Albany.

The magnitude of the brewing interest in Albany fully half a century ago, naturally caused an immense trade in barley, and Albany grew to be the great barley market of the Northern and Eastern States, and of many cities in the Atlantic States. Purchases were made here for points as far South as Charleston, while with Baltimore and Philadelphia a large business was transacted. Below we give, from official documents, the receipts at tide-water for a period of nine years:

	Bushels.		Bushels.
1838	677,338	1847	1,523,020
1841	121,010	1848	1,548,197
1844	818,472	1849	1,400,194
1845	1,137,917	1850	1,720,000
1846	1,427,953		

Almost the entire receipts were sold in Albany. One quarter of these receipts were sold to brewers for home consumption. The average number of bushels now used by Albany brewers will average between 600,000 and 700,000, while the average sales consummated at this port amount to nearly four times this number of bushels.

In 1819, an association styled the Albany Chamber of Commerce and Public Improvement was formed, the objects of which were not made public. A committee of five was appointed to settle any disputes that might arise between merchants of the city who might choose to submit them for settlement. Isaiah Townsend, Joseph Alexander, Peter Van Loon, Walter Clark, and John Spencer composed this committee. December 5, 1820, the following officers were elected: Isaiah Townsend, President; Joseph Alexander, William James, and Charles E. Dudley, Vice-Presidents. The Board was composed of the following members: William McHarg, Israel Smith, Peter Boyd, William Durant, John Brinckerhoff, Thomas Russell, Jacob H. Ten Eyck, James B. Douglas, Allen Brown, George W. Stanton, Asa H. Center, John Spencer, James Keeler, John Townsend, William Walker, Douw B. Slingerland, Volkert P. Douw, Robert Shepard, William W. Staats, Charles R. Webster, Joshua Tuffs, Ephraim Wilder, Jr., John Stillwell, James Mabbett, and James Thorne—all prominent merchants. This association was continued for many years. Its functions are now performed by the Board of Trade, which was organized in 1841, with John Townsend, President; Erastus Corning, Charles Chapman, and John Taylor, Vice-Presidents; Daniel Fry, Secretary; and William McElroy, Treasurer. It was incorporated in 1864. The rooms of the Board are located at 40 State street. It has one hundred and fifty members. The leading commercial papers are kept on file. Occasionally public meetings are held there. The present officers are Robert Geer, President; Andrew G. White and C. B. Tillinghast, Vice-Presidents; Jacob A. Smith, Secretary; Thomas Austin, Treasurer.

LUMBER INTERESTS.

The first saw-mill in America is supposed to have been set up about 1620 in Virginia. The first in New York was built on Manhattan Island during Peter Minuet's administration (1626–33). Some were moved by wind. At about the same time, several saw-mills were built near Albany. In 1630, Andries Corstiaensen, a master-millwright, and two sawyers were sent thither; and, in 1636, Pieter Cornelissen and Barent Pieterse Koeymans came over.

The Swedish naturalist, Peter Kalm, visited Albany in 1749, and writes: "The white pine is found abundant here. The greater part of the merchants have extensive estates in the country, and a great deal of wood. If their estates have a little brook, they do not fail to erect a saw-mill upon it for sawing boards and planks, with which commodity many yachts go during the summer to New York, having scarce any other lading than boards. They saw a vast quantity of deal from the white pine on this side of Albany, which is exported."

The abundance of white pine which the first settlers found, and the excellent water power, led very early to the erection of saw-mills. Among the settlers in Rensselaerwyck in 1630, were Lawrens Lawrenssen and Barent Tomassen, sawyers. In the fall of 1645, Barent Pieterse Koeymans, above mentioned, and Jan Gerritsen took charge of the Patroon's saw-mills, being allowed one hun-

dred and fifty guilders each a year for board, and three stuyvers for every plank they sawed. Between that time and 1647 they sawed nearly four thousand boards. In 1673, Koeymans purchased a large tract of land twelve miles south of the city, which was favorable for the erection of saw-mills, and where Cruyn Cornelissen and Hans Jansen had erected mills as early as 1651.

The Duke de Rochefoucault-Liancourt writes from Albany in 1795: "The export trade of Albany chiefly consists of timber and lumber of every description, pot and pearl-ashes, grain, potatoes and manufactured goods. This trade is carried on in ninety vessels, in general of seventy tons burden, half of which are owned in Albany and the rest elsewhere."

During the decade from 1840 to 1850 inclusive, the receipts increased from 124,173,383 feet of boards and 784,310 feet of timber, the total value of which was $2,142,636, in the year 1840, to 425,095,436 feet of boards and 3,039,588 feet of timber, with a total value of $6,806,213 in 1850. In 1840 there were eighty-four saw-mills in Albany County.

At an early day Albany became noted as a lumber market. Boards and scantling were rafted down from Northern and Central New York on the Upper Hudson and Mohawk, and here loaded on board sloops for transportation down the river to market. The first lumber yards were two in number: one at the foot of South Ferry street, the other between Quackenbush and Lumber (the latter now Livingston avenue). The inspection and marking of lumber was provided for by statutory provisions.

With the completion of the Erie and Champlain Canals, and the construction of the Albany Basin and Pier, the wharfs were first used for the storage of lumber. When increased imports from Canada and the West demanded greater storage facilities, slips were dug from the canal towards the river, and the lumber piled along their banks. At present the district occupies about one and one-half miles of river front and embraces numerous slips running east and west from the Erie Canal to the wharf, with an average breadth of one thousand feet between the river and canal. This tract is called the Lumber District. It is provided with all facilities for transacting business; street cars, telegraph and telephone; and hydrants with such perfect means of extinguishing fire that within the past half century no serious damage has been incurred from this source There are large planing and sawing-mills and good restaurants for the accommodation of business men.

There is now no branch of business in this city of more extensive proportions than this. For many years Albany was one of the largest lumber markets in the world. While the receipts of lumber are greater at Chicago, the Albany market is none the less important, in view of the position occupied, and the character of the trade affected. All the foreign shipments are negotiated from this point. The lumber for South America, the West Indies and other foreign countries is assorted here, and much of it is manufactured here into doors, ceilings, etc., so as to be ready for use when reaching destination. The trade with Australia is very extensive, millions of feet of prepared lumber being sent to that continent from here every season. Upon the spaces between the slips is discharged from canal-boats the lumber from the region of Lake Champlain, Glens Falls, and the rivers coming down from the Northern Wilderness, the Black River Canal and St. Lawrence Country via Black River Canal and the Rome and Watertown Railway; Canada lumber, via Oswego; lumber from Ohio and Michigan, as far west as the Saginaw region; and also from the southern tier of counties in this State via Chemung, Crooked Lake and Cayuga and Seneca Canals. Our canal system is thus well calculated to drain an immense territory, and to concentrate its products at this point. Lumber is now brought to this market from Green Bay, Indiana, Ohio; from Canada, on Lake Ontario, by way of Oswego; and from the Ottawa regions and all the tributaries to the St. Lawrence, by way of Lake Champlain and the Champlain Canal.

Douglas L. White & Co., lumber, 9 and 31 Lumber District.

This yard was founded by Gillespie, White & Co. at West Troy, in 1857; succeeded by White, Loveland & Co., by White & Co., by White & Moir, and they by the present firm. They are among the large Albany dealers in Canada pine lumber, Michigan pine and spruce, and hemlock from New York State mills and from Canada. Their annual sales are about twenty-five million feet, entirely at wholesale.

The individual members of the firm are Messrs. D. L. and W. G. White and C. E. Van Zandt.

The lumber firm of Dalton & Kibbe was founded in 1857. A profitable and flourishing business has been conducted by this firm ever since. Their yards are located No. 8 First street. The individual members are Austin S. Kibbe and William Dalton.

The present firm of R. H. Moore & John Zimmerman is the outcome of the business established in 1862 by Messrs. Moore & Callender, who continued until 1863, when Mr. Callender withdrew, Mr. Moore remaining alone until 1872, the year Mr. Zimmerman became a partner. They occupy two yards, one on Fourth avenue, 75 by 148 feet, the other on South Pearl street, 100 by 140 feet, upon which are suitable buildings. They deal in hard and soft pine, spruce and hemlock, shingles, laths, etc., etc.

The lumber business now conducted by W. H. Weaver & Co., No. 20 Lumber District, was established in 1866 by William McEchron, Jones Ordway, James Morgan and A. M. Adsit, and W. H. Weaver. Since that time the *personnel* of the firm has had several changes, and is now composed of W. H. Weaver, Jones Ordway and W. E. Speir. Two yards are employed by the firm, 400 by 70 and 900 by 60 feet respectively in dimensions, affording storage for about 9,000,000 feet of lumber. Their annual sales amount to 38,000,000 feet.

In 1845 Joshua Rathbun established himself in the lumber trade at Albany. In 1865 the present firm of Rathbun & Co. was formed, consisting of Joshua & Acors Rathbun. This firm occupy a commodious yard and dock at 14 Lumber District. The stock principally dealt in consists of oak, ash, black walnut, cherry, chestnut and sycamore. Their trade extends throughout the country and largely in New York and New England.

Rodney Vose commenced operations in the handling of lumber in Albany as early as 1853. He has made the business a life study, and there are few engaged in the business who have had wider experience, or whose knowledge is more comprehensive with regard to the wants and needs of the trade. Mr. Vose's yard is located at 218 Water street, where ample dock privilege and room for storage of 5,000,000 feet of lumber are provided. A special feature of this house is its trade in shingles, which has reached as high as 10,000,000 in some years. The trade of this yard besides being largely local, extends thoroughout New York and Massachusetts.

The present firm of Simons & Richards is a continuation of the firm of Mattice & Simons established in 1856, which was succeeded in 1859 by Simons & Griswold. In 1872 Nathan E. Simons became the sole proprietor, remaining as such until 1878, when A. K. Richards became a partner, under the present firm name of Simons & Richards. Their yards, six in number, are located at 116 Water street. They have a dock frontage of 350 feet. Their stock consists of a complete assortment of Northern and Western lumber. A specialty is made in spruce building materials.

From the sources at our command we have compiled the following list of lumber dealers, past and present, in Albany.

1816.—Jacob Barney, David Backus.

1817.—Richard Dusenbury, Aaron Hand, John Quackenbush, Salem Dutcher, Uriah Marvin.

1825.—John Cullings.

1830.—H. A. Bancroft & Co., F. J. Barnard, F. Batcheller, Benjamin Cooper, Benjamin Gregory, L. P. Hand, Edwin Jessup, Arnold Nelson, Samuel Phipps, Joel Pinney, Root & Youngs (staves), James G. Youngs & Co., Slacks & Davis, Isaac Welch, Robert Whitlock.

1840.—Arnold Carroll, Elias Colburn, Adolphus Colburn, H. Colburn, Daniel Crane, Jr., Abner Davis, Charles A. Fassett, Hill & Sanford, W. A. Judson, Kenyon & Winne, Nathan G. King, Minor King, S. Lossee & Co., Marse & Bicknell, Rathbone & Gallup, Ross & Colburn, Giles Sanford, Nelson Salisbury, Daniel Smith, George Van Derlip, J. & B. Van Valkenburgh, Solomon Whipple.

1852.—W. H. Bloomingdale, Bullock & Many, Clark, Sumner & Co., Calvin, Cooley & Co., Coffee, Bruce & Co., De Forrest, Patten & Co., John Gibson, Higbie Hammond & Co., Thomas Hill & Co., Thomas W. Hotchkiss, William H. Hunt, R. Ketchum & Sons, James B. King, M. McGowen & Co., Mead, Myers & Bennett, Joshua Rathbun & Co., N. Rogers & Callender, John P. Romaine & Co., Ross & Crocker, Oscar Tyler, Fassett & Washburn, Ward & Derby, J. C. Ward & Sons, Clement Warren & Son, Robert Whitlock, C. P. Williams & Co.

1857.—S. W. Barnard, W. M. Bender, William Birdsall, Fassett & Co., Cary & Salisbury, W. Headlum & Son, G. Hunter, Mattier & Simons, Simons & Richards, Benjamin Rathbun, George W. Roberts, Robertson & Edmeston, H. P. Ross & Karslake, E. A. Ross, J. Tallman & Co., Adam Van Allen, James G. Whitlock, Warren, Wilbur & Co., Solomon Whipple.

1865.—Arnold, Folsom & Co., J. Benedict & Son, Stephen Clark, James G. Crocker, De Witt & Nephews, Jones & Co., J. B. Kelley & Co., Ketchum, Scott & Simpson, H. W. Gage, Thomson & Hyatt.

1875.—Bender, Martin & Thomas, N. H. Chase, Smith & Co., Cullen & Jones, A. Frost & Dillenbeck, Fassett, Son & Co., J. L. Hyatt & Co., Bullock & Co., McGaugan & McOnly, Thomas Numpler, C. B. Nichols & Mills, Norton & Co., John Pennie, Jr., & Wolfinger, Skillings & Whitney Bros., D. W. Talcott, W. G. Thomas & Co., B. A. Towner & Son, Douglas L. White, Thomas Wilson.

1880.—Collender & Mason, M. N. Fassett.

The following lumber firms are deserving of mention in connection with the lumber interest of the city: Gratwick & Fryer, No. 21 Lumber District, composed of William H. Gratwick & Robert L. Fryer; Hughson & Co., No. 1 Lumber District, composed of J. C. Hughson, A. H. Campbell, and N. H. Salisbury; Gilbert Hunter & Son (Dexter) North Ferry above Water; Mattoon & Robinson, No. 112 Water street, composed of David Mattoon and Edward Robinson; James Moir, Nos. 8 and 9 Lumber District; Smith Bros. (Albert and Oscar), No. 28 North Pearl, and Albany and Susquehanna Railroad offices; Sumner & Hascy, No. 16 Lumber District, composed of Alanson A. Sumner and O. L. Hascy; L. Thomson & Co., No. 25 Lumber District, composed of Lemon Thomson, Augustus Sherman, and Henry P. and T. Ellery Lord; J. O. Towner & Co., No. 10 Lumber District, composed of Mr. Towner and Samuel B. Towner.

The following firms are also at the present time engaged in the lumber trade: Arnold & Co., Royal Bancroft, J. Benedict & Son, Boyd & Co., William N. Callender, Truman D. Cameron, J. W. Dunham & Co., Charles P. Easton & Co., Fogg, Patton & Co., John H. Gordon, Hand & Babbitt, Hubbell & Hill, Harvey Hunter, John Krutz, W. C. Many & Co., T. Miles & Co., Morgan Lumber Company, Thomas Murphy, J. R. Nangle, Charles B. Nichols, Phillips & Dunscomb, H. W. Sage & Co., Saxe Bros., Robert Scott, Smith, Craig & Co., Henry Spawn, Staples & Van Allen, P. Van Rensselaer & Co., Van Santford & Eaton, C. Warren, David Whitney, Jr., N. R. Wilbur & Son, C. H. Winne, Waine & Andrews.

The Board of Lumber Dealers was organized in 1863, and incorporated under and in pursuance of an act passed May 8, 1869, whose object is declared to be "to inculcate just and equitable principles in trade; to establish and maintain uniformity in commercial usages; to acquire, preserve and dis-

seminate valuable business information; and to adjust controversies and misunderstandings between persons engaged in business." An arbitration committee, consisting of five members of the Board, is annually elected by ballot, it being their duty to hear and decide differences which may arise between members or others that is voluntarily submitted to them, and a judgment of the Supreme Court is rendered upon their award, except in cases where claims concerning titles to real estate are involved.

Its Presidents since 1863 are as follows: Henry Q. Hawley, William N. Fassett, William H. Ross, Benjamin A. Towner, Douglas L. White, William G. Thomas, O. L. Hascy, J. O. Towner, E. G. Benedict, C. P. Easton, J. E. Craig, E. C. Clark, Jr., H. S. Van Sanford, James B. Kelley, Dean Sage, Joshua Rathbun, Leman Thomson, J. C. Hubbell, C. B. Nichols, S. B. Towner.

The officers for 1884 were John McDonald, President; C. W. Eaton, Vice-President; Walter G. White, Treasurer; William U. Fassett, Secretary; J E. Craig, O. L. Hascy, A. S. Kibbee, Managers; S. B. Towner, E. G. Benedict, J. C. Hubbell, R. L. Fryer, H. S. Van Sanford, Arbitration Committee.

William N. Fassett was among the pioneers in the lumber district, and is one of the oldest lumber dealers in the city. He is now sole proprietor of the business commenced in 1832 by Messrs. Whitlock & Fassett, who then occupied yards on the pier opposite Orange street. Mr. Fassett is also Secretary of the Board of Lumber Dealers, an account of which is given in this article.

From the long time he has been engaged in this branch of business, his knowledge of events connected therewith is large, and to him we are indebted for many of the facts in this paper. His present office and yards are situated at 7 Lumber District.

A contract, dated Fort Orange, June 22, 1662, between Wynandt Gerreydts Van Der Poell and Dr. Jacob Hendrickse Ver Vauger, agreeing to pay 1,261 guilders 19 stuivers and 4 pennies for "1,600 good merchantable boards," will show the comparative value of now and over two centuries ago. Dr. Ver Vauger was then a surgeon in the West India Company at New Amsterdam.

In 1875, the number of establishments in New York State for the manufacture of planed lumber was 175; number of hands employed, 1,961; capital, $2,955,586; wages, $886,167; value of materials, $4,574,619; value of products, $6,332,341; and the number of establishments for lumber sawed were 3,510; hands employed, 15,409; capital, $15,110,981; wages, $3,438,601; value of material, $11,228,613; value of products, $21,238,228.

The receipts of lumber in Albany for the year 1861 were 138,000,000 feet less than for 1860. The uncertainty in business centers, caused by the war, was felt with great force by lumber dealers. The amount of building was sensibly decreased. The receipts for shingles, square timber and staves, though, were about the same.

The following table exhibits the receipts at Albany during the years named:

Year.	Boards and Scantling. Feet.	Shingles, Thousands.	Timber. Cubic feet.	Staves. Pounds.
1850	216,791,890	34,226	28,832	150,515,280
1851	260,238,003	34,136	110,200	135,087,290
1852	317,135,620	31,636	201,714	107,961,289
1853	393,726,073	27,586	19,916	118,066,750
1854	311,571,151	24,003	28,909	135,805,091
1855	245,921,652	57,210	24,104	140,255,285
1856	223,345,545	36,899	14,533	102,548,492
1857	180,097,629	70,104	85,104	153,264,629
1858	267,406,411	31,823	119,497	135,011,817
1859	291,771,762	48,756	70,381	114,570,503
1860	301,022,600	41,222	46,883	148,735,369
1861	162,952,527	31,782	44,754	143,784,471

The following table exhibits the valuation of the receipts during the years named. A difference in the receipts for 1860 and 1861, corresponding to the same years in the table above given, will be noticed:

Year.	Boards and Scantling.	Shingles.	Timber.	Staves.
1850	$3,251,878	$119,791	$4,325	$677,319
1851	4,119,568	121,524	19,010	546,655
1852	5,495,960	110,726	52,509	507,418
1853	6,299,617	99,585	3,386	569,600
1854	4,985,139	86,981	6,649	611,123
1855	4,426,589	227,840	4,854	631,149
1856	3,573,529	129,147	2,616	461,468
1857	2,881,560	248,515	15,218	689,691
1858	4,412,205	111,383	20,314	540,047
1859	4,887,177	170,646	11,965	458,282
1860	5,042,128	144,277	7,971	594,942
1861	2,729,454	111,237	7,697	575,138

RECEIPTS BY CANAL DURING 1867.

Boards and scantling, feet	382,883,955
Shingles, thousands	26,880
Timber, cubic feet	62,705
Staves, pounds	31,460,271

RECEIPTS BY CANAL AT TIDE-WATER DURING 1867.

Boards and scantling, feet	675,055,455
Shingles, thousands	44,392
Timber, cubic feet	3,369,800
Staves, pounds	273,889,571

The following table shows the receipts and valuations for the years 1869 and 1870:

QUANTITY.

	1869.	1870.
Boards and scantling, feet	444,474,900	452,363,900
Timber, cubic feet	5,000	116,800
Staves, pounds	8,804,400	17,769,100
Shingles, thousands	32,166	21,488

ESTIMATED VALUE.

	1869.	1870.
Boards and scantling	$12,445,300	$9,499,642
Shingles	128,664	97,529
Timber	2,000	52,538
Staves	61,631	124,384

TOTAL RECEIPTS AT TIDE-WATER.

	1869.	1870.
Boards and scantling, feet	768,607,600	768,007,300
Shingles, thousands	33,723	28,660
Timber, cubic feet	3,151,700	3,795,700
Staves, pounds	166,649,200	232,161,200

COMPARATIVE RECEIPTS FOR 1870.

	New York.	West Troy.	Waterford.
Boards and scantling, feet	125,663,100	169,364,300	20,616,500
Shingles, thousands	1,419	5,784	9
Timber, cubic feet	1,520,000	1,423,200	735,700
Staves, pounds	211,229,100	2,851,300	311,700

In Chicago, 990,834,000 feet lumber was received and 471,504,000 feet shipped in 1870. The amount shipped by canal at Buffalo in 1870 was 168,204,000 feet, and at Oswego 271,618,000 feet.

The amount of measured and tally lumber handled in 1882 was 443,400,227 feet, which, with laths, shingles, etc., was valued at $10,000,000. The amount for 1883 was 457,189,308 feet; estimated value, $10,250,000.

(These figures for 1882–83 are compiled from the monthly returns of the Board of Lumber Dealers.)

The inventory of the pine lumber on hand in the district January 1, 1886, compared with January 1, 1885, is as follows:

	1885. 1,000 feet.	1886. 1,000 feet.
Michigan uppers	7,324	6,832
" pickings	7,787	6,051
" common	28,835	24,478
" 1x10 inch	7,244	3,487
" 1x12 inch	5,831	3,129
" 1x14 inch	67	217
" 1x16 inch	208	343
" stock plank	2,013	1,161
" shelving	1,387	956
" shippers	5,112	3,088
" log runs	1,431	1,149
" 4x4 wide common	98	211
" 2x12 inch	1,424	235
" 4x4 inch strips	4,677	4,957
	73,438	56,294
	1,000 feet.	1,000 feet.
Canada pine, 4-4 inch siding	6,789	5,301
" 5-4 inch siding	2,316	3,209
" 6-4 inch siding	261	283
" 8-4 inch siding	86	64
" 3 inch siding	82	118
" 4-4 inch strips	6,567	4,348
" 5-4 inch strips	1,586	916
" 6-4 inch strips	24	30
	17,711	14,269
Norway	6,379	7,095
	1,000 pieces.	1,000 pieces.
1x10 pine boards	1,389	931
5-4 pine boards	262	192
	1,000 feet.	1,000 feet.
On hand January 1	115,208	83,933

The receipts of sawed lumber at Albany by the canal in 1885, and for each year for the past fifteen years, have been as follows:

	Feet.
1870	415,000,000
1871	421,000,000
1872	438,000,000
1873	346,000,000
1874	341,000,000
1875	290,000,000
1876	289,000,000
1877	330,000 000
1878	309,000,000
1879	318,000,000
1880	362,000,000
1881	364,000,000
1882	450,000,000
1883	452,000,000
1884	477,000,000
1885	467,000,000

The total tide-water receipts per canal (include Albany, West Troy, Waterford) were:

	Feet.
Sawed lumber	731,691,600
Shingles	6,936,000
Hemlock timber (cubic)	888,200
	Pounds.
Staves	9,636,000

In addition to the lumber unloaded and assorted in the lumber district, several Albany firms sort their lumber at the mills and ship it through to New York.

DAVID MATTOON.

This gentleman is of English descent. His parents, William and Sarah (Hungerford) Mattoon, were natives of Watertown, Litchfield County, Conn. He was born at Vienna, Oneida County, N. Y., March 12, 1816. He was reared on his father's farm, attending the common schools of the time and locality, and later completed his education in an academy at Vernon, Oneida county. Later he was engaged in farming and teaching school in his native town, where, in 1840, he married Miss Sarah Ransom. In 1843 he removed to Albany, where, until 1847, he was employed in the lumber yard of Robert Whitlock.

In the year last mentioned, the firm of Griswold, Mattoon & Co. was formed. It consisted of Aaron Griswold, David Mattoon and a special partner. The firm opened a lumber yard at the foot of Orange street, and established a large and increasing business. Three years later the special partner died and the style of the firm became Griswold & Mattoon. Mr. Griswold's health failing, Mr. Mattoon became sole owner of the business in 1857, and so continued till 1868, when the present firm of Mattoon & Robinson was formed, by the admission of Mr. John Robinson. In 1861 the business was removed to 105 Water street, where it was continued till 1883, when the offices were established at their present locality, 112 Water street. The firm have very extensive yards and carry on a heavy trade, it requiring both their old yard and a large one adjoining their office.

In his business career Mr. Mattoon has been signally successful, bringing to bear upon the conduct of his affairs an unswerving integrity and an enlightened business intelligence that have made him favorably and widely known. It is worthy of more than passing note, that, during the thirty-seven years of his commercial life, in which have occurred several financial crises, which have brought disaster and ruin to important commercial and monetary interests on all sides, his paper has never gone to protest and he has never asked for an extension of the time of payment, even in a single instance. During that extended period he has dealt continuously with the Exchange Bank.

Mrs. Mattoon, who died July 27, 1877, bore him four children. The eldest of these, Whitman V. R. Mattoon, early in the late rebellion enlisted as a private in company F, 44th regiment N. Y. V., and July 1, 1862, after the battle of Malvern

David Mattoon

Hill, he was among the missing, and no tidings of his fate have ever reached those who have mourned him at home. Marion A. Mattoon, the next in order of birth, became the wife of Mr. J. C. Fitzpatrick, a resident of Brooklyn, who has long been connected with the business and editorial management of the *New York Herald*. Theodore P. Mattoon, the third child, died in infancy, and the fourth, Miss Hattie E. Mattoon, is an inmate of her father's household.

Formerly a Democrat, at the outbreak of the Civil War Mr. Mattoon espoused the cause of the Republican party, and has since been an ardent advocate of the principles actuating its founders and early leaders, though he has never been an active politician in the ordinary acceptation of the term. His family have long been connected with the Fourth Presbyterian Church, upon the services of which he is a regular attendant.

MELVIN NEWMAN MEAD

was born in Chester, Warren County, N.Y., August 5, 1812, at the old homestead of the family, where he remained with his parents until he attained his majority, working on the farm and doing his share in contributing to the prosperity of the household. When he left the paternal residence he went to the growing village of Glens Falls, and became a clerk in the employ of Morgan & Lapham, who were engaged in the lumber trade, a thriving business there, even at that early day. Having made himself familiar with the business, and learned the art of buying and selling to the best advantage, for he was a sharp-witted, sagacious man, he came to Albany in 1833, thoroughly able to enter into competition with the shrewdest of the lumber dealers, and formed a co-partnership with his brother, Orlin Mead. On the death of the latter he became the senior member of the well-known lumber firm of Mead, Dunham & Co., and he made the business of that firm a great success. He was a most indefatigable man of business, regular, methodical and prompt. Early and late he was at his post, never idle, and never losing a moment from employment when anything was to be done. His heart was ever open to charity, and he gave freely and liberally to whatever he deemed deserving. But he turned a deaf ear to the profligate and unworthy. To his own kindred he dispensed heartily and generously. He was in every sense of the word a reliable man, and a most worthy and excellent citizen. He despised all shams and hypocrisy; and as he was born a Democrat, and nursed in the school of Democracy, and gave his first vote for President to Andrew Jackson, and his last to W. S. Hancock, so he doubtless would have continued had his life been spared.

Mr. Mead married Sarah E., daughter of the late George W. Merchant, and leaves no issue, none having been born to him.

The family of the Merchants were well known to old Albanians. The grandfather of Mrs. Mead was the venerable George Merchant, who came to

W. A. Meads

Hiram Powers

Lemon Thomson

Albany from Germany. He was a man held in high estimation by Albanians, of high social standing, and filled many public positions. He was County Clerk of Albany County at the time of his death, an office held by him for many years under such Governors as Tompkins and Clinton, through the old Council of Appointment, presided over by such Judges as Kent and Spencer. He was also a Paymaster in early life in the Revolutionary Army. He built, owned and occupied until his death, the mansion on Ten Broeck street now occupied by the Olcotts. To this mansion was attached several acres of land devoted to fruit and garden purposes. It was in this house, directly across the street from her present residence, that Mrs. Mead was born.

About thirteen years ago Mr. Mead retired from business on account of his health, with a modest competency. He died at his residence in Ten Broeck street, from paralysis, September 23, 1884.

ALANSON SUMNER.

The late Alanson Sumner was born in Edinburgh, Saratoga County, N. Y., July 21, 1801, and died in Albany, February 25, 1874. He was of English extraction, his paternal ancestor having been a native of Bicester, whence he removed to Massachusetts about the middle of the seventeenth century. Young Sumner was reared on his father's farm, where he remained until he attained his majority. He attended the public schools of his native town, and later, was, for a time, a student at an academy at Ballston Spa.

Mr. Sumner occupied himself for a portion of two years, 1820–23, upon the construction of the eastern division of the Erie Canal. Within a few months after the opening of the Canal to Albany, he was called to be the Assistant Superintendent of a portion of that great internal improvement and he was soon advanced to the Superintendency, continuing in supervision for eleven years altogether. During the last four or five years of this period, he held the most important Superintendency on the line of the Canal, his division extending from Albany west and north, and embracing forty locks, including the Troy and Mohawk Dams. Through this connection he gained a knowledge of public works and a familiarity with large contracts which shaped his whole after life. In 1834 he entered into a contract, in which Mr. Stephen Clark was a partner, for building the Long Bridge across the Potomac River. In 1837, in company with Mr. Clark and Mr. John Ellis, of Schenectady, he began contracting on the Croton Waterworks, New York, and completed the receiving reservoir of the system in 1842. Later he was for two years occupied with contracts upon the enlargement of the Erie Canal. Abandoning contracting, in 1849 he engaged in the commission lumber trade at Albany, whither he had removed in 1844. He was successful in this business and retired therefrom six years later, leaving his place for a time to his nephew, Mr. A. A. Sumner, with an opening for his son, Mr. William A. Sumner, who became a partner in 1863.

In 1826 Mr. Sumner was married to Miss Emily D. Beecher, of Edinburgh, Saratoga County, who died childless in 1828. In February, 1839, he married Miss Diadama B. Fay, of Northampton, Fulton County, who bore him a son and two daughters, and died in 1864.

Mr. Sumner's interest in the prosperity of Albany was earnest, and he was ever among the first to subscribe liberally to all worthy local objects. The City Hospital, of which he was one of the Governors, was the object of his especial solicitude. As a business man he took the highest rank, and his integrity was unimpeachable, his word being considered as good as the strongest bond. He was a stockholder in many important commercial enterprises, and for many years one of the Directors of the Mechanics' and Farmers' Bank.

He was a Democrat politically, and though neither an office-holder or an office-seeker, he took a keen interest in public events and did his part quietly, as a citizen, to advance the interests of his party. A great reader from his youth up, he was splendidly self-educated, and it is said that his knowledge of American history and biography was remarkable. His sympathies took a wide range, and guided by his eminently good judgment, made him so wise a counselor, that many can testify to the value of his advice.

LEMON THOMSON

was born in Athol, Warren County, N. Y., January 27, 1822, son of Charles C. Thomson, of Scotch-Irish stock, an industrious village blacksmith and farmer. When he was thirteen years old he accompanied his parents to Johnsburgh in the same county. He was never idle. The oldest of five children, he was always helpful in the shop or on the little farm. In the public schools of these towns he took his first lessons in literary knowledge. At seventeen he was a school teacher. At eighteen he was a student in Glens Falls Academy preparing for college. When he was twenty-five years old he entered the Sophomore Class at Union College, and graduated in the full course in 1850. The next two years, or a part of them, found him reading law with Judge Rosekrans. Conceiving a business life to be more congenial to his taste, he entered into partnership in trade with W. W. Weed, in 1851, and sold out after two years.

In 1851, he married Abby, daughter of Augustus Sherman, then President of the First Commercial Bank, and afterward President of the First National Bank of Glens Falls from its first organization. In 1855, Mr. Thomson came to Albany, having formed a partnership with his father-in-law, under the firm name of L. Thomson & Co., as manufacturers and dealers in lumber. This has ever since been his business, with slight changes in partnership.

He is a large owner of timber and other lands in Northern New York. He has been successful, and ranks among the leading merchants and bankers of Albany. He is a large stockholder in the First National Bank, and has been a stock-

holder and director in the National Exchange Bank since its establishment.

Mr. Thomson is a thorough business man in its full meaning—in ability, in energy, in experience, in probity. He enjoys the competence which he has won, and shares it liberally with good causes and in promoting laudable public enterprises. He is a man of domestic and literary tastes, and takes an active interest in education, religion and good morals.

When twenty-one years old he held the position of Superintendent of Common Schools in his native county. In religion he is an active member of the Emmanuel Baptist Church. He is always and everywhere an uncompromising friend of temperance. Originally a Democrat, acting with the Barn-burners, he parted company during the anti-slavery controversy, and became a Republican on the organization of that party. He has voted for Polk, Pierce, Fremont, Lincoln, Grant, Greeley, Hayes, Garfield and Blaine. He is a Republican, but of the independent school. His action as a citizen is guided only by his conscientious convictions of right.

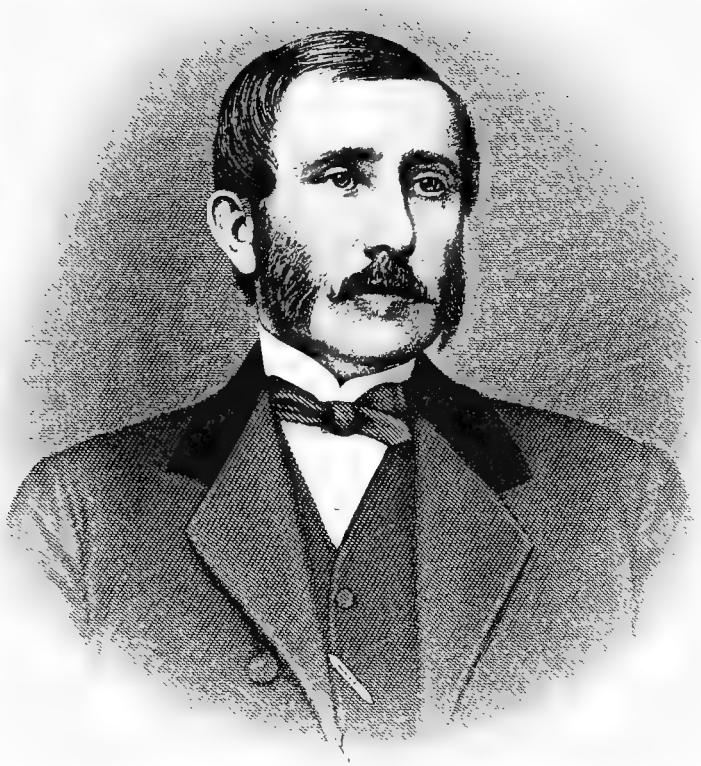
In all places he is outspoken, high-minded and honorable. He is straight out on all questions, and never waits to find out what course the party leaders are to take. He has formed his own opinions on the basis of reason and conscience. There is no mistaking him when he speaks or acts. In him the humblest citizen has a friend. The toiling laborer, be he ever so humble, can trust him.

He writes much for the papers on local and political topics. He is direct and pungent in style; severe on bad legislation, loose habits of public economy, and every wrong. He uses no useless rhetoric; he goes into his subject at once and drives his antagonist to the wall, if possible, and keeps him there until he cries for quarter.

Such a man has firm friends, but is not always in the majority. Unscrupulous partisans don't take him for a leader. Yet he has held several important political trusts. In 1864–67, he was an Alderman, and an earnest advocate of reform and economy in the local government. He has been candidate for the State Assembly, and in 1882, was the citizens' candidate for Congress. In the Board of Trade and other business organizations he has held leading trusts, and is often found active in associations and conventions held for promotion of important public interests. May such men increase!

DOUGLAS L. WHITE.

This gentleman has long been prominent in connection with the lumber trade of Albany, and as the senior member of the firm of White & Co., he is known to the lumber trade throughout a large portion of the United States and Canada. He was born at Quebec, Canada, March 31, 1822, of Scotch and English parentage. His father, a merchant at Quebec, died when he was but five years of age, and he engaged in business while yet very young and aided to support his mother and her family. When he was not fifteen years old, under an uncle who was an extensive miller and distiller, he managed certain branches of the business, which was carried on by a firm of the same name as that of which he has so long been the head, so that he may be said to have been associated with the business of Douglas L. White & Co. much of the time since he was a mere lad. Since that time Mr. White's experience in business has been long and varied. He spent several years at extensive iron-works in Wales as assistant-manager and salesman. In this enterprise, Patrick Moir, his brother-in-law, was partner and manager with Sir Charles Price Marryatt & Co., of London. Upon his brother-in-law's retirement from this business, Mr. White returned to Quebec, but, not being satisfied with the limited scope for his business abilitiess offered there at that time, he went to New York, and met with an opening in the office of August Belmont, agent of the Rothschilds, as corresponding clerk and assistant-cashier, holding a power of attorney, under the authority of which he managed very important transactions and large sums of money passed through his hands. To his sagacity and fidelity during this period, Mr. Belmont has testified over his signature. Later, he held a similar position in the house of Curtis, Beals & Fearing, bankers, of New York, until that firm discontinued business, and received the most unequivocal evidence that his business ability and devotion to their interests were appreciated by members of the firm. Offers were now tendered him by Gilmour & Co., one of the wealthiest and most prominent lumber firms of Canada, of which John and David Gilmour, who had married two of his sisters, were members, to take charge of one of their extensive establishments in Canada. He remained there until the interests of the firm at Troy required attention, a commission house there to which Gilmour & Co. had consigned lumber having failed. Through the efforts of Mr. White, a favorable settlement by compromise was effected, and Gilmour & Co. opened a large yard at Green Island, West Troy, for the sale of their own lumber, under his management, in 1856. During the following year the business was transferred to Mr. White, his brother, Richard P. White, and Walter Gillespie, who continued it under the firm name of Gillespie, White & Co., with yards at West Troy and Albany. The style and *personnel* of the firm have changed several times since then. The firm of Gillespie, White & Co. was succeeded by White, Loveland & Co.; White & Co. succeeded White, Loveland & Co. and gave place to White & Moir, the immediate predecessors of the firm of Douglas L. White & Co., the individual members of which are Messrs. Douglas L. White and his eldest son, W. G. White. White & Co., with extensive connections and mills in Canada, has done the largest lumber business in the country, the sales in 1872 amounting to over $2,000,000. Messrs. Douglas L. White & Co. now rank as one of the heaviest of the several heavy lumber firms of Albany dealing in Canada pine lumber,



Douglas L. White

and handling Michigan pine and spruce and hemlock from mills in New York State and Canada, their annual transactions amounting to more than half a million dollars, and involving the sale of 25,000,000 to 30,000,000 feet of lumber. They occupy two extensive yards in the Lumber District and their dock privileges are of equal importance to those of any of their contemporaries. Their trade extends throughout New England and New York, and is entirely at wholesale by the car-load or cargo.

Mr. White's standing among men in his own trade and in the community is very high. From time to time he has interested himself in prominent business interests of the city, and in all local benevolent and charitable objects. Long a member of the Presbyterian Church, he has for years been conspicuous among those who have promoted evangelical work. Always of a retiring disposition, absorbed in the welfare of his large family, and finding happiness in their midst, he has shrunk from public positions. Yet he has done effective work while acting as Governor of the Albany Hospital, Trustee of the Fourth Presbyterian Church, Life Member of the American Bible Society, and of the Young Men's Christian Association and Young Men's Association. He has also served as President of the Board of Lumber Dealers, and Director of the Capital City Insurance Company and other corporations. He has been a constant contributor to Home and Foreign Missions, Bible and Tract Societies, and other benevolent institutions, as well as to the temperance cause, and has generously responded to other just and worthy calls upon his time and means. The improvement and education of the colored race have received much generous attention from him, and he has given substantial and timely aid to worthy men in financial difficulty.

Mr. White's church connection brought him into intimate friendly relations with the late Rev. Dr. Halley, as a result of which, in 1868, he invited the Doctor to accompany him upon a European tour, and together they visited England, Scotland, France, Italy and Switzerland. This was quite an event in Dr. Halley's life, and one for which he cherished the liveliest feelings of gratitude to his generous friend, for he had not had an opportunity to visit his native Scotland since he had left there early in life. During the tour Dr. Halley wrote some very interesting letters, which were published in some of the Albany papers, detailing scenes and incidents in Rome and other localities of great interest alike to him and the reading public. For some years past, Mr. White has been connected with the Fourth Presbyterian Church. In politics he has been a strong Republican since the organization of that party, and during political campaigns, and at other times as his assistance has been required, he has given liberally of his means towards the promotion of its principles and the success of its candidates, and has been especially generous in his donations to the several Republican Clubs of Albany. He was married, March 8, 1855, to Sophia, daughter of Joseph Horsey, a wholesale druggist of New York, and has five sons and two daughters living, four of their children having died. Four of his sons are engaged in the lumber trade and another is a student at the Albany Academy. All of them have enjoyed opportunities for obtaining good educations and a thorough practical knowledge of business in their father's office, and all promise to make their marks as honorable business men. Mr. White's career has been that of a self-made man. By the exercise of his natural honesty and ability he has advanced to a high position in the business community wherever his lot has been cast. In the great financial panic of 1873, in which many of the heaviest banking and business institutions of the country were plunged into bankruptcy—a period which will be ever memorable in the financial annals of America—at a time when Jay Cooke & Co., Duncan, Sherman & Co., and other scarcely less prominent houses were compelled to close their doors, Mr. White's firm became involved, through complications with other houses in the trade in New York and elsewhere, and were forced to make an assignment for the benefit of their creditors. This blow fell upon Mr. White unexpectedly and with almost stunning force. He had not in any manner contributed, either by omission or commission, to bring about such a deplorable state of affairs. He gave up everything he had, reserving nothing. He acted the part of an honest man, asking no favors and assisting in every way in his power to bring about a settlement which should be satisfactory to the creditors of his firm. This was without doubt the greatest trial of his life, but in it he had the sympathy of the whole business and social world in which he moved. The marks of confidence which were given him by men high in commercial and professional circles were truly gratifying. His truest and most helpful friends were Henry W. Sage and Wm. E. Dodge, of New York. Others scarcely less prominent gave him words of cheer and extended to him practical proofs of their belief in his honor, and desire for his speedy issue from the difficulties which compassed him about. Neither then nor since, through a long and changeful commercial career, was ever an aspersion cast upon his integrity or a question raised as to the purity of his motives.

EARLY MERCHANTS.

Prior to 1772, not much can be learned of the names of merchants of Albany. After this date, beginning with the files of the *Albany Gazette*, the first paper published in the city, we are able to ascertain the names and the kind of merchandise sold by many of the earlier merchants. The natural diligence and acquisitiveness of the Dutch kept them engaged in trade. The influx of enterprising speculators and traders from New England near the close of the Revolution, soon made Albany a strictly commercial city.

Most of these merchants dealt in a variety of goods, designated by names now seldom seen.

Among the advertisers in the *Gazette* of 1772 is the firm of James Gourlay & Co., "in Cheapside

street, next door to the King's Arms," in whose copious enumeration of articles are "Penknives, Pins, Bibles, Green and Bohea Tea, Cotton, Pepper, Chocolate, Playing Cards, Shirt Buttons, Curtain Calicoes, Ink Powder and Knee Garters." Thomas Barry, "near the Dutch Church," also enumerates his stock, occupying nearly a column of the paper with a catalogue of goods with names which sound quite odd at this day; for instance, "None-so-pretty of various colors and black breeches pattern." Under the head of dry goods, were mentioned as just imported from Europe and now opening for sale, Bibles, Testaments, Spelling Books, Primers and Entick's Pocket Dictionaries, Snuff, Tobacco-boxes and Fiddle strings, Satinets and Shalloons, Best China and Love Ribbons, etc. At the same time, Robinson & Hale advertise Bibles, Psalms and Psalm Books, Testaments and Spelling Books, Primers and Pocket Dictionaries, which are enumerated with red China Tea-pots and Shoemakers' Tools. Stuart Wilson then kept a book store at the corner of State and South Pearl streets.

In 1784, Robinson & Hale, dealers in European and East India goods, occupied the "North corner opposite the Dutch Church." Major Hale is believed to have been an officer in the Revolution. The names of the following merchants appear this year: Jacob Van Schaick, "in Water street, near the Middle Dock," who advertises a long catalogue of articles under quaint titles; Henry, McClallen & Henry, "next door north of the City Hall," present the most formidable array of goods, "adapted to all seasons, in payment for which they will take cash, Morris's & Hilligas's notes, wheat, corn, pease, flax-seed, boards and plank, and all sorts of Furs." John Blake advertised a variety of goods for sale at Archibald Campbell's store, "opposite Hugh Denniston's."

Roseboom & Co. sold all kinds of nails near the English Church; Gerardus Beekman advertised a store nearly opposite Wheeler Douglass's; Edward Campston, "at the northeast corner of the Dutch Church," proposed to receive for goods "new emission money of this State equal to gold or silver;" Henry Hart had "a neat assortment of Dry and West India Goods at his store, between the Low Dutch Church and Market House."

The firm of James & Vail dissolved, and Thomas V. James assumed the business at the store in the street opposite the City Hall Dock;" Thomas Sickels sold European and India Goods on the south side of the street that leads from the Dutch to the English Church; John Carey offered, at the store of Cornelise K. Vandenberg, "at the elm-tree in the street leading from the Dutch to the English Church," a quantity of goods which were "just imported from Ireland." George Reab, at his store in the house of Abraham Douw, near the southwest corner of the Market, offered an assortment of Dry and West India Goods adapted to the seasons, in exchange for which he would take cash, R. Morris & M. Hillegas's notes, new emission money, all sorts of public securities; also, flax-seed, wheat and all kinds of country produce.

Joseph Kelly, currier, lately arrived from Ireland, "opened a shop at Captain John Roff's, near the North Gate," and will have ready in a few days, "good leather, boot-legs and Irish Ben of the best quality." Cornelius and John M. Wendell, opposite the Post-office, near the Market-house, imported goods from London." Cuyler, Gansevoort & Co. "received by the last vessels from London," an assortment of dry goods suitable for the season, and presented a catalogue of other goods, which, like most of the advertisements of the day, began with rum and ended with brass kettles; Peter D. Van Dyck dealt in a general assortment of goods opposite the southeast corner of the Dutch Church. Benjamin Wallace had "a neat assortment of West India and dry goods at his shop, a little north of the English Church."

Wendell & Trotter carried on a business principally in dry goods, "opposite the southeast corner of the City Hall;" William Gray was a similar dealer, "near the City Hotel;" Teunis T. Van Vechten advertised Turk's Island and Rock Salt; David Fonda, "next door to General Ten Broeck," kept "dry goods, groceries and liquors" for sale; Abraham Eights, in Water street, sold Muscovado sugar by the barrel, and had "a few excellent English wind-mills for cleaning wheat."

Anthony Helmer, at his store in the house of Harmanus Wendell, sold groceries, German steel, "and a variety of other articles too tedious to be mentioned;" Jacob Van der Heyden, in Pearl street, sold "Dutch mill saws, groceries and dry goods;" Ivie Chambers, "near the Low Dutch Church," sold the usual articles of a general store, "principally liquors;" Elisha Crane, opposite the City Hall, sold "cyder" at 18s. a barrel, and took in payment boards, plank, staves, peas and all sorts of grain, but was careful to inform the public that "money would not be refused." The foregoing embraced all the principal merchants doing business in Albany about 1785.

In 1790, Cornelius J. Wynkoop deemed it "indispensably necessary" that there should be in the city "an auctioneer and vendue master for dry goods, household furniture, etc.," whereupon he opened, at No. 8 Market street, "a licensed auction house," and was without doubt the first auctioneer in Albany.

In 1795, Francis Carbine, a former Albany merchant, died. In this year, William Mayell, "hatter from London," offered for sale an assortment of hats at the store of T. Fradgley. In 1799. at No. 9 Court street, he dealt in "leather breeches," mittens, gloves, and wall paper. In 1802, the grocery firm of James and William Caldwell dissolved. The business was afterwards carried on by William Caldwell.

In 1813, Albany had grown to be an important commercial center. Indeed, at this date, we are led to the conclusion that a large percentage of the business men of Albany were engaged in mercantile pursuits. The first Directory of the city, published in 1813, gives the names of nearly three hundred mercantile firms, representing at least four hundred merchants.

Following we give the names of the most prominent of these firms.

Joseph Alexander, Lewis Benedict, John R. Bleecker, Jr., Henry Bleecker, Boyd & McHench, Peter & John I. Boyd, I. & G. Hutton, Syl. P. Jermain, James & Archibald Kane, Chester Bulkley, William Caldwell, Asa H. Center, James Clarke; Anthony M. Strong, successor of Mr. Clarke in the dry goods business, subsequently was a partner of the well-remembered firm of Richard Marvin & Co., and at a later period established the extensive business house of A. M. Strong & Co. To continue our list, there were Walter Clarke, William McHarg, John & James Mahar, Rhodolphus Crane, John C. Cuyler, Nathaniel Davis, John D. P. Douw, Thomas N. Ford, Nathaniel Judson, Russell Forsyth, Thomas, Elias & William Mather, Christian Miller, William Fowler, Matthew Gill, Job & Thomas Gould, Douw W. Williams, W. & Cornelius W. Groesbeck, Paul Hochstrasser, Estes Howe, Ebenezer Pemberton, Pratt & Durant, Valentine Rathbone, Lyman Root, Thomas & Joseph Russel, Sanford & Page, Israel Smith, George B. Spencer, Barent G. Staats, John & Spencer Stafford, Israel Smith, George W. Stanton, Gilbert Stewart, John Taylor & Son, Jacob H. Ten Eyck, John Townsend, Matthew Trotter & J. Tuffs, Philip P. Van Rensselaer, John Van Schaick, Tobias Van Schaick, Willard Walker, Dudley Walsh & Co., Washburn & Knower, Webb & Dummer, John I. Wendell, Jellis Winne.

Till several years after the beginning of the present century, it is difficult to classify the Albany merchants with reference to any particular line of trade. Most of them sold a general assortment of merchandise, and few restricted their trade to any one line of goods. About the end of the first quarter of this century this condition of trade began to change, and special merchants in special lines began to grow numerous. In the following pages we have aimed to classify the merchants with some reference to the goods sold.

DRY GOODS.

Probably the oldest house in the dry goods trade is represented by the present firm of Strong, Russell & Lawyer. This house was founded in 1824 by Richard Marvin, who commenced a wholesale dry goods business on South Market street, just north of Division street. A few years later he associated with him William Smith. In 1830 Anthony M. Strong became a partner, under the firm name of Richard Marvin & Co. A few years after the firm was dissolved, Mr. Marvin retiring, and a new one was formed under the title of Smith & Strong. In 1838 William N. Strong was admitted as a partner, the firm then becoming known as Smith, Strong & Co., and so continued until 1842, when Mr. Smith withdrew, and for many years the concern was successfully managed by A. M. & W. N. Strong. In 1844 they built the building now occupied by Daniel Weidman, and which they first occupied in 1845. In 1857 Thomas J. and Charles H. Strong were admitted as partners, on the retirement of A. M. Strong, when the firm name was changed to Strong Brothers & Co. In 1863, James A. Whitney became a partner, under the firm title of Strong & Co. In 1869, Charles A. Lawyer, and in 1872, George W. Russell, became members of the firm, when the name Strong, Whitney & Co. appeared. In 1877 Mr. Whitney died, but, by agreement, business was conducted under the same firm name until 1879, when it was changed to Strong, Russell & Co., but has subsequently been changed to Strong, Russell & Lawyer. The freestone building, Nos. 476 and 478 Broadway, running through to James street, was built in 1860, and since 1861 has been occupied by this firm.

About contemporary with the above house were the dry goods firms of Wilder, Hastings & Co.; Taber & Marks; Conkling & Herring; McMillan & Bagley; Rufus H. King & Co.; Wood & Acres; Sheldon & Sykes; Thomas Dunn; Pruyn & Olmstead; Parsons & Baker; Jacob Ten Eyck & Co.; Peter & John I. Boyd; Chandler & Starr; David P. Winne & John Garnsey; Jacob De Garmo; Pruyn & Gadner; Wendell & Jenkins; Matthew Gill & James Campbell.

Visscher Ten Eyck & Solomon M. Parker formed a partnership in the dry goods business in 1832, and commenced business at No. 60 State street in the store at that time occupied by Young & Ehle.

Of the present dry goods dealers the firms of W. M. Whitney & Co., John E. Myers, Johnston & Reilly, and Isaac White's Sons & Co., are the most extensive establishments in the city, all of which carry on a large wholesale and retail trade.

The house of W. M. Whitney & Co. was founded in 1860, by W. M. Whitney, as a branch of Ubsdell, Pierson & Co. of New York, a history of which successful enterprise will be found in the biographical sketch of Mr. Whitney published in this volume. The individual members of the firm are William M. Whitney and S. M. Van Santvoord. William H. Pangburn, who was an active member of this firm several years, died in December, 1885.

The firm of Isaac White's Sons was founded in 1871 by Isaac White and John J. White, his son. The present members of the firm are John J. and Frank White, sons of Isaac White, and A. B. Wells. A history of the firm will be found in connection with the biographical sketch of Isaac White.

The following are the other leading retail dry goods dealers: P. Bloomingdale; Mann, Waldmann & Co.; B. Stark & Co.; and S. M. Waldman.

WILLIAM J. FRYER

was born August 1, 1808, in the town of Guilderland, Albany County, N. Y. His father, John Fryer, was one of the largest farmers in that section of the State. Of Dutch ancestry, to be traced back for many generations in Holland, William not only inherited those qualities of honor, industry and perseverance as creditable as they are common to those of Knickerbocker origin, but received that

early Christian training so necessary for the elevation of character. His educational advantages were only such as the district school at that time afforded, but all experience serves to illustrate and inforce the lesson that there is an education not to be learned from books or acquired by any amount of literary training; that in the busy haunts of men the best practical education is soonest acquired in all that tends to discipline a man truly and fit him for the proper performance of the duties and business of life. At the age of fourteen he left the family homestead to engage in a mercantile business in the village of Catskill, on the Hudson. After some eight years' experience, he became the junior partner in an established shipping business at Oakhill Landing, nearly opposite Catskill, and a few miles below the City of Hudson. This was before the advent of railroads, when even steamboating was in its very infancy, and sail was almost exclusively used for the very important river traffic of those days.

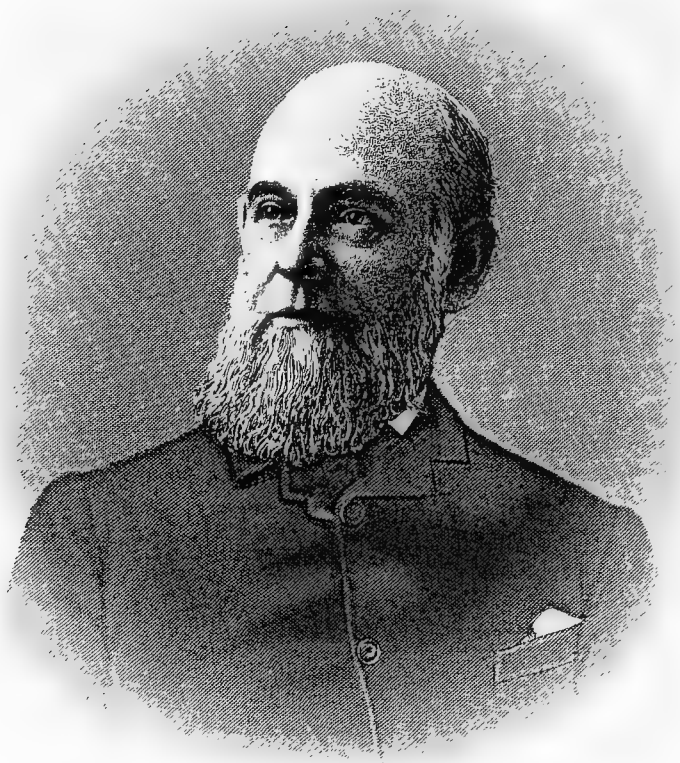
In the early part of 1837, Mr. Fryer removed to Albany and established a wholesale dry goods house, sharing in the general belief at that time that Albany, as the terminus of the Erie Canal, was to become the most important business center for supplying Western merchants. The building of the Boston and Albany Railroad, which diverted trade to the greater eastern city, the marvelous development in river steamboating, and the construction of a railroad running parallel with the Hudson River, forever settled the fate of Albany, to the advantage of the great City of New York.

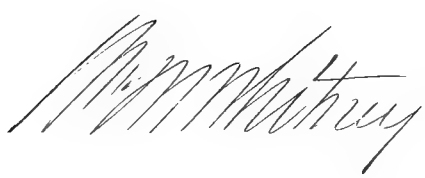
On the 10th day of February, 1836, just prior to his removal to Albany, Mr. Fryer married Margaret Livingston Crofts, granddaughter of Robert Thong Livingston, at the Livingston Manor House, in the town of Livingston, Columbia County. From the very day of beginning in Albany, his business was large and successful, increasing year by year up to the time of the great fire of August 17, 1848, which laid in ashes the business portion of the city. Mr. Fryer's two stores, with their contents, and several other buildings which he owned, were destroyed. A large number of insurance companies were made bankrupt by the fire, so that the insured received little or nothing from their policies. That misfortunes never come singly, is illustrated in Mr. Fryer's case by the fact that, in addition to his losing a large sum as above stated, he also lost another large sum in consequence of the noted failure of the Canal Bank of Albany, in which he was a director and stockholder, with personal liabilities, which occurred on the 10th day of the previous month of the same year. To the true worker losses only stimulate to renewed efforts and evoke new powers. Mr. Fryer not only met all his liabilities in full, but he rebuilt his warehouses and re-established his business and continued its management up to 1858, when he practically retired from active mercantile life. Since that time he has continued to look after the real estate and other property in which he is interested. During his long and honorable business career no note of his was ever protested, and all his business obligations were promptly paid. For a period of nearly fifty years, Mr. Fryer has been intimately associated with the business enterprise, the growth and the prosperity of the City of Albany, justly earning the confidence and respect of all his fellow-townsmen. Possessed of a strong will, great energy, and the accuracy and judgment required for the efficient conduct of business, Mr. Fryer is of a modest and retiring nature, kind and gentle in his manners, charitable in thought and deed, and finds his chief pleasure within his own family circle and home surroundings. The death of Mrs. Fryer occurred on the 11th day of April, 1882.

In politics Mr. Fryer has always been an ardent Democrat, helping the Democratic party with his purse and his influence, and clinging to its fortunes through good and evil report, and although frequently urged to accept party honors, he has steadily refused to do so. As far back as 1845 he declined the nomination for Mayor on account of private business, and at a later date he again refused a nomination for the same office. In religion he has ever held a fixed and decided attachment to the Dutch Reformed Church, from his earliest remembrance of the teachings of the Rev. Harmanius Van Husen, the pastor of his devoted Christian father and mother, at the Reformed Dutch Church in Salem, Albany County. On locating in Catskill in 1822, Mr. Fryer came under the pastorate of the Rev. I. N. Wyckoff, D. D., who was the leading minister in that denomination, and who accepted a life call from the Middle Dutch Reformed Church in Albany in 1837, in which latter church Mr. Fryer continued his connection and repeatedly served as an officer.

ISAAC WHITE.

This gentleman is descended from two of the old families of Duanesburgh, Schenectady County. His paternal grandfather was Ichabod White, who at an early date removed from Nine Partners, Dutchess County, and located a mile west of the village of Duanesburgh, near Duane's Bush, the old country seat of James Duane, soon removing two miles southwest to the place now in possession of the family, and known as the White homestead. His son, Isaac White, married Mary Jenkins, whose father, Christopher Jenkins, was of English descent, and had been a seafaring man in early life, and removed to Duanesbugh from Rhode Island, settling on a large farm near Quaker street. Isaac and Mary (Jenkins) White had three sons and five daughters, who grew to be men and women, and all of whom, except the subject of this notice and one of his sisters, were born in Duanesburgh. Somewhat late in life, Mr. White disposed of his property in Duanesburgh and removed to Otsego County, where he bought a farm, which he subsequently lost through a flaw in the title, and thence, in 1828, to the vicinity of Palmyra, Wayne County, and lived there four years, after which he returned to Duanesburgh. His son, Isaac White, was born in Maryland, Otsego County, February 10, 1820. He passed his boyhood on the farm





and in attending the winter schools, and at fourteen years of age hired out at farm labor for eight months for twenty dollars and his living. From that time, until he was seventeen, he worked for different farmers, and succeeded in saving fifty dollars, which he expended in attending the academy at Gallupville, Schoharie County. During the next four years, he attended and taught school near home. Then he taught the public school at Saugerties, Ulster County, three years. Returning to Duanesburgh, he married Miss Ann Eliza Cramer, October 30, 1848. He taught a school in that neighborhood the following winter, and in the spring of 1844 set out on a trip through the then Far West to see the country, with a view to investment and settlement. He proceeded to Buffalo by canal, thence to Cleveland by steamer, thence to a point on the Ohio River, below Pittsburgh, by stage, and thence to St. Louis by the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, going thence on foot sixty miles to Vandalia, where he remained a short time making a small investment in land. Not favorably impressed with the West, he returned to New York State, and taught school the following winter at Voorheestown, Montgomery County. The six years following he was in charge of the public schools of Fultonville, Montgomery County, and Gloversville, Fulton County, when, his health failing, his physician advised him to seek some traveling employment. During the succeeding six years he was selling gloves and mittens at wholesale, on the road, for a manufacturing firm in Gloversville. For about a year, in 1857 and 1858, he kept a store in Gloversville. Removing to the neighborhood of Quaker Street, in Duanesburgh, he purchased a farm on which he lived for some years. In 1861–66 he was again on the road, selling boots and shoes for Wilburs & Co., of Quaker Street. Removing to Albany in 1866, he became a salesman in the employ of George A. Woolverton & Co., traveling almost constantly for some years. During this period his sons, John J. and Edgar M. White, had acquired an intimate knowledge of the Yankee notion and fancy goods trade, in the establishment of George H. Knowlton, and the former had saved some capital with a view to going into trade on his own account. Mr. White had strictly adhered to a rule adopted early in life, to live so much within his income as to save something each year, and by this time had considerable available means, and, in March, 1871, Isaac and John J. White bought the business of Mr. Knowlton, and conducted it under the style of Isaac White & Son till 1874, when the firm name was changed to Isaac White & Sons, by the admission of Edgar M. White, who withdrew early in 1883, his brother Frank White taking his place in the firm, which has since been known as Isaac White's Sons & Co. In January, 1885, Edgar M. White again purchased an interest in the concern. Charles White, another of Mr. White's Sons, is employed in the house. This business was begun upstairs at No. 61 Broadway. Larger quarters being demanded, it was removed to No. 67 Broadway, and thence to Nos. 63 and 65 Broadway. The firm do a safe, successful and growing trade, and its members are favorably regarded in business circles in Albany and elsewhere.

Mr. White retired from active business January 1, 1883, and is resting from the labors of a well-spent life. He is conspicuous among the self-made men of Albany. His ruling ideas in business have been industry, safety and prudence, and he has succeeded where many another man less industrious and more venturesome has failed. He has never taken an active part in politics; but, formerly a Whig, has been a Republican since the organization of the party.

W. M. WHITNEY.

For more than a quarter of a century, Mr. W. M. Whitney has occupied a prominent position in the commercial circles of Albany, and in the extent and character of the business of which he is the recognized head, he has done much towards attracting that large trade which is the pride of the city and the foundation of much of its substantial prosperity.

Mr. Whitney was born in Boston, Mass., January 12, 1827, a scion of the old Massachusetts family of that name, and a grandson of Colonel Josiah Whitney, of revolutionary fame, who participated in all of the engagements in the struggle for American independence, from the fight of Concord to the surrender of Cornwallis. Daniel Whitney, his father, was a builder of ability and prominence, who, in 1828, when the present leading merchant of Albany was only one year old, removed with his family to New York City, where Mr. Whitney was reared and educated, and, at a comparatively early age, he found his first employment in a retail dry goods store. From this position he went, in 1844, to another, in a wholesale dry goods house in William street, near Wall. It is worthy of note that Mr. Whitney's career in the wholesale dry goods trade embraces the period during which the merchants have moved from the section of New York now known by the comprehensive title of "Wall street," to other locations uptown, and given place to the bankers, brokers, insurance men and others who, for years past, have so notably represented the great financial interests of the country. He became so well acquainted with the dry goods trade that he was recognized as an expert buyer, and from 1852 to 1859 he was chiefly engaged in purchasing goods for large dry goods houses in different parts of the country. At the latter date he engaged exclusively with the firm of Ubsdell, Pierson & Co., Broadway, New York, who had branch stores in Albany and St. Louis. The success of the Albany branch having been assured, it was decided January 1, 1860, to make it a permanent enterprise and Mr. Whitney was put in charge, giving his personal attention to the purchase of goods and the receipt and fulfillment of all orders. When the New York house retired from business, the Albany firm was continued by Mr. Whitney, who, as the senior member of the firm of

W. M. Whitney & Co., remains at the head of its affairs.

When the house was first opened, a store 25 by 120 feet in dimensions was all that was required for the accommodation of its stock. The premises at present used consist of a building 86 feet wide, running back 216 feet, from North Pearl street to James street, and having five floors. This extensive store is divided into twenty-five distinct departments, all under separate heads, and so systematized that each department can show its own results from season to season. From three hundred to four hundred employees find occupation with the firm, the number varying with the exigencies of the season. The total floorage utilized at first was about 3,000 square feet; to-day the twenty-five departments of the business cover over 103,000 square feet, or a little less than three acres of surface, a fact which exemplifies not only the remarkable growth of this great representative house, but the rapid advance of Albany as a source of supply for all kinds of manufactured goods. Albany owes to Mr. Whitney the introduction of electric lights in the city, and his store is brilliantly lighted by electricity on all of the five floors, and elevators run to the top of the building, practically bringing all of the vast rooms on a level. The guiding principles of the house have ever been—good goods and adequate values; low uniform prices to all; close attention to business, and to the comfort and demands of patrons; and the fairest and most liberal treatment of all classes of the public. And the application of these principles has resulted in the rapid growth of a well-managed business, which is now of such dimensions as to leave no doubt that W. M. Whitney & Co. are the largest retail distributors of dry goods between New York and Chicago.

FANCY DRY GOODS.

The first store devoted exclusively to trade in fancy dry goods in Albany was opened by J. B. Spelman in 1824. In 1836 Benjamin R. Spelman bought his brother's interest and a new co-partnership was formed, with B. R. & R. L. Spelman as the firm name. This continued without change for forty years, when the firm dissolved, R. L. Spelman retiring and W. D. Spelman continuing the business, which he still conducts, at No. 582 Broadway. Among other dealers in this class of goods we may name Flud & Bochlowitz; E. Gips & Co.; M. M. Hydeman; D. S. La Monte; R. Lansing; J. Laventall; F. Martineau; S. M. Valkenburgh & Co.; and Isaac White's Sons.

MILLINERY.

Dealers in millinery goods and making ladies' bonnets, might properly come under the head of manufacturers, so extensive and elaborate is the latter business carried on in this city. The most extensive of these establishments, which carry on a wholesale and retail trade, are the following: M. L. Cutler, 540 Broadway; H. W. Lipman & Co., 459 Broadway; I. Lilienthal, 44 South Pearl; Mrs. J. Mann, 33 North Pearl; L. McHaffie & Co., 55 North Pearl; Edward Owen, 93 North Pearl; M. Robb, 14 North Pearl; B. Stark & Co., 13 North Pearl.

CARPET DEALERS.

Among the earlier carpet dealers were the firms of Thomas W. Forth & Co., corner State and Broadway; Daniel H. Forth; James Kidd; William S. Shepard; and Taylor & Waterman, the latter of whom followed the business for twenty-three years.

The house of A. B. Van Gaasbeck & Co., the oldest house now engaged in this business, was founded in 1836 by A. B. Van Gaasbeck and B. F. Mosely, under the firm name of Mosely & Van Gaasbeck, on the east side of South Market street, near the corner of Hudson avenue. In a short time the firm dissolved, Mr. Mosely continuing at the old stand, a history of whose long connection with the carpet trade will be found in connection with his biographical sketch. After the dissolution of the firm of Mosely & Van Gaasbeck, the latter opened a store in the Douw Building, then just completed, on South Market street. In 1842 he opened another store on State street. Soon after this date Mr. Van Gaasbeck's brothers, John and William, became associated with him, when he opened a store devoted exclusively to the sale of carpets, the former two having been general dry goods stores, where Maurice E. Viele's store now stands. The three stores were continued until 1844, when the dry goods stores were sold out, and another opened in the Athenæum Building on the west side of Broadway, near State street. In 1849, A. B. Van Gaasbeck sold out his interest in both stores to his brothers, William assuming control of the dry goods concern, and John the carpet store. In 1852 A. B. Van Gaasbeck bought an interest with his brother John, who had removed to 34 Greene street. The firm name was then changed to Van Gaasbeck & Brother. A short time after the partnership was dissolved, John remaining at the old stand, and A. B. opened a new store corner Broadway and Columbia, where he remained for seven years. Since 1861 he has occupied stores on North Pearl and Green streets, and has recently taken possession of his large store on North Pearl, nearly opposite the Kenmore. Since that time he has had as junior partners Frank Watson, W. Jennison, Chauncey Watson, and George H. Redway, all of whom were clerks prior to their interest in the concern. At present Amos C. Van Gaasbeck, son of A. B. Van Gaasbeck, is the junior partner.

Abram Koonz was a successful carpet dealer on State street for many years, succeeded, after his death, by his son, E. C. Koonz, who has gone out of business. Martin Kramrath is a prominent carpet merchant in Albany on South Pearl street. Carpets are also sold by W. M. Whitney & Co. and Johnston & Reilly.

The Boston Steam Carpet Beating Company carry on the business of cleaning carpets at 63 Quay street, and is the principal firm of its kind in the city. Amos Temple is the proprietor.

BENJAMIN F. MOSELEY,

senior member of the firm of B. F. Moseley & Co., proprietors of the leading carpet warehouse of Albany, was born in Massachusetts in 1812. His father was Edwin Moseley, a native of Westfield, Mass. His mother was Marcia Patterson, a native of Lebanon, N. Y.

Benjamin F Moseley.

He was educated in the public schools of his native town, and in 1825 came to Albany and entered the employment of Seneca Mabbett as a clerk in his store. In 1836 he established himself in the dry goods trade at the corner of South Market and Hudson streets, in the old Museum Building, whence he crossed to the opposite side of South Market street. He had at this time taken a partner, his firm being known as Moseley & Van Gaasbeck. This partnership existed but a short time, when the firm of Moseley & Van Gaasbeck was succeeded by that of Smith, Cary & Moseley, which was formed in 1839 and was not dissolved until 1861, during most of which time its business was carried on in North Market street. Upon his retirement from the dry goods trade in April, 1861, Mr. Moseley went to Canada, and was there for a short time in the stove trade.

Returning to Albany, he engaged in the carpet trade, in 1866, at No. 34 Green street. Seven years later he removed to South Pearl street, and thence, in 1879, to No. 53 State street. In 1882, his son, Frank E. Moseley, became his partner, since when the business has been owned and conducted by B. F. Moseley & Co. The business of this house is located in a handsome five-story marble building, furnished with all modern conveniences that good taste and enterprise can suggest, including a duplex water elevator connecting all the floors and rendering all of them almost equally accessible. The line of goods displayed here embraces all the leading novelties in carpetings: seasonable designs in velvet and Brussels, choice ingrains, drugget and felt crumb cloths; oilcloths; China, cocoa, and Napier mattings; imported mats and rugs; linoleum, window shades, curtains, and similar goods. The firm carry an extensive stock received direct from the manufacturers, and show an ample assortment of all the standard designs and new shades and colors, their trade extending throughout the greater portion of the State. The Messrs. Moseley are worthy representives of that active, enterprising class of business men who have attracted the trade of a wide range of country to Albany as a desirable purchasing center, and who by their honorable dealings, progressive ideas, the reliable character of the goods they handle, and the many inducements they offer to the purchasing public, have so firmly established the commercial importance of Albany and given it a rank among the leading mercantile cities of the State. Mr. Moseley is in the best sense of the term a self-made man. His standing in the community is very high. A member of the Democratic party, he is yet no politician. Early in life he was prominently identified with and for some years librarian of the North Dutch Church, but for many years he has been a member of the Fourth Presbyterian Church. He was married in 1837 to Miss Orelia B. Barstow, of Hadley, Mass., and has three sons and three daughters.

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

Christian Miller was for many years a prominent grocer in Albany. He came from Germany in 1767, and settled in Albany in 1789, and in 1792 opened a grocery store, which he continued until 1825, when he retired from business. For many of the late years of his life he discharged, with marked ability, several offices both civil and ecclesiastical. He was noted for his charities. A tablet to his memory has been placed in the Second Reformed Dutch Church, of which he was a member. He died in 1844.

James Caldwell, in the latter part of the last century, was an extensive grocer, succeeded by his son William in 1802.

The leading merchants in this business during the first quarter of the present century were William Cook & Co., Hudson street; A. Marvin & Co., South Market; George W. Stanton and Batchelder & Sherman, State street; Wilson, Rathbone & Chapin, Quay street; Mancius & Le Breton, corner of South Market and State; and Daniel Wilcox, South Market; Joshua Puffs, Pemberton & Mitchell, J. & R. F. Slack, Granville Slack, N. & C. Scovill, J. & E. M. Sayles, located on or near Quay street.

The firm of Tracy, Woolverton & Wilson is the oldest established house of the kind now existing in Albany. In 1831, James A. Wilson and Charles Badgeley, the founder of the present firm, started in the grocery business at the corner of Quay and Exchange streets. Here the store was located till

1861. In 1833 Mr. Badgeley died, and Peter Monteath became a partner, under the firm name of Wilson & Monteath. In 1845 Joseph D. Bageley was admitted as a partner. In 1850 Mr. Wilson retired. In 1864 George Monteath was admitted as a partner, under the firm name of Monteath, Bageley & Co., remaining without change until 1865, when, by the death of Mr. Monteath and the retirement of Mr. Joseph D. Bageley, the firm dissolved. Since then, until 1873, it was conducted by Mrs. Monteath & Son (Edward W.), when Egbert W. Tracy became a partner. In 1876 Edward Monteath died and Peter Monteath in 1879. The business was then managed by Mr. Tracy until the firm of Tracy, Woolverton & Wilson was formed in 1880. Mr. Woolverton subsequently retired. The firm is now composed of Egbert W. Tracy and Robert P. Wilson. They conduct a wholesale trade extending over several States. Their store is located 54 and 56 Hamilton street.

The antique building on the corner of Columbia and North Pearl streets, which was built in 1710, was occupied by a Mr. McPherson as a grocery prior to 1818, when it was sold to the Pemberton Brothers—Eben, Henry S. and John—and shortly after opened by them as a grocery store. The business established by these brothers, then mere boys, was continued until 1830, when only Eben and John were interested in it. In 1859 Eben died, from which time it was conducted by John Pemberton, who died in 1885, and at the time of his death was the oldest merchant in Albany in active business.

In 1820, Jacob Mancius kept an East India store at No. 61 State street, on the site now occupied by the *Journal* building. He imported wines, liquors and groceries. He continued it until 1838, when he sold out to Edward R. Satterley. In 1843 he associated with him his son Edward, under the firm name of E. R. and E. Satterley. The house was continued until 1840, when Frederick Vine became proprietor and remained at the old stand until 1856, when he removed to Nos. 7 and 9 North Pearl street, where he remained until 1862. He then sold out to Joseph J. Price and H. L. Weatherhead. These gentlemen remained together until 1866, when Mr. Price took his present store, No. 75 State street. Mr. Weatherhead opened a store at corner of North Pearl and Maiden lane. He died several years ago.

Edmund J. Lord is one of the oldest grocers in Albany, having started in the store, corner of Washington avenue and Hawk street, he now controls. As a clerk for Moses Wood, in 1836, and since 1841, with various partners, he has been continuously in the business.

In 1811, William McBride opened a grocery store just east of the old Fly Market, which stood on South Market street. He remained there until 1832, when he removed to Schoharie. Returning in 1835, he opened a store on the southeast corner of Washington avenue and Knox street in connection with his sons, William and John. In 1838 they removed to the opposite corner, where they remained until 1853, when the founder of the old house, William McBride, died. The firm was then continued for some years under the name of John & William McBride. In 1856 Thomas & Henry McBride Brothers opened a store on the corner of South Pearl and Hudson avenue. Four years afterwards they removed to corner of Plain and South Pearl streets, where they remained for eight years, and, after a short time on Beaver street, removed to the northwest corner of Grand and Hamilton streets. Thomas died several years ago, Henry in 1885.

William J. Maher has carried on a grocery business at 7½ Lumber District since 1862. He was born in Vermont, and is a prominent citizen, having been Member of Assembly in 1876-77, and Receiver of City Taxes under Mayors Nolan and Banks.

From 1836 to 1872 William B. Scott (a biography of whom appears elsewhere) successfully conducted a grocery store in this city.

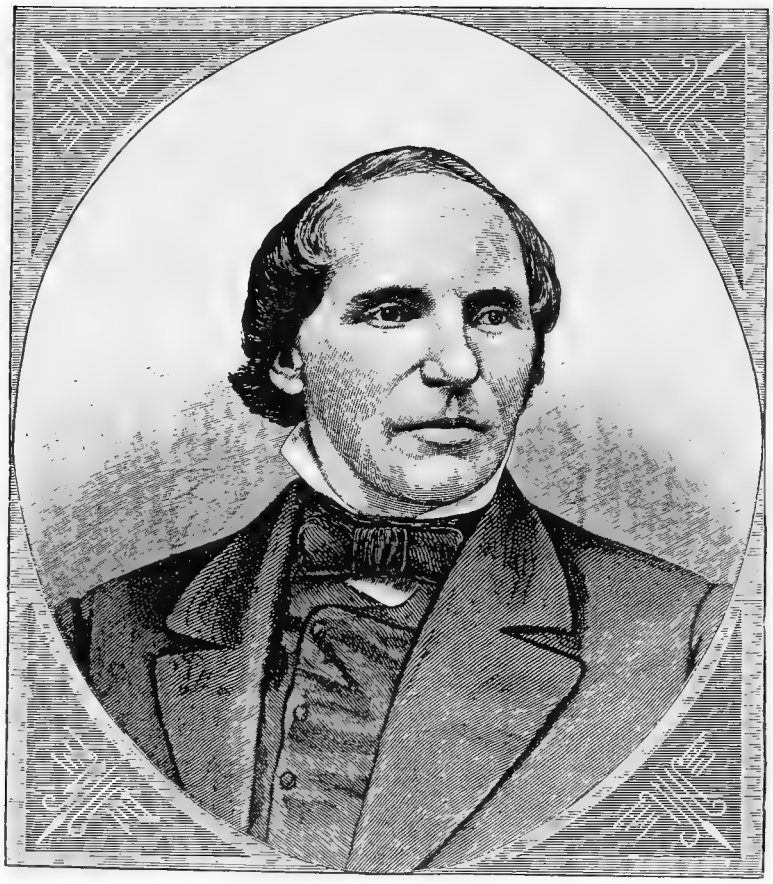
Another prominent grocery firm is that of Daniel Wiedman and John T. Kelly, under the firm name of Wiedman & Kelly, the former of whom has been in the business since 1842, a successful merchant and worthy citizen. A history of his business and career appear in connection with his biographical sketch. Mr. Kelly is an equally respected merchant. This store is located 443 Broadway.

The following prominent firms are also engaged in the wholesale grocery trade: George A. Birch & Co., George Boardman & Brothers, Burton & Vine, Garrett & Beck, Mather Brothers, L. A. Rogers, H. H. Slingerland & Son, Samuel Stevenson, John E. Walker, Wilson, Lansing & Co., and Albert Wing, Sons & Co. The latter firm is one of the best known and most reliable wholesale houses in Albany. It has been established many years, and successfully conducted by men of good business judgment and unblemished business reputations. Their trade extends over a wide territory. The individual members of the firm are Albert Wing, James G. Wing, Eugene R. Hartt and Albert J. Wing.

The retail grocery stores of Albany are numerous. In 1885 there were over seven hundred of these stores. A few of the most extensive are the following: George W. Kaynsford, Lancaster, corner of Green; James Judge's Sons (Thomas J. and Francis P.) 16 Van Woert, who also deal in coal; Edward Doherty, 155 Clinton avenue; C. J. Shehan, 38 Clinton avenue; Peter Snyder, 349 South Pearl; John Carey, Myrtle avenue, corner Philip; James Wise, 87 Orange street; George W. Beck and S. E. Garrett, under the firm name of Garrett & Beck, conduct a wholesale fruit and fancy grocery store on Broadway, corner Hudson avenue.

HENRY D. FRASER

was born in New York, January 17, 1837, and died in Albany June 14, 1878, aged but little more than forty-one years. He was a son of Alfred S. Fraser, and was for many years, and until his death, connected officially with the Seventh Ward National Bank, at the corner of Pearl street and Burling Slip, New York.



Hon. Robert Harper.

Mr. Fraser became a leading business man of Albany, and was for many years a member of the firm of L. M. Palmer & Co., wholesale provision merchants. On account of ill-health, he retired from this firm, and from all active business, several years before his death. His widow, a daughter of Hon. A. Lanson Cook, of Troy, and two children survive him. He ranked high in commercial circles, and in private life was known as a pure and noble man, whose character commanded the love and respect of all with whom he associated. Quiet and unassuming, he took no part in political affairs, preferring to devote his time and care to his business and his home. He was connected with the First Baptist Church of Albany.

ROBERT HARPER

was born near Holywood, County Down, Ireland, March 12, 1812. His father was a Protestant Irishman of pronounced views, and his mother, formerly Jane Bond, was a native of Scotland and a staunch Scotch Presbyterian. Partly on account of unpleasant religious dissensions in Ireland, and partly with the hopes of bettering their fortunes in the New World, they came to America and located on the island opposite the lower part of the City of Albany. At that time Robert Harper was a mere lad, but he had obtained a rudimentary education at Belfast, in his native land, and was possessed of remarkable pluck and enterprise and business capacity for one so young. His father engaged in market gardening, and Robert became an apt and diligent student in that branch of agriculture. At the age of twelve we find him market-gardening on his own account, working leased land, employing skillful help, and driving his own bargains in the Albany market. This may be regarded as a remarkable instance of precocious business enterprise. The boy was successful, and when he grew up he was successful as a man in the same business for many years, amassing considerable money, which later he invested in real estate in Albany and elsewhere so advantageously as to accumulate a fine fortune.

Mr. Harper from early manhood took a deep interest in all questions affecting Government—Municipal, State and Federal. His convictions upon questions of political policy and economy were such as to impel him to ally himself with the Democratic party. The sterling integrity and unflinching honesty, the genial disposition, the innate friendliness, the admirable character which had assured him financial success and won him hosts of friends in business circles, brought him the confidence and personal allegiance of his fellow-Democrats, and made him against his will a local leader in his party; and he possessed in a marked degree the confidence and admiration of large numbers of men of opposing political affiliations, and was, in a broad and sympathetic sense, one of the most popular men personally in the city and county. He did not care for self-aggrandizement, and he persistently declined, rather than sought, official preferment. But party strength was so unfavorably balanced in Albany and vicinity, that no Democrat who was not extremely popular with the masses of all parties could at times hope for election to any city or county office. At such times Mr. Harper was besought to stand as a candidate, and from time to time he reluctantly consented, and no more unequivocal evidence of his availability as a candidate could be adduced, than the fact that he was never defeated at the polls, and his name on the ticket became a watchword of victory. For many years he was Chairman of the Democratic County Committee of Albany County, and he was regarded as a safe, shrewd, and effective political organizer. Indeed his reputation as such was more than local, and his fame as a manager of campaigns extended not only to New York and throughout the State, but to distant portions of the Union, and his counsel and executive ability were sought from abroad. At one time, Hon. Henry A. Wise, of Virginia, then a Gubernatorial candidate, sent for Mr. Harper to plan his campaign and organize his aggressive forces. Mr. Harper responded, and not only organized Governor Wise's campaign, but gave such valuable counsel as to its prosecution that it was a brilliant success, upon which he was afterwards complimented. Mr. Harper served his county as County Clerk and his Assembly District as its Representative in the State Assembly. His administration of public affairs was marked with all of the vigor, integrity, and promptness which characterized him in business life. It is said that all men have what are popularly called hobbies. That of Mr. Harper was one which did him great honor. It was the cause of public education. The public schools of Albany and the State at large had no firmer, more hopeful or more generous friend than he. He was an unstinting benefactor and an untiring helper of the schools of Albany, and for some years he filled the office of School Commissioner, and as such was enabled to do even more for the advancement of public instruction than he had been permitted to do simply in his capacity of private citizen.

Mr. Harper was not a member of any religious body, yet he gave liberally toward the establishment or support of many churches of various denominations, without stopping to ask whether they were Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Protestant or Catholic. Essentially benevolent and helpful in his instincts, he gave to churches as he gave to other benevolent objects, without prejudice or favor. It was in private, in the byways, rather than in the broad highways of charity, that his beneficence found its widest, its favorite field. He was one who saw merit in the struggling poor and delighted to help them to attain a higher plane of existence; he delighted to extend a helping hand to honest working men who were trying hard to help themselves against adverse circumstances, and in the very face of frowning fortune. He was one who knew not a hard or cruel thought, and who instinctively shrunk from giving pain to the most humble of his fellow-men. No better exemplification of this humane trait could be given than the mere statement of the fact that, though often be-

sought to be a candidate for the Shrievalty of Albany County, he invariably refused, on account of the possibility that, should he be elected, he might be called upon to inflict the death penalty upon some poor wretch who had forfeited his own life to the law by taking that of a fellow-being.

It was not until he was thirty-six years old that Mr. Harper was married to Miss Sarah E. Capson, who bore him six children, named as follows in the order of their birth: John C., George, Mary, Frank, Ira, and Sarah J. Of these, John C., George, Mary, and Frank are dead. Ira, the only surviving son, read law with his uncle, Hon. John W. McNamara, graduated from the Albany Law School, and has been engaged in the practice of his profession for the past three years. Mrs. Harper died in September, 1863, and in April, 1866, Mr. Harper married the widow of L. D. Holstein, once an eminent criminal lawyer of Albany, who was formerly Miss S. M. Ramsey, daughter of Rev. F. Ramsey, of Schoharie County, and who survives him.

The death of Mr. Harper occurred in 1870. It was accompanied by peculiar and distressing circumstances and surrounded by a mystery that for a time gave it a sensational notoriety. On the 22d of January Mr. Harper disappeared. He was seen that day in his accustomed health and spirits, and he was seen no more. He had passed from the haunts of men, leaving no trace of his going, its manner, or its exact time. He was such a man that it was often said of him "he had not an enemy in the world;" yet those who knew him best believed that he had enemies, bitter, implacable, and vindictive. Various conflicting theories as to his disappearance were advanced. Those of death by accident, suicide, and murder were discussed in turn. His friends scouted the idea of suicide. An accidental death that would leave no evidence behind seemed improbable. They favored—some of them still favor—the theory of murder. Large rewards were offered for knowledge of his whereabouts if alive, or the recovery of his body if dead, Hon. John T. Hoffman, then Governor of the State of New York, offering $600 on his own personal responsibility. Private citizens, the police, and skillful detectives, all sought diligently to unravel the mystery of Robert Harper's disappearance. It was months before it was known positively whether he lived or was dead. On the 18th of April following his disappearance, his body was found floating in the Hudson, at Coeymans. Beyond the knowledge that he is dead, the mystery of his death is yet unexplained.

Mr. Harper's widow and his remaining son and daughter live on his homestead farm on Madison avenue, where he passed the last years of his life, and in which he took the greatest pride, loving it as only such men as he love the places whereon are erected their domestic altars.

HORACE D. HAWKINS

was born in Pittsford, Vt., June 22, 1812, a son of John and Persis (Hitchcock) Hawkins. He received such education as was available to him in the common schools of his native town, and while yet comparatively young, became a resident of the State of New York. In 1839 he engaged in the grocery trade in Albany, opening a retail store. His business was so successful that it was not many years before he was largely engaged in the wholesale grocery trade. Later he turned his attention to the commission business, and began to deal heavily in pork, opening a packing-house, which was one of the first, if not the first, of importance in Albany. This business grew to be a very extensive one, and Mr. Hawkins became largely interested in the same line of trade in Chicago, where for some years he passed considerable time, and operated with remarkable success. Retiring from commerce, he devoted his time and attention to banking and insurance interests in Albany, and was associated with the direction of the Albany City Bank, the First National Bank of Albany, and the Commerce Insurance Company. He was known as a careful, intelligent man of affairs, of strict integrity, unbounded enterprise, and zealous application; a wise counselor, whose opinions were usually sought and respected, and whose uncompromising honesty made him powerful, except among those who sought to attain means by other than the direct course plainly discernible when questions of right and wrong were involved. He was ever one of the few to advise the adoption of the right at any cost to the individuals or corporations interested. Though not active as a politician, he was deeply interested in all questions affecting the public weal. He was an adherent to the principles of the Republican party as they were enunciated in his day, and contended earnestly, though quietly, for those principles which early marked that organization as the party of great moral ideas. But he was of too retiring a nature to mingle in the tumult of political strife. Though often solicited to stand as a candidate for positions of public trust and responsibility, he steadfastly refused the honor intended. He was long an attendant with his family at Rev. Dr. Sprague's church, until the close of that distinguished clergyman's labors in Albany; and later was an attendant at the State Street Presbyterian Church, until his death, which occurred June 12, 1878. He was married, in 1841, to Miss Lodimma Davis, of Pleasant Valley, Otsego County, N. Y., who survives him, together with one daughter and three sons.

LANSING MERCHANT,

Vice-President of the National Exchange Bank of Albany, and one of the best-known business men in the city, was born in Greenwich, Washington County, N. Y., April 16, 1804, a son of Eliakim and Charity (Birge) Merchant. His father was born in 1771, and acquired the trade of a millwright while yet a young man. He built many mills, and was engaged upon other similar work over quite an extensive area. Removing from Nine Partners, Dutchess County, to Greenwich, Washington County, he there married and made his home.

Lansing Merchant

Wm B Scott

Jas. H. Ostrom

Lansing Merchant attended the common schools in vogue in his neighborhood at the time, until he was ten years old, with much regularity. From that time on, until he was fifteen, he attended only in the winter. In April, 1822, he came to Albany and became a clerk in the general store of S. & R. Merchant, on Washington avenue, and remained in that capacity until 1826, when, in partnership with Seth Crapo, who had previously acquired an interest in the business, he succeeded his former employers. From 1828 to 1833 he was a clerk in the store of Levi Phillips, on Broadway. In the year last mentioned the firm of L. & W. Merchant was formed, Lansing Merchant and his brother Walter being the partners, and opened a grocery and provision store on Division street near the Dock. Nine years later the business was removed to the corner store, contiguous to the Dock, where it was continued successfully until 1871, when the brothers Merchant retired from business.

Mr. Merchant possesses in a large degree those sterling qualities which mark the successful and respected business man. He early won a reputation for probtiy which brought him the confidence of all classes The enterprise with which he was so long identified took high rank among the mercantile establishments of Albany, and Mr. Merchant became identified with the leading interests of the city. In 1865 he became a Director in the National Albany Exchange Bank (now the National Exchange Bank of Albany), and for some years past has been its Vice-President; and he is also a Trustee of the Exchange Savings Bank, one of the most popular and trustworthy institutions of its kind in the city. He has been a prominent member of the Board of Trade of the City of Albany since its organization.

In January, 1835, Mr. Merchant married Miss S. M. Ives, daughter of the late Ambrose Ives, of Herkimer County, N. Y. Politically he is a Republican, having graduated naturally into that party from the ranks of the old Whig organization. In theology he is an adherent to the Unitarian faith, and has been a regular attendant upon such services of that denomination as have been from time to time held in Albany, and no one deplores more than he, the fact that there are no stated meetings of Unitarians in the city.

JAMES H. OSBORN.

James H. Osborn, a son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Coburn) Osborn, was born in Albany, June 17, 1817. His parents had come to Albany from New Haven, and his father was a merchant in the city, with a store on Broadway, from 1808 to 1820, when he removed to Olean, N. Y., when he engaged in the lumber business, in which he continued until his death in 1822. After settling his estate the family returned to Albany, where the subject of this notice has since lived. Mr. Osborn was educated in private schools, spending the last two years of his school life at the old Lancasterian school on Eagle street, on the site of the present medical college.

At the age of fourteen he entered the store of C. W. Bender, at the coner of Pearl and Madison avenues, as a clerk. He was bright and active, and took naturally to mercantile life, and his advancement was so rapid that, in 1837, with the aid of Mr. Bender, who had become his firm friend, he began business for himself, opening a general store on a street corner opposite to that where he had begun with Mr. Bender. Previous to this, Mr. Bender had moved further up the street, and young Osborn had been for some time in charge of his store, thus familiarizing himself with the management as well as the details of mercantile operations. He was industrious, honorable and careful, as well as pushing and energetic, and he prospered, continuing in trade in Albany almost uninterruptedly until 1880, when he retired. During some years of this period he had as a partner Mr. James R. Hadley. After his removal from his original location, he was located until 1868 at the corner of Pearl and Westerlo streets, where he bought property, in 1860, and built a store, disposing of which, he located at No. 8 State street, and there remained until his retirement. Mr. Osborn was in trade in Albany during a period which brought many changes with its passing years. The old general stores, something like the country stores of the present day, gave place to stores which were distinctively dry goods or grocery stores. He became well and widely known in the grocery trade, and, abandoning that in 1868, he embarked in the produce trade, in which he continued until 1880, since which time he has lived in retirement from active business, but has made some profitable investments in real estate in different parts of the city.

In 1842 Mr. Osborn was married to Miss Christina Van Rensselaer, of Albany, who lived about forty years thereafter, bearing him three daughters, of whom two are living, Mrs. William N. S. Sanders, of Albany, and Mrs. Dr. Charles Devendorf, of Detroit, Mich. In October, 1883, he was again married to Mrs. Eliza Bailey, of Albany. Mr. Osborn has long been a communicant of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and has been a member of the vestry since 1858. A few years ago he was chosen warden to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Mr. C. W. Bender, the friend of his early days. Formerly a Whig, Mr. Osborn has been a Republican from the inception of that party, but while he has carefully watched the progress of events and felt a deep interest in our national welfare, his tastes have not inclined him to take part in political life, and he has never accepted any public office.

WILLIAM B. SCOTT.

This gentleman is a well-known resident and real estate dealer in Albany. He was born in Albany, April 19, 1812, a son of William and Nancy (Beatty) Scott. He had few educational or other worldly advantages, and was obliged to undertake the battle of life for himself at an early age. He was employed as a clerk and otherwise until

JAMES A. WILSON.

1836, when he engaged in the grocery trade on Canal street. In 1844 he bought a grocery store at the corner of Swan and Second streets, where he continued business until his retirement in 1872. In the meantime he had begun to deal in real estate, and since then has invested largely in different parts of the city, notably on Arbor hill and at West Albany.

In 1838, Mr. Scott married Mrs. Catharine L. Chapman, daughter of Samuel Harbeck, of Albany. She died in 1876, leaving a daughter, now an inmate of her father's home. Formerly a Whig, Mr. Scott became a Republican upon the rise of the latter party. He has interested himself in local as well as State and national affairs, and has four times been a member of the Board of Supervisors of Albany County, and represented the Eighth (now the Twelfth) Ward of Albany in the Board of Aldermen several times. He is a self-made man, and is in excellent standing both as a business man and a citizen. He resides at No. 7 Hall place.

JAMES A. WILSON.

Of several former prominent business men of Albany who have pased away during the past twenty years, none are better remembered than James Alexander Wilson, whose name has been perpetuated in that of one of the streets of the city, named in his honor. He was a son of Joseph Annan and Maria (Fonda) Wilson, and was born in Albany, December 8, 1807. He chose a business career and became prominent in connection with various important interests of Albany and vicinity. He was long known as the senior member of the firm of Wilson & Badgley (later Wilson & Monteith) wholesale grocers, and at different times he held, among other important trusts, those of Director of the Bank of Albany, of the Albany Mutual Insurance Company, and of the Albany Plank Road Company, and was the first President of the Albany and Rutland Railroad Company, and President of the Board of Trustees of the Home Lawn Association. He was a man of great enterprise and unimpeachable integrity, a true friend and a good citizen. His death occured June 5, 1872. One of his daughters is Mrs. Daniel S. Lathrop, another Mrs. Clinton Ten Eyck, both well known in Albany.

DANIEL WEIDMAN.

This prominent citizen of Albany was born in Berne, Albany County, N. Y., November 21, 1815. Jacob Weidman, his great-grandfather, came from Switzerland, arriving in this country with a party of German emigrants who settled in the Schoharie Valley. He was one of the first settlers and farmers in the County of Albany. He followed the stream called Fox Creek, which empties into Schoharie Creek near the old stone church in Schoharie Valley, and located at a fall or rapids which he named Berne, after his native city in Switzerland. He built the first house in Berne, and also a sawmill near the rapids, and subsequently erected a

Daniel Weidman

flouring mill. The place was long known as Weidman's Mills. Here he took up tracts of land, some of which were held under a lease from Stephen Van Rennselaer, and others under the title of a settler. Mr. Weidman's mother was a Schell, whose father came from Germany at an early date and settled in this vicinity. He was among the patriots of those early days who resorted to the old stone fort, now stone church, during the Indian raids of the Revolution. Daniel Weidman's early years were passed near the village of Berne, where he attended the public schools until ten years of age, when his father, Felix Weidman, died at the age of forty, leaving a widow and seven children. The subject of this notice was the fourth, and being the eldest son, was called on to work in order to meet the requirements of a well-stocked farm under a good state of cultivation. Determined not to let the farm suffer, he worked with a will, energy, and judgment that surprised his neighbors. At the age of fifteen—his mother having again married, and his sisters being also married—the farm was let and he was released from the responsibility he had so well sustained up to that time. He then started out on his own account, and obtained a clerkship in a county store at a place called West Berne, about four miles distant from his native village, where he remained about a year, and then, removing to Albany, obtained a situation in a general store kept by Peter Van Wormer, located in Pine street, which in those days was an important business thoroughfare. Here he remained two years, and was next employed in the carpet and dry goods store of T. W. Ford & Son, in the Museum Building, corner of Broadway and State street, where he remained for three years. Wishing to improve his education, he went back to the country and attended Knoxville Academy for six months, and then entered the Gallupville Academy in the town of Schoharie. The principal of this latter school was a celebrated Scotch professor, named William McLaren, and is especially remembered by Mr. Weidman as a good and able preceptor and a most excellent man. Leaving school, Mr. Weidman went to New York City and obtained a situation in a dry goods store in Grand street, where he remained nine months. In the meantime an uncle of his wrote and urged him to return to Gallupville and join him in business there, which he did, and was thus engaged for the ensuing six years, when, selling his interest to his uncle, he returned to Albany, and, with the moderate amount of capital which he had accumulated, went into the general grocery and provision business in a new store at No. 6 Hudson street, now Hudson avenue. He occupied this store for two years, and about 1845 removed to No. 10 State street, the principal locality for the grocery business in those days. There he remained until 1862, when he removed to Broadway, in a large store running from Broadway to Dean street, which he occupied as a tenant for three years, and then purchased the property, which he still occupies, conducting a wholesale grocery and tea business, and supplying a large portion of the retail trade in this portion of the State. In 1839 Mr. Weidman married Elmina E. Walden, by whom he had four children, only one of whom is now living. Miss Walden was descended from the De Waldens, who originally came from France to England, and figured conspicuously in early English history. Her family came from England and first settled in this country at Mystic, Conn. Mr. Weidman's second and present wife was the widow of William A. Gilbert, of Adams, Jefferson County, N. Y., and her maiden name was Scott. His son, George Dominick Weidman, was born June 29, 1842, and entered the Union Army at the age of nineteen years, with his father's consent, in response to the first call of President Lincoln for 75,000 men. He served three years and seven months in the Southern campaigns. Entering the army as Orderly-Sergeant, he returned as Brevet-Major of Volunteers, with an honorable discharge on account of physical disability, having served through the struggles incident to the capture of Port Hudson and the various battles of the lower Mississippi, and the Louisiana campaigns under General Banks and Butler. Later he connected himself with the N. Y. S. N. G., and became Captain of Company F, 10th Regiment, and subsequently Colonel of the Grant Battalion of Albany, which gave General Grant a notable reception in January, 1881. Upon his return from the war he was admitted to a partnership in his father's business, in which he took an active part until his death, which occurred March 17, 1883. He was deeply regretted by people of all classes, and the general feeling of the citizens of Albany is thus expressed in a memorial adopted by one of the military organizations of which he was a member:

"At a meeting of the Albany Burgesses Corps, held at their armory on Monday, March 19, 1883, the Commandant having announced the death of George D. Weidman, the following memorial was presented and unanimously adopted by a rising vote:

"Comrades! Again the muffled drums are beating and the sad cadences of a soldier's requiem summon us to take the last farewell of a comrade, vanished forever from our midst. Frequent and severe as the conscriptions for the ranks of death have of late been from amongst us, none has caused us greater surprise or more profound sorrow than the final leave-taking of our friend, companion and fellow-burgess, Captain George D. Weidman.

"Fate's final sentence met him in the prime of life, yet not before, in all the parts where duty called him, in peace and in war, in business and in social life, his performances of their various charges had entitled him to an honorable discharge, and bound to him and his memory forever a circle of warm-hearted supporters during life, a host of sympathizing friends in death. Our memories will keep the inventory of his many virtues, and, above all, of his generous charities, which, 'done by stealth, he blushed to find them fame.'

"To those near and dear ones upon whom the blow falls heaviest, we extent our heart-felt sym-

pathy in this hour of darkness to their hopes, and we will pay our last tribute of respect, with becoming rites, at the honored soldier's grave.

"GALEN R. HITT,
"ANDREW HAMILTON,
"JAMES A. SCHATTUCK,
"HENRY W. TROWBRIDGE,
"JAMES KYTE,
"Committee.

"Attest:
"WALTER DICKSON,
"President.
"CHARLES E. WOLF,
"Secretary."

Mr. Daniel Weidman has long been known in this section of the State, not only as a sound and substantial business man who has kept clear of embarrassment during all the financial troubles incident to the war and its after-consequences, but also as a firm and staunch supporter of the Union, ever ready to give his money and influence in the times when friends were needed and disaster threatened. A self-made man in the fullest sense, he appreciates his country and its institutions, and is thoroughly loyal and patriotic in all that implies the progress and glory of the Republic and the preservation of the Union.

PRODUCE, FLOUR, FEED AND SALT.

The produce, flour and feed dealers to a considerable degree are coincident with grocery dealers. In the earliest period of the commercial history of the city, every grocer was, in some degree, a produce dealer. The leading produce merchants of Albany during the forepart of this century were Sylvanus P. Jermain, John Douw, William & Clark Durant, William & John Newton, Willard Walker & Elisha Pratt, all merchants of high commercial standing in their day. William Durant died in Albany in 1845. At one time he was Trustee of the Albany Savings Bank. Clark Durant died in 1873. He was prominent in financial affairs, and the first President of the Board of Trade.

The principal produce dealers at present in Albany are Henry T. Bradt, 22 Hudson street; George W. Hawes, 19 Hudson avenue; William M. Hussey, 348 and 350 Broadway; J. B Jump, 22 Hudson avenue; Martin & Frost, 375 Broadway; William Rattoone & Co., 62 State street; Smith & Wood, 399 Broadway; E. M. Tinkham, 78 Beaver; Franklin D. Tower, Museum Building; Waterman & Bennett, 333 Broadway; Henry R. Wright, 328 Broadway.

Robert Geer, wholesale dealer in salt, flour and feed, on the Pier opposite State street, has been proprietor of his present business since 1863, having succeeded to the business established by T. Y. Avery in 1860. He occupies six four story buildings on the Pier, Nos. 109, 110, 111, 112, 114 and 115. His trade is entirely wholesale, handling 10,000 to 12,000 tons of salt per annum. Mr. Geer is one of the leading merchants of Albany, and variously identified with its civil as well as its financial affairs. He was President of the Board of Trade in 1884, and is at present President of the New York State Relief Association, New York Masonic Relief Association, Supervisor Fourteenth Ward 1881 to 1885, and Trustee of the Home Savings Bank. In 1885 he was the Republican candidate for State Senator.

Among the flour and grain merchants deserving of mention are Peter J. Flinn, 860 Broadway, who commenced business in 1858 at 846 Broadway; Ames & Co., 317 Broadway; Barber & Bennett, 316 Broadway; Bouton & Geer; William L. Clute, 385 Broadway; William Cumming, 199 Washington avenue; William J. Davis, 320 Broadway; Durant & Co., 475 Broadway; William H. Falke, 844 and 846 Broadway; L. J. Hopkins, Bassett, corner Franklin; Loucks & Beck, 315 Broadway; Proseus & Rowley, 10 State; John T. Rielly & Bro., 264 Lark; Henry Russell, 322 Broadway; B. B. Sanders & Co., 343 Broadway; Schiffer & Co., Garden; Isaac Stevens, 5 Hudson avenue; John H. Trowbridge, 14 Hudson avenue.

Salt is sold generally by grocers; but the merchants who make a specialty of this product besides Robert Greer, are I. A. Chapman, 9 and 11 State; Mather Bros., 12 State; Prosens & Rowley, 10 State; and F. Wooster & Co., 352 Broadway and 121 Pier.

STUART McKISSICK

was born in Saco, Me., November 27, 1807. In 1816, while he was yet a mere lad, his parents emigrated to Onondaga County, then almost a wilderness. Here he remained until past twenty-five years of age, when he engaged in running a boat for a Detroit transportation line, and was so employed about three years, during which he gained a thorough knowledge of the business. In 1837 he came to Troy in the employ of the same line, and, after a year's experience in that city, removed to Albany, and established a transportation and produce commission business, which was successfully conducted by him till 1861, when he relinquished it to become a partner with Mr. E. P. Durant in the flour trade. During a portion of the period of his engagement in the transportation business and produce trade, Mr. Abram Kirk was his partner. The firm of Durant & McKissick was dissolved in 1865, and, after a retirement of two years, Mr. McKissick resumed the produce business, in which he continued until 1873, when the failure of his health hastened his permanent retirement. He died August 29, 1882, leaving a wife, three daughters and a son.

In all his life Mr. McKissick accepted but one political position, and in that instance the office sought the man and not the man the office. By an Act passed by the Legislature of the State of New York, April 7, 1866, entitled "An Act to Create a Board of Public Instruction in the City of Albany; to Establish Free Schools therein; and Amendatory of the Several Acts Relating to the District Schools of that City," he was appointed a

Sm. Kessick.

Franklin D. Foster

member of that Board, and while identified therewith, he zealously advocated the building of the present High School, believing such an institution was a necessity. During his long business career he several times held the office of President of the Board of Trade of the City of Albany, and it is indicative of the esteem in which he was held by all classes of business men, that whenever he would allow himself to stand as a candidate before the Board, he was invariably elected, no matter by what faction he was put forward. At a meeting of the Board of Trade, held on Thursday morning, August 31, 1882, the following report was adopted. It is quoted both as recounting some of the particulars of his connection with the Board of Trade, and as showing the esteem in which he was held by his former associates.

"The members of the Board of Trade have heard with sorrow of the death of Stuart McKissick, one of its oldest members. The name of Mr. McKissick appears as an active member of the Board in the year 1849. He was elected President in 1863, and was a Delegate to one of the conventions of the National Board of Trade.

"Mr. McKissick was a member of the Canal Convention of 1868, and frequently served on the important committees of the Board of Trade. In recognition of these important services, and of his standing as a citizen and merchant, we do herewith give expression to our sorrow and pay just tribute to his memory.

"In this event, which sooner or later comes to all, we recognize that inscrutable Providence whose power and right it is to do with us as seemeth to Him good, and that His works are true and righteous altogether.

"In the long and honorable career of our associate and friend, standing in prominence as a merchant, his dealings have been marked by singular probity, his counsel always wise, his judgment broad and enlightened.

"As a private citizen and in the social walks of life, he has ever commanded the respect and esteem of all, and throughout a wide circle of friends and neighbors he was most beloved by those who knew him best.

"We extend to his bereaved family our deep sympathy in their affliction, and commend them to the care of Him who doeth all things well; therefore

"*Resolved*, That the proceedings of this meeting be entered on the minutes of the Board and a copy be transmitted to the family of the deceased.

"A. Evertsen,
"E. A. Durant, } *Committee.*"
"W. Lacy,"

Mr. McKissick was at one time a Director of the National Albany Exchange Bank, and at the time of his death he was a Trustee of the Albany Exchange Savings Bank. At a meeting of the Trustees of the last mentioned institution, soon after the death of Mr. McKissick, the following resolution was passed:

"The death of Stuart McKissick, which occurred on the 29th of August last, removes a worthy and valued member of our Board.

"Mr. McKissick had spent the larger part of his life in Albany, where he had established a character for probity and upright dealing as a merchant, and for genial and generous kindliness as a man. He was a man of careful and deliberate judgment, and his conclusions were usually sound. He was, therefore, a reliable and safe adviser. In all his intercourse with his fellows he exhibited the courtesy and gentleness of a friendly and Christian spirit. We mourn his loss as that of a faithful and honorable associate, whose memory will be held by us in cherished esteem.

"*Resolved*, That as members of this Board of Trustees we sincerely sympathize with the widow and bereaved family of our deceased brother; and pray that the same fatherly hand which has inflicted the blow may also afford the needed consolation."

Mr. McKissick was connected with the First and Fourth Presbyterian Churches of Albany, and at his death was an Elder of the first mentioned church, which he had attended for more than twenty years. The following is a copy of a memorial of Mr. McKissick entered upon the minutes of the session of the First Presbyterian Church.

"The surviving members of session come together at their stated meeting with hearts bereaved and minds solemnized by the death, since our last meeting, of our beloved brother, Elder Stuart McKissick.

"Recent deprivation from active participation in the duties of his office had in no degree abated his love for the Master's kingdom and the church with which he was connected. Commending by his life the doctrine of Christ, gifted with the spirit of wisdom and conciliation, his counsels were ever for promoting the peace of Jerusalem.

"In common with the church and the community we shall miss the influence of his steadfast Christian character, and while we cherish his precious memory and example, we are assured that he was ready to depart to be with Christ.

"To that word of grace which was the guide of his life and the solace of his hours of physical pain, we commend the sorrowing ones of his immediate household as we mourn with them the absence of our venerated friend.

"Thos. P. Crook,
"Chas. B. Nichols, } *Committee.*

"Walter D. Nicholas,
Moderator."

FRANKLIN DWIGHT TOWER

is one of the young merchants of Albany who in a few years has risen by his own tact, enterprise and energy from the position of modest clerkship to one of wealth, respectability and influence. He was born in West Springfield, Mass., July 28, 1848. His parents were Levi and Julia (Wheeler) Tower, in whose quiet farm-house, with one brother, he spent his earlier years in attending the Massachusetts public schools and in assisting his father.

But he early showed a taste for mercantile pursuits, and was disposed to accept some position as

salesman. An opportunity occurred in 1864, in Pittsfield, Mass. When sixteen years of age he was employed as salesman in the large furniture warehouse of Lyons & Thompson, in that beautiful town. Two years later this firm had gone into bankruptcy, and young Tower was appointed Receiver by the District Judge. The trust was discharged with such intelligence and fidelity as to commend him to the approbation of all concerned, and to furnish him a splendid introduction, through Judge Barker, to the merchants of Albany.

Mr. Tower came to this city in 1866, and engaged with a prominent commercial house as salesman in the flour and grain trade. In the third year he was receiving a salary three times the amount paid him the first year, so valuable were his services.

In 1869, he was a member of the firm of Mills & Tower, 319 Broadway, in the commission grain trade. He was at once recognized by merchants as one of the most active and well-informed members of the City Board of Trade, of which organization he was the junior member. Since that date, he has continued to occupy a leading rank among the men doing business on Broadway. He has been one term Vice-President and twice Treasurer of the Board of Trade.

For about ten years past his office has been in the Museum Building, corner of State street and Broadway. His business enterprises are conducted in three different departments and at three different locations in the city:

1. Located as above, he not only takes orders in his extensive business, but is connected by private telegraph even with the New York and Chicago stock and grain markets, and constantly receives reports of the state of the market from these places.

2. At the corner of South Broadway and Plumb street, he has a large mill for the manufacture of feed and plaster, which is doing a business second to few in the country. In this business he has been engaged for five years past. His plaster is made from genuine Nova Scotia gypsum or sulphate of lime, and is in great demand in agriculture and the arts.

3. At the corner of Broadway and Pleasant street he has an extensive flour and feed store.

In 1878, he carried on the milling business in the old stone mill near the Manor House, North Broadway. This mill was erected by one of the Patroons over two hundred years ago, and was well known throughout the country as the Patroon's Mill. It was burned in 1880, soon after which disaster Mr. Tower commenced the business referred to above in feed and plaster.

His business has been constantly increasing, and he enjoys the confidence of an extensive list of customers. This confidence is the result of close attention to business, a courteous and obliging manner, and strict integrity in his dealings. His rivalry is manly, his system is admirable. His activity, enterprise and energy, united with prudence and perseverance, assure continued success.

October 28, 1868, he was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Becker Blessing, a lady belonging to the best Holland stock, who makes his home, at 490 Madison avenue, one of taste and refinement. Five daughters are the fruit of this happy marriage.

HAT AND FUR DEALERS.

John S. Robbins is probably now the oldest hat dealer in Albany, having been continuously in the business since 1843, when he entered into partnership with Francis Briselt as successors of Van Aimes & Chase, on the corner of South Market street and Trotter's alley. In the following May, Mr. Briselt retired, when Mr. Robbins removed to No. 12 South Market (now 415 Broadway), and two years later to the store now occupied by the *Times* Company. Two years later he removed to the store on the opposite side of the street, now No. 400 Broadway. After the great fire of 1848, Mr. Robbins sold his lease to Herrick & Osborne, and then took possession of the store No. 73 South Pearl street, where he remained a number of years. He afterwards occupied the store on the southeast corner of Hudson avenue, and remained there until 1862, and then moved to 54 State street. At the same time he ran an additional store at No. 66 State street. In 1870 he opened a branch store at No. 53 South Pearl, and the same year admitted his son, John, as a partner, who remained in the store for eight years, and since that time Mr. Robbins has conducted his business alone. In 1871 the stores on State street were given up, and his entire attention was given to running the store on South Pearl street. In 1876 he removed to the southwest corner of Green and State streets. He is at present located at No. 66 State street.

In 1822, Samuel S. Fowler was engaged in the hat business in Albany, and in 1835 Winne & Wilson carried on a similar business.

The early hat and fur dealers have been named in another place in this book. The trade is now well represented by the well-known houses of Daniel Boughton, William E. Walsh & Sons, Cottrell & Leonard, Treadwell & Co., T. W. Cantwell, W. R. Schermerhorn, George E. Latham and C. F. Beebe.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

The firm of Cluett & Sons, dealers in organs, pianos, and all kinds of musical merchandise, was established in Albany in 1865, as a branch of the Troy house of that name. This store, formerly on North Pearl street, is located at 49 State street, and is 25 by 130 feet in dimensions. Twenty-five hands are employed. Their trade extends over the greater portion of the State, being conducted by sub-agents. A large stock of goods are kept, embracing a great variety of organs, pianos, and other musical instruments from the best manufacturers. F. W. Thomas has been manager of this house for the last five years, prior to which, with his brother, he conducted a similar business in Catskill. From Catskill he removed to New York, and finally to Albany. His long experience in this line of business

has made him a proficient and reliable judge of musical instruments. The individual members of the firm of Cluett & Sons are Edmund, William and F. A. Cluett, and N. L. Weatherby.

The firm of C. E. Wendell & Co. (Henry Kelly and John McCammon) conduct a similar business as the above at 89 and 91 North Pearl street, and enjoy a high reputation for the excellence of their wares and are the recipients of a large and growing trade. Haines & Co., J. O. Montignani, F. W. Tietz, J. A. Reed and W. C. Gomph are also music dealers. Jason Collier has made this his business for many years. J. H. Hidley, who died a few years ago, was long a well known and extensive dealer in musical instruments.

COAL.

The first coal yard in this city was established in 1821 by Mr. Peoples, who came here from Lansingburgh. His yard was located on Orange street, near Montgomery street, where he conducted the business for about three years, with annual sales of from six to eight hundred tons. Four years subsequent to Mr. Peoples' venture, Ephraim De Witt opened a yard on State Street Pier, remaining there for about three years. During this time Mr. De Witt had in his employ, as a cart-driver, Zebina Belknap, who afterwards went into the business, and met with marked success. Matthew Gill was the next to engage in the trade, and followed it for some years with profit. Then came the firm of Groesbeck & Belknap, the former cart-driver, who located in Columbia street, where George W. Luther & Son now are. They built up a fine trade, and, as the profits then were from two to three dollars per ton, made money. Mr. Belknap finally retired from the firm and opened a yard in Broadway, above Clinton avenue, where he remained until about 1878. Soon after the formation of the last mentioned firm, Ten Eyck & Brinkerhoff located on Columbia and Montgomery streets, and shortly after this, Crawford & Livingston on Westerlo street and Broadway. The last named firm continued in business one year, up to 1840, when John G. White became the proprietor. Mr. White soon purchased the lot in Hudson avenue, where the Methodist Church subsequently stood, and Munson's collar factory now stands. After the Methodist Society made the purchase of this property, Mr. White bought that situated at the corner of Hudson avenue and Philip street, of Thomas, Lowe & Potts, known as the Old Furnace property, and again started a coal yard. The Society of the First Baptist Church soon bought this, and he then located corner of Hudson avenue and Eagle street, and on Herkimer street and Broadway, finally selling to Putnam & Hoyt. This firm afterwards made a division, John Putnam taking the Herkimer street yard and George B. Hoyt the one in Hudson avenue, where he yet remains.

The growth of the coal interest from that time has been steady and material. E. W. Howell, dealer in coal, 388 Madison avenue and State street Pier, began in 1877. The business there was started some years before by John Artcher, who had associated with him for some time his son, Austin Artcher, now an attorney of this city. Mr. Artcher sold out to James Taylor, who sold to Leonard & Youngman, of whom Mr. Howell purchased. After this last change the business increased from two thousand two hundred tons in 1877 to twelve thousand tons in 1884. During 1879, Mr. Howell also ran a yard at the corner of Church and Arch streets, which he purchased of Kelchar & Wood. His present State street Pier property was added in 1880. Upon this wharf he has erected a yard with posts thirty feet high, with all the conveniences necessary to a speedy and economical transfer of coal from boat to coal-house or sheds.

In September, 1885, the following prices were given upon bids for supplying coal for the public buildings, including the Capitol and other State buildings.

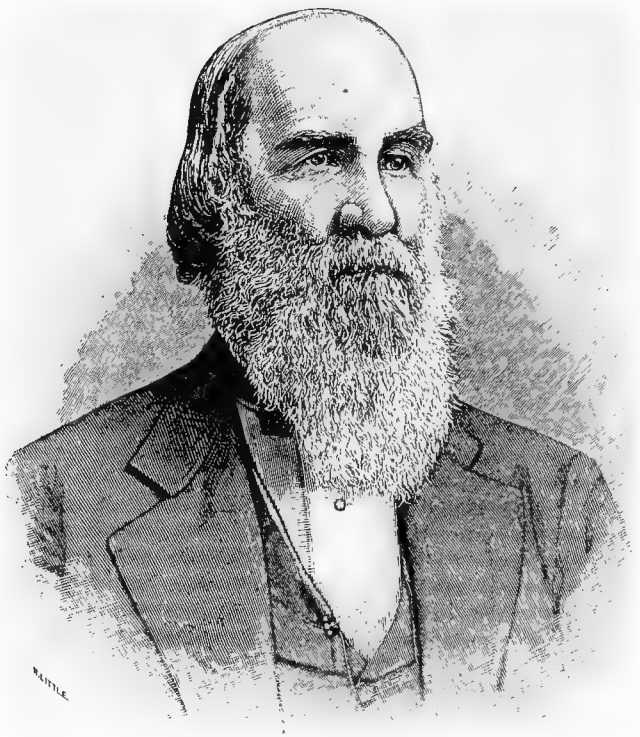
William McEwan was the lowest bidder and obtained the contract for supplying 3,625 tons of Delaware and Hudson Coal at $3.52¼ per ton.

The bids were as follows: T. C. Rafferty, Pittston, $3.98; Leonard & Youngman, Delaware and Hudson Canal Co., $3.53¼; Leonard & Youngman, Lehigh and Delaware and Hudson Canal Co. combined, $3.83¾; Rock & Casey, Delaware and Hudson Canal Co., $3.63¼; Rock and Casey, Pittston, $3.53¼; Rock & Casey, Lehigh, $3.96; C. M. Stuart, Delaware and Hudson Canal Co., $3.76¾; C. M. Stuart, Lehigh, $4; C. M. Stuart, Coleiance, $3.90; William McEwan, Delaware and Hudson Canal Co., 3,52¼; William McEwan, Lehigh, $4.09¾; E. W. Howell, Delaware and Hudson Canal Co., $3.59; E. W. Howell, Pittston, $3.61; and E. W. Howell, Lehigh, $4.43.

The principal coal and wood dealers in Albany at present are: Blackburn & Jones (John Blackburn and John J. Jones), who have two yards, one at the corner of Ontario street and Livingston avenue, and the other on Livingston avenue, corner of Water street; John H. Lynch, 55 and 57 Rensselaer street; Leonard & Youngman (Jacob Leonard, V. H. Youngman and Oscar Leonard), Church, corner of Madison avenue, and Canal, corner Lark street; Thomas Mattimore & Son (Peter F.), 841 Broadway; Neil & Harris (John Neil and Jeremiah Harris, Jr.), 610 Clinton avenue; Barton Bretton, 61 and 63 Schuyler street; Gibbons & Burhaus (G. W. Gibbons and George M. Burhaus), 591 to 597 Central avenue, and foot of Westerlo street; William Casey, Dallius, corner Cherry; Coonley & Waldron (H. W. Coonley and J. G. Waldron), Broadway, corner Fourth avenue, and 46 Schuyler street; T. C. Rafferty & Co. (James H. Carrol), 831 Broadway, and coal pockets foot of De Witt street.

ZEBINA BELKNAP

was born in Randolph, Orange County, Vermont, November 6, 1803, a son of Moses Belknap, and Margaret Richardson, his wife. He lived the life of a farmer, boy and man, until he was twenty-three years old, gaining his education in the dis-



Z. Belknap

trict schools and a neighboring academy, in which he was for a short time a student, and teaching near home several winters. In 1826 he came to Albany. Finding employment, he remained about six months, and in the fall following his arrival went by canal to Western New York. During the ensuing winter he taught a district school at Eagle Harbor, a small village on the Erie Canal, near Albion, Orleans County. Upon the reopening of the canal, in the spring of 1827, he engaged to run a boat carrying dressed staves from Albion to Albany. Two trips destroyed any desire he might have entertained for a boatman's life, and during the six months following he was employed at Gowey's brewery, on North Broadway, Albany, which he left to take charge of Walter R. Morris' coal yard on the Pier. A year afterward Mr. Morris, wishing to lessen the expenses of his business, replaced Mr. Belknap with a cheaper and less efficient man, and the former went to New York and was there employed six months in Corning & Walker's hardware store. Returning to Albany he was similarly employed for a time in the old-time hardware establishment of Pruyn, Wilson & Vosburgh, until his services were again secured at advanced wages by Mr. Morris, who placed him once more in charge of his coal yard, where he remained as his assistant until 1833, when he became a partner, and upon the death of that gentleman he became sole proprietor of the business. At different periods he had as partners Colonel John Groesbeck and Duncan McKercher. In 1855 he purchased the interest of the latter and presented it to his son, Charles M. Belknap, and the business was conducted during the ensuing nineteen years by Z. Belknap & Son. In 1874 the health of Mr. Charles M. Belknap began to decline, and he saw the necessity of at once giving up all business cares. His father had already amassed a competency, and did not feel equal to the task of continuing the business alone. They decided to sell out their combined interests and retire, which they effected during the year last mentioned. In 1878 Mr. C. M. Belknap died. Since his retirement, Mr. Belknap has lived quietly in Ten Broeck street. He was married, in 1832, to Miss Fanny Osgood, who was born in his native town of Randolph, Vt., who bore him a son and a daughter, and died in 1879. Mr. Belknap was formerly a Whig, and during the past twenty-five years has been a Republican. He has served the city as Alderman, representing the old Sixth Ward, and the State as Weighmaster of the Canal, at Albany, but has avoided political life and refused to become a candidate for other offices. He is a member of the Fourth Presbyterian Church.

CROCKERY, CHINA AND GLASSWARE.

During the early part of this century, the firm of Webb & Dummer was prominent in connection with the crockery trade. They commenced business on State street, opposite Green, in 1807. The partners were George Dummer and John A. Webb. They were followed in business in 1828 by H. & C. Webb & Co., composed of Henry L. and Charles B. Webb and Alfred Douglass. This firm continued until 1841, when the business was sold to Gregory & Co. Mr. Douglass afterwards removed to New York and went into the produce business, and remained there until his death, which occurred in 1881. Charles B. Webb died in 1834, and H. L. Webb about four years later. Gregory & Co. continued in business here for several years, when they removed to New York. Mr. Gregory is still a resident of Albany, one of the oldest merchants of the city.

In the early part of this century the following firms were engaged in the wholesale crockery business: E. C. & W. McIntosh, South Market; David E. Gregory and Peter Bain, North Market street. Gregory & Bain commenced business in 1814; the former was a brother-in-law of the Marvins. E. C. McIntosh afterwards became President of the Mohawk and Hudson River Railroad Company.

The oldest firm now doing business in Albany in the crockery business is that of Van Heusen, Charles & Co., which was formed by Theodore V. Van Heusen and D. D. T. Charles in 1843. They bought out the firm of Wardwell & Bordwell, then doing business at 66 State street, in an old building on the site of the present store of the Messrs. McClure, druggists. Van Heusen & Charles occupied one-half of the store and J. & A. McClure the other. In 1844, Van Heusen & Charles removed to 62 and 64 State street, formerly occupied by Lewis Benedict & Co., hardware merchants. In 1856, Van Heusen & Charles bought the property on Broadway known as the Mansion House, and kept as a hotel for many years. On this site they built the store now occupied by them. It extends through the block from Broadway to James street, and is 250 feet deep. In 1864, George W. Pierce, who had been for years in their employ, became a partner, under the firm name of Van Heusen, Charles & Co. This firm does a large wholesale trade, and is well known throughout the United States.

The firms of McGue & O'Brien, O'Brien & Mahar and Daniel O'Brien and James Mahar, well known during the last twenty years, have only a historic interest, having gone out of existence recently. The store of W. H. D. Woodruff, 14 North Pearl, takes their place in large measure. The stores of William Dornett and Simon Bell, on South Pearl, and Bell & Ledger, 414 Broadway, deserve mention.

HARDWARE.

The firm of Corning & Co. was founded prior to 1816 by John Spencer, who commenced business on South Market street on the site now occupied by the building No. 416 Broadway. In 1816, Erastus Corning was admitted as a partner, the firm name being John Spencer & Co. Mr. Spencer subsequently withdrew, when John T. Norton became a partner. A few years after, James Horner was admitted in place of Mr. Norton. Many years after, a Mr. Sparhawk became a partner, under the firm name of Corning, Horner & Sparhawk. About 1844, Mr. Sparhawk died, and the same year Gilbert Davidson became a partner. About this time Mr. Corning erected the building in present use by the firm. In 1848, Mr. Horner retired, and Erastus Corning, Jr., was admitted. In 1854, John F. Winslow was taken in as partner, but withdrew in 1862. Two years later Mr. Davidson retired. Erastus Corning, Sr., who had been connected with the firm for half a century, withdrew, when the firm name was changed to Corning & Co., being composed of Erastus Corning, Jr., Townsend Fondey, William H. Nichols, James E. Walker and Clarence H. Corning. Mr. Walker and Clarence H. Corning both died in 1879. The firm is now composed of Erastus Corning, William H. Nichols and W. T. Fondey.

The other leading hardware merchants in the first half of the present century were Spencer Stafford & Co., Lewis Benedict & Co., Benedict & Roby, and Steele & Warren, all on South Market street; Alexander Davidson, Van Alstyne & Son, N. B. Miles, Humphrey & Co., Cantine Tremper, Lansing Pruyn, and others.

In connection with the hardware business, we may call attention to the biographical sketches of Noah Brooks Mills and Isaac W. Vosburgh, which furnish much valuable information of the early merchants of Albany.

Another old house deserving of mention is that conducted by Maurice E. Viele, Nos. 39, 41 and 43 State street. Mr. Viele made his first business venture here in 1845, when he commenced dealing in hardware, and in that year, in connection with the late Alexander Davidson, bought out the old-established house of Van Alstyne & Son, doing business corner of State and Green streets. In 1851, the stock of Humphrey & Co. was not only added, but a removal was also made to the store of that firm.

Shortly after the death of his partner in 1859, Mr. Viele associated with himself Messrs. Coles and Woodruff, and for four years the firm remained unchanged. In 1865, these two partners retired, and ever since Mr. Viele has conducted the business alone. In 1870, he purchased the stock of Cantine Tremper; in 1874, that of Van Santford & Anable; and in 1875, that of L. Pruyn & Son, which greatly added to his already extensive stock.

The present store is five stories in hight and 52 by 100 feet in dimensions. Intelligent and courteous salesmen are employed, and everything is done to add to the comfort of their customers.

The following constitute the principal hardware dealers, besides those already mentioned, now engaged in the trade: Gilbert H. Ackerman, 384 Broadway; William T. Burgess, 146 South Pearl street; and M. Crannell, 208 Hudson avenue.

ISAAC W. VOSBURGH

was born in Albany, December 21, 1801. His parents were William and Mary (McDonald) Vosburgh, his father having been of the old Dutch stock, and his mother a Scotchwoman.

He was educated privately, and at the age of about twenty began his business career as a clerk in the old-time hardware store of George Humphrey, on State street. Here he applied himself assiduously to business and familiarized himself with the hardware trade as it then existed.

Some time between 1820 and 1830, the firm of Pruyn, Wilson & Vosburgh was formed, and continued in existence for more than thirty years, doing business at No. 39 State street. Their house became one of the most prominent mercantile establishments in Albany, and the second in the city in its line. The firm were for many years extensive importers of hardware, and their relations with the trade extended over a wide territory. The introduction of domestic manufactures, and of the system of selling throughout the country by commercial travelers, changed the character of the trade, which is now carried on on an entirely different basis from that in vogue for many years before the War of the Rebellion.

Mr. Vosburgh is still living and in good health. At the age of eighty-three years he is one of the few men whose experiences connect the old Albany with the Albany of to-day, and the changes which have been wrought in the city during his lifetime have been numerous and remarkable. He is in full possession of his mental faculties, is genial and hospitable, and retains that pleasant manner which made him popular during his active life. Surrounded by his family, he is passing in peace and contentment the closing years of a long and well-spent life.

NOAH BROOKS MILES

was the third Noah Miles in his family in the line of direct descent. His grandfather was named Noah Miles, and his wife was Hannah Hosmer. Their son, Noah Miles, was born in Westminster, Mass., December 22, 1751, and died at Temple, N. H., November 20, 1831, aged seventy-nine. He graduated at Dartmouth College in 1780, received the degree of A. M., studied theology, and was ordained Pastor of the Congregational Church at Temple, October 2, 1782. It was as pastor of that church that he died forty-nine years later. He is remembered in literature by an able eulogy on Washington. His wife was a Miss Pearson.

Noah Brooks Miles was born at Temple, N. H., July 24, 1798. At the age of eighteen he came to Albany and began his business career as a clerk in the hardware store of Humphrey Brothers, on State street. Faithful and honest, he ever considered the interests of his employers, who after a few years made him a member of the firm. In 1832 he began business for himself independently, in the Rensselaer Hall block, on Hall street, above Pearl. About 1851 he purchased the stock of D. Humphrey & Lansing, and removed to their old stand at the corner of State and James streets, on the site of the Mechanics' and Farmers' Bank. There he remained until, in 1866, he retired from business on account of failing health.

As a successful, trusted and respected merchant, Mr. Miles won a reputation which gave him a standing amongst the most honored in the city in all commercial relations. His heart was kind, his manners genial. He did favors with an open-handed generosity that made his friendly unselfishness the most conspicuous trait of his character. In 1838, while in the prime of his life, he united with the Pearl street Baptist Church (then located on the site of Perry Hall), under the pastorate of the late Rev. Dr. Welch; and from that time forward to the day of his sudden and unexpected removal from life (July 18, 1872) no one who knew ever doubted his love for God or his fidelity to his Christian vows. He was twice married; first in 1827 to Mrs. Eliza Fletcher, daughter of Captain Lyman, of Rensselaer County, and the second time, in 1848, to Miss Mary Newman, daughter of the late Henry Newman, who during his lifetime was favorably and prominently known in the business and social circles of Albany. Mr. Miles had an inherent and unconquerable dislike for politics and public life, but he took an intelligent interest in public affairs, and numbered among his friends many prominent men. It was in unostentatious, helpful charity that he most delighted, and he found his greatest reward in the conciousness that he had, unknown to any except himself and the objects of his generosity, helped many a good, but temporarily unfortunate, man to help himself.

PLUMBERS, TIN AND COPPERSMITHS, AND STOVE DEALERS.

The firm of Michael Delehanty & Son, plumbers and sanitary engineers, was established in 1840. The present junior partner of the firm is John S. Delehanty. They carry on a large trade in plumbers' supplies, and are sole agent for Magee's "New Ideal" parlor-stove, wrought-iron furnaces, and elevated ranges. They are located 26, 28, and 30 Green street.

Ridgway & Russ, 121 State street, and Thomas Dugan, 27 James street, have long ranked among the best plumbers in the city.

Edward Fitzgerald & Sons (John and Mark), pursue the business of plumbers, roofers, and coppersmiths, at 28 Beaver street.

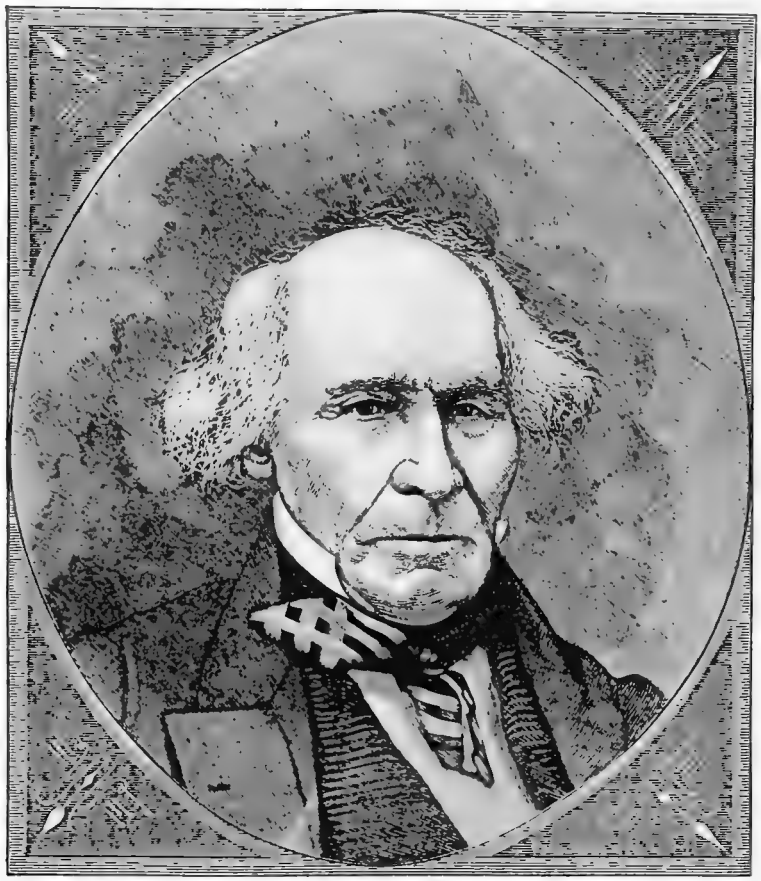
William Guinan, 64 Beaver street, carries on a general coppersmithing, plumbing, and roofing business.

The firm of Carlisle & Hill, composed of James Carlisle and William Hill, are engaged in the copper and tinsmith business, being principally employed in making roofs. They are located at 636 Broadway.

The principal stove dealers, aside from those engaged in the manufacture, are found on Green street, Washington avenue, and Broadway.

Isaac W. Vosburgh

P. B. Miles



John Meads

James D. Walsh, 43 Hudson avenue, deals in grates and heaters.

COMMISSION MERCHANTS AND FORWARDERS.

The number of merchants who receive grain and other farm products to sell on commission is numerous in Albany. The following are the most prominent: Durant & Elmore, 505 Broadway; Gay & Quimby, 448 Broadway; Durant & Co., 473 and 475 Broadway; J. H. & F. A. Mead, 374 Broadway; Jeremiah Waterman & Sons, 463 Broadway; Barber & Bennett, W. L. Clute; James Farrell, 70 Pier; Peter McCabe, 102 Pier; H. A. Dwight, W. M. Hussey, B. B. Sanders & Co., S. W. Settle, M. H. Smith, Tallmadge & Co., R. W. Thacher, H. R. Wright, and Wright & Anderson.

MEAT DEALERS.

During the preceding century most of the retail meat dealers were located in what was known as the City Market, which stood in Market street, nearly opposite where Stanwix Hall now is. It was a frame structure eighty feet long, and in both ends the hook and ladder companies kept their apparatus. The market was ordered out of the street in 1807, and by an edict of the Common Council three markets were ordered to be erected in its stead. One was at the corner of Columbia and Montgomery street, known as the North Market; another on Court street, opposite Truax's Tavern, at what was known as the watering place, styled the South Market. The third was at the corner of South Pearl and Lutheran streets, afterwards designated as the Centre Market. For many years State street has been the the principal place where farmers, butchers, etc., have sold their ware. In the morning they form their wagons in a line on both sides of the road track, sometimes forming a continuous line from Eagle street to Green street. From early morning till noon this street presents a lively appearance, crowded with buyers and sellers.

Probably no name is more prominent in connection with Albany meat dealers than that of Fredenrich, members of which family for nearly a century were connected with this business in Albany. The original was John C. Freiedenrich, who accompanied Burgoyne's expedition from Canada. In 1791 he occupied a stall in the old city market. At that time James Gibbons, John Cassidy, Patrick Cassidy, and Johnny Williams occupied stalls in the same building. Soon after the beginning of the present century, John Fredenrich, Jr., was taken into partnership by his father, who then supplied most of the influential citizens with meat. In 1821 Johann C. Fredenrich died, when his son succeeded him, and for nearly a century afterwards conducted a meat market. He died a short ime ago, over ninety years old. He had two sons, John and Philip, who followed their father's business. The latter conducts a meat market at No. 83 Green street.

Meat dealers are numerous in Albany. There are no less than one hundred and twenty-five meat stalls, among which are those of Ignatius Wiley, at 61 Beaver street; John Battersby, John Featherby, D. J. Hartnell, W. J. Maher, J. McQuade, George Wiley & Brother.

FURNITURE.

The large furniture warehouse and factory in North Pearl street of B. W. Wooster & Co., is the outgrowth of a small concern. In February, 1843, George O. Merrifield and B. W. Wooster commenced business as dealers in mahogany and furniture, and undertakers. The firm continued together for eighteen years, when, by the death of Mr. Merrifield, Mr. Wooster became the sole proprietor. Soon afterwards, he sold out the undertaking business, and confined himself exclusively to furniture. In 1851 he built the five-story brick structure on South Pearl street, which he occupied for thirty-five years. About a year ago he moved into his present quarters on North Pearl street, a building forty-four feet wide and two hundred and seventeen feet deep, extending through to James street. January 1, 1884, his sons, Edwin B. and B. W., were admitted as partners, under the firm name of B. W. Wooster & Co. Benjamin W. Wooster, the head of this establishment, was born in Albany County, March 24, 1820, and is a gentleman of a high order of business ability. He is now President of the Albany County Bank.

The other furniture dealers of prominence are Thomas Buckley, of 29 Washington Avenue; Bernard Gloeckner, 81 and 83 South Pearl; Philip Hertz, Jr., 112 South Pearl; John J. Hicks, 85 and 87 Beaver; Nelson Lyon, 4, 5 and 6 Central avenue; E. Up DeGrove, 134 Lark; H. R. Watson, 19 to 25 North Pearl.

JOHN MEADS

was born in Polesworth, Warwickshire, England, June 3, 1777, and died in Albany in 1869. His parents were Elias and Sarah (Alsop) Meads. With others who were seeking a new home and fairer fortunes under foreign skies, he came to the United States in his fifteenth year. He learned the trade of a cabinet-maker, at which he served a regular apprenticeship in New York, and worked as a journeyman at the same trade there until 1802, when he came to Albany. Here he soon opened a cabinet-maker's shop on his own account. After some years had elapsed, he admitted William Alvord to a partnership in his business, which was continued until about 1847, when Mr. Alvord died. Not long afterward, Mr. Meads, who had again become sole proprietor, was succeeded by his son, John Meads, Jr., who, in 1850, removed to New York. This business was established on Broadway, between Maiden lane and Steuben street, and subsequently removed to the building adjoining that now occupied by the American Express Company, and which is now owned by members of Mr. Mead's family.

Retiring from the business in which he had passed the years of his prime, Mr. Meads interested himself deeply in projects for the development of Albany and vicinity, for he had since a very young man taken a great interest in the growth and prosperity of the city. He was one of several well-remembered gentlemen who were associated in projecting and constructing the Great Western Turnpike, which in its day was designed as an internal improvement of no mean importance. For years he had had plans in his mind for supplying the City of Albany with water, and it was with much interest that he watched the operations of the Albany Waterworks Company, which was organized early in the present century, and was the first corporation organized for the purpose to which its energies were directed. Mr. Meads identified himself with this Company, and during the last twenty-five years of its existence was its President and active Manager, his son, Orlando Meads, during a portion of this period serving as its Secretary, and his son James as Clerk. The Corporation ceased to exist in 1851, when in the march of modern progress it gave place to other means for furnishing a water supply to Albany than those it had so long provided.

Mr. Meads was married in 1804 to Miss Louisa Crane, of Albany, who died in 1854, having borne him several children, of whom six—three sons and three daughters—attained the state of manhood and womanhood. These were, in the order of their nativity, Orlando, Charlotte, Louisa, John, Jr., James, and Sarah Ruth. The Misses Charlotte and Sarah Ruth Meads, the only survivors of the family, live in their father's old home on Columbia street. The Meads' residence was built in 1829. Mr. Meads was a Whig, and later a Republican. An active, energetic, enterprising man, of domestic habits, he took no part in political affairs, except to exercise his right of suffrage as seemed to him right and fit. A great reader, as well as a wonderful observer, he gained a wide range of political and substantial knowledge, which often excited the envy of men whose educational advantages had been far superior to his. His good taste in all matters of adornment or decoration was proverbial, and his skill was called into requisition upon nearly all public occasions. Great preparations were made in Albany, as well as elsewhere throughout the country, to cebrate the centennial of Washington's birthday in 1832. That day was long a red-letter day in the memory of many of the older inhabitants of the city, of a generation now unhappily extinct The City Hall was to be decorated in honor of the occasion, and Mr. Meads was chosen to perform the task. He accepted the charge, and the result of his artistic efforts was so pleasing that he was presented with a silver water service, inscribed as follows:

Presented by the Managers of the Washington Centennial Ball to Mr. John Meads, in compliment to his taste and classic design for the decoration of the City Hall on the evening of the 22d inst.

ALBANY, February, 1832.

The Misses Meads have preserved a card of invitation to that ball, of which the following is a copy:

CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF WASHINGTON.

The Honor of the Misses Meads' Company is requested at a *BALL*, to be given at the *CITY HALL* on the Evening of the 22d inst.

ALBANY, Feb'y 11th, 1832.

MANAGERS.

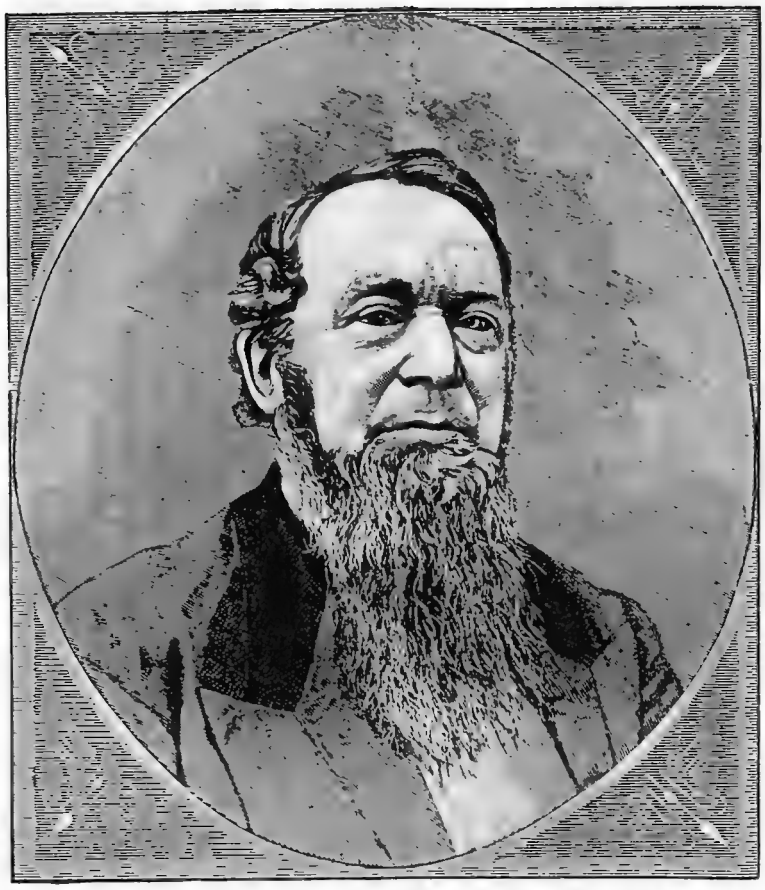
John Townsend,	The Hon. Levi Beardsley,	Of the Senate.	James Stevenson,
James McKeown,	" John McLean, Jr.,		Silas Wright, Jr.,
Isaac W. Staats,	" John Birdsall,		Peter Lansing, Jr.,
James Porter,	" C. L. Livingston,		John A. Livingston,
Joel A. Wing,	" John A. King,		Peter Seton Henry,
William Lush,	" Francis Granger,	Of the Assembly.	J. B. Van Schaick,
Augustus James,	" John McKeon,		Wm. A. Wharton,
George Dexter,	" Philip Maxwell,		A. H. Lovell,
Herman Leonard,	" Aaron Remer,		Theodore Olcott,
Wm. M. Gregory,	" James B. Spencer,		Richard Yates.

Of these thirty managers only William M. Gregory and Theodore Olcott are now living.

Mr. Meads was a nearly life-long member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, of which he was a steadfast friend and liberal supporter. The cause of education also claimed his attention, and he gave much thought and good counsel to the management of the public schools of his day. His charity was spontaneous and unquestioned. His solicitude for the advancement and prosperity of the city of his adoption was so marked, that he was always found among the earliest to advocate and aid the various public improvements of his time.

WATCHES AND JEWELRY.

The oldest established jewelry store in Albany is that of William Wendell & Co. It was founded in 1810 by Shepard & Boyd, in the building that then stood on the southeast corner of Exchange and Market streets. It was continued by this firm until the retirement of Robert Shepard, and was then conducted by William Boyd for two years, when he admitted John H. Mulford, and moved into a store nearly opposite, on Broadway. In the following year they moved to State street, where Gray's book store now is. Here they continued



Isaac Lefevre

until the death of Mr. Boyd in 1840, after which Mr. Mulford carried on the business for two years, when William Wendell was admitted as a partner, under the firm name of Mulford & Wendell. This partnership continued for twelve years, when Mr. Mulford retired, and Robert L. Mulford, his son, and William P. Feltman, were admitted as partners, under the firm name of Mulford, Wendell & Co. They remained at 480 Broadway until 1860, when the firm dissolved, Mr. Mulford withdrawing, and thereafter, until 1864, when Mr. Feltham died, the affairs of the firm were conducted under the firm name of Wendell & Feltham. In 1865, Richard H. Roberts became a partner, under the firm name of Wendell & Roberts. In 1868 they removed to No. 35 North Pearl street. In 1876 Mr. Roberts withdrew from the firm, when James H. Leake became a partner, the firm name becoming William Wendell & Co. This firm has lately been dissolved.

The jewelry store of Henry Rowland, 27 North Pearl street, was established in 1832 by the present proprietor, who keeps one of the largest and best assortments of diamonds, watches, clocks and jewelry to be found in the city.

James Mix, No. 5 Beaver block, is another old established jeweler who enjoys a large patronage, and is widely known for the fine quality of his goods.

The firm of Marsh & Hoffman, composed of Benjamin Marsh and Frederick Hoffman, at 32 North Pearl street, are recognized dealers of essentially high standing in the jewelry business.

The other dealers deserving of mention are E. Max Fasoldt, 38 North Pearl; Otto H. Fasoldt, 83 North Pearl; P. D. F. Goewey; Benjamin L. Hood, 71 South Pearl; W. H. Williams & Son, 488 Broadway; R. P. Thorn & Sons, 5 Green; all of whom, by long experience and honorable dealing, have gained public confidence and patronage.

WOOL DEALERS AND LEATHER DRESSERS.

About 120 years ago, Charles Newman commenced the business of wool-dealing and leather-dressing on Broadway. He was succeeded by Henry Newman in 1785, who continued it for seventy or more years. Thirty-six years ago Charles Newman, son of Henry Newman, succeeded his father at his present store, 457 Broadway, in connection with his brothers, John L. and James. For many years Charles Newman has conducted the business alone, which represents the oldest firm in the city, or perhaps in the United States, that has been engaged in the same business, on the same street and in the same city. It is said this house never had a note go to protest.

John Wilson started the wood and leather business on State street. A few years afterwards he moved to No. 53 Dean street. In 1839, his son, James, became a partner, under the firm name of John Wilson & Son, which continued until 1847, when the elder Wilson died. The business was conducted by his son until a few years ago. In 1853, he built the large warehouse No. 54 Dean street.

In the early part of the present century, Henry Guest, Jr., was engaged in the leather business on the corner of Church and Lydius streets. He died in 1820, and was succeeded by Andrew Lightbody.

HON. ISAAC LEFEVRE,

of Albany, is a son of Daniel and Henrietta (Schermerhorn) Lefevre, and was born at Roxbury, Delaware County, N. Y., August 31, 1809. On his father's side he is descended from a family of those Huguenots who, driven from their native soil by their intolerant fellow-citizens, crossed the sea to give to the American race some of its most valuable characteristics. Casper Schermerhorn, his maternal grandfather, was of sturdy Dutch stock, and in his time a thrifty tanner. Daniel Lefevre, his son-in-law, also became a tanner, and in their footsteps have followed Isaac Lefevre and his son, Martin R. Lefevre, Daniel Lefevre's son and grandson respectively.

Isaac Lefevre possessed meager educational advantages, no other opportunities being his than such as were afforded by the district school of his day and locality. But he was gifted with a thoughtful mind and remarkable powers of observation. These, with a love of reading, enabled him in after years to remedy, to a great extent, the educational deficiencies of his youth. He learned his trade in his father's tannery at Roxbury, and was for a considerable time employed there. September 20, 1836, he married Miss Margaret M. Richtmyer, of Blenheim, Schoharie County. In 1845 he went to Northville, Fulton County, and established a tannery in that town on the Sacandaga River, a branch of the Hudson. His business was successful and he continued it until 1865, when he sold it to remove to Albany to look after some interests which he possessed there. Since 1862 he had been a partner in a leather commission trade, located at No. 6 State street. In 1868 he formed a partnership with Charles D. Rathbone, under the firm name of Rathbone & Lefevre, opening a leather commission store at No. 24 State street. Mr. Lefevre about this time bought a tannery at Beaver Falls, Lewis County, where was manufactured much of the leather handled at their Albany store. The active management of this establishment was assumed by Mr. Lefevre's son, Martin R. Lefevre, who later purchased it of his father's firm and has since conducted it with much success, gradually adding to its productive capacity to keep pace with his increasing business. Mr. Lefevre's health failing, he was obliged to dispose of his interest to Mr. Rathbone, and retire from active business life in 1878. During his long career as manufacturer and merchant no stain ever fell on his good name, and no creditor ever lost by him or his house. Honest, energetic, pushing, and at the same time affable, friendly and helpful, he combined all of those qualities which gain the public confidence and place a man on the highway of success.

Mr. Lefevre has long been a liberal supporter of the public charities of the city, and those who know him best state that he has done much, quietly and unostentatiously, to alleviate the ills of his less fortunate fellow-beings. He is a generous supporter of the Presbyterian Church, upon the services of which his family are attendants. He has never taken such an interest in politics as to bring upon him the somewhat reproachful title of politician. But his interest in the proper conduct of public affairs has been both deep and intelligent. From a membership of the old Whig party, he graduated naturally to identification with the Republican organization, with which he has consistently voted and acted since 1856. The confidence of his fellow-citizens in his honor and ability was demonstrated in 1855, when he was elected to represent Fulton and Hamilton Counties, then constituting one Assembly District, in the State Legislature. Mr. and Mrs. Lefevre have had three sons and two daughters, all of whom are living. The sons are Martin R., William L., and De Witt C. Lefevre. Miss Henrietta Lefevre is now Mrs. Winfield S. Wylie, of Rome, N. Y., and Miss Elizabeth Lefevre, Mrs. W. R. Bill, of Delhi, N. Y.

SEED STORES.

William Thorburn established a seed store at the corner of Broadway and Maiden Lane in 1831, which he continued until 1868, when he sold out to V. P. Douw & Co. The firm of Price & Knickerbocker bought out the business in 1875, and have since conducted it at No. 80 State street. When first established the trade was merely local, but under the present proprietors it has grown to large proportions, and extends not only all over the United States, but to foreign countries. Both a wholesale and retail trade is carried on. The individual members are G. H. Price and David M. Knickerbocker. Over 3,000 varieties of seed are carried in stock.

READY-MADE CLOTHING AND MERCHANT TAILORS.

The business of making and selling ready-made clothing was not confined very extensively to any one firm in Albany until 1846, when R. C. Davis commenced the tailoring business on the east side of South Market street, just south of Hudson street. His establishment was destroyed by the fire of 1848, after which he opened a store in the Museum Building. The following spring he moved into the Exchange Building. In 1853, Charles G. Craft became associated with him, under the firm name of Davis & Craft, and began the manufacture of clothing for their own trade. The business of the house increased rapidly, requiring several removals to more commodious quarters. In 1860 George P. Wilson became a partner, under the firm name of Davis, Craft & Wilson. In 1870, the firm dissolved and two separate houses were formed, one conducted by R. C. Davis & Co. (Jesse M. White), and the other by Craft, Wilson & Co. (Charles G. Craft, George P. Wilson, James H. Gross and Stephen P. Corliss). The first firm remained at the old stand, while Craft, Wilson & Co. removed to the corner of Maiden Lane and Broadway. Davis & Co., in 1875, removed to 482 Broadway, where they did an extensive business for some years. They are not now engaged in business. In 1875 Mr. Corliss retired from the firm of Craft, Wilson & Co., and in 1878 Mr. Craft withdrew his interest and opened a store on the corner of James street and Maiden lane, where he is at present located. Wilson & Gross, the remaining members of the firm of Craft, Wilson & Co., are located at 490 Broadway. The sales of these two firms, both wholesale and retail, are very large.

At one time the manufacture of clothing was an important element in the trade of Albany. In 1872, the firm of R. C. Davis & Co. employed over 300 hands, their yearly pay-roll amounting to $125,000. At the same date the firm of Craft, Wilson & Co. employed between 500 and 600 hands. During late years this branch of the business has been practically discontinued in this city. Most of the ready-made clothing sold here is purchased from the large wholesale manufacturing firms in New York, Boston, Rochester and other large cities.

Besides the two firms mentioned, Henry L. Smith, 48 and 50 State street; Babcock, Shannon & Co., 605 and 607 Broadway; Julius Saul, Keith & Ward, the Rochester Clothing Company, etc., are extensively engaged in the wholesale and retail clothing business.

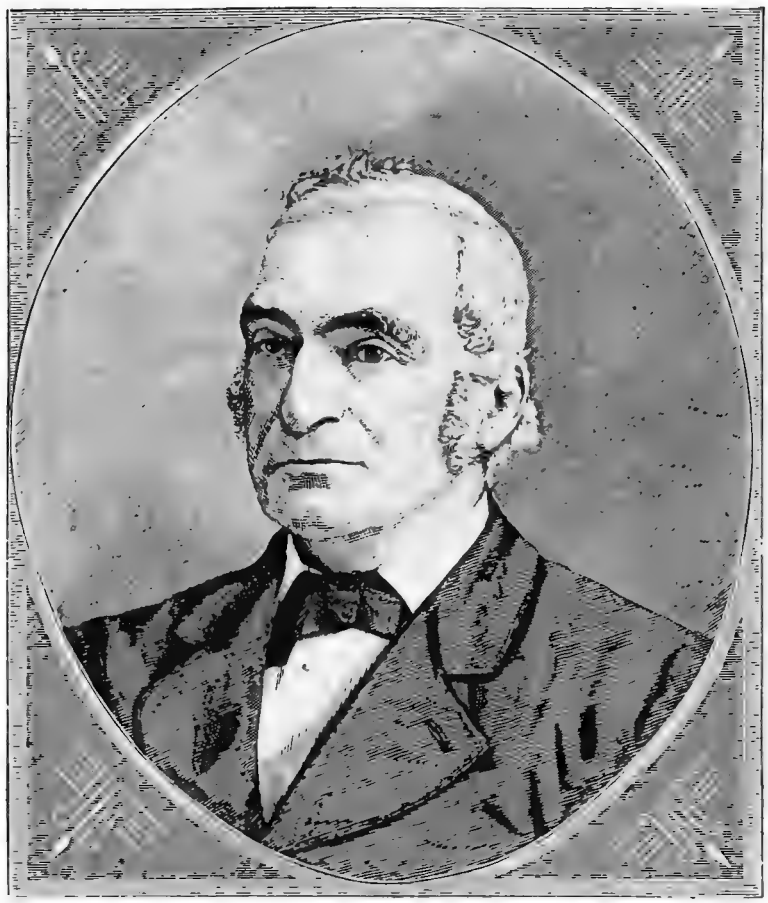
Among the merchant tailors, for many years the firm of Bailley & Brooks have occupied a leading position. Jonn P. Bailley, who now carries on the business, as remaining partner, at 25 North Pearl street, was born in Lyons, France, and came to the United States in 1859, settling in Albany in 1861, where he has since successfully carried on the merchant-tailoring business. John D. Brooks was born in Schenectady and came to Albany in 1859. He served in the Civil War and took much interest in military affairs in Albany, and at one time was Colonel of the Tenth Regiment, N. G. S., N. Y.

In 1820, Peter Relyea and Thomas Wright entered into partnership at 371 Market street. They were the leaders of the profession for many years. Ira Portis and Francis Horth, about this time, were also tailors of high standing.

John T. Johnson is another merchant tailor worthy of mention as a leading representative of this branch of trade. Mr. Johnson established his present business in Albany in 1878. He is now located at 35 Maiden lane, where he occupies a three-story building 25 x 70 feet in dimensions.

GAME, FISH AND OYSTERS.

Probably the oldest merchant in active business in Albany is Joseph Clark, the well-known dealer in game, vegetables and provisions, who commenced business in 1826 as a peddler of fish and oysters. In 1837 he opened a small store in Washington street, on the south side, between Hawk



Andrew R. Hunter

and Swan streets. He remained there twenty-seven years, when he removed to the building corner of State and Lodge streets, where he has since remained.

John Keeler is extensively engaged in the oyster business at 85 and 87 Green street. He has recently opened an oyster-house on State street. At both of these places first-class restaurants are conducted.

James S. Livingston & Co., now on Broadway, formerly on State street, have long done a large oyster business on terms that increase public confidence and patronage.

H. A. Simmons, dealer in fish, corner of Lodge and Maiden lane, keeps up the long-established reputation of this stand.

FRUITS.

The oldest house engaged in the fruit business is that established by Augustus Wolenman, in 1840, on the west side of North Market street. Four years later he removed to the cellar under the store now occupied by Joseph J. Price. In 1856 he removed to the old Staats House, on the corner of South Pearl and State streets. In 1860, Jacob L. Lochner became a partner, under the firm name of Wolenman & Lochner, which continued until Mr. Wolenman's death, a short time ago.

Julius C. Wendt, on the corner of North Pearl and State, deals in the same class of fruits.

The most extensive firm is that of P. V. Fort, Sons & Co., wholesale dealers. It has been in existence many years, and has established a large trade. The individual members of the house are P. V Fort, Charles W. Fort, and Jewett N. Brown. They are located at No. 427 Broadway.

James Stevens & Sons, 349 Broadway, do a good business in bananas, oranges, and other fruits of that class. Joseph Clarke, Garrett & Beck, William Hagaman & Co., H. F. Henningway & Co., J. J. Shelley, T. J. Shelley, John E. Walker, J. Wenz & Co., and George W. Yerks deal extensively in fruits. E. M. Tinkham keeps a large stock of fruits of all classes, with almost every variety of groceries and provisions, at 78 to 82 Beaver, corner Grand street.

Many firms engaged in other business deal quite extensively in domestic fruits during the season.

WEST ALBANY CATTLE MARKET.

About the middle of the present century, the growth of the railroad facilities of the country, the rapid increase in population of the Western portion of the United States, and the large pasturage there afforded for rearing live stock, soon developed an immense traffic in the transportation of cattle from the West to the East. Nearly all this business was done by the way of the New York Central Railroad. Feeding places for live stock were established at Buffalo, and it soon became necessary to establish another such place at a point about one day's journey from Buffalo. About this time Erastus Corning, Sr., was one of the directors of this road, and it was mainly through his efforts that the Directors, in 1850, purchased three hundred and fifty acres of what was then a wild tract of sandy and barren land, with the purpose of establishing a feeding-place at this point, now known as West Albany. Here the Company set apart a considerable portion of the land, upon which was built extensive platforms to secure safety in unloading, and covering some twenty acres with substantial pens, or yards, for the security of the different droves of cattle, where they could be fed and stabled until the owners found purchasers, shipped to other markets, or procured pasture lands in the vicinity.

It was but a year or two subsequently that West Albany became famous as a cattle mart, and steadily increased in the amount of business done, until it became the greatest depot for the wholesale trade in cattle of any market in the country.

Among the first to see the importance and reap the advantages of the growing trade was Isaac Moore, who opened the first yard at McGowan's, on the Schenectady Turnpike; next at the old Bull's Head Tavern, on the Troy road; then at Gallup's Hotel, corner Washington and Swan streets. Andrew R. Hunter and Nathaniel Gallup opened a yard at West Albany in 1856, followed by P. L. Eastman, M. Gillice, James Rooney & Co., and A. M. Bothick. R. McGraw is another pioneer stock-dealer at West Albany, and at one time one of the largest speculators in sheep.

The outlay of these persons, as well as the railroad, was heavy, and to a certain extent experimental, but in the end justified their wisdom. In 1855 the average monthly freight receipts at West Albany were $25,200; in 1861 they were $67,800; while in 1866, the hight of the cattle trade, they were fully $75,000. In 1859 the average weekly receipts were 2,542 head; in 1860, 3,141; in 1861, 3,348. At least two-thirds of the receipts were sold at West Albany, and assuming the average price to be $45 per head, it would appear that over $100,000 changed hands here every week, or about $5,000,000 yearly. This does not include the large traffic in sheep and hogs, which kept even pace with the cattle trade. Horses were also shipped here in large numbers, and formed an important element in the business done at West Albany. In 1866, when business was at its hight, 1,000 carloads of cattle were received weekly, and 100 was a small average daily receipt.

During late years there has been a great reduction in the amount of traffic done at West Albany. This has been due to several causes: mainly, the growth of abattoirs at Chicago; the improved methods of shipping dressed beef in refrigerator cars, and the appliances for feeding cattle on the cars.

The receipts of live stock during the past seven years, as taken from the register at West Albany, shows the following in car lots:

Year.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Hogs.	Horses.
1878	28,238	10,262	4,849	627
1879	31,484	9,923	5,449	949
1880	34,718	10,312	5,234	1,058
1881	33,452	10,057	5,153	906
1882	24,208	9,497	6,172	788
1883	20,847	6,595	10,718	717
1884	17,444	6,925	10,891	815

ANDREW R. HUNTER,

one of the most prominent residents of West Albany, was born in the town of Hope, Montgomery County, N. Y., August 4, 1810. His parents were David and Affiah (Rich) Hunter, natives of Massachusetts, who were early settlers in that section. Mr. Hunter's life until he was sixteen years old was passed on his father's farm, and in the school afforded at that time in his native town. In the meantime his brothers, David and Elkanah, had removed to Albany and established themselves as gardeners, When in his seventeenth year, he joined them, and during the succeeding four years assisted them and at the same time familiarized himself with all the details of their trade.

At twenty he rented land on the flats above Albany and engaged in gardening on his own account, in which he was successful and continued for some years. From a small beginning he grew to be a leading dealer in cattle and sheep, and carried on that business in connection with his gardening until about twenty-five years ago. At that time he opened an extensive cattle-yard at his then place of residence on the Troy road, and for years was largely engaged in keeping cattle for drovers. During this period he began purchasing land quite extensively in West Albany, which he improved and surveyed into lots, on some of which he built. Many he sold on favorable terms to house-seekers and business men. He also invested largely in property in Albany, and at this time he owns five houses on Livingston avenue, five on Hunter avenue, and three on Central avenue, West Albany, besides many vacant lots in that part of the city, and a house at the corner of Hudson avenue and Willett street, together with other real estate in Albany proper, and he has owned and sold property on State and Lancaster streets and on Clinton avenue.

But it is to West Albany that his most important operations have been confined, and to him, as much as to any other man, West Albany is indebted for the rapid and steady growth it has enjoyed during the past few years. When he began to purchase land there, there was next to nothing to suggest the West Albany of to-day, and men who stood high in business circles, but who were shorter-sighted than Mr. Hunter, did not hesitate to predict his utter ruin as a consequence of the investments thus made; but time has demonstrated the wisdom of his scheme. His residence, one of the most sightly and home-like in West Albany, was built in 1874.

Mr. Hunter has been three times married. In 1874 he married his present wife, Mrs. Margaret Calhoun. They have a daughter eight years old. He is a Republican in political sentiment, but has never had either the time or the inclination to mingle actively in political affairs. He has been often sought out by those who would have thrust upon him the cares of an office-holder and has persistently refused to become a candidate; though once, against his protest, he was chosen a member of the Board of Supervisors, and as such served one term with credit to himself and satisfaction to the public. But it is to be borne in mind that he has ever been a close and interested observer of public affairs, and he has constantly advocated the choice of upright men to places of public trust, and the worthy and economical administration of government.

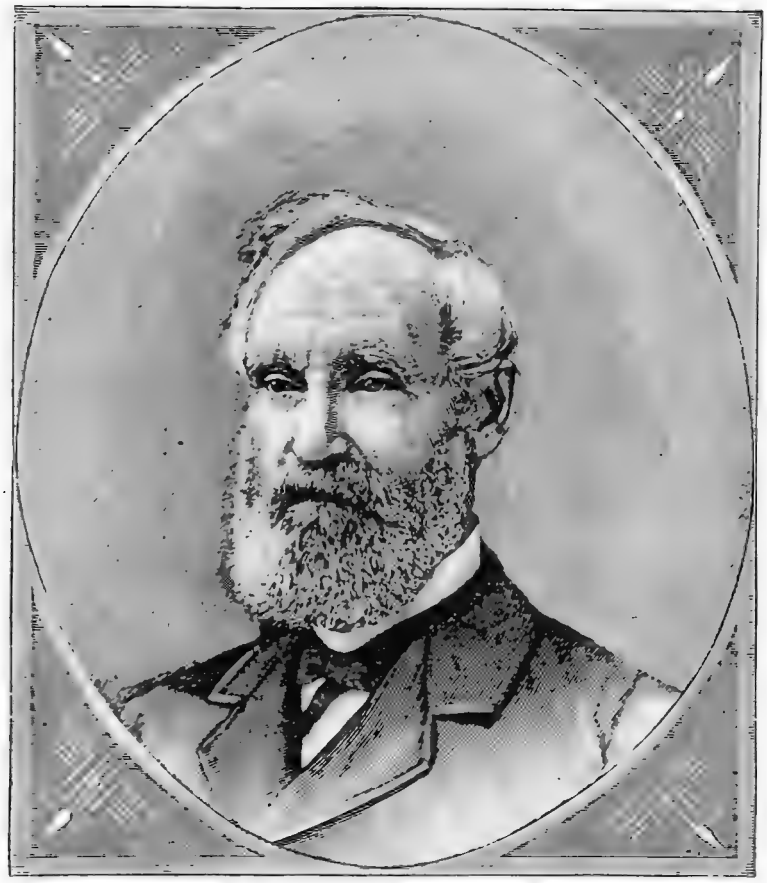
BOOTS AND SHOES.

The wholesale trade is, perhaps, sufficiently indicated under manufactures.

In numbers the retail boot and shoe stores of Albany are next to the grocery stores, numbering 138 separate establishments. It might seem invidious among so many, to mention any. All will, however, agree that Joseph Fearey & Son, M. B. Sherman, M. P. Frank, Nye & Blatner, and H. B. Tuttle, are among the largest dealers.

S. G. CHASE

was born at Rome, Oneida County, N. Y., December 28, 1806, and when about ten years of age (in the year 1817) was present at a gathering of a few distinguished gentlemen, about four miles east of Rome, to witness the throwing out of the first shovelful of earth by Governor DeWitt Clinton, at the commencement of the digging of the Erie Canal. The work was pushed forward rapidly, both East and West, and in 1825 the Erie Canal was completed from Lake Erie to the Hudson River at Albany. Mr. Chase took passage on the trial trip of the first Erie Canal-boat that was ever built. She was towed by one horse from Rome to Oriskany (a distance of eight miles) and return. It took many hours to make the trip. The speed had necessarily to be slow, for there was no one at that time who had had any experience in steering or in any way managing a canal-boat. The boat ran ashore several times in making the trip. The navigation was not considered dangerous, however, for the original canal was not to have more than a depth of three feet of water in it. Soon after this memorable trip, his parents removed to Little Falls, Herkimer County, N. Y. The young man attended school during the winter months, while navigation was closed, and was employed on the canal in the summer season for some years. While the rocks at Little Falls were being blasted out to form the bed of the canal, two small packet-boats were placed on the canal to ply between Utica and Little Falls, and young Chase was employed on one of them as steersman. When the canal had been completed to Schenectady, larger packet-boats were put on to ply between these two towns, at the tiller of one of which he was placed, intrusted with its guidance; and it was while so employed (in 1824) that he had the pleasure of seeing General Lafayette, who was a passenger on board. In 1827 he was employed by Messrs. Dows & Cary, of Albany, owners of the Washington line of canal-boats, to take charge of one of their boats as captain, carrying freight and passengers between Albany and Buffalo. The quantity of freight in those days was well adapted to the carrying capacity of the boats, for it was several



S G Chase

John Thomas, Jr.

years before they could carry more than about twenty tons freight, whereas they now carry two hundred and forty tons. The early business of the canal consisted chiefly of movers from the New England States, with their household goods, to settle somewhere in the West, and of foreigners and their luggage emigrating to the West. The east-bound freight consisted mostly of staves from Buffalo, Tonawanda and Lockport, and perchance a little flour from Rochester. The lakes for some time furnished the canal with but little east-bound freight. Mr. Chase continued master of a canal-boat until 1835, when, coming to Albany to reside, he engaged with E. S. Prosser, Esq., on the Pier as a tally clerk, loading canal-boats with merchandise for the West. He remained in Mr. Prosser's employ until the spring of 1841, when he organized a line of canal-boats for freight and passengers to ply between Albany and Buffalo, connecting at Buffalo with the house of John R. Evans & Bro. for the lakes, and at Albany with A. Van Santvoord & Co's. "swift-sure line" of barges for New York. All canal freights were reshipped at Albany in those days. The firm name at Albany was that of S. G. Chase & Co.

In 1856 eight different canal lines (that of Mr. Chase included) combined, forming a stock company, with a capital of $800,000, under the name and style of the Western Transportation Company to do a carrying business between New York and Chicago. Mr. Chase was one of its original directors, and acted as its agent on the Pier at Albany until 1879, when he disposed of his entire interest and retired from business, after a period of forty-four years in the transportation and commission business on the old Albany Pier. He was a member of the Albany Board of Trade for several years, a Director in the Capital Insurance Company, and a Trustee in the Jagger Iron Company. Has been a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Albany for many years, and served several terms as an Elder in said church. He has been twice married and has five daughters, viz.: Mrs. A. K. Richards, Mrs. N. E. Simons, Mrs. C. M. Sears, Mrs. Irving Knickerbocker, and Mrs. John D. Parsons, Jr., all the issue of his first marriage.

TEAS, COFFEES AND SPICES.

During comparatively late years, in all the large centers of trade, stores have sprung up exclusively devoted to the sale of teas, coffees and spices. In Albany there are a number of such establishments some of which transact a large business in these commodities.

One of the leading houses in this line of trade is that of Anthony N. Brady, which was established by him in 1864 on South Pearl street. In 1867 he opened a store, No. 1 Beaver Block, and in 1874 another at No. 12 Central avenue. Both of these, and one in Troy, established in 1884, are under his proprietorship. His extensive and flourishing business is the reward of diligent work and fair dealing. Albert V. Benson, 86 State and 15 Clinton avenue; Walter McEwan and Albert Wing, Sons & Co., are also large dealers in these goods.

JOHN THOMAS, Jr.,

was a prominent business man in Albany for many years. His father, a native of Wales, came to America when very young, married in due time, and lived in Mark lane (now Exchange street), which was then a very fashionable part of the city and in and near which many wealthy Albanians had their residences. There John Thomas, Jr., was born, September 27, 1815, the second son in a family of eleven children. At the age of seventeen he entered the old-time establishment of Gregory & Co., to learn the trade of upholsterer and carriage-trimmer. After serving his apprenticeship he went to Texas and remained there one year. On his return to Albany he engaged in the provision trade, which he continued for some years. About 1845 he purchased Goffe's coffee and spice business at No. 10 Exchange street, and some years later removed his establishment to the corner of Dean and Exchange streets, where his name and that of his establishment, the Premium Coffee and Spice Mills, gained reputation throughout the country. One night in January, 1860, his store took fire and was utterly destroyed. He opened a new store in the north part of Greene street and remained there until the erection of the building at the corner of Dean and Exchange streets, which he afterwards occupied until his death.

About 1840, Mr. Thomas joined the Albany Fire Department, as a member of Independence Hook and Ladder Company No. 1, and served some years with credit, taking his part in such work as there was to be done, and making many friends among the firemen of that day, when the companies were largely made up of the leading business men of the city. His knowledge, thus acquired, served him in good stead when his store was burned, as has been stated, in 1860. The weather was intensely cold, and it was almost impossible to manage the engines, which were brought to the scene by hand. Mr. Thomas himself directed the streams thrown upon a certain portion of the building, fearing a large boiler therein would fall and cause a loss of life, a calamity which he was successful in preventing.

May 27th, 1844, he married Sarah Ann Parsons, who bore him six children, and was a most devoted and exemplary wife and mother. She died July 21, 1867. Mr. Thomas was a prominent and helpful member of the Pearl street Methodist Church and lived consistently with his profession. He was liberal and charitable in his views of his fellow-men; strictly honorable in his dealings; and in his family indulgent and generous—such a man as makes friends of nearly all with whom he comes in contact, and gives none just cause for ill-will. His temperament was bright, genial and happy. He was fond, above all else, of his home and its comforts, and the companionship of his family. Friendly and hospitable in a remarkable degree, he loved to entertain, and the friends who

SIMEON WATSON.

met at his fireside were many and steadfast. He died June 4, 1865, of pleurisy, after only a brief illness. Five of his children survive him.

SIMEON WATSON

was born in Middleville, Fairfield Township, Herkimer County, N. Y., September 25, 1817, and died in Albany, March 8, 1872. He was a son of William Watson and Clarissa Ford, his wife. Gaining the rudiments of an education in the public schools then in vogue in his native town, he came to Albany at the age of eighteen, and obtained employment with George Harris, a cartman. He was industrious and saving, and was soon enabled to purchase a horse and cart and engage in carrying merchandise on his own account. His prompt attention to business soon brought him to the notice of merchants and others requiring such services as he could render, and his business increased rapidly and steadily, until he was the owner of forty horses and numerous carts and wagons, and constantly employed many men.

It is said that Mr. Watson is entitled to the distinction of having conveyed the first load of merchandise over the swing bridge between Albany and Greenbush, which may be an item of interest to those who delight in picking up odd scraps of local history. In 1841 he married Miss Almira E. Kenyon, of Herkimer County, who survives him, as does also a daughter. Mr. Watson, as the result of long and earnest labor and the exercise of good business abilities, amassed a competency. He made his own way in the world, unaided by wealth or influence. To him, the calling which had placed him on the highway of prosperity was good enough to follow to the end. He did not change his business, but constantly enlarged it; nor did he branch forth into any of the byways of speculation. He was honest and upright in all the relations of life, and among the business men who knew him he stood high for all those qualities which gain confidence and insure success. Belonging to no church, he gave liberally to many; he was charitable to the poor, helpful to those who were struggling for a foothold in life, and an indulgent husband and father. A Republican in principle, he took no active interest in public affairs.

PAINTS, OIL AND GLASS.

About the beginning of this century the firm of Thomas, Joseph & Elihu Russell were the leading merchants in paints, oils and glass. They dissolved partnership in 1817, after which Elihu Russell & Joseph Davis continued the business. The Russell Brothers all became prosperous merchants and influential in commercial circles. The leading firms in this business at present are William Dey Ermand & Co., 381 Broadway; Thomas Easterly, 165 South Pearl; John Kurtz, 376 to 384 Central avenue; and William Prescott, 676 Broadway.

TOBACCO AND CIGARS.

The smokers of cigars and chewers of tobacco are as numerous in Albany as elsewhere. Most of the wholesale dealers and manufacturers treated of elsewhere, are also engaged in the retail trade. Especially is this true of Benj. Bayn's Sons and G. W. Van Slyke & Co. All of the retail stores manufacture to a certain extent. There are over one hundred firms engaged in this branch of trade in Albany. Among the first-class cigar and tobacco dealers are James Quinn, 174 South Pearl; D. A. Lawler's Sons, 776 Broadway; J. S. Hutman, 6 Music Hall.

ICE.

During late years the consumption of ice has increased to a wonderful extent in this country. Large capital is invested in cutting and storing it during the winter. The excellent water of the Hudson, and the streams and ponds of this vicinity, afford unequaled facilities for this important branch of trade, not only for home consumption, but for extensive exportation. The Albany merchants engaged in this business are well represented by Parker Hall, a son of O. Hall, deceased, whose office is located at 932 Broadway; Hiram Hotaling & W. C. Saxton, 55 Broadway; John Mullon & Sons, office No. 936 Broadway; Patrick Ronan, 19 Lumber District; Sanford Vroman & Co., Quay, corner Cherry.

UNDERTAKERS.

The merchants, if such they may be called, who follow the business of undertaking, are the most reluctantly patronized business men in any community. Albany has its share of those who faithfully attend to these melancholy necessities of civilization. For many years Marshal W. Tebbutt was the leading undertaker in Albany. He died a short time ago. His sons succeed him in the business. The following may be justly considered as those receiving the largest share of public patronage: Carr & Clark (E. J. Carr and James J. Clark), 117 Madison avenue; John Harrigan, 21 Canal street; James W. Morange, 51 Maiden Lane; John Metz & Son, 21 Central avenue.

TRUCKING.

The carting of freight and merchandise in this city necessitates the employment of a large number of men and horses. The firm of Fraser, Lockwood & Co. probably employ the largest number of men and horses in this business in Albany. They do the trucking for the People's line of steamers. Charles McGinnes, 377 Madison avenue, is the proprietor of a large business. Jacob D. Van Buren, 363 Hudson avenue, is another truckman largely engaged in trucking.

R. G. Dunn & Co.'s commercial agency has an office in Albany at 479 Broadway. F. E. Griswold is manager of this branch office in this city.

DRUGGISTS.

Louis Sauter established a drug store at 84 Green street in 1852. In 1861 he opened his present store at the corner of South Pearl and Plain streets. He has another store at 8 North Pearl street.

H. B. Clement opened a drug store at the corner of Broadway and Clinton avenue in 1859. In 1867 he leased the adjoining store on Clinton avenue to accommodate his trade; and in 1872 the adjoining store on Broadway. The three combined make a store 33 by 56 feet in dimensions. E. T. Rice became associated as partner in 1873. He retired in 1885, when H. J. Grose became a partner, under the firm name of Clement & Grose.

A. B. Heusted commenced the drug business at the corner of Eagle street and Hudson avenue in 1868, and has conducted it ever since. Dr. Heusted is an educated physician and pharmaceutist.

Louis Gaus commenced business at 254 South Pearl street in 1876. He purchased from C. Sprimhart, who had conducted a similar business from 1850.

J. J. Mattimore, with Mr. Ingraham, commenced the drug business at the corner of Madison avenue and Eagle street in 1879. In 1881 he purchased Ingraham's interest, and has since conducted the business alone. In 1884 he removed to his present location, 44 Philip street.

Robert F. & E. Eddy Safford first engaged in the drug business in 1882, at corner of Hamilton and Pearl streets. In 1885 removed to present location, corner of Lancaster and Dove streets.

F. B. Waterbury and Mr. Goffe became associated in the drug business on Hamilton street in 1881. Mr. Goffe retired in 1883. In 1885, George E. Jones became a partner. Moved to present location, No. 91 Hudson avenue, in 1884. Firm name, Waterbury & Jones.

The present wholesale drug house of A. McClure & Co. (composed of Archibald McClure, William H. McClure, William J. Walker and Charles Gibson) was founded in the early part of this century by James and Archibald McClure. In 1833, George Dexter was admitted as a partner. This house occupies a high position in the drug trade all over the country. It is located at Nos. 74 and 76 State street.

The wholesale drug firm of Douw H. Fonda & Co. was organized in 1865. It is the continuation of a business established in the beginning of the present century by Thomas and Joseph Russell. The present firm is composed of Douw H. Fonda, William B. French and Henry R. Wright. Their establishment is situated at 70 and 72 State street, in a commodious four-story building, 35 by 347 feet in dimensions. Paints, oils and varnishes form a very important feature of their stock. The trade of the house is confined principally to New York, Vermont and Western Massachusetts, and requires the attention of three traveling salesmen, while a force of twenty assistants, besides the members of the firm, are employed in the store.

The drug store of Turner Brothers, corner of South Pearl and Schuyler streets, was founded in 1850 by the present proprietors, George H. & Charles Turner. They have built up a large business, and the house is well known to the drug trade. They also carry besides the usual variety of drugs, a large assortment of paints, oils, varnishes, window-glass and brushes.

The pharmacy of Charles H. Smith, at 246 Washington avenue, opposite Townsend Park, is a well-stocked drug store. Mr. Smith manufactures the American Stomach Bitters and his own fluid extracts.

William F. Elmendorf opened a drug store at Nos. 218 and 220 South Pearl street in 1879. He was succeeded by the present proprietor, William S. Elmendorf.

Martin W. Macomber has been engaged in the drug business in Albany since 1860. His store is situated at 42 Hudson avenue.

John C. McEwen established a drug store on Lancaster, corner of Dove street, in 1884. In 1885 he removed to 100 Washington avenue.

Joseph Bandorf, present proprietor of the well-known store corner of Broadway and Maiden Lane, succeeded Charles H. Teller, George G. Jewell, Edwin T. Bedell, R. S. McMurdy and George L. Brown.

Samuel C. Bradt has kept a drug store on Washington avenue many years. Charles Frothingham was for some years a leading druggist on Broadway, just north of State; succeeded by Peter M. Murphy in 1866.

Among other druggists of the past, we find Henry Rolls, in Apothecary Hall, 57 State street; William Russell, near McClure's, on State street; Dr. Carr, Dr. Wyncoop, Dr. Elkins, Joseph Davis, A. B. & D. Sands, Edwin A. Clapp, Joseph Russell, Dr. Wharton, Dr. Hall, Dr. Spaulding, Dr. Springsteed, Dr. Rossman. Druggists were popularly called "doctors" in former days, because they dealt out "doctor's stuff." The title is now confined chiefly to all, be they coarse or refined, educated or charlatan, neophyte or wise, who gravely direct or deal powders, pills or drops to be given to the sick as long as life remains. What's in a name!

Dr. Stringer & Dr. Bay kept a full stock of the medicines used in the days of the Revolutionary War in medical practice in the family dispensary. Old Dr. Mancius kept quite a supply outside of his own practice.

The first educated druggist, who came to Albany about 1788, and opened the first real drug store, was Samuel Dexter, from Boston. Before his time a few common drugs were kept in nearly all the retail stores and by the physicians.

Mr. Dexter had two sons who graduated at Union and became lawyers—James and George—both very much esteemed. George, after his father's decease, kept up his business, holding it till recently, venerated for his years and character. Joseph Nellegar, now in the drug business on State street, was his partner some years, beginning March, 1850.

WILLIAM SAWYER

was born in the City of Albany, March 14, 1821.

His father, Luther Sawyer was born in the good old town of Lancaster, Worcester County, Mass., in which place his ancestors were among the first settlers. He came to Albany in 1813, and followed the occupation of a brick and stone-mason. He died February 7, 1827.

His mother, still living at the age of eighty-six in remarkable health and vigor, bore the maiden name of Ann Lombard. Is a native of the City of Boston, where she was born in 1799. She came to Albany in 1814 and was married in 1815.

On his mother's side, Mr. Sawyer descended from Stephen Hopkins, one of the pilgrims of the Mayflower. Of the forty-one males who made up that noble band that founded "a church without a bishop and a state without a king" on Plymouth Rock in 1620, one, Miles Standish, had the rank of Captain, and ten the respectable title of Mr., a prefix then given to men of exceptional influence and distinction. Among these "upper ten" are recorded Stephen Hopkins with John Carver and others.

When duties involving much discretion and responsibility came up, Mr. Stephen Hopkins was usually "adjoined for counsel and advice," with John Carver, Miles Standish, William Bradford and Edward Winslow. We find him thus associated with these distinguished men in locating lots, laying out plans, trading with the Indians, and other matters of importance. He is spoken of as a householder and as having eight persons in his family, including two men servants. Among his numerous and highly respectable descendants is Stephen Hopkins, of Rhode Island, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Eseck Hopkins, the first commodore in the American navy, was brother to Mr. Sawyer's grandmother on his mother's side. His home was in Boston. Atkins Lombard, a Boston sea captain, who died in 1799, was the father of Ann Lombard, the mother of Mr. Sawyer.

It is a matter of history that the continental flag was first displayed on the 3d day of December, 1775, on the ship of Eseck Hopkins, who, on the 6th of November preceding, had been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the first American fleet.

The Declaration of Independence was publicly read for the first time on the 8th of July, 1776, by Commander Hopkins of the navy, to an assemblage of citizens in the old State House yard in Philadelphia.

The subject of our sketch is the architect of his own fortune. Left fatherless and without patrimony at the age of five years, with a kind, prudent mother, who had only her hands with which to provide for her two sons, aged five and seven years, William Sawyer had none of the ease of wealth, none of the advantages of education in his early years. At nine years of age he was put to learning the trade of shoemaking, which he pursued until 1871, when he retired with a competence, having all these years given himself to his business

William Sawyer

with remarkable persistency, sagacity and frugality. Most of his life of sixty-four years so far, he has spent in his native city. His life has been an active one. In 1836–37, he had his home in Bethlehem. In 1837 he was instrumental in starting the first Sunday School in that town, near Jerusalem church, at Feura Bush.

In 1838, he pursued his trade in the City of Syracuse and Geneseo, Livingston County, but returned to Albany late in the autumn of that year. This was before the Genesee Valley Canal was built, and Mr. Sawyer walked the thirty miles from Rochester to Genesee. On his return it took three days and three nights from Rochester to Utica by the Erie Canal. The railroad was opened from Schenectady to Utica that fall. The trip by rail from Utica to Albany occupied a whole night. After working about two years at his trade he went into business for himself, which he followed until 1849.

In 1851, he opened a shoe store in Fulton street, Brooklyn, opposite the City Hall. In 1852, he returned to Albany and opened a store at his old stand on South Pearl street, where he remained nineteen years, successfully engaged in buying boots and shoes on the ready cash system and investing his surplus in productive real estate.

When the War of the Rebellion broke out, he bought a large stock of boots and shoes, selling them rapidly at war prices. The profits he invested in Government bonds, in real estate, chiefly in Kenwood, and in stores on Pearl street. He continued in the retail shoe trade a few years after the war. Since 1871 he has been actively engaged in works of benevolence, and in the care of the wealth which his shrewdness, energy and economy have placed in his trust. The wisdom of his investments has been well attested by time and experience.

With a minute knowledge of the affairs of the city, with open ears, and a keen eye to the main chance, taking counsel of himself, he is well known as a prompt, reliable man of business, and a firm friend and supporter of law and order.

His lack of early opportunities for education has largely been supplied by native tact and keen observation. In the year 1850, with a laudable desire to make up early deficiencies, he left his trade for a time and devoted some of his earnings, under a skillful instructor, in acquiring a good practical knowledge of arithmetic and book-keeping and other branches most needed in daily life.

It is a matter of honest satisfaction to Mr. Sawyer to be able to say to the young of to-day, that he never used intoxicating drinks, never used tobacco in any form, and never attended a circus or a theatre.

In matters of public policy he was an active anti-slavery man, and has ever been a decided friend of the American policy of encouraging and protecting home labor, sustaining free schools, and treating every honest citizen as an equal before the law. During the canvass that resulted in electing Abraham Lincoln, he was among the foremost of the "Wide Awakes" that did such effective service.

In religious preferences Mr. Sawyer is a decided Baptist. In 1840, he united with the Pearl Street (now Emmanuel) Baptist Church, while Elder Jacob Knapp was assisting Rev. Dr. B. T. Welch. In 1871, he removed his church relations to the Calvary Church.

His interest in the Sabbath School and mission work of the Baptist Church has been great and constant for many years. To it he has given much time and toil and money. July 29, 1866, the Kenwood Chapel, which was started in 1864, was duly dedicated, Rev. Dr. Magoon preaching the sermon. This he gave to the Albany Baptist Missionary Union as a chapel for church purposes forever. On the day of its dedication the cars of the Albany Railway made the first trip to Kenwood. The Sunday School here numbers about 100.

The Robin Street Baptist Chapel was established by Mr. Sawyer in the German Baptist Church on Washington avenue, November 4, 1866, and removed to the Robin Street Baptist Chapel, into a building formerly used as a cabinet factory, which he had purchased and remodeled for that purpose, April 7, 1872, as an Independent Sunday School. To its interests he has ever given his most watchful care. The school now numbers about 300.

The Madison Avenue Chapel was purchased by him for Sunday School purposes in the spring of 1867. The school was started August 4, 1867, and placed in charge of the First Baptist Church. It has about 150 members.

Mr. Sawyer was one of the earliest and most active workers for the establishment of the Home for Aged Men, in soliciting subscriptions, organizing, and in selecting its location. He was a member of the first Board of Trustees. He has often addressed audiences of young and old in exhortation and textual discourse. His knowledge of the Scriptures, his zealous spirit, his nervous and rather eccentric manner, have made these addresses effective.

Mr. Sawyer was united in marriage with Catharine Blakeman, of Albany, June 28, 1843. Their surviving children are Catharine, Agnes, Mary, and Jeannett, who married Michael T. Adams, December 13, 1882.

BOOKSELLERS.

Among the earliest booksellers in Albany are William Seymour; D. K. Van Vechten; Obadiah Penniman, who came to Albany under the great printer, Isaiah Thomas; C. R. & G. Webster; E. & E. Horsford, who kept a store at 100 State street, closed about 1828; E. F. Backus, who made a specialty of law books; Daniel Steele & Son, on Broadway, north of Hudson avenue, who kept the largest and best assortment of books outside of New York City. Daniel Steele died in 1828, and was succeeded by his son, Oliver. In 1836, the firm of Steele & Durrie was formed, succeeded, in 1849, by S. R. Gray and W. B. Sprague, Jr., under the firm name of Gray & Sprague. In 1855, the firm was dissolved, when S. R. Gray became the sole proprietor and has so remained. The present marble front building, 42 and 44 State street, was built by Mr. Gray in 1874, and covers an area of 35 x 100 feet, where he deals in a large and varied stock of books and stationery.

A unique business in the book line is that of Joseph Lord, who during the year 1844, while plying his trade of shoemaker, began to deal in stationery in a small way. About 1856, Mr. Lord's business had grown to such proportions that he gave up his shoemaking trade and devoted his whole time to the book and stationery business. In 1869, he built his present store, No. 19 Philip street, where he carries a large stock of the old and rare books, and the latest publications of books and periodicals.

S. W. Johnson, Samuel Shaw, and E. W. Skinner & Co., were prominent in the bookselling business in the early part of the present century.

Webster & Skinner was another old firm. They kept a store at the Elm Tree corner. They did an extensive publishing business until about 1838, when they went out of business.

B. D. Packard conducted a book store at 71 State street, about 1820. He was succeeded, in 1828, by the firm of Packard, Hoffman & White, which was succeeded, in 1833, by Elias Gates, who went to Troy about 1850, where he did a large business.

J. Orville Taylor, in 1836, carried on the bookselling business in Albany. He was succeeded by James Henry in 1840.

Joseph McDonough is chiefly engaged in selling antique books. His store, No. 30 North Pearl street, is the headquarters for the lovers of old books. His stock embraces a varied assortment of the antique in literature, and few booksellers know more about the contents of their books.

D. R. Niver makes a specialty of Sabbath-school and juvenile publications; E. H. Bender, on State street, has long been a well-known bookseller; and Edwin Ellis & Co., succeeded by B. & J. B. Sanders, keep a well-stocked and popular book store at 19 North Pearl street.

BILL POSTING.

The printing of the handsome show bills heralding the coming of theatrical troups, etc., has grown to to be very extensive in this country. The posting of most of these bills is done by Frederick A. Keeler, No. 15 Green street, who owns most of the prominent bill boards in the city. He has been engaged in this business for many years, and the name of "Keeler, the bill-poster," has become as familiar as any name in the city. It is only a few years since the death of Capt. John Smith, who was once a theatrical manager, and always a worthy man. He was for many years the leading bill-poster of the city.

SALOON KEEPERS.

The following are proprietors of liquor saloons at the places designated: P. Lasch, 395 South Pearl; John Brannigan, Hudson avenue, corner Grand; John G. Gannan, 60 Beaver street; and Thomas W. Dwyer, 276 South Pearl street. John J. Garrity is the proprietor of a restaurant at 241 Hudson avenue.

There are, besides these, saloons of every grade in Albany, from the sumptuously fitted bar-room to the modest place devoted to the sale of lager beer.

WINES AND LIQUORS.

The store of William J. Hill, importer and wholesale dealer in wines and liquors, was founded in 1869, who holds a prominent position in this line of trade in Albany. His premises at 96 Madison avenue consist of a three-story building, 25 x 90 feet in dimensions, which affords ample accommodation for a large and complete assortment of foreign and domestic liquors. He imports foreign wines, brandies, gins, etc., direct from the producers. Mr. Hill has resided in Albany for the past twenty years, where he is well known and generally esteemed.

M. D. Holbrook, 524 Broadway, deals largely in best California wines, and keeps a fine assortment of other liquors. P. Cushman & Co. have long been in the business, and have earned a widely extended, well established reputation for integrity and intelligence. E. Schell, 312 Broadway, sells wines from his own vineyard in California, and keeps the best of liquors for medical and domestic use. Charles Tracey, 20 State street, succeeds his father, John Tracey, who established the business in 1838, as rectifying distiller and dealer in choice liquors.

W. H. Livingston, 76 State street, succeeds his father, Hiram Livingston, a dealer in the best varieties of wines and liquors. Mr. Livingston, Sr., was a native of Albany, born in 1814, long a popular hotel-keeper, and a worthy member of the honored Livingston family. He died in 1879.

The retail liquor stores of Albany are very numerous, and, as is now universally the case, every drug store deals in wines and liquors for medicinal and domestic use.

ALBANY HOTELS.

THE earliest hotel of much importance in Albany was the City Tavern, known later as Lewis' Tavern. It was said to have been built as early as 1667 by one of the Schuylers. It stood on the corner of State, and what was then a narrow arched passage on the south side of South Pearl street, and was removed in 1856, when the latter street was opened. Its interior finish was elaborate for that day. It continued to be the leading hotel until the Tontine Coffee House was built during the latter part of the last century. Here Robert Lewis became famous as a landlord. He died June 17, 1798, and was succeeded by his son Stewart, during the proprietorship of whom it was the daily resort of the leading citizens of leisure, and of all distinguished visitors of that day. Important deliberative meetings were held there.

The King's Arms Tavern was a well known hotel prior to the Revolution. It stood on what is now the corner of Green and Beaver streets. It bore the device of the King's Arms, which, during the Revulution, became very obnoxious to the Sons of Liberty. Many was the threatening glance cast at the royal emblem by the patriots. At length the hostile feeling culminated in an open attack upon it by the populace, who tore it down and burned it at the foot of State street in the presence of a large concourse of people, amid cheers of patriots and the execration and hisses of the Tories.

At one time it was known as the Albany Coffee House. In 1812 it was kept by a Mr. Ladd. In 1820 it was opened by Christopher Dunn, and afterwards known as Dunn's City Coffee House. Mr. Dunn was a jolly and popular landlord. He came to Albany from New England about 1803, and died in 1830, aged 67 years. This hotel was torn down when the street was widened. During the days of coach travel it was a famous resort, where all the stages stopped.

The Tontine Coffee House in State street was built about 1795, and for many years was the principal hotel in the city. Worth refers to it in 1803 as the only one worth naming. In 1798 it was kept by the old stage properietor, Ananias Platt, who was succeeded, in 1803, by Matthew Gregory, one of the most famous landlords of his day. He was born in Wilton, Conn., August 21, 1757, and died in Albany, June 4, 1848. He held commissions, and served with honor during the whole War of the Revolution. He became proprietor of the Eagle Tavern in 1806, and having acquired a fortune, in 1814 he bought and occupied the Congress Hall property. He was a careful citizen, supporting all good objects. He was always connected in some official position with local matters of business, religion, and benevolence. The Tontine House was the resort of leading politicians and distinguished men of the State.

Congress Hall, which stood on the corner of Park Place and Washington street, was removed in 1878, to prepare a site for the New Capitol. For more than half a century it was the chief hotel of the city. For many years it was kept by Leverett

Cruttenden, by whose name the hotel was best known. He was born in Guilford, Conn., and died in Bridgeport, July 14, 1838, aged 67 years. Mr. Cruttenden was a man of reading and of ready and brilliant humor, and from his talents and great popularity was usually one of the after-dinner social circles. His hotel was the headquarters of the legal fraternity, members of the Legislature, and all distinguished travelers. Here Lafayette was entertained during his stay in Albany in 1824. The sign of the house was the well remembered picture of Washington. Adam Blake was the last proprietor of this hotel.

The Eagle Hotel was another one of the earlier hotels of note in Albany. It stood on Hamilton street, near the dock, and was destroyed by the fire of 1848, after which stores were built upon its site. In 1810, Commodore Perry was tendered a reception at this house in honor of his naval victory. Matthew Gregory, Leverett Cruttenden, H. H. Crane and H. Bamman were at different periods proprietors of this house.

The Adelphi Hotel was a popular resort in the last part of preceding and the fore part of the present century. It stood on the site now occupied by the Commercial Bank, and was torn down in 1816.

Crosby's Hotel, corner Beaver and South Pearl, was a well-known resort in the first quarter of the present century. It was a queer building in architecture. It contained a large room, called the long room, suitable for large gatherings, where military companies and civic societies were frequently entertained. It was destroyed by fire, and the Clinton Hotel was built upon its ruins.

The Mansion House, Market street, almost opposite the steamboat landing, was another hotel worthy of mention in the early history of Albany. Among its early proprietors were the well-known landlords, Sidney Chapin, Hugh Cruikshank, Nathaniel S. Skinner and F. Lathrop. The site of this hotel is now occupied by the Ransom iron-front store. For a short time it was called the City Hotel.

The Albion Hotel, which used to stand on the corner of Broadway and Herkimer street, was made memorable as the place where the great fire of 1848 started, caused by a washerwoman's bonnet taking fire.

In 1828, Nathaniel S. Skinner left the Mansion House on Market street, and took the house adjoining the Commercial Bank, and converted it into a hotel long known as Skinner's Mansion House. In 1856 it was sold, and Van Heusen & Charles erected a store on the site.

The present American Hotel was established many years ago. It is located 100 State street. In 1832 John Thomas was proprietor. For a number of years it was conducted by C. N. Bement, an efficient landlord, and well known to the traveling public forty years ago. The present proprietors are Babcock & Hopkins.

During the period of the greatest travel over the Great Western Turnpike, a few years prior to the opening of the Erie Canal, Albany was an advantageous site for hotels. For a distance of a few miles beyond Albany there were from fifteen to twenty taverns. The father of the Hon. Eli Perry for many years during this period kept a hotel on the corner of Washington avenue and Swan street.

The Stanwix, on Broadway, corner of Maiden lane, was opened as a hotel in 1844. The building was originally erected in 1833 for business offices, and was four-stories high, the front built of Quincy granite. It stands on the site of the house where General Gansevoort, the hero of Fort Stanwix, was born. The main building was formerly surmounted by a hemispherical dome, forty-eight feet in diameter, said to have been at that time, in form, the most beautiful in the world. Underneath this dome was a large hall, sixty feet high, finished in the Grecian Ionic order. The first proprietors were Wheeler & Bromley. The present proprietor is Cebra Quackenbush.

The Delavan House was erected by E. C. Delavan, on the site of a hotel of the same name, in 1845, at a cost of $200,000. It was opened as a temperance house by Nathaniel Rogers, of Boston, in 1845. Since then the proprietors who have been prominently connected with this house are Charles E. Leland and Theophilus Roessle. The present proprietors are T. Roessle, Son & Co.

The Delavan House has since its erection taken a front rank among the best hotels in the State. It is the resort of a large number of members of the Legislature and the leading State politicians. For years most of the political work attending the organization of the Senate and Assembly has been done within its walls. The reputation of the house as a first-class hotel is well maintained by the present proprietors.

The principal hotels in Albany at the time of the opening of the Delavan House were the Stanwix Hall, Mansion, Townsend, American, Congress Hall, City, Eagle, and the Franklin House—all well-conducted hotels. The Townsend Hotel was afterwards changed to the Globe, and kept as a temperance house by Mr. Brayton. It is now ably conducted by ex-Sheriff James A. Houck.

The present Mansion House, 387 Broadway, conducted by William Thompson, is the third of that name.

The Kenmore Hotel was erected in 1878, and was run until the time of his death by Adam Blake, a colored gentleman, a worthy and respected citizen, and first-class caterer for the public. At one time he was proprietor of Congress Hall. Since his death the hotel has been successfully and admirably managed by his widow. This house enjoys a first-class patronage and is one of the best equipped hotels in the city.

Besides the hotels mentioned, the following are worthy of notice: Hotel Brunswick, 530 to 538 Broadway, George C. Gale, proprietor; Hotel Fort Orange, 40 and 42 Beaver street, Mrs. E. Engel, proprietress; the Belvidere House, 39 Beaver street, Mrs. E. Zeller, proprietress; Hotel Germania, 34 Beaver street, is conducted by Mrs. J. Bissikummer, daughter of John Wachter, who kept the

National Hotel on Broadway, the first German hotel in Albany.

The principal hotel in West Albany is the Drovers' Exchange, of which Richard Scully is proprietor.

THEOPHILUS ROESSLE

was born near Stuttgardt, in the Kingdom of Wurtemberg, Germany, March 19, 1811. His father was a contractor and a market-gardener and vigneron, and a man of importance in his community. Like all the children in his native kingdom, young Roessle received a good education, and from his early boyhood he was familiar with the peculiarities and cultivation of plants—for the uses of the plow, spade, hoe and pruning-knife were made known to him in turn, as he became large enough to be of service on the farm. He was born with a spirit of venture and enterprise, and early conceived a strong desire to visit the New World, of whose wondrous opportunities he had heard so much, and in 1825, when only about fourteen years of age, he came to this country. He had relatives in Boston and New York, to whom he made a brief visit, at the expiration of which he set out to see the country at large. Civilization was much more circumscribed in its boundaries in the New World than it is now, and Rochester, N. Y., was only a small place on the Western frontier. With another lad he found his way thither, but at Utica the baggage of both was lost, and they were left penniless in a land of strangers. His companion sickened and died in Rochester, and young Roessle, dispirited and careworn, painfully trudged back on foot to Utica, in the bare hope of recovering his lost trunk. It was a fruitless errand, however, and he turned his face toward Albany again. For many a weary day he walked in his worn shoes, without a change of raiment or a penny in his pocket, a strange lad in a country where he could not make his commonest wants known except by signs. He arrived at length, foot-sore and weary, at the last toll-gate on the Schenectady turnpike, and while he was speculating on his chances for a breakfast, a farmer drove his team up to the door of a tavern close at hand, and, beckoning the lad to him, got him to hold his horses while he went in to eat his breakfast. For this service the boy was paid a sixpence, an insignificant sum, yet it was the foundation of a fortune.

Arrived in Albany, young Roessle met a little girl selling matches, and inquiring of her for her father, was led to a dirty room in a dirty street, where the girl's father, an old Swiss, and his wife and several children slept on straw. Roessle obtained the privilege of a night's lodging, and the next morning, finding that a few inches of snow had fallen during the night, he borrowed a shovel of the old man and went out to earn some money. He made a dollar and a half that day, and the next earned a like sum by sawing, splitting and piling some firewood. He then got a job of sawing a dozen cords of wood for an old Dutch dominie, and while he was engaged at this work, the attention of old Dr. Peter Wendell being attracted to the diligence of the lad, a bargain was made by which Roessle was to have his board, two suits of clothes and $40 in cash per annum, in return for sweeping out the doctor's office and riding his rounds with him. He was thus employed nearly four years, and then went out to a small farm on the Western Turnpike, which he leased for a term of years from his employer. He now began market-gardening on a small scale, feeling his way and using his little capital to the best advantage. An English landscape gardener named Sears took board with him, and Roessle employed the opportunity afforded by the long winter evenings to learn as much of Sears' beautiful profession as he could. The following spring he was employed to lay out the place of Mr. John Prentice, and the work was so well done that a number of lucrative jobs were in succession offered to and accepted by him. Uniting the two trades, working hard early and late, and living with the strictest frugality, Roessle accumulated property and bettered his circumstances by slow degrees. The quality of his vegetables became at last so well known that his marketing business increased, until he was forced to abandon landscape gardening altogether. Celery was his heaviest crop, for he not only retailed but jobbed it out in Albany, sold it at wholesale to other gardeners, and supplied Washington and Fulton Markets in New York, the river boats, the Saratoga hotels, the Catskill Mountain House, and the City of Schenectady. From 1835 to 1840 he sold an average of a thousand bunches a day. It is probable that he could raise then as fine a crop of celery as he has raised since, but as he could never succeed in keeping it over winter, he was no better off than his neighbors. It was only after failures, losses and disappointments that he discovered the simple expedients detailed in "How to Cultivate and Preserve Celery," a useful little volume which was issued in 1860 as the first of a series of "Hand-books on the Cultivation of Culinary Vegetables." Mr. Roessle's gardening was begun on seven acres, but as his sales increased he leased other land, and used successively fifty, a hundred, and a hundred and sixteen acres.

In 1840, he bought his place on Central avenue, where he has built one of the most elegant and comfortable residences in Albany, in the midst of a great expanse of land which is under cultivation in season, and is supplied with the latest and most extensive facilities for vegetable cultivation. Thus Mr. Roessle is enabled to provide a home supply of vegetables to the various hotels with which his name has become associated, and do considerable market-gardening besides.

After a time, notwithstanding the success which had crowned his efforts in America, the desire of Mr. Roessle to again behold his native land and the faces of his kindred grew so strong within him, that he was impelled to make a visit to the fatherland. He visited his family near Stuttgardt, and made a tour of Europe. What he saw abroad made him still more firmly believe that America was the land best adapted to poor and energetic men. The trip cost him all his money, except a bare hundred dollars, with which he got back to Albany. His

credit was so good that he had no trouble to get what land he needed, and he went to work again in good earnest. That year there was a severe drought in Southern New York, and vegetables were very scarce and very dear in the market. With characteristic shrewdness, Mr. Roessle bought up all the crops about him in advance, and from their sale and that of his own produce realized a clear profit of $2,000. This made him again a free man, and he has kept so ever since, ranking high to-day among the wealthy citizens of Albany.

In 1849 he opened negotiations for the lease of the Delavan House. At that time the hotel was poorly conducted on a cheap plan by a man against whom Mr. Roessle had a claim considerable in amount on account of vegetables furnished him, and with whom he became joint owner of the lease of the house. It was not long, however, before Mr. Roessle became sole owner of the lease, and he then inaugurated the system which has since made the house one of the most famous hotels in the United States. He made improvements of all kinds constantly until he had realized his own liberal idea of what a hotel should be, and began to reap wealth as his reward. In 1865 he disposed of his lease to Mr. Charles E. Leland, but repossessed himself of it in 1882. In the meantime, in 1866, he had bought the Hotel Fort William Henry at Lake George, and in 1869 assumed control of the Arlington House in Washington, D. C., thus becoming as extensively engaged in the hotel business as almost any man in the United States, and managing first-class houses exclusively. In the management of these great enterprises he has long been ably assisted by his son, Theophilus E. Roessle, and his grandson, Edward Roessle, son of the latter. The business is now carried on by the firm of Theophilus Roessle, Son & Co., Mr. Roessle, though still retaining a large interest, having practically retired from business. The Delavan House is ably managed by Mr. Edward Roessle, and the Hotel Fort William Henry and the Arlington House are under the skillful supervision of Mr. Theophilus E. Roessle.

Mr. Roessle was married in 1831, at the house of his early and staunch friend, Dr. Wendell, to Miss Jane Booth, an Englishwoman, who died March 5, 1850. In May, 1851, he married Mrs. Maria Hurlburt, who is still living. His career has been a remarkable one, and may be fitly pointed to as an example to all aspiring young men. It has been a career in which industry, integrity and perseverance have wrought their allotted tasks and reaped their legitimate rewards. Mr. Roessle's life may be regarded as a life well spent His motto through life has been, "Honesty, industry, economy and endurance." In his declining years he numbers his friends by thousands, and not a few of them are among the foremost men of our land. He is one who sympathizes with the struggling poor, and it is said that his encouragement of such worthy ones has many times gone far beyond kind words, and that more than one man looks gratefully back to the time when in Theophilus Roessle he found a friend indeed. Such men are blessings to the world, and their examples cannot but inspire the faint-hearted with courage, and make still braver the strong and resolute. No one begrudges success to such men, and their successes always bring added prosperity to all with whom they come in contact. Every step ahead that they make opens a way for the advancement of many who are less self-reliant and less far-seeing.

PUBLIC HALLS.

Albany is and always has been deficient in the number, capacity, and architecture of its public halls.

The old Academy of Music stood in South Pearl street, near Beaver. It was built in 1825, and used as a public hall and theatre. It was 116 feet deep, 60 feet wide, and 40 feet high. The auditorium consisted of a pit and three tiers of boxes, a portion of the upper tier being used as a gallery. The stage was 58 x 52 feet. Bad management on the part of the managers caused it to be closed in 1839, shortly after which it was sold to St. Paul's Episcopal Church. In 1862 it was again sold to Mr. Trimble, of New York, who opened it as a public theatre, under the name of Trimble's Opera House in 1863. It was destroyed by fire in 1868. The Leland Opera House sprung from its ashes.

Tweddle Hall was built in 1860, and destroyed by fire in 1881, since which the present Tweddle building was erected without a hall. During the years of its existence, Tweddle Hall was the favorite place for nearly all popular lectures, school anniversaries, and other large public gatherings in the city, whether of a social, literary, scientific, musical, political, or theatrical nature. Since the destruction of Tweddle Hall, Albany has had no hall ample and desirable for large assemblies.

Bleecker Hall, 529 Broadway, is the headquarters of the Burgesses Corps, and sometimes used for fairs and dancing parties.

Music Hall is now leased and occupied by Jacobs & Procter, although it once competed with Tweddle Hall for patronage of the same class. A Skating Rink on Lark street has lately been fitted up to aid in meeting the public demand for a larger hall. There are many halls of small size adapted to societies, clubs, social parties, and such like. The Female Academy and the High School have halls for their own convenience, rarely rented.

In earlier times the hotels had halls amply large for the public needs; and, for some purposes the halls of State and city building, and even the audience sittings of churches, were occupied by public assemblies.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

During the early history of Albany, from the granting of the charter in 1686 to 1851, the maintenance of order, the enforcement of the laws and ordinances of the Common Council had, in all ordinary cases, devolved upon the constables appointed by the Board of Aldermen. The charter of 1686 pre-

scribed that one high constable and three subordinate constables, one from each ward, should be yearly appointed. In 1737 the number was increased to two constables in each ward. Among their duties were the collection of taxes, the keeping of the pound, and at least one officer was required to be on duty on Sunday. For many years no regular salary was attached to this office, and the only pay received consisted of regulated fees. At what time they began to be salaried offices we are unable to learn. The first High Constable of whom we have record was Anthony Bries, appointed in 1696; immediately following him were William Hogan and Johannis Harmesen. Constables in the early part of this century began to be designated as Police Constables. In 1827, the duties of these officers had so increased that the Constables asked the Common Council for increased pay, since the duties required all their time.

In 1810, the Police Office so-called, was located at the corner of Steuben and Montgomery streets. In 1816 it was removed to the southwest corner of State and Pearl streets. It was afterward removed to the basement of the City Hall, where it remained until 1845, when it was ordered by the Common Council to be removed to Centre Market, the site of the present city building, the headquarters of the present Police Department. In 1851, the laws relating to the establishment of a police force in Albany were enacted, under which the system was organized practically similar to its existence to-day. It consisted of one Chief, four Captains, four Assistant-Captains, forty Policemen, four Doormen, and six Constables. John Morgan was made the first Chief of Police. During the first year of the existence of the new force, 1,067 arrests were made. The expense of running the department for 1852 was $27,000. Under the laws of 1851 the force was maintained until 1856, when it was reorganized.

The Police Department is now under the entire control of the Police Board, which consists of the Mayor, *ex officio*, President, and four Commissioners, two of each party, elected to serve four years. With the exception of the Commissioner, who serves as Secretary, for which he receives a yearly salary of five hundred dollars, they serve without pay.

The city is divided into five precincts, each of which is in charge of a Captain, two Sergeants, and one Roundsman. The First Precinct includes that part of the city south of Hamilton and east of Eagle street, extending to the river and south end of the city. Force, twenty-two Patrolmen; Station, No. 59 South Ferry street.

The Second Precinct line extends along the river from Hamilton to Quackenbush street, up Quackenbush and Clinton avenue to Lark, through Lark to Spruce, to Eagle, to Hamilton, to the river. Force, twenty Patrolmen; Station, City building. Here is also located the office of the Chief of Police.

The Third Precinct includes all of the city north of Clinton and east of Lexington avenues. Force, twenty-two Patrolmen; Station, 799 Broadway.

The Fourth Precinct line runs from Eagle through Spruce to Lark, thence to Clinton avenue, to Lexington Avenue, and along the south line of the city to Eagle. Force, twenty Patrolmen; Station, 153 Lancaster street.

The Fifth Precinct includes all that part of the city limits west of Lexington avenue. Force, twelve Patrolmen; Station, 284 Central avenue.

The entire police force of the city consists of the Chief, salary $2,500; five Captains, salaries $1,200; twelve Sergeants, salaries $1,000; ninety-one Patrolmen, salaries $900; five Detectives, with a Captain; five Station-House Keepers; four Police Court officers; one Property Clerk; one Police Surgeon; total, one hundred and twenty-six men. The annual expense of running the department is about $125,000. The number of arrests for 1884 was 4,893, of which 1,940 were for drunkenness; 753 for assaults in the third degree; 324 breaches of the peace; 231 for vagrancy.

In 1820, the duties of the Police Justices had become so much of a sinecure in the estimation of several of the magistrates, that they expressed their willingness to perform the duties without salary, and a resolution was offered in the Common Council to discontinue the payment of salary to that officer. But the resolution was lost by a vote of eleven to six. The Board then elected Philip Phelps and Teunis Slingerland, Police Magistrates. After this date John O. Cole,——Kane, Cicero Loveridge, Isaac N. Comstock, Sylvanus H. H. Parsons, John W. McNamara, William K. Clute, John C. Nott, Myer Nussbaum, and John Gutman have held the office of Police Justice. Mr. Clute has held it for many years so judiciously as to receive the confidence and support of all parties, and continues to so hold it.

John Morgan, Amos Adams, George B. Johnson, Campbell Allen (Superintendent of the Old Capitol Police), John Molloy, and Thomas H. Willard have held the office of Superintendent or Chief of Police.

The Captains and Sergeants have been too numerous to mention. Among the best known and popular we may name John Domery, Robert Davidson, Harmon Bowers, George W. Oliver, Michael E. Riley, George M. Hagadom, Frederick E. Bailey, Henry C. A. Sauer.

John Orton Cole, than whom no one so long or more worthily honored the post of Police Justice, was born in Sharon, Conn, October 5, 1793. His father, William Cole, served in the Revolutionary Army, and married Thankful Orton. While he was yet a mere lad, John O. Cole removed, with his parents, to the State of New York, and for a short time resided near the village of Catskill. He then removed to the town of Duanesburgh. At thirteen years of age young Cole came to Albany to learn the printer's trade in the office of Solomon Southwick. The simple routine of the printer did not satisfy the active energies of his mind, and, while working at his case, he employed much of his time in reading law. In 1818, after passing the required examination, he was admitted to the Bar.

February 22, 1821, he was appointed by Governor Clinton, Justice of the Justices' Court and Justice of the Peace. This office he held almost uninterruptedly for nearly fifty years. In connection with this he will be best remembered. Prior to 1846 the office was appointive, but when it became elective, he was nominated for his former position and elected. So remarkable was his fitness for the office; so faithfully did he administer justice; and so greatly did criminals fear him and just men respect him, that party lines were ignored, and he was elected many times without opposition. In June, 1870, Mr. Cole tendered his resignation as Police Magistrate to the Common Council, an office he had so long and so faithfully filled.

For many years Mr. Cole was prominently identified with the Public Schools of Albany as School Commissioner, as Member and President of the Board of Education, as Member and President of the Board of Public Instruction, and Superintendent of Public Schools. In all these positions he was regarded as a most painstaking official and a valued friend of public education and educators. The present High School owes its existence more to his exertions than to those of any one man.

At an early age Mr. Cole evinced an interest in military matters. During the War of 1812 he was a Sergeant in Captain Henry Snyder's Company. He was a member of the Albany Military Association, and a member of General Stephen Van Rensselaer's staff, with the rank of Major. It was in the latter capacity he accompanied General Lafayette during his tour through this State. He was one of the original members and the first Captain of the Albany Burgesses Corps, with which organization he remained until his death.

During the Civil War he held positions under Governor Morgan relating to organizing military companies, and was often consulted by the Governor in relation to military matters. In the Masonic order he was especially prominent, having been connected with it in Albany continuously from 1820.

In his religious life he evinced the same thorough earnestness that was shown in his official. In politics he was never a partisan.

In 1817 Mr. Cole was married to Eleanor H. Sharp, to whom four children were born. In 1830 Mrs. Cole died, and in 1831 he married Adelaide Dougherty, who still survives him. Thirteen children were born to this marriage, seven of whom are still living.

Mr. Cole died January 1, 1878, respected and esteemed as a useful citizen, whose long life had been spent in honorable deeds.

When the Capital Police Department was organized, Captain CAMPBELL ALLEN was appointed first Superintendent, and discharged the duties of his office for four years with great vigor and executive capacity.

Mr. Allen was born in Nelson, Madison County, N. Y., February 8, 1830, and had the Yankee blood of Ethan Allen, and the Scotch-Irish blood of Richard Montgomery in his veins. His eagerness for knowledge made him a constant student of the English, German and French languages and literature, in which he made himself a proficient scholar. He was very fond of the study of ethics, philology, psychology and geography, and was familiar with such writers as Herbert Spencer, John Stuart Mill, Hamilton, Kant, Voltaire and Humboldt. After teaching district schools, he taught in Cohoes, and afterwards ten years in the Albany Grammar Schools with marked success. In 1861 he enlisted in the Ellsworth Regiment, Forty-fourth N. Y. S. V.; was Captain of Company F; served four years, and was breveted Major for bravery and ability. During his term he served some time as Provost-Marshal of the Fifth Army Corps.

He was a useful citizen and a genial and faithful friend. His death from apoplexy was very sudden, occurring October 7, 1877.

Captain Francis E. Bailey was born in Coleraine, County of Antrim, Ireland, October 21, 1841. He came to America when he was six years old, and resided with his parents in St. John's, Philadelphia, New York City, and Toronto until the death of his mother in 1855. Until the War of 1861 he was engaged in various ventures on river schooners, on the Erie Canal, on the farm, and on voyages by sea. He enlisted in the U. S. naval service, in which he honorably and bravely served for his three-years' term of enlistment on the frigate Wabash, which went into action at Hatteras Inlet and Port Royal, and on the monitor Montauk, which was several times in hot fights in Charleston harbor. He returned to Albany and worked as a blacksmith until he was appointed Patrolman on the Capital Police Force in 1865, upon which he has served with uncompromising fidelity to law and order ever since. He has followed up many noted criminals, whose career had baffled detective skill, and arrested and brought them to justice. He has held the rank of Sergeant of Police during about ten years. His whole service has been honorable to himself and useful to the city.

Captain George W. Oliver was born in Bethlehem, Albany County, May 29, 1844. Enlisted in Forty-fourth N. Y. S. V., Ellsworth's Regiment, September, 1861, and served with great distinction as Corporal for three years in all the battles of the Army of the Potomac, including Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and Spottsylvania. At the latter place, when he saw the regimental color-bearer shot down and the flag in danger, he, with great promptness and daring, ran and seized it, and safely bore it aloft until the battle was over. He has served faithfully as Patrolman, Sergeant of Police and Captain in the Albany Police for twenty years past without a blot on his record.

The venerable Elisha Mack deserves special mention. We prefer that he speak for himself:

"Prof. TENNEY: I herewith reply to your kind request. I was born on the 7th of February, 1811, in Windsor, Berkshire County, Mass. In the spring of 1812 my parents removed to a village in the town of Watervliet, known as Washington. In 1816 we came to this city. On the 4th of March, 1819, my mother died, and I was sent to my paternal

grand-parents in the town of Middlefield, Hampshire County, Mass., where I lived about four years, when I returned to my father's house. I attended the following named schools in this city: the Lancaster, Miss Jenks', and Mr. Moulton's. When about sixteen years old, my father had a silver French watch stolen. A few days after the occurrence I saw two young men engaged in swapping watches. I approached toward one of the men, whom I at once accosted: 'I guess you can tell me where my father's watch is?' The watch had a picture on the dial, which I described. The stranger told me he had seen the watch. It was thereby recovered.

"In 1838 I was appointed a police officer. The police records kept by the Magistrates—Cole, Kane, Comstock, and Loveridge—will show that I have been of service by making important arrests. I ascertained the name and home of the Pye robber. In the spring of 1856 I was superseded as a police officer by John Maloy.

"An excellent opportunity shortly after occurred to test the detective qualifications of every member of the Police Force. Chief Morgan communicated to every officer that two remarkable forgeries had been perpetrated in this city—one for $4,000 on the Bank of Albany, and the other for $3,000 on the Bank of the Capitol. Some six weeks had elapsed and not the slightest clue had been obtained as to the forger or his ill-gained funds. I was sent for by the officers of the banks, at whose request I took the case in hand, confident of success. I soon obtained sufficient evidence to make it almost, if not quite, certain that one William Inglis, of Fordham, Westchester County, was the perpetrator of the forgeries. I returned and obtained a warrant for the arrest of Inglis, and, with the Teller of the Bank of Albany, went to Brooklyn, where the accused claimed to be doing business on a large scale in flour. The Chief of Police in that city was called upon and informed by me of the object of my visit. He scouted at the charge, and declared Inglis to be an honest man. He the same day found Inglis, and that the accused should not be disgraced, came hither with him and confronted the Teller of the Bank of the Capitol and assured him that William Inglis was an honest and religious man and a member of the Presbyterian Church at Fordham. The Teller declared that Inglis resembled the forger in every particular, and that he would have testified that he was the person who presented the forged checks, but, relying upon the declarations of the Brooklyn officer, he thought that he might probably be mistaken. Inglis was suffered to return to Brooklyn with his friend. The rascal obtained a summons and complaint against Justice Parsons for issuing the warrant for his arrest for the felony. He had declared damages to his 'good name' in the sum of $10,000. The Justice took the papers to the President of the Bank of the Capitol, who agreed to defend him. The President went to Fordham and called upon the Pastor of the Presbyterian Church of that place, who, in reply to inquiry of the President, assured him that Mr. Inglis was a consistent Christian and a prominent member of the church of which he was Pastor. On the return of the President of the bank he sent for me. On entering his room he commenced to accuse me of making a sad mistake, which would cost the bank $10,000. After the President had finished his vituperations, I said: 'I will not rest until I prove that William Inglis is the scoundrel who perpetrated the forgeries on the Banks of Albany and the Capitol.' After the lapse of a few months, I received letters purporting to be written by George Corning, which were identified by Mr. West, Surrogate of the City and County of New York, as the writing of William Inglis. The letters were shown to the once-alarmed President, who compared the writing with that of the forged checks, when he declared that the letters and checks were written by the same person.

"William Inglis was arrested at Louisville, Ky., for forgery, convicted, and sentenced to State Prison for ten years."

MAYORS OF ALBANY.

THE first Mayor of the City was appointed by Lieutenant-Governor Thomas Dongan, in the first Charter granted, under date of July 22, 1686. He was to be appointed in like manner, "upon the feast day of St. Michael the Archangel, yearly," and was made Commander of the Militia of the County, given the authority of Justice of the Peace, Coroner, Commissioner of Excise, and Clerk of the Market. Twenty-six Mayors were thus appointed under the Colonial Government down to 1770, among which were five Schuylers, three Bleeckers and three Cuylers. Peter Schuyler and Edward Holland each held the office eight years.

After the Declaration of Independence, the Mayors were first appointed by the Governor of the State, subject to approval, and afterwards chosen by the Common Council of the city until 1839.

In 1840, and ever since, the Mayors have been chosen by the people. Other peculiarities of mayoralty elections are mentioned under the sketches of the Mayors, which are made as complete and accurate as our space and sources of information, gathered with much research and inquiry, permit.

In two hundred years, fifty-four different men, not including acting Mayors, have served in this office.

The first Mayor of the City of Albany was PETER SCHUYLER, who was appointed July 22, 1686, in the first charter of the city, called the Dongan Charter, and held the office until 1694. He was the second son and fourth child of the first immigrant of the name, Philip Pietersen and Margaret (Van Slechtenhorst) Schuyler, and was born September 17, 1657. He was buried February 22, 1724. He was a brave officer of remarkable organizing power, commanding the County Militia as Major, and afterwards as Colonel, during King William's War and subsequently. He was active and firm in his opposition to the rule of Liesler, looking upon him as a usurper. He was a member of the Provincial Assembly, and, by virtue of his office, held the position of Vice-Governor very acceptably.

His influence over the Indians was very great. For some years he was Indian Commissioner. In this capacity he went to England in 1710, taking several Indians with him, who excited great interest in London. He had a home at the "Flats," and another in the city on Broadway, just below State, and was buried on the west side of the same street, near Hamilton. His father married Margaret Van Schlechtenhorst, daughter of the plucky first Director of Rensselaerwyck, December 22, 1650, when she was twenty-two years old. He died March 9, 1684.

JOHN ABEEL, second Mayor, was appointed by Governor Fletcher for one year, from October 14, 1694, and served another term in 1709–10. He was Alderman and Justice before he was Mayor, and also Sheriff of the county. He is named as Recorder in 1702. He was a merchant in New York in 1796, but returned to Albany two years later. He married Catalina Schuyler, April 10, 1694, and had several children. A few years since his tombstone was dug up near the Old Second Dutch Church in Beaver street, on which was the following inscription:

"Here lies the body of John Abeel, who departed this life ye 28th day of January, 1711, in the 44 year of his age.

"Dieut begin von wel to leven
Ging der weer den Hemel waert
Uyt den Hemel was gegoven
Storf maar verliet de Aert."

EVERT BANCKER, born January 24, 1665, was the son of Gerrit Bancker and Elizabeth Dirkse, daughter of Dirk Van Eps, one of the first settlers of Schenectady. He was a merchant of prominence in Beverwyck, and held several important offices. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Stoffel James Abeel, September 24, 1686, by whom he had a large family. His sons, Christopher, Adrian and Gerardus, settled in New York, and Willem and Johannes in Albany County, as farmers. In 1692, Bancker was Justice of Peace, and Mayor of Albany 1695–96, 1707–9. He was appointed Indian Commissioner August 10, 1696, and again in 1706, 1710, 1720, 1724, 1726 and 1728. He was elected to a seat in the Assembly in 1702. Mr. Bancker was appointed Master in Chancery October 13, 1705. He lived in the house next to his father's, on Yoncker, now State street, but retired to his farm in Guilderland during the latter part of his life.

Mr. Bancker was buried July 10, 1734, his wife's burial having occurred on March 20th of the same year. He made his will March 13, 1734, and it was proved July 31, 1734. In it he gives to his son, Johannes, £50, "provided he continues to live with me till my decease, or till I dispose of my farm where I now live." He left a large estate, much of it invested in lands.

DIRCK WESSELS was Mayor 1696-98. He was also the first Recorder under the Charter of 1686. His real name is given as Dirk Wesselse Ten Broeck. Born 1642; a servant of Peter Van Allen, of Beverwyck, in 1662; became a succesful trader, exporting some years 5,000 beaver skins. He was active in public affairs in Albany, especially in those relating to the Indians. He held rank as Major in the militia of the county in 1691. He married Christina Cornelise Van Buren, by whom he had thirteen children. He resided on a lot purchased of the Anneke Jans heirs, east corner of State and James street. The following notice of his death is taken from an old family Bible:

"1717, Den 13 Sept. in Roeloff Jansen's kil is myn fader Dirk Wesselse in den Heere genest op syn bouwery op Roeloff Jansen's Kil. De Heere geve hem een zalige opstandinge."

HENDRICK HANSEN held the office of Mayor in 1698–99. He was the eldest son of Captain Hans Hendrickse, who was one of the early traders in Beverwyck, and whose descendants took the surname of Hansen. Nicholas, the last male of the name, died in 1869. Hendrick was active in public affairs, having held office as Alderman, Commissioner of Indian affairs, and Assemblyman. Complaint of him was made in 1669 for having charged the public for "good fyrewood," when he furnished only "young green pine." He was a merchant. September 21, 1692, he married Deborah Van Dam and had seven children. He was buried in the church February 19, 1724.

PETER VAN BRUGH, son of Johannes Pieterse Verbrugge, a leading Holland trader, was born July 14, 1666. His mother was a daughter of the celebrated Anneke Jans. His sister Catrina married Hendrick Van Rensselaer, of Greenbush, ancestor of most of the leading members of the Van Rensselaer family. He held the office of Mayor in 1799 and 1700, and the years 1721–23. He was sworn in and took the oaths prescribed by Parliament at his appointment, November 9, 1720. He married in New York, November 2, 1688, Sara, daughter of Hendrick Anna Cuyler, of Albany. They had one daughter, Catharine. His house was on the south side of State street, west of Pearl. In military matters he ranked as Captain. He was buried in the church, July 20, 1740.

JAN JANSE BLEECKER was Mayor in 1700–1. He emigrated from Messpel, province of Overyssel, in 1658; first as a blacksmith and afterwards as a trader. He was born in 1641, and died November 21, 1742, and was buried in the church. He was Recorder 1696–99; Justice of the Peace in 1697; and Member of Parliament in the Provincial

Assembly 1698–1700. He married Margaret Rutse, daughter of Rutger Jacobsen Van Schoendenwoert, January 2, 1667, and had nine children.

JOHANNES BLEECKER, Jr., Mayor in 1701–2; was born in 1668. In 1686 he was carried captive to Canada and returned the next year. He served as Indian interpreter; was Recorder in 1700; Member of General Assembly 1701–2. He married Anna, daughter of Hendrick Coster, October 29, 1793, and had nine children. His death occurred December 20, 1738; he was buried in the church. His house lot was on the northwest corner of North Pearl and Maiden lane, running through to Chapel.

ALBERT RYCKMAN, Mayor in 1702–3, is called by the military title of Captain. He was a brewer, and had his brewery on or near the southeast corner of Hudson avenue and Broadway. He married Neeltie Quackenbos and had twelve children. He was born before 1663 and was buried January 12, 1737.

JOHANNES SCHUYLER, Mayor 1703–6, son of Philip Peter Schuyler and brother of Peter, the first Mayor, was born April 5, 1668. Attached to General Winthrop's army in 1691 was this John Schuyler, then holding a Captain's commission, a man of great bravery and energy of character, and of considerable experience in border warfare. Schuyler was dissatisfied with the decision of the Council of War relinquishing the Canada expedition, which he considered weak and cowardly, and declared that the campaign should not be abandoned so easily. Beating up for volunteers, he soon gathered around him a little band of twenty-nine followers, each as bold and daring as himself. To these he added one hundred and twenty Indians, and loading a number of canoes with provisions, proceeded on the 13th of August, 1791, as far probably as Whitehall, where he encamped for the night. Embarking the next day, he reached a point near Chembly on the 21st. On the 23d he intercepted the enemy coming out of the fort at La Prarie, killed six and took nineteen prisoners. He also killed one hundred and fifty cattle, and prudently hastened his retreat. On the 31st of August he reached Albany in safety with his prisoners. This was at the beginning of King William's War, and records the kind of man he was. In 1698 he was sent by the Earl of Bellomont, the newly arrived Governor of the Province, in company with the Rev. Mr. Dellius, to Canada, to convey the account of the Peace of Ryswick and to solicit a mutual interchange of prisoners. He was Alderman for several years, and was among those who took the oath of allegiance in 1699. He was an Indian Commisioner, and in 1705 was chosen to the Colonial Assembly. He married Elizabeth Staats, widow of John Wendell, April 25, 1695. They were the parents of Margarita, "the American Lady," born January 12, 1701, who married her cousin, Colonel Philip Schuyler, and became a widow on his death in 1745. Captain Schuyler had his city home at the corner of State and Pearl streets, where he died July 25, 1727.

DAVID SCHUYLER, 1706–7, was one of the five sons of David Schuyler, brother of Philip Pieterse, who came from Amsterdam. The two brothers were the first of the name in America. David married Catalyn Verplanck, of New Amsterdam, October 13, 1667. His widow was living in 1692, on the south corner of Broadway and Steuben street. He had five sons, Pieter, Jacobus, Abraham, David and Myndert, and perhaps daughters. Mayor David married Elsie, daughter of Herman Rutgers, January 1, 1694, and after her death Elizabeth Marschalk, in New York, May 3, 1719. He had six children by his first wife and one by the last. He held the office of Alderman, Justice, and Commissioner, besides that of Mayor.

ROBERT LIVINGSTON was Mayor 1710–19. He was the first settler bearing this name in the province, from whom descended many eminent men, among whom may be named Philip, signer of the Declaration of Independence, Chancellor Robert R., William, Edward, and others. The family is of Scotch descent and was always on the side of learning and good government. All were in the patriot cause during the Revolution. Robert was Secretary of Albany, about the same as City Clerk, from 1675 to 1721, nearly fifty years. He was also Indian Commissioner, and executed other and special trusts with great judgment. He married Alida Schuyler, widow of Rev. Nicholas Van Rensselaer, and had seven children. His house lot was on the northwest corner of State and North Pearl streets, where Tweddle Hall now stands. He died April 20, 1725, and was buried in the church. Robert, Jr., his nephew, was his successor as Secretary.

MYNDERT SCHUYLER, Mayor 1719–21, and 1723–25, was son of David Pieterse Schuyler, one of the Schuyler brothers who early settled in Beverwyck, by his wife, Catalyn Verplanck, daughter of Abraham Isaacse Verplanck and Maria Vigne. His birth is thus recorded in his father's Bible:

"1672 Anno. } 16 January. Soo is Gebooren, Myn Soon Myndert Schuyler."

Colonel Myndert Schuyler was a merchant. In 1703, and for the greater part of his life, he resided on the south side of Yoncker street (now State), the third house east from South Pearl street. He married in New Amsterdam, October 26, 1693, Rachel Cuyler, daughter of Hendrick Cuyler.

Colonel Schuyler was a prominent citizen in 1700. In the following year he, together with Dirk Wessels and John Abeel, was returned to the Assembly. A new election was ordered and He was again returned to the Assembly October 20, 1702. He continued to be returned at each succeeding election until 1710. In 1706 he was one of the "Church Masters" of the old Dutch Church; 1707–9 he was one of the Aldermen from the First Ward. On the organization of the expeditions in 1709 and 1711 for the reduction of Canada, he was appointed one of the Commissioners for promoting them and for victualling the troops. On the occasion of peace, in 1712, he carried the news to Canada. In 1713 he was again elected to the Assembly and sat there till 1715. In 1718 he was re-chosen Alderman, and re-elected in September 1719. During his mayor-

alty in 1720, he was sent to the Seneca country, and succeeding in dissuading the Five Nations from going to war against the far Indians. On the death of Hendrick Hanson, in 1724, Lieutenant-Colonel Schuyler was again sent to the Assembly; was re-chosen in July, 1728, and sat until 1737. In addition to the several offices mentioned, he held the office of Commissioner for Indian affairs from 1706 to 1720, and from 1728 to 1746, when the Board was abolished, and Colonel William Johnson was appointed Commissary. Johnson becoming dissatisfied, the Board was revised and Schuyler was reappointed Commissioner, and served as such until 1755. Colonel Schuyler had two daughters, Rachel, who died in youth, and Anna, who married Johannes de Peyster, Mayor and Surrogate of Albany, grandson of Johannes de Peyster, the first of the name in America, November 24, 1715, who died September 13, 1750.

Colonel Schuyler's death is thus recorded in the Bible of his son-in-law, Johannes de Peyster.

"1755, den 10 October, 15 minuten na 8 in de avoud Is Groot Vader, Myndert Schuyler, in de Heer outslapen na dat hy 10 dagen Sieck, gewees is en is den 21 te 4 Uren na te middag in de Kerk Begreren, hy was ont 84 Jaren 8 maenda and 4 dayen toen hy stieif."

His wife was buried in the church, July 24, 1747. His will, dated March 7, 1739, proved July 24, 1756, gave his "Groot hipvrouw Rajel" the possession, rents, and profits of his whole estate during her life.

Colonel Schuyler was largely interested in real estate, and had amassed, for those days, a large fortune. His position brought him in contact with a variety of persons, and he was looked up to and revered by rich and poor. He was generous to a fault, and many a little Dutch urchin had cause to bless the Heer Schuyler on Saint Nicholas' day.

Johannes Cuyler, Mayor 1725–26, was a son of Hendrick Cuyler, who came to Albany as a tailor in 1637. Johannes, his eldest son, was born in 1641. In 1696 he was a freeman in New York City, by occupation a trader. He married Elsie Ten Broeck November 2, 1684, and had twelve children. His house lot was the second south of Steuben on North Pearl street, extending to James.

Rutger Bleecker, Mayor 1726–29, was Recorder in 1725; married Cataligna, daughter of David I. Schuyler, and widow of John Abeel, May 26, 1712, and had four children. He was buried in the church, August 5, 1756. In 1720 he had a lot, probably on the northwest corner of North Pearl and Steuben streets.

Johannes de Peyster, Mayor 1729–31, 1732–33, and 1741–42, son of Johannes de Peyster, Mayor of New York, a prominent member of the Provincial Legislature, grandson of Johannes de Peyster, Schepen, Alderman, Burgomaster, and Deputy Mayor of New York; one of its wealthiest, most influential and patriotic citizens, and the founder of the family in America; a Huguenot of the Huguenots; was born January 10, 1695, in New Amsterdam. His mother was Anna Bancker, eldest daughter of Gerrit Bancker and Elizabeth Dircks; her brother, Evert Bancker, was Mayor of Albany.

Mr. De Peyster married, November 24, 1715, Anna, daughter of Colonel Myndert Schuyler and Rachel Cuyler. The ceremony was performed by old Dominie Van Driessen at Albany. The issue of the marriage was seven sons and two daughters. Six of the sons died shortly after birth, and the remaining one only grew to opening manhood. One of his daughters, Anna, married Volckert P. Douw, Mayor of Albany; and the other, Rachel, married Tobias Ten Eyck, of Schenectady.

Mr. de Peyster died February 26, 1789, his wife having deceased September 13, 1750. His death is thus recorded in the Bible of his son-in-law, Volckert P. Douw:

"I. D. P. { February 26, 1789. } Is Juden heer ont slapen Vader John de Peyster, omtrent te twalief uren, Jn de naeght en Begrose Inde Kerk ten nor, on Waechey syn plaes Inde Kutr hawt ont syn de Dorn, haef Steuf 95 year senmant en Swe dage."

His will dated May 14, 1788, proved before Abraham G. Lansing, surrogate, May 27, 28, 1789, gives to his descendants a goodly estate.

He was Recorder 1716–28. In 1734 he became one of the Commissioners of Indian affairs. He was subsequently a contractor with the Government to supply Oswego and other outports with stores. He was reappointed Indian Commissioner December 5, 1739, and again in 1742. Mr. de Peyster was the first Surrogate of Albany Co., having been elected to that office April 3, 1756. He was re-elected March 23, 1778, holding the office till 1782. In 1744 he is spoken of as a Member of the Assembly and a Commissioner of Indian Affairs. In 1750 he was in the Committee for repairing the Fort in Albany. In 1751 Mr. de Peyster was on a Committee for the Collection of duties on goods carried to Oswego. In 1753 he was Commissioner for constructing barracks for soldiers, and repairs to Fort Orange. In 1754 he held the office of Officer and Inspector of Ordnance. Mr. de Peyster was, in 1755, one of the two Commissioners for carrying on an expedition against Crown Point, and also a Commissioner for paying the forces in the expedition in which Johnson defeated Dieskan.

Hans Hansen, Mayor, 1731–32, took his official oath October 14th. He also held the same office 1754 to 1756. He is reputed as a successful trader. He married Sarah Cuyler, April 25, 1723, and had nine children. He was buried December 6, 1756.

Edward Holland, Mayor from October 24, 1733 to 1740, was the first man of English descent who held that office. He was son of Captain Henry and Jenny Seely Holland, who was in command of the garrison at Albany in 1732, when he was incapacitated "by the Providence of Almighty God." Edward was baptized September 6, 1702. His first wife, Magdalena, was buried in the English Church in 1737; his second wife was Frances,

daughter of William Nicolls, by whom he had two daughters.

JOHN SCHUYLER, Jr., Mayor 1740 to 1741, took the oath of office October 31st. He was the second son of the late Mayor John Schuyler and Elizabeth Staats, his wife. He was born October 31, 1697. He had nine children, one of whom was the eminent Major-General Philip Schuyler, of revolutionary times. He died November 7, 1746. As there were several Schuylers near this date bearing the name of John, and the records are not very clear, we have given what seemed to us most probably correct. But little is known of him.

CORNELIUS CUYLER, Mayor from 1742 to 1746, took his first oath of office October 14, 1742. He had a house on south side of Steuben, fourth west from Chapel; married Catharina Schuyler, December 9, 1726, and had nine children, one of whom was Colonel Abraham Cuyler, born April 11, 1742, and Mayor of Albany in revolutionary times.

DIRCK TEN BROECK, Mayor 1746 to 1748, married Margarita Cuyler November 26, 1714, and had twelve children. He was buried in the church, January 7, 1751.

JACOB C. TEN-EYCK, Mayor 1748–50, married Catharina, daughter of Abraham Cuyler, August 1, 1736, and had four children. He was one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, and lived a long and useful life. He died September 9, 1793, aged 88 years.

ROBERT SANDERS, Mayor, 1750–54, qualified by oath, October 15, 1750, was a prominent merchant. He married, first, Maria Lansing, December 6, 1740, and second, Elisabeth Schuyler, January 11, 1747, by the first of whom he had one child, and by the second, nine children. His will is dated May 7, 1765, and was proved June 6, 1765.

SYBRANT G. VAN SCHAICK, Mayor 1756–61, son of Goosen and Catharina Staats Van Schaick, was born December 19, 1708. He married Alida Roseboom December 11, 1735, and had eight children. He was prosecuted at law by his successor in office to recover the proceeds of sale of "Freedoms" and excise licenses during his term, which was settled in 1763 by the payment of £150.

VOLKERT PETER DOUW, Mayor from September 29, 1761, to September 10, 1770, was one of the nine children of Petrus Douw and Anna Van Rensselaer (daughter of Hendrick). He was born at Wolvenhoeck, in Greenbush, March 23, 1720, and married Anna, daughter of John De Peyster and Anna Schuyler, May 20, 1742, and had ten children. His son, General John De P. Douw, was a distinguished citizen, who died at his residence in State street, February 26, 1835. Mr. Douw was Mayor of the city in trying times, but proved himself equal to the occasion. From October 2, 1759, to January 10, 1770, he was, by royal appointment, presiding Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. Regardless of personal considerations, he took a decided stand in the cause of the colonists in opposition to royalty. For this reason General Dunmore refused to reappoint him to office. He was Recorder of the City from 1750 to 1760; member of the Provincial Assembly in 1757–59. He was also a member of the important Indian Commission. May 4, 1775, he became an active member of the Committee of Safety, and in 1779 was appointed Commissary of the Northern Army. In 1775 he was a member of the First Provincial Congress and its Vice-President. After the organization of the State Government he was made First Judge of the County Court, which office he held until his resignation, March 26, 1781. From 1786 to 1793 he was a State Senator. In the battle of Lunenburg, in 1780, he was a Captain. He was a famous horseman and kept a stable of thoroughbred horses. He lived in great style for those days, never keeping less than twenty slaves. He was 6 feet 2 inches in hight, straight as an arrow, and very fine looking. Judge Douw died March 20, 1801, and his wife June 14, 1794, and were both buried at Wolvenhoeck. His will, dated July, 1794, was proved May 4, 1801. In civil and domestic relations he was esteemed a pattern, and no man in Albany died more regretted.

ABRAHAM C. CUYLER, Mayor 1770 to 1778, was the last of the mayors by Royal Commission. A son of Cornelius Cuyler and Catharina Schuyler, he was born April 11, 1742. He married Jannetse Glen, April 10, 1764, and had five children. He held the military rank of Colonel. He was lukewarm from the first toward the patriot cause, and finally becoming an avowed Loyalist, he went to Canada, and died in Yorkville, February 5, 1810.

JOHN BARCLAY, Mayor, 1778–79, received his appointment from the State government, and was the first Chief Magistrate of the city holding office under State authority, after the reinstatement of the City Council by law, April 17, 1778.

The City and County Committee of Correspondence and Safety was organized in the latter part of 1774, and Mr. Barclay was made its first President. When there was no State nor City Government, this Committee had great responsibility and exercised great power. All over the territory north and west of Ulster and Dutchess, it exercised the legislative and executive functions of civil government for about three years. In pure, zealous, self-sacrificing patriotism and good judgment, there could have been no better man. His office terminated with his death, early in 1779.

ABRAHAM TEN BROECK, Mayor September 1779–83, and September 29, 1796–99, son of a former Mayor Dirck Ten Broeck and Margarita Schuyler, was born May 19, 1734. Married Elisabeth Van Rensselaer in 1753, by whom he had five children, and died January 19, 1810. He was a merchant, but was early called into public life. From 1760 to 1765 he was a member of the Colonial Assembly, where he always threw his influence and his vote with the minority in favor of popular rights. In 1775 he was a member of the Provincial Congress; and in 1776 was a delegate to the State Convention, of which he was made President. Early in the revolutionary contest he was made Colonel of Militia, and, soon after, Brigadier-General of all the Militia in Dutchess and Ulster Counties, and all north and west of those counties. His services were rendered with zeal and

ability, especially in the campaign that ended with the surrender of Burgoyne. After the war closed, he was called to civil service. He served from 1780 to 1783 as a member of the State Senate, Mayor of the City as above, and, from 1781 to 1794, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He was a Director and President of the Albany Bank. In all public positions he made himself a record of high ability, unquestioned patriotism, and stainless integrity. In private life his virtues showed him a tried moralist and a true gentleman; in politics he was a Federalist; in religion he was a devout and consistent member of the Dutch Reformed Church. Such a man deserves the grateful recollection of this city. His home was for many years on Ten Broeck street, near Third, in the house afterward bought and occupied hy the late Thomas W. Olcott. His funeral was attended by a large concourse of citizens and with military honors. No descendants are known in Albany. It is believed that the first of the jamily who came to America bore the name of Wessels von Ten Broeck.

JOHN JACOB BEEKMAN, Mayor June 27, 1783–86, was the first who held that office after the close of the Revolution. He married Maria Sanders and had six children. His death occurred December 17, 1802.

JOHN LANSING, Jr., Mayor September 29, 1786–90. Married Cornelia Ray, April 8, 1781, by whom he had ten children. In 1805 he lived on the north corner of Broadway and Steuben street. He was one of the delegates to the convention that framed the United States Constitution in 1787, but declined to support the adoption of that instrument. In 1788 he was a member of the Constitutional Convention of New York State, and for many years was Chancellor of the State. Visiting New York City on business, he suddenly disappeared as he was about to take a steamer to return to Albany, December 12, 1829, and was never heard of afterwards. Conjecture had it that he was waylaid, robbed, and murdered. Others think he was accidentally drowned while attempting to get on board the steamer.

ABRAHAM YATES, Jr., Mayor September 29, 1790–96, son of Christoffel Yates and Catalyntje Winne, was born August 23, 1724, and died June 30, 1796. He was a noble patriot, prominently identified with the revolutionary history; a member of the Committee of Safety; President of the Provincial Congress of New York, 1775–76; Receiver of the city in 1778–79; and a trusted leader in most of the activities of the city and county during his time.

PHILIP S. VAN RENSSELAER, appointed December 27, 1798, and held office from January 1, 1799, to 1816; reappointed July 3, 1819, and held the office two years, making in all nineteen years, the longest in service of any Mayor of the city. He was son of Stephen and Catharine (Livingston) Van Rensselaer; born April 15, 1766, and died September 25, 1824. He was younger brother of General Stephen Van Rensselaer, and grandson of Philip Livingston, the Albany signer of the Declaration of Independence. He married Ann Van Cortlandt, who died January 10, 1855. His residence was on State street, where now resides Mr. Erastus Corning. He was a public-spirited citizen, and particularly active in promoting the educational, moral, and business interests of the city.

ELISHA JENKINS, Mayor July 8, 1816 to 1819, was born in Hudson, a son of Thomas Jenkins, from Connecticut, one of the original proprietors of that city. He was on the staff of Governor Clinton, with rank of Colonel; Member of Assembly; State Senator; Secretary of State, 1806–9; Comptroller, 1801 to 1806; and Regent of the University. He was Quartermaster-General of the Northern Department in the War of 1812. He was liberally educated, but attained his wealth in a mercantile life in his native city. Came to Albany about 1801, and was a man of great activity in public matters, in which he was distinguished for amenity of manners, strict integrity, good sense, and thorough business habits. He was a man of fine personal appearance and splendid manners. He was twice married, but left no children. He died in 1851 in New York City, aged about eighty years.

CHARLES E. DUDLEY, Mayor February 14, 1821, to March 10, 1824, and from May 29, 1828, to January 19, 1829. Came from England to Rhode Island with his father, who was the King's Collector of the Customs in that State at the beginning of the Revolution. He was educated at Newport; came to Albany in 1819; engaged in mercantile pursuits, making some voyages to India to promote his business interests. He was a public-spirited citizen, acting his part in the Canal and most of the other improvements of the day. He was a State Senator, 1823–25, and United States Senator, 1829–31. He married Blandina, daughter of Rutger Bleecker, who was born October 1, 1783, and died March 6, 1863. She inherited great wealth from her father, who bought confiscated estates after the Revolutionary War, and realized great profit therefrom. She did much good with her wealth; among others founding Dudley Observatory, which is named in her honor. Mr. Dudley died January 23, 1841, aged sixty years.

AMBROSE SPENCER, Mayor March 10, 1824, to 1826, was born in Salisbury, Conn., December 13, 1765; died in Lyons, N. Y., March 13, 1848; graduated at Harvard, 1783; LL.D., Harvard, 1821. About 1785 he entered upon the practice of law in Hudson, N. Y., and was called almost at once to an important office in that city and in the State Legislature. In 1802–4 he was Attorney-General, and began to reside in Albany, which was his home until 1839, He became Justice of the Supreme Court in 1804, and Chief Justice 1819–23. He was a member of the New York Constitutional Convention, 1821; Member of Congress, 1829–31. In the city he held many important offices, including that of Mayor. The Common Council held a meeting January 1, 1824, and declared the office of Mayor vacant, and proceeded to the election of a new incumbent. Mr. Dudley presided and voted for himself, thus making a tie of 11 to 11 and defeating the intended removal. February 9th, the Council again met and balloted for Mayor ten times, giving at each ballot

11 votes to John N. Quackenbush and 11 to Ambrose Spencer. Finally, on the second ballot, taken March 8th, Ambrose Spencer was elected Mayor by 11 votes against 10 for John Lansing, Jr., and 1 blank. At the election at the expiration of his term, January, 1825, Judge Spencer was unanimously re-elected for one year, at the end of which time he declined another re-election. He was truly a great and good man, one of the shining lights of his time. His legal decisions stand to-day among the highest in authority. In political councils he had great weight. At the same time, like all truly great men, he was simple-hearted, easily approachable by all who needed sympathy and comfort, and as just and inflexible as old Cato.

James Stevenson, Mayor February 14, 1826 to 1828. Under date of May 23, 1828, the city papers of the time say: "James Stevenson, who had held the office of Mayor for two and a half years, with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the people, sent in his resignation, alleging pressure of private business." Mr. Dudley was elected to fill the unexpired term. Mr. Stevenson was an active, prosperous, and public-spirited citizen. He was born in Albany, was liberally educated, studied law; but having wealth, and a zeal in public affairs, he gave attention to useful public interests with practical good sense and unobtrusive modesty. He was a high-toned, old school, polished gentleman, sauve in manner, and very popular. He died July 3, 1852, aged sixty-five years.

John Townsend, Mayor, February 9, 1829 to 1831, and February 14, 1832 to 1833. Mr. Townsend succeeded Mr. Dudley, who resigned to take his place as United States Senator, to which he was elected as successor of Van Buren, January 15th. The Common Council balloted twice, February 2d, giving Francis Bloodgood and John Townsend each ten votes. Bloodgood withdrew, and a week later Townsend was elected by eighteen votes.

Isaiah and John Townsend were brothers, and for many years partners in business, and distinguished among the prominent manufacturers not only of Albany alone, but of the State. They were both born at Sterling Iron Works, in Sterling, Orange County; the former, April 5, 1777, the latter, June 14, 1783. Isaiah came to Albany in 1799, first as partner in the firm of Stewart & Townsend, and soon after alone, engaged in the iron trade. John came to Albany in 1802, and in 1804 the firm of J. & I. Townsend was formed and continued until the death of Isaiah in February, 1838. During its continuance nothing but the most intimate and kindly relations existed between them. Says a writer: "As merchants, the house of I. & J. Townsend ever enjoyed an enviable reputation for solidity and fair dealing. The brothers, like those beautiful creations in Dickens, ever lived with their large families in close affection, under adjoining roofs, from a common purse and almost from a common table." The business of the house was the purchase and sale of merchantable iron of all descriptions, both foreign and domestic; also, cut rails. Its surplus earnings were invested in various industries, such as the Troy Nail and Iron Factory, a furnace and machine-shop in Albany, a cotton mill at Cornwall, Orange County, a line of passenger boats on the Hudson, a flour mill at Greenbush, and largely in real estate in Albany, Syracuse, and the States of Michigan, Ohio, and Illinois. In Syracuse, then "a sickly morass" a company was formed in 1824, comprising William James, I. & J. Townsend, and James McBride, which immediately set about developing the great salt interests there, and initiated and carried on other improvements which have led to the growth of that beautiful city.

Isaiah Townsend was exceedingly averse to public office, often quoting that "private life is the post of honor," a maxim which he fully illustrated in every relation as husband, father, business man, and citizen. His second wife, Hannah, daughter of Solomon Townsend, an eminent New York merchant, a lady of great worth, died in 1854. She was the mother of five sons and two daughters, all of whom attained adult age, and names known and honored in their native city, viz.: Isaiah, graduate of Union, now of Cornwall; Annie, wife of Henry H. Martin; Captain Robert, of United States steamer Wauchusett, who did gallant service in the Rebellion, and died in 1866; General Franklin, who has held many distinguished trusts in business, in the city, and in the State; Dr. Howard, a man of high position and a Professor in the Albany Medical College; General Frederick, who did eminent service in the War of the Rebellion, has been Adjutant-General for seven years, has done much to reform the State National Guard, and was Presidential elector in 1882; Mary, who married W. H. T. Walker, of the regular army, residing near Augusta, Ga.

John Townsend was linked with his brother during his life in all public as well as business enterprises. They were among the advisers of De Witt Clinton in the Erie Canal project. In 1811 they were the first in starting the Albany Insurance Company, which, during its long and prosperous existence of more than seventy years has always had some of their descendants on its Board of Directors, usually as President or Vice-President. John Townsend was one of the incorporators and Vice-President of the Albany Savings Bank, founded in 1820, and President from 1840 to 1854. His son Theodore has been a Trustee and is now its Treasurer. Mr. Townsend was one of the Directors of the Commercial Bank, founded in 1825, and soon after elected its President, which office he held until his death. He was also President of the Albany Exchange Company, of the Water Commission, and several other local organizations. Henry Burden whose name is perpetuated in the large Iron-works at Troy, commenced his successful career under the Townsends; and the first cast-iron plow-shares were made in the foundry, which was the first north of the Highlands. Mr. Townsend, last year as Mayor, 1832, was called the cholera year, during which his labors were vastly increased, and his good name made dearer to his fellow citizens. He married, in 1810, Abby,

daughter of Chief-Justice Ambrose Spencer, a lady of great refinement and benevolence. She was the mother of his thirteen children, four of whom died in infancy. Laura, the eldest, was the wife of John S. Walsh; Ambrose died many years ago. There are now living: Mrs. Allen Monroe, of Syracuse; Mrs. Joel R. Reed, and Mrs. Charles R. Lansing, of Albany; Rev. John Townsend, of Middleton, Ct.; and Theodore Townsend, a well-known and esteemed business man of this city.

Mr. John Townsend died August 26, 1854.

Francis Bloodgood, Mayor 1831–34, was a son of Abraham and Elizabeth (Van Valkenburgh) Bloodgood, and great-grandson of Francis Bloetgoet, of Flushing, L. I., born June 12, 1775. His father was a merchant interested in the early West India trade. He is mentioned as having made a successful venture as early as November 3, 1770, as consignee of Albany merchants. Francis graduated at Yale; was a lawyer; once Clerk of the Supreme Court; Director and President of the State Bank; and President of the Albany Insurance Company. He died March 5, 1840; his wife, Anna, died in Philadelphia, March 5, 1865. Major William Bloodgood was his son, whose son, Captain Edward, of the regular army, died at Fort Larned, July 31, 1867. His daughter, Mrs. Nathaniel H. Hall, died at Plattsburgh, January 19, 1865. Mr. Bloodgood was distinguished for the excellence of his temper and the integrity of his character.

Erastus Corning, Mayor 1834–37, was born in Norwich, Conn., December 14, 1794; came to Albany in 1814, and died April 8, 1872, after a long and honorable career as a merchant, banker, public officer, and benefactor; interesting himself in every enterprise that promoted the wealth, morals, and intelligence of the city. An extended biography appears in another part of this work.

Teunis Van Vechten, Mayor 1837–39 and 1841–42, grandson of Teunis and Judith (Ten Broeck) Van Vechten, and son of Teunis and Elizabeth (De Wandelaer) Van Vechten, was born November 4, 1785, and died February 4, 1859. In 1805, his father was a merchant on the west corner of Broadway and Maiden lane. He was, in 1807, admitted to the Bar as a lawyer, and was for many years counsel for the Old Patroon and his son, Stephen. He succeeded to the practice of his uncle, Hon. Abraham Van Vechten, one of the most able lawyers and valued citizens that Albany ever had, who was born in Catskill December 5, 1762; married Catharina Schuyler, May 20, 1784; had thirteen children; and died January 6, 1837. Teunis was for many years a Director and President of the Albany Insurance Company, and was more than once an Alderman. He married Catharina Cuyler, who died March 24, 1853, aged 64 years. One of his daughters married Hon. Elisha P. Hurlbut. A eulogy upon his character is given in a printed sermon by his pastor, Rev. E. P. Rogers.

Jared L. Rathbone, Mayor 1839–41. Mr. Rathbone was elected Mayor January 21, 1839, to complete the unexpired term made by the resignation of Mr. Van Vechten, and was re-elected December 20th for the year 1840. He was the first mayor elected by popular vote. Previous to this the mayors were elected by the Common Council after the days of appointment by the Governor came to an end.

He was Trustee and President of the Albany Medical College, and held many other offices connected with the educational, benevolent, and industrial interests of the city. He was of Connecticut parentage. Died in 1845.

Barent P. Staats, Mayor 1842–43, was a member of one of the oldest Holland families in this State. Was born in Rensselaer County in 1796. He died in 1871, in the seventy-fifth year of his age. For fifty-four years he had been a practicing physician, nearly fifty years of which were in this city. He was not an office-seeker, but for more than forty years held important offices of trust because he was called for. He was an Alderman when the best men were placed in that office; he was a Supervisor for many years; and Physician to the Penitentiary the last year of his life. In 1834 he was a member of the Assembly. In his profession he was regarded as very skillful. On the 20th of June, 1867, a dinner was given by the Albany County Medical Society to its then oldest physicians, Drs. MacNaughton, Staats, and Wade, who had been in practice over fifty years. His personal qualities of genial humor, generous sympathies, and strong attachments; strong sense of justice, and strict temperance; united with a broad public spirit, made him a favorite among his friends and popular among his fellow-citizens.

Friend Humphrey, Mayor 1843–45 and 1849–50, was born in Simsbury, Conn., in the year 1787. Came to Albany in 1811; engaged in the leather trade; became a successful and leading merchant; interested in promoting every worthy enterprise; was very energetic and very popular, not only as a business man, but as a citizen. He was especially known in all the movements for the advancement of learning and sound morals. When Mayor he closed the markets on Sunday. Says an old merchant: "He was sound on every point." His second election was April 9, 1844, by a Whig vote of 3,268 to a Democratic vote of 2,628 for George W. Stanton. He died March 15, 1854. General Chauncey Humphrey was his brother, and Theodore F. Humphrey, of Boston, and James Humphrey, of New York, were his sons.

He was courageous, strong, very energetic, never afraid to do right. Albany never had a Mayor better understood or more popular.

John Keyes Paige, Mayor 1845–46. Mr. Paige was a lawyer, and held, for nineteen years prior to his election as Mayor, the office of Clerk of the Supreme Court. He was elected by a plurality April 7, 1845, as follows: John K. Paige, Democrat, 3,148; Friend Humphrey, Whig, 3,124; Isaac Lansing, native American, 160; Nathaniel Safford, Abolition, 12. After leaving Albany on the failure of the Canal Bank, of which he was President, he resided in Schoharie, and later in Schenectady, where he died December 10, 1857,

at the age of seventy. At the time of his death he was a Regent of the University, to which he had been appointed in 1826. His first wife was Helen, a daughter of Governor John C. Yates, who died January 25, 1829. His second a daughter of the late Mayor, Francis Bloodgood.

Notwithstanding his long career of public service, he was singularly reserved and retiring in his manners and attached to domestic life, and neither professed the arts of popularity, nor that knowledge of the world which is often necessary to a man of business.

WILLIAM PARMALEE, Mayor 1846–48 and 1854–56. He was born in Lansingburgh, N. Y., 1807; graduated from Yale College in 1826; began to practice law in Albany in 1830; in 1836 was City Attorney; was County Judge in 1839 and 1847–52; Recorder of the City 1840–46. He married Helen, daughter of Dr. T. Romeyn Beck. While in his last term of office as Mayor, he died of cancer in the throat, March 15, 1856. Charles W. Goddard was appointed by the City Council, April 28th, for the unexpired term of Judge Parmalee's. On April 14, 1846, William Parmalee, Whig, was elected by a vote of 3,106 over John K. Paige, Democrat, who received a vote of 2,512. In 1847 Mr. Parmalee was re-elected by a vote of 4,088 over James Goold, 1,168; Mr. Hendrickson, 605; and Mr. Woodruff, 78.

JOHN TAYLOR, Mayor 1848–49, was born in Durham, England, March, 1790, and died in Albany September 31, 1863. He migrated to Brooklyn with his father when a mere infant, and to Albany in 1793. He engaged in the business of a tallow-chandler with his father when he was seventeen years old, and before he was twenty-three he had been burned out four times. Then his fortunes changed. He began to make money about 1813 as an army contractor. In 1822 he became a brewer, and from this business realized an ample fortune. He had branches in Boston and New York later, conducted by his sons. He gave freely of his wealth to the poor, and to all objects that promised to benefit the city. He became a great reader, and accumulated a library larger and more valuable than any in the city in his time. He gained great popularity and wealth at the same time by a steady course of industry, enterprise, integrity, philanthropy and virtue. Taylor's Brewery is still occupied at 133 Broadway.

FRANKLIN TOWNSEND, Mayor 1850–51, was the son of Isaiah and Hannah Townsend, and nephew of John Townsend, a former Mayor, under whose name the outline of his family history is given. He married the only daughter of Rufus H. King, once a noted merchant and banker of this city. His life has been one of great activity, marked by evidences of public confidence. While yet a boy, he took charge of the Townsend Furnace and Machine-shop in this city, now managed by his son, Rufus K. Townsend. He has served on the Board of Aldermen, and as Supervisor. He has also been a Member of the Assembly, and for nearly nine years Adjutant-General of the State. He has been prominent in the social and business affairs of the city; President of the State Bank, and Vice-President of the Albany Savings Bank. In all positions he has acquitted himself with honor.

ELI PERRY, Mayor 1851–54, 1856–60, 1862–64. An exciting contest attended the civil years of 1856–58. April 8, 1856, the city election was held, when it was declared that Dr. John V. P. Quackenbush was elected by a majority of twenty over Eli Perry. An indignation meeting was held April 14th, protesting that Perry was defeated by fraudulent votes in the Seventh and Eighth Wards. Subsequently the new Common Council, after considering these frauds, declared, by a vote of eleven to nine, that Perry was elected. The election was contested by Quackenbush.

Each of the contestants persistently claimed his right to act as Mayor. The case was taken to the Courts at last under a proposed compromise, by the terms of which Recorder W. S. Paddock was to act as Mayor pending the litigation. The case never came to trial. The Recorder served out the term of Perry and Quackenbush, each of whom received the full salary of Mayor. Mr. Perry was elected in April 13, 1858, by a vote of 4,699, to 4,601 for Dr. Quackenbush, serving until April, 1860. Again he was elected for the two years from 1862–64. He held the office of Alderman and was two years a Member of Congress, and active and influential in banks and other public institutions.

He was born in Washington County, N. Y., December 25, 1799, and died in Albany, May 17, 1881. His biography appears at length in another part of this volume.

GEORGE H. THACHER, Mayor 1860–62, 1866–68, 1870–74. Mr. Thacher was descended from the celebrated Rev. Thomas Thacher, the Puritan, and first pastor of the old South Congregational Church in Boston. On his mother's side he is grandson of the late Judge Hornell, of Hornellsville, N. Y., where he was born June 4, 1818. His early life was one of penury and self-denial. In Albany, since 1848, his career has been one of business prosperity and public distinction. His biography appears in another part of this volume.

His election in 1872 was contested very hotly in the case of "The people *ex rel.* Edmund L. Judson *vs.* George H. Thacher." The trial resulted in a verdict for the defendants. An appeal to the Court of Appeals was taken, and resulted in an order for a new trial. Pending the new trial, Mr. Thacher resigned January 17, 1874, having served twenty months of his last term. During the litigation concerning the Mayoralty, John G. Burch, President of the Board of Aldermen, acted as Mayor. Edmund L. Judson filled out the unexpired term of Thacher, and was elected for the full succeeding term.

CHARLES E. BLEECKER, Mayor 1868–70. Grace Strover, the wife of Mr. Bleecker, died August 28, 1868.

EDMUND L. JUDSON, Mayor 1874 to 1876, is a grandson of Nathaniel Judson, one of the New England immigrants who came from Connecticut to Albany in 1796, and son of Ichabod L. Judson, who kept a provision store here many years, and

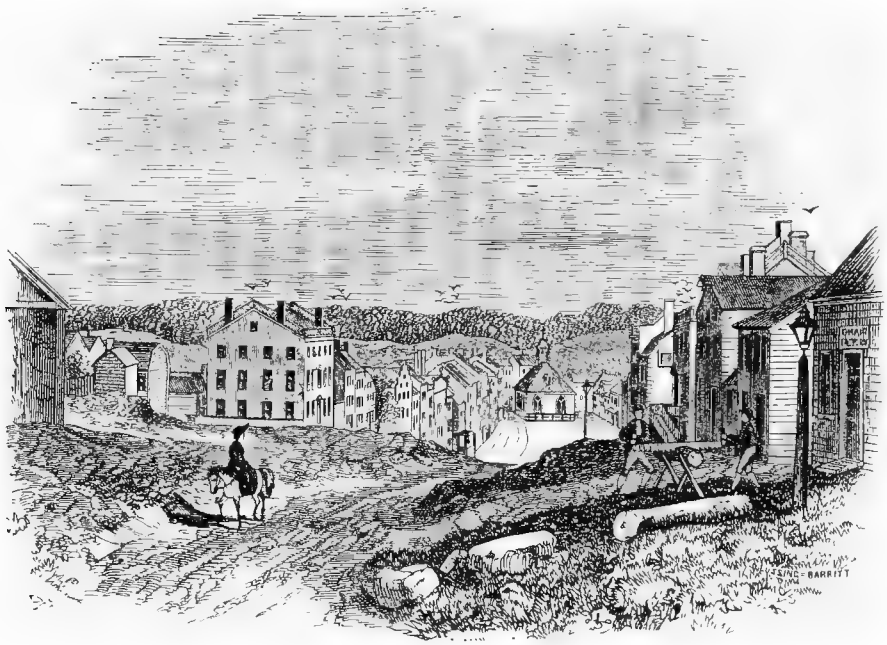
was a prominent business man. Mr. Judson was born in this city, November 13, 1830, and succeeded to the business of his father about thirty-five years ago. He is a member of the firm of Judson, Capron & Smith, dealers in flour and provisions, 359 and 361 Broadway. He was always a citizen well informed upon public affairs and actively interested in them, and yet not given to place-seeking. He was Alderman in 1862–66. His contest for the Mayor's office, to which he was no doubt elected in 1872, is mentioned under the sketch of Ex-Mayor Thacher. His influence, in a quiet way, is still a power in the Republican party and in civil affairs of the city.

A. Bleecker Banks, Mayor 1876–78 and 1884–86, is a native of New York City. Since 1872 he has been a member of the law-publishing house of Banks Brothers, 475 Broadway—Mayor Banks residing at 327 State street, and his brother, David Banks, residing in New York City, in charge of the leading store. They are sons of David Banks, the founder of this ancient house, established in 1804. Mr. Banks represented Albany County in the Assembly in 1862, and in the State Senate in 1868–71. His last election as Mayor was by so small a majority over Dr. Swinburne, that many of his opponents doubted his legal election, but no contest was made to unseat him. He is actively interested in several financial and business interests of the city, notably in the Albany and Greenbush Bridge, and in the Albany and Greenbush Street Railway, of which corporations he is President.

Michael N. Nolan, Mayor 1878 to 1883, a native of Ireland. Mention of his resignation in June, 1883, is made in the sketch of Dr. Swinburne. He was a Member of the U. S. Congress in 1881 to 1883. After his resignation, Dr. W. H. Murray, President of the Common Council, was acting Mayor until Dr. Swinburne took the office. Mr. Nolan is President of the Beverwyck Brewing Co., 24 North Ferry street, of which the late Hon. Terence J. Quinn was a member. The firm is still called Quinn & Nolan, and is widely known for the production of lager. Mr. Nolan's sagacity and executive ability, either in business or in public affairs, is acknowledged by all who know him.

John Swinburne, Mayor 1883–84. The biography of Dr. Swinburne is fully presented in another part of this volume. The contest for the office of Mayor at the Charter Election of 1882, was a very exciting one between Michael N. Nolan and John Swinburne. Nolan was declared elected by a small majority. Frauds were alleged and proved, and after a legal contest in the case, "The People *ex rel.* John Swinburne *vs.* Michael N. Nolan," Mr. Nolan resigned, after filling about fifteen months of the term, and Dr. Swinburne was seated in the chair June 25, 1883, and served the remainder of the term.

SOME VIEWS IN ALBANY ABOUT 1800.

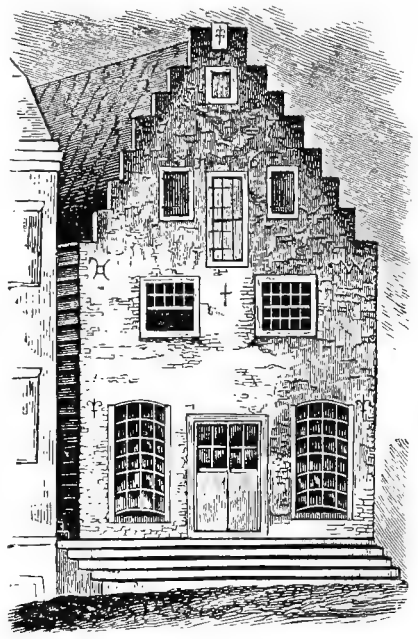


STATE STREET, LOOKING EAST.

THE above cut represents a view of State street in 1805. We are supposed to be standing near the head of the street, in front of St. Peter's Church, and on the site of old Fort Frederick, a strong, quadrangular fortification, with a bastion at each corner, which stood upon the high hill there. The altitude of its heavy stone walls was equal to that of the roof of St. Peter's at the present day. The

above illustration gives a view, looking eastward, of the rough and irregular street, at the front of which is the old Dutch Church. The house on the left is that of Philip S. Van Rensselaer, a younger brother of the Patroon. The two houses next to Van Rensselaer's belonged to the Webster Brothers, and the frame building next to them was their office, and was familiarly known as Websters' corner. Next below Websters' is seen the Livingston house and elm tree, and the Lydius house, occupying opposite corners. The house just below the Lydius corner is now occupied by the State Bank. Pearson, a tobacconist, and Dr. Dexter, a druggist, occupied the next taller buildings. Next east of Dexter's building was the Tontine Coffee House. Almost in front and at the steepest part of the street is seen one of the old well-curbs of the city, used before the construction of waterworks. The tall house seen over the angle of the old Dutch Church belonged to the Kanes, well-known merchants. The house on the right of the church, in range with the most distant lamp-post, belonged to Dr. Mancius, and the city post-office was kept there for some years.

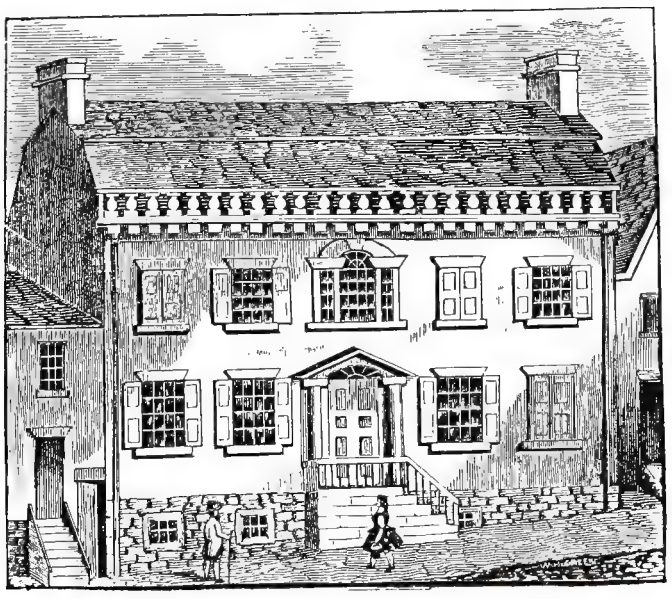
In the portion of the street opposite to the Livingston elm were two noble but dissimilar buildings; one of them was erected by Herman Wendell in 1716, the other was built by John Stevenson in 1780. The former was in the ancient Dutch style.



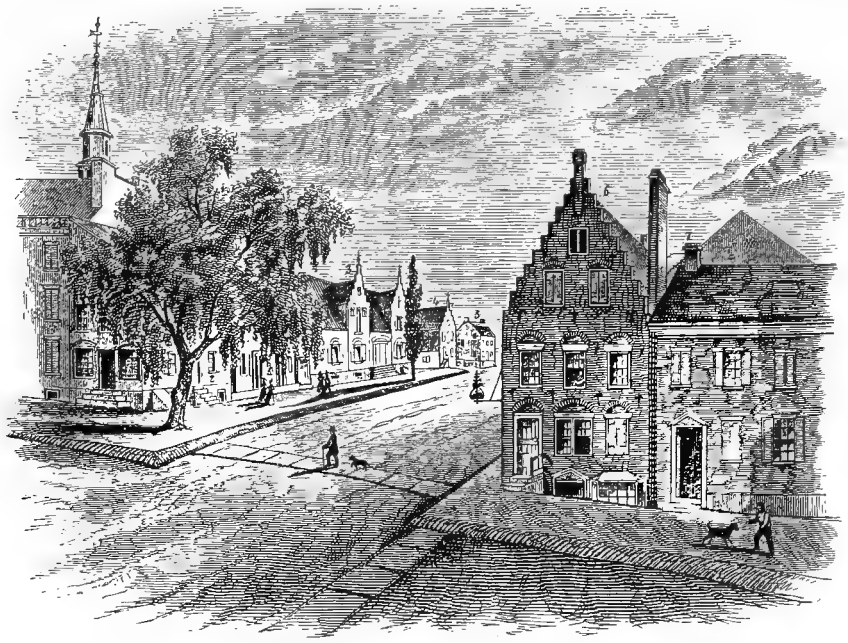
THE WENDELL HOUSE.

The Stevenson House was in its day a wonder in architecture, and in a style quite different from anything in Albany. It was purely English throughout, and was known as "the rich man's house." Both of these buildings were demolished in 1841.

Coming up State street, on the south side was the spacious brick residence of George Merchant, over which six birds are seen. The peaks and chimneys beneath the single bird are those of the old Geological Hall, which stood back of Merchant's house and occupied the site of the present Geological Hall. The building with a projecting ridge for hoisting was a carpenter's shop, and the last one seen on the right of the picture was the chair factory of Mr. McChesney.



THE STEVENSON HOUSE.



NORTH PEARL AND STATE STREETS.

This cut exhibits the corners of North Pearl and State streets, looking up Pearl. The most conspicuous objects are the ancient building known as the Lydius House (6) with its terraced gable, and the adjoining mansion (7) of William Pitt Beers. The corner house was built about 1657 for the parsonage of the Dutch Church. All the materials were said to have been imported from Holland. Its interior was elaborate. The partitions were made of mahogany, and the exposed beams ornamented with carving.

On the opposite side of the street is seen the frame building (1) known as Websters' corner, previously alluded to. The white house (2) next to it was the site of the residence of Peter Livingston, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The old elm tree, recently removed, was planted by Mr. Livingston. The large building with two gables (3) in front was known as the Van Derheyden Palace. It was just below Maiden lane on the site now occupied by the Perry Building.

A little beyond the Palace is seen the homestead of the Pruyen family, a Dutch house (4) with terraced gable fronting the street. Dr. Hunloke Woodruff, an eminent physician, owned the next (5) more modern residence on the corner of Maiden Lane and Pearl street.

NORTH PEARL STREET, FROM MAIDEN LANE NORTHWARD.

The cut on preceding page is a continuation of Pearl street from Maiden lane northward. The Woodruff House (1) is first seen. The small building (2) next to it was the Dr.'s office. At that time dentistry, as a distinct profession, was not practiced in Albany. Next to the doctor's office was a stately Dutch building (3), erected by William Eights somewhere after 1776. The frame building adjoining was long occupied by Dick Thompson, who was quite celebrated as a waiter. The next house with terraced gable (6) had a brick front, and was occupied by David Groesbeck, in the immediate rear of which is seen the Second Presbyterian Church. It was last occupied by McCaffrey & Holmes, bakers. It adjoined the Female Academy on the south. The tall building (7) was occupied by Dr. C. C. Yates. No. 8 was occupied by Cornelius Brown, some time baker, afterwards a cartman. The last building (9) was the famous Uranian Hall, erected by the Society of Mechanics, where the children of mechanics were educated.

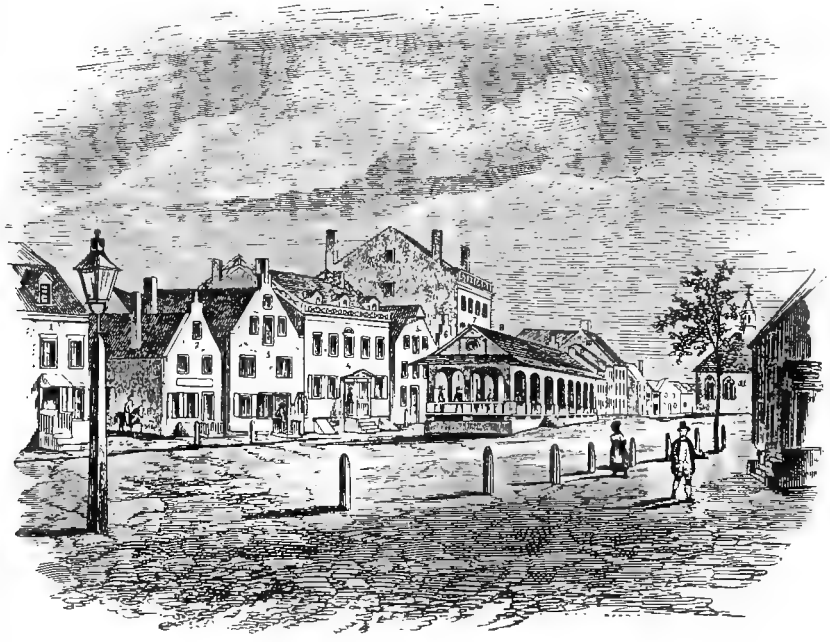
NORTH PEARL STREET.

This is a continuation of the last view, a portion of North Pearl street. The first house (10) was for many years the house and store of Henry Bleecker. It was built prior to the Revolution by John Nicholas Bleecker. About 1800 it was occupied by William McClellan, an eminent Scotch physician. On the site of buildings (8, 9 and 10) the present Female Academy stands, founded in 1814, and then known as Union School. In house 11 dwelt John B. Romeyn, D.D., of the Presbyterian Church. Next to Dr. Romeyn resided Peter Elmendorf, one of the leading lawyers of the city. Gerardus Lansing, brother-in-law of General Ten Broeck, resided in No. 13. Next to No. 13 was a house, which has been omitted, built and occupied by John Rutger Bleecker, a surveyor. Between dwelling 14 and the little school-house (15) was a play-ground for the boys. Looking over that inclosure and among the trees is seen the family mansion or homestead of the Bleeckers. The last house (16) was the residence of John Andrews, a well-known police constable, who was the terror of evil-doers eighty years ago. No 12 was the last of the old houses in this row, and was taken down about twenty-five years ago.

Our next view of North Pearl street is a continuation of the west side from Canal to Patroon street. The buildings possess little interest, except the church with two steeples, the edifice of the North Reformed Dutch Church, erected in 1798. With the exception of the church, all the other buildings have long since passed away. They were of wood, all painted red, and gave a very dull appearance to the street. On the left (1) is seen a portion of the Vandeberg Mansion. Adjoining it (2) was the shop of John Bantam, a blacksmith. The next building was occupied by an Irish schoolmaster named Crabbe. Back of these (4) is seen the tool-house of the church, and upon the distant eminence beyond, then known as Arbor Hill, is seen the country seat (5) of General Ten Broeck, of the Revolution, and three years Mayor of Albany. Arbor Hill is now occupied by Thomas W. Olcott. Next to the last of the small buildings in the direction of the church was then occupied by McGourghey, a chocolate manufacturer, and in the last (7) the sexton of the church resided. Fox Creek formerly flowed across the street (now under it) where the fence is seen, adjoining 7, and so between the trees. Opposite the church is seen a

NORTH PEARL STREET.

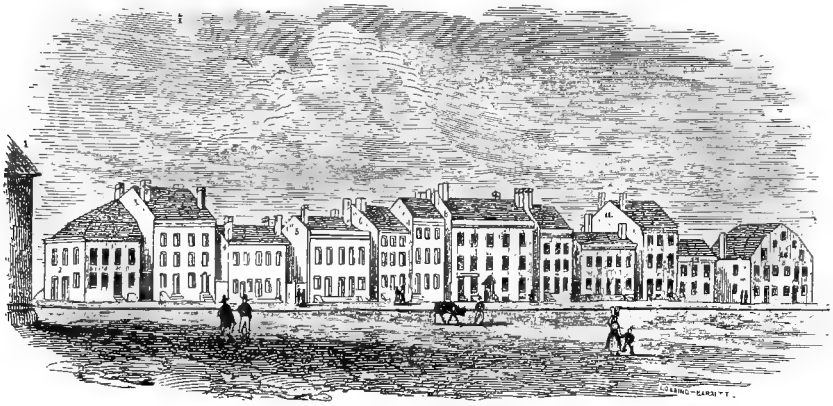
small building, which was then occupied by Bocking, a famous cake baker. The two little figures in this picture represent a fashionably-dressed couple in Albany in 1805. The lady has not yet "found her waist," and the gentleman has his roundhead hat, narrow-skirted coat and huge white-topped boots, then just beginning to be worn.



MARKET STREET.

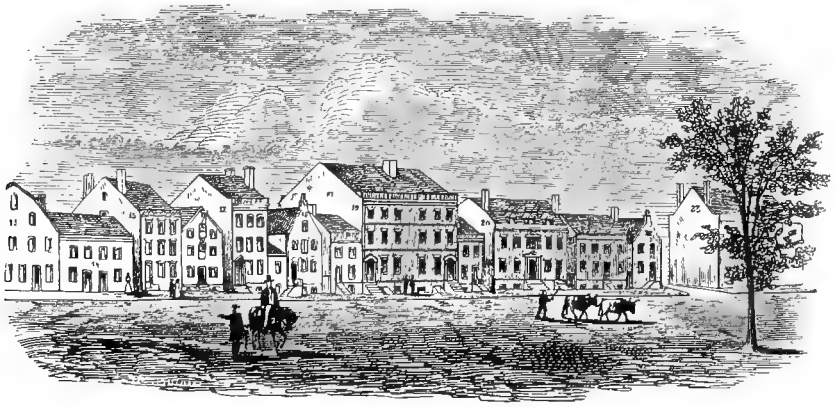
This view represents that portion of Market street, east side, from State street to Maiden lane. The public market, which gave the name to the street, is seen in its center. Beginning on the left we have a view of the residence (1) of Paul Hochstrasser, a wealthy German merchant. The next (2) on the corner of Maiden lane was the house in which General Peter Gansevoort, one of the most active of the Revolutionary officers, was born. The larger house (3) was occupied by Hill, a glove and leather-breeches maker. In the upper part Fairman, the engraver, started business. The more

stately brick mansion (4) was built and occupied by Thomas Hun, agent of the Patroon, and afterward by his son, Abraham Hun. It was at one time occupied as a post-office. Next to it, and partly concealed by the market (5), was the store of Barent & John G. Bleecker. The terraced gable of Ford's carpet store is seen next beyond it, and looming above all is the grand mansion of David Fonda, a dry goods merchant. It occupied the site of Ransom's iron-front store. Beyond the market was the auction store of John Jauncey, and rising above it (19) is seen a large brick building, the store and dwelling of the Kane Brothers, already referred to. Back of these is seen the roof of a building, recently the site of the Exchange, now occupied by the Post-office Building. Next to Kane's was the apothecary store of Dr. Mancius, where the city post-office was kept.



MARKET STREET, NOW BROADWAY.

This represents the appearance of Market street (now Broadway) in the year 1805. On the extreme left (1) we have a corner of the old Dutch Church, then a low yellow building, known as Robinson's Corner, where the Albany Museum building now stands. Next (3) was the brick dwelling-house and store of John Van Schaick, then an eminent merchant. In the two-story white frame building (4) David Waters sold groceries, and in the adjacent brick building (5) lived David Newland, a Scotch settler. Albert Willett lived in the next brick building, and in the taller one adjoining was the Albany Bank. Its nearest neighbor was the spacious brick dwelling of John Maley, one of the merchant princes of Albany. It was long known as the Mansion House Hotel. Abram R. Ten Eyck's book store was next to Maley's, and the smaller house, with a large chimney, belonged to Peter Douw, a merchant. His neighbor (11) was Barent G. Staats, also a merchant. In the small building lived Teunis Van Vechten, a wealthy burgher. The last house (13) was built of Holland brick. It was a double house. On the corner dwelt Richard Lush, and in an adjoining part of the building John Brinkerhoff had a hardware store.



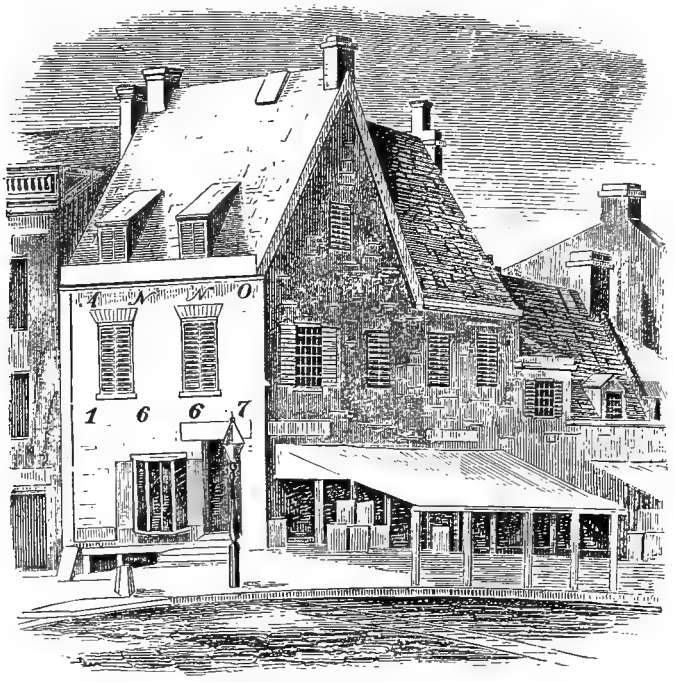
MARKET STREET, NOW BROADWAY.

In house 14 John Meads resided for a while, and was succeeded by Lawson Aumsley in 1814 with a looking-glass store. The next house (15) belonged to Martin Beekman, and was occupied by Richard Dunn & Sons before they removed to Court street. House 16 was occupied by John Jacob Lansing. He died in 1808. The tall building adjoining (17) was the residence of Barent Bleecker, an extensive merchant at this day. It was painted yellow, and appeared very gay by side of its neighbor (18), a dull red house, built in the antique Dutch style, of Holland brick, and occupied by General John H. Wendell, a Revolutionary officer. Adjoining it was the law office of Stephen

Lush. The grand house of Dr. Samuel Stringer (18) towers above all the edifices on this part of the street. It was demolished in 1856. Next to it was Dr. Stringer's office, separated by an alley from the large brick house (20) of Andrew Brown. Dudley Walsh occupied the house next to Brown, and on the corner of Steuben is seen the old brick house of Sanders Lansing, a celebrated cake-maker of that day. Opposite the cake-maker's shop was the fine old brick residence of Chancellor Lansing, Mayor from 1786 to 1790. This completes a description of this portion of Market street in olden times, then, as now, one of the principal business streets of the city.

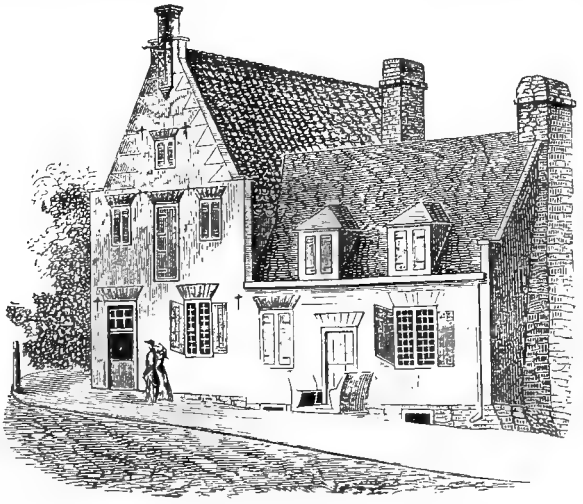
OLD HOUSES AND LANDMARKS.

One of the most interesting features of Albany is its old houses, of which the most noteworthy are hereafter mentioned.



OLD STAATS HOUSE.

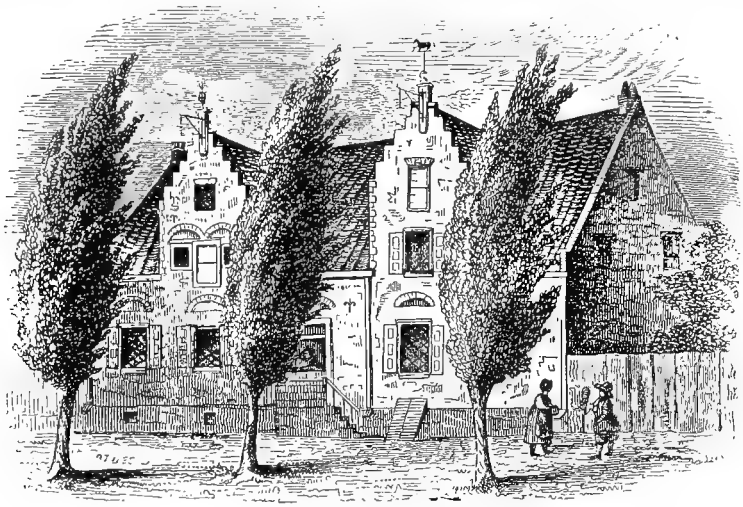
The Staats House, corner State and Pearl, is regarded as the oldest edifice in the city. It is one of two which stood there when South Pearl was a lane, entered by a gate. When the street was widened, the upper house known as Lewis's Stevens was taken away. There formerly ran across the front of these two houses, underneath the eaves, in iron letters, the words *Anno Domini*, and below, over the upper story, the figures, also in iron, 1667. When the upper house was taken away the word *Anno* was left on the house still standing, and is there yet.



LANSING (NOW PEMBERTON) HOUSE.

The Pemberton House, corner Columbia and North Pearl Street, is another old building. When constructed; no two adjoining rooms were on the same level, the ceilings were not plastered, but the beams and sleepers were polished, and the jambs of the fire-place faced with porcelain, ornamented with Scripture scenes. In earlier days this house was occupied by the widow Visscher. It was especially distinguished as the lodging place for Indians when they came to Albany for the purpose of trading their furs, too often for rum and worthless ornaments. Here many stirring scenes transpired, when the Indians held their pow-wows, and became uproarious under the influence of strong drink. At such times the widow would use her broomstick freely. It was a potent scepter in her hands in restoring order, for the most stalwart Indian who had once felt its power, looked upon it with awe.

The Vanderheyden Palace stood on Pearl street, on what is now the site of the Perry building. The palace was built in 1725 by Johannes Beekman. The bricks were said to have been imported from Holland, and the house was one of the best spe-



VANDERHEYDEN PALACE.

cimens of Dutch architecture in the State. It was occupied by Mr. Beekman as his family residence, until his death in 1756, after which his two daughters resided in it until a short time previous to the Revolution. In 1778 the mansion was purchased by Mr. Jacob Vanderheyden. The dimensions were 50 feet front by 20 feet in depth, having a hall and two rooms on a floor. The edifice was so antique that it arrested the antiquarian fancy of Washington Irving, and is described by him in the story of Dolph Heyliger, in "Bracebridge Hall," as the residence of Herr Antony Vanderheyden. It was demolished in 1833. The weather vane, a horse under great stress of speed, now glitters above the peaked turret of the portal at Sunnyside.

The Lydius House stood till 1852 on the northeast corner of State and Pearl. It was built expressly for a parsonage. The bricks, tiles, iron, and wood-work were all imported from Holland. They came over with the church bell and pulpit in 1657. The partitions were mahogany, and the exposed beams ornamented with carvings in high relief representing the vine and fruit of the grape. To show the relief more perfectly, the beams were painted white. Balthazar Lydius was its only occupant for many years. He was an eccentric old bachelor, and was the terror of all the boys. He was a tall, thin Dutchman, with a bullet head, fond of his pipe and bottle, and gloried in celibacy until his life was in the "sere and yellow leaf." Then he gave a pint of gin for a squaw, and calling her his wife, lived with her as such until his death, in 1815.

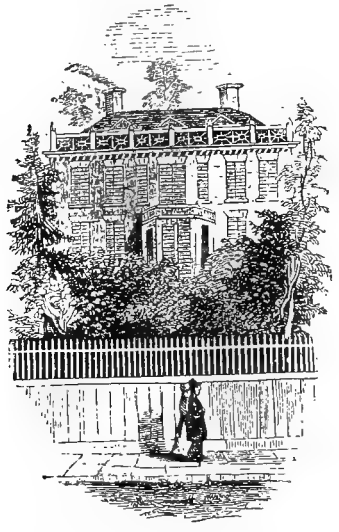
The Van Rensselaer Mansion, at the head of North Broadway, was erected in 1765. It is commonly known as the Patroon's, and until

The Patroon's Mansion.

lately was occupied by his descendants. The front door opens directly into a spacious hall, upon the walls of which is paper of most curious and elaborate design, put on when the house was built,

having been imported from Holland expressly for the purpose.

The Van Rensselaer Mansion in Greenbush stands nearly opposite the blast furnace, and is supposed to have been built by Johannes Van Rensselaer as early as 1663. It is of brick brought from Holland. An addition was built in 1740. The original building was used as a fort, and some of the port-holes are visible in the stone walls. In the addition are forty or fifty curious tiles, representing Scripture scenes.



Schuyler Mansion.

Schuyler Mansion, head of Schuyler street, a little west of South Pearl, is of brick, with a closed octagonal porch in front. It was built by Mrs. Schuyler while her husband, General Philip Schuyler, was in England, in 1760–61. The old family mansion, large and highly ornamented in the Dutch style, stood nearly upon the site of the present City Hall, and was taken down in 1800. In this latter mansion General Schuyler and his family dispensed a princely hospitality for almost forty years. When General Burgoyne surrendered at Saratoga in 1777, he and other prisoners were sent forward to Albany, General Schuyler writing to his wife to give the English General the very best reception in her power.

"The British commander was well received," writes the Marquis de Chastellux, "and lodged in the best apartment in the house. An excellent supper was served him, the honors of which were done with so much grace that he was affected even to tears, and said with a deep sigh: 'Indeed this is doing too much for a man who has ravaged their lands and burnt their dwellings.'"

In 1781 a plan was laid to capture General Schuyler and take him to Canada. A party of Tories, Canadians and Indians surrounded the house for several days, and at length forced an entrance. The family collected in an upper room, forgetting to take with them an infant child sleeping in the nursery. The mother was flying back to the rescue when the General prevented her, but the third daughter, afterwards the wife of the last of the Patroons, rushed downstairs, snatched her sister from the cradle and bore her off in safety. As she sprang up the stairs, an Indian hurled a tomahawk at her, which cut her dress a few inches from the infant's head, and struck the stair-rail at the lower turn, where the mark is still pointed out.

The assailants were frightened from their purpose and fled to Canada, carrying with them much of the General's plate, but not the General. In this house Lafayette, Count de Rochambeau, Baron Steuben, Aaron Burr, Benjamin Franklin, Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, and many other notable personages were entertained. December 14, 1780, Alexander Hamilton and Elizabeth Schuyler were married in this house, and another notable wedding that took place here was that of Mrs. McIntosh, who owned the property, to ex-President Fillmore.

Robert Yates' House.

Robert Yates was one of the leading jurists and statesmen of his time. The above cut is a view of his residence on State street.

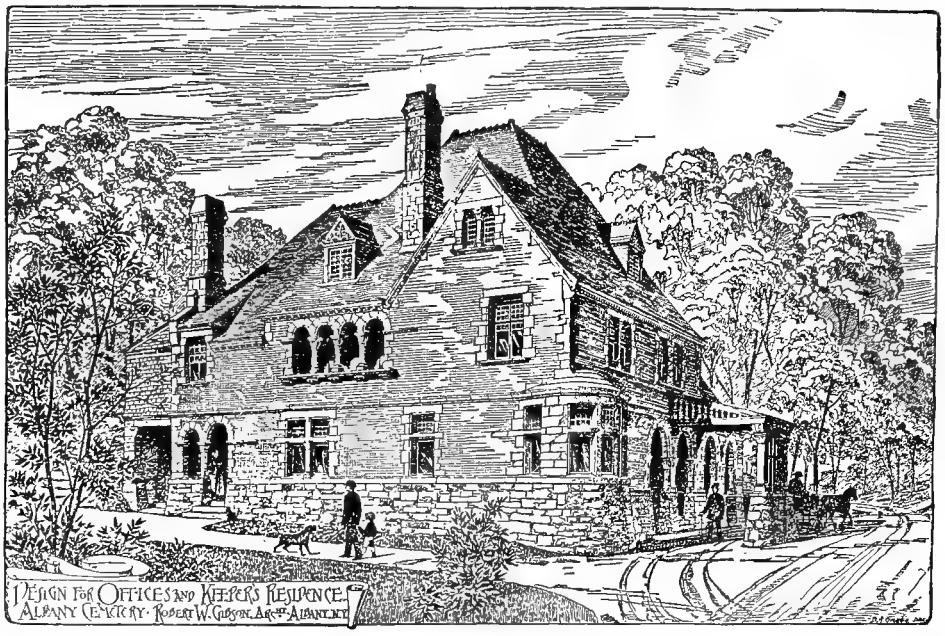
CHURCHYARDS AND CEMETERIES.

In the earliest days of our city the dead were buried near the places where they cast off their mortal coil, and turned to dust without any monumental mark of any kind. When lands began to be occupied at a later date by families, some spot was selected on the homestead and inclosed for burial of their dead. Sometimes a tomb was erected for this purpose.

Around the churches a home for the dead, "God's acre," was always reserved, called the churchyard. The first churchyard was set apart close by the first church erected, on what is now Church street, near old Fort Orange, in 1643. Thirteen years after, in 1656, another edifice was erected at the junction of State street and Broadway, around which the dead were buried for many years, until the third edifice was built, some forty years later, on Beaver street. Here a church stood for about a century and three quarters, long known as the Middle Dutch Church. Many changes were made in the structure to adapt it to growing demands, until recently it was taken down and the ground occupied by a building called the City Market. A new and admirable structure succeeds it at corner of Madison avenue and Swan street. Here about the Beaver street Church the city dead were laid away for over a century, numbering thousands. From 1722 to 1759, the records give a list of 1,759 burials. Many were removed from the State street grounds,

and yet human bones have recently been excavated there of some neglected ones.

When the churchyard became completely covered with tombs, a layer of earth was superimposed, and new graves were made, so that three tiers of coffins, closely compacted side by side, lay one above another. About 1780 the place had been abandoned, and a city burial lot was established south of the old Capitol Park. A new church structure was erected on the old lot in 1805, but it no longer had a city churchyard. The new lot south of the Capitol, and appropriated for a common burial ground in 1789, was bounded by Eagle on the east, State on the north, and Lancaster on the south. Lots were set apart for the different churches.



LODGE AT RURAL CEMETERY.

The Lutherans had a burial ground in connection with the Evangelical Lutheran Ebenezer Church, founded in 1680, on the site of the present Music Hall and City Building. For over a century this church buried their dead here. When the old Centre Market, which occupied this ground many years, was demolished in 1868, the remains were removed to the Rural Cemetery.

The First Presbyterian Church, established in 1763, had a burial lot until about 1760, in constant use, in the square bounded by Hudson avenue, Grand, Beaver, and William streets.

The next public cemetery, established far outside the settled part of the city, in State street, near Knox, began to be occupied in 1806. It was surrounded by a fence ten feet high, and divided among the different religious congregations. It was thus used about sixty years, when, in 1868, the bodies were removed to the Rural Cemetery, and the ground was made a part of Washington Park. The reinterment was made at the expense of the city, under arrangements with the various religious congregations which occupied burial lots on these grounds. The Common Council appointed a committee, consisting of Peter M. Carmichael, William S. Paddock, William H. Taylor, Edmund L. Judson, and Thomas Mulhall, to act in its behalf.

The Albany Rural Cemetery had its origin in a sermon preached by the Rev. B. T. Welch, D.D., in the Pearl street Baptist Church, December, 1840. April 2, 1841, an Association was incorporated, consisting of Rev. Dr. B. T. Welch, first President of the Association; Anthony M. Strong, first Secretary and Treasurer; Stephen Van Rensselaer, John A. Dix, John Q. Wilson, James Homer, Peter Gansevoort, Thomas W. Olcott, Ezra P. Prentice, John Wendell, Ellis Baker, Ira Harris, Archibald McIntyre. The Committee to locate and improve the grounds were B. T. Welch and Thomas W. Olcott, who selected the site April 20, 1844. The cemetery originally contained 100 acres, a part of which formerly belonged to Thomas Hillhouse. This portion was consecrated October 7, 1844, with impressive and imposing ceremonies.* The first interment was made in May, 1845. Additions by purchase have been made, and the Association now owns 281½ acres.

This beautiful and diversified cemetery is situated in the township of Watervliet, about three miles

* At the consecration, Daniel D. Brainard was the orator; Alfred B. Street, the poet. Revs. Dr. W. B. Sprague and H. Potter were the clergy; and active on that day and in the whole work as long as they lived, besides the Trustees, were Gideon Hawley, Amos Dean, Otis Allen, Lewis Benedict, Matthew Patten, and many others. General Rufus King was the Marshal. In natural and artistic beauty, this cemetery has been spoken of by good critics as excelled only by that of Cincinnati.

north of the City of Albany, and is easy of access by private conveyance on the Troy Turnpike road, by the West Troy Horse-Cars, and by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company's Railroad. This road has a station near the entrance to the cemetery.

The cemetery grounds possess in a remarkable degree the natural conditions desired in physical structure and adaptability. Its undulating contour and diversified variety; its picturesque expanse of hill and dale, ravine and dell, stream and cascade, sparkling rivulets, bubbling fountains, placid ponds, rocky cliffs, sylvan nooks, and miniature forests—attractions rare and unique—combine to place this cemetery among the finest in the country.

The whole grounds are planned and platted with the taste and skill of artistic engineering, and the sculptor's work is seen from every point, as the eye wanders over the many monuments and other mementoes of the departed.

Broad avenues and drives lined with shade trees, intricate labyrinths of walks and paths, serve to perplex the visitor in his rambles here, in this silent city of the dead.

A natural feature is the division of this area into three ridges, designated South, Middle and North, running east and west, through which pass two never failing streams of water, which are used to advantage in ornamentation and giving wide diversity of scenic effect.

Jeffrey P. Thomas, succeeding his father, is the Superintendent and Surveyor. He is a man of excellent taste and judgment.

St. Agnes' Cemetery adjoins the Rural Cemetery on the south, and is approached by a beautiful tree-lined avenue, nearly half a mile long, by the same public conveyances that serve for the Rural. This cemetery contains 50 acres, and is on the same ridge with the Rural, and handsomely and tastefully arranged. The Association was incorporated May 9, 1867, with the following officers: Right Rev. John J. Conroy, Rev. Edgar P. Wadhams, Peter Cagger, Presidents; William S. Preston, Secretary and Treasurer; John Tracey, James Hall, William Cassidy, Thomas Mattimore, John Stuart, Joseph Clinton, Robert Higgins, John McCardle, John Mullen, Henry Lucke, Directors. Thomas Kearney is Superintendent. The cemetery grounds were consecrated on the 19th of May, 1867, by the Right Rev. Bishop Conroy, assisted by the clergy of the city, in the presence of a large assembly, who witnessed the solemn and impressive ceremony.

Anshe Emeth Cemetery adjoins the Rural Cemetery on the northeast, and contains four acres. It was first appropriated as a place of interment for the Members of the Jewish Congregation, Anshe Emeth. In 1862 it was surveyed into lots; and in 1875 it was incorporated as a Cemetery Association. The grounds are arranged in excellent taste, and general simplicity is observed in the order of design, which adds much to the whole appearance. The natural features in some respects resemble those of the Rural, yet lack in the great diversity and changeable character of surface.

This cemetery is reached by the Loudonville plank road, also by the way leading to the Rural. The officers are Joseph Sporberg, J. Laventall, Isaac Waldman, S. Bonday. C. Tasler is Superintendent.

Other cemeteries are those of the Catholic Congregations of St. Mary and St. Joseph, within the bounds of the city on Washington avenue.

St. John's Catholic Church has a cemetery on Delaware avenue, which has been used since August 28, 1841, and another near Bethelehem centre.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church has its cemetery on the Albany and Schenectady Turnpike. St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Society has one on the Sand-hill road, consecrated in 1846 and abandoned about ten years later. The cemetery at the Almshouse is devoted to the burial of those who die while in the institution or in the Penitentiary, and the unclaimed dead of the streets and river.

St. Peter's Church occupies ground once devoted to the burial of the early settlers. Lands near Hudson and Grand, and on the corner near Howard and South Pearl, were also used. Some years after this a portion of Washington Park was used.

The people of the old town of Colonie had lands given them by the Patroon for burial purposes on Arbor Hill between Second and Third streets, above Ten Broeck, where St. Joseph's Church now stands. It was used about twenty years.

On the southwest corner of Hamilton and South Pearl streets was the family burial ground of the Halenbecks. The property was sold for taxes, a portion of the proceeds being used for the purchase of a lot and monument in the Rural Cemetery, to which their remains were removed in 1860.

MOHAWK AND HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD.

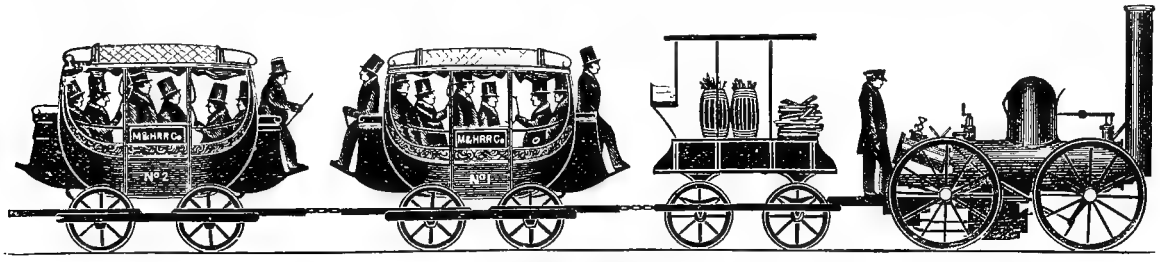
The cut on next page represents the style of the first passenger train propelled by steam in America. It was used on the Mohawk and Hudson Railroad between Albany and Schenectady, the first successful railroad in this country for carrying passengers.

The charter for the building of this road was granted by the Legislature March 27, 1826. Stephen Van Rensselaer, the Old Patroon, was the leading capitalist in what was then considered a visionary scheme. Work upon its construction began July 29, 1830, and may be said to have been completed September 24, 1831. An excursion over the road was then given by the Directors, to which were invited State and city officials and eminent citizens.

The cut used in connection with this article is said to be a faithful representation of the train used upon this occasion. The cars were simply stage-coach bodies made by James Goold, the famous coach-builder, and placed upon trucks for temporary use, affording seats for twelve or eighteen passengers each. A speed at the rate of thirty miles an hour was reached.

This road, as at first constructed, extended from the junction of the Western Turnpike and Lydius

street in this city; and from this point, a distance of twelve and a half miles, to the brow of the hill at Schenectady. Both of these points were first reached by stages, and afterward by an inclined plane, which passengers were carried to the railroad stations in a car drawn by a rope by means of a stationary engine. The Albany Station was where Van Vechten Hall now stands. Some years later the grade of the road was so much reduced that the inclined planes were done away with and the road constructed over them. The use of the streets for railway travel was opposed with varying success by the Common Council and many citizens. The starting point on the river was at Gansevoort street.



FIRST STEAM PASSENGER TRAIN IN AMERICA.

The Chief Engineer was John B. Jervis; the Resident Engineer, John T. Clark, who acted as Conductor, and Fireman John Hampson.

The following were passengers on this memorable trip: Governor Enos T. Throops, Senator Charles E. Dudley, Comptroller Azariah C. Flagg, Lieutenant-Governor Edward P. Livingston, Ex-Governor Joseph C. Yates, Chancellor Reuben H. Walworth, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Francis Bloodgood, Joseph Alexander, John Meigs, Erastus Corning, Lewis Benedict, John Townsend, Jesse Buel, John I. Boyd, Thurlow Weed, William Bay, Simeon De Witt Bloodgood, William B. Winne, and L. H. Tupper, of Albany; Samuel Swartwout, Philip Hone and Jacob Hays, of New York; John I. De Graff, Schenectady; David Mathews, builder, and Churchill C. Cambreling, President of the road,

Railroad Men of To-day.—Albany has grown to be a railroad center of great importance, and furnishes employment to a large force of men in this city. Among those deserving honorable mention are the following gentlemen, who form an important element in Albany's industrial population, all of them connected with the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad: P. H. Mann, Ticket Agent for many years; Lyman F. Chamberlain, Superintendent New York Central Sleeping Car Company; S. H. Foster, Depot Master; E. J. Graham, Secretary Bridge Department; G. W. Gibbons, Freight Agent; C. B. Chittenden, Track Superintendent; Joseph P. Morris, Baggage Agent; I. N. Coley, Train Dispatcher; J. H. Adams, Isaac Soule and John Ternouth, connected with the New York Central Locomotive Works.

The following are connected with the Boston and Albany Railroad Company: J. B. Chapin, Assistant Superintendent; William H. Russell, Jr., Division Superintendent; J. E. Doran, Master Carbuilder; William H. Fisher, Stock Agent; E. P. Haley, Superintendent of Tracks; John T. Lozier, Train Dispatcher; Thomas P. Purvis, Jr., Mechanic.

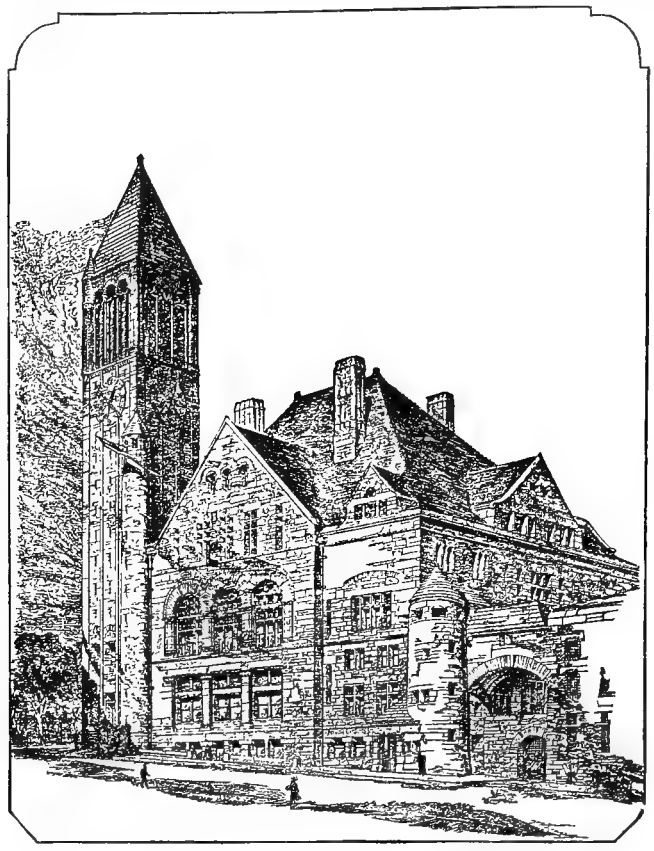
The following are connected with the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company: C. W. Wentz, Chief and Consulting Engineer; F. C. Ward, Paymaster; Dudley Farlin, Assistant General Freight Agent; Hamilton Patterson, Track-layer; William K. Harcourt, Ticket Agent; Joel W. Burdick, Superintendent Telegraph; C. D. Hammond, Superintendent Susquehanna Division.

CITY BUILDINGS.

THE Old City Hall stood on the site of the present City Hall. It was begun in 1829, the ground having been purchased of St. Peter's Church for $10,259.95. August 31, 1830, the corner-stone was laid by Mayor John Townsend with Masonic ceremonies. The building was completed in 1832 at a total cost of about $92,000. It was a comely and commodious structure, built of white marble, with an entrance porch supported by four Doric columns, simple in their classical dignity. On the roof was a gilded dome, somewhat similar to the present State Hall. There was but little of ornamentation to the interior of the building, yet the artistic was not wholly wanting. A full-length statue of Alexander Hamilton stood in the center of the upper hall, between the Court-room and the Common Council Chamber. Upon one side of this hall was a bas-relief of DeWitt Clinton, with a view of the primitive canal-boat in the distance; and on the opposite wall a similar figure of Sir Walter Scott, in like style of art. The origin of the fire that destroyed the building in February, 1880, is among the unsolved mysteries. The most important papers and other matters of value were rescued from the flames.

NEW CITY HALL.

This building was erected in 1881–83 on the site of the old City Hall. In architecture it is considered one of the finest buildings in the State. H. H. Richardson, distinguished as the architect of Trinity Church, Boston, and as one of the Advisory Board of Architects of the New Capitol, planned the structure.



CITY HALL.

The City Hall is built of reddish granite, trimmed with Long Meadow brownstone, and is a free treatment of Gothic from the South of France. The tower, 202 feet, is divided into twelve stories, for storing records. The cost, including furnishing, etc., was $325,000, of which $290,000 was obtained by the issue of city bonds. The expense of construction and maintenance is borne half by the city and half by the county. This is considered by some an unfair division, as the city is a part of the county, bearing a larger share of the county's half. The building was erected by a Commission, created by legislative act, consisting of the Mayor, Michael N. Nolan; Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Edward A. Maher; and Erastus Corning, C. P. Easton, Robert C. Pruyn, Leonard G. Hun, Albertus W. Beeker, and William Gould. It contains the county offices and all the city offices not in the City Building. Next to the New Capitol, it is the building which attracts most attention.

THE CITY BUILDING.

This building occupies the site of the old Centre Market, corner South Pearl and Howard streets. It was begun in 1868; is of the Lombardic style of architecture, ornamented with a Mansard roof. It is built of brick, faced with Lake Champlain limestone, at an expense of $200,000. It contains the Police Court-room; City Court; offices of Overseer of Poor, of the Park Commissioners and Engineer, Fire and Police Commissioners, Fire Alarm Telegraph, Chiefs of the Police and Fire Departments, Property Clerk and Detectives; Second Precinct Station House; the Rogues' Gallery; and the Excise Commissioners.

SCHOOLS AND OTHER LITERARY INSTITUTIONS.

UNION UNIVERSITY IN ALBANY.

IN 1767–68, Eleazer Wheelock, who conducted an Indian charity school in Lebanon, Conn., decided to remove the school to some location more central and better adapted for the purposes intended. In his search for such a place he was naturally attracted to Albany, which at this time was one of the principal cities in the country and a place of interest to the Indian tribes. The Common Council of the city became interested in the establishment of such an institution in the city, and voted to raise $7,500, to be devoted to the erection of the necessary buildings, if located here. Several letters were interchanged between Mayor Douw and Mr. Wheelock relating to the subject, but for some cause the project proved unsuccessful, and the school was removed to Hanover, N. H., and became the foundation of Dartmouth College in 1769. This was the first movement toward a college in Albany.

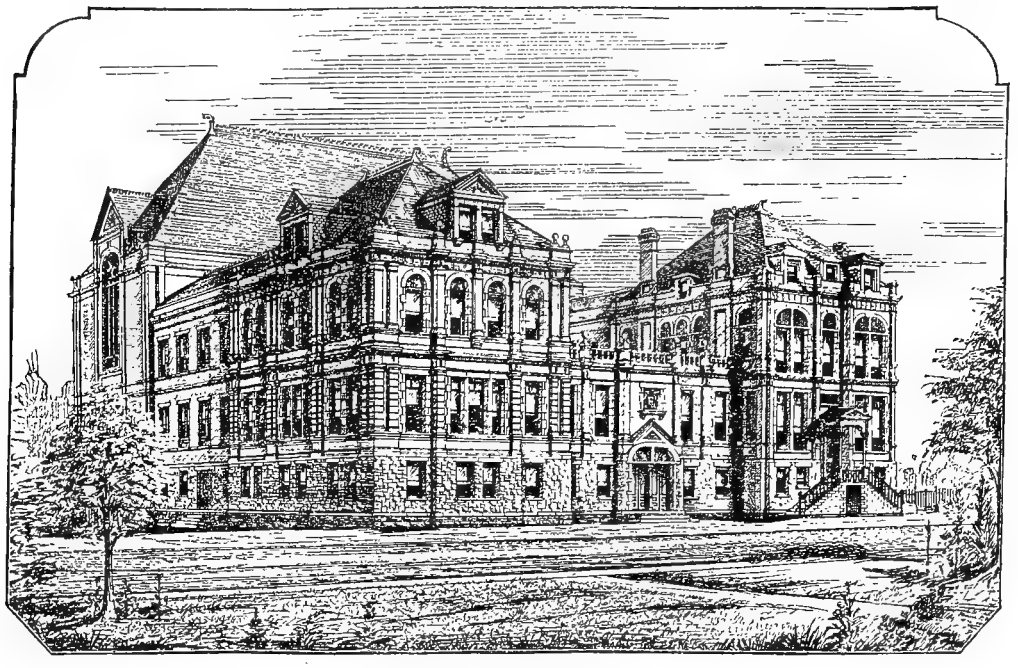
During 1779, when a project was started for the incorporation of Clinton College at Schenectady, it was represented in the preamble of the charter that a large number of the respectable inhabitants of the Counties of Albany, Tryon, and Charlotte were heartily in favor of the erection of the college. The Journals of the Legislature of 1779 show that the petition upon which this charter was granted was signed by eight hundred and fifty inhabitants of Albany and Tryon Counties. The proposed incorporators of this college contained the names of the following citizens of Albany: Eilardus Westerlo, Philip Schuyler, Robert R. Livingston, Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Yates, Jr., Robert Yates, John Cuyler, and Robert Van Rensselaer.

This early attempt at the founding of a college at Schenectady, although it was unsuccessful, naturally led the way for the establishment of Union College some years after, in the establishment of which many Albanians took a prominent part. Something of an effort was made to have it located in Albany. In 1792 the Corporation resolved to convey to Trustees, thereafter to be appointed, a part of the public square in the city for the purposes of a college, and a subscription was assured by the citizens, with a view of carrying the project into immediate effect. But the Regents of the University decided upon Schenectady as the place. The first Trustees of Union College, when founded, February 25, 1795, contained the following names of citizens of Albany: Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jr., Abraham Ten Broeck, Goldsbrow Banyar, John V. Henry, George Merchant, Stephen Van Rensselaer, and Joseph C. Yates. Albany has always taken a great interest in this college. Its first President, Rev. Dr. Eliphalet Nott, was called from the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church in Albany, and other of the college instructors have been taken from this city. Most of the Albany boys who have received a collegiate education have graduated from Union. The Albany Medical School, Albany Law School, and Dudley Observatory, with Union College, now constitute Union University.

Old Normal School.

The Albany State Normal School is the oldest of its class in the State. It was established by legislative act May 7, 1884, as an experiment, and opened with twenty-nine pupils December 18, 1844, in the old depot building of the Mohawk and Hudson River Railroad Company, provided by the city. The first principal was David B. Page, of New Hampshire. The inception of the school was by such minds as Samuel Young, Alonzo Potter, Gideon Hawley and Francis Dwight. In 1848 the school was made a permanent institution, and during this year a new building was erected on Lodge street, at a cost of $25,000, and was opened for pupils July 31, 1849. Ever since then it has had an able corps of teachers, a large patronage, and enjoyed the fullest confidence of the State and of all friends of education. Mr. Page died in 1848. His successors have been George R. Perkins, in 1848; Samuel B. Woolworth, in 1852; David H. Cochran, in 1856; Oliver Arey, in 1864; Joseph Alden, in 1867; Edward P. Waterbury, in 1882. In 1885 the school was removed to the new building on Willett street, facing Washington Park, erected at a cost of $140,000. It is built of freestone, of the Old Capital and Philadelphia brick, 128 by 160 feet, court in center 50 by 90 feet, and will accommodate 670 pupils, including 400 normals, 200 in the model department, 50 in Kindergarten, and 20 in object class. The building was designed by Ogden & Wright, Albany architects. Since the establishment of the school, 2,850 scholars have been graduated, and more than 10,000 undergraduates have taught district schools. The "Historical Sketch of the State Normal

School at Albany: a History of its Graduates for Forty Years," prepared by President Waterbury, and published in 1884, contains a proud record of the work and the workers of the school, and a description of the remarkably fine new building on Willett street, with illustrations.



NEW NORMAL SCHOOL.

THE ALBANY LAW SCHOOL.

In 1851 the Legislature incorporated the University of Albany, giving it authority to organize a literary department, a law department and a scientific department, and providing that the Albany Medical College, already existing, might, if so disposed, unite with the departments to be formed.

The literary department was never formed, and the Scientific Department was confined to the Dudley Observatory, which has never been used for instruction, but only for scientific work.

The department of law, however, was immediately organized into the Albany Law School, and has maintained a flourishing existence ever since, having conferred diplomas on nearly two thousand graduates, and having had on its rolls almost as many more students who attended lectures for a while without graduating.

At that time there were very few, if any, other law schools in the country than the Law Departments of Harvard, Yale and Cincinnati. There are now of all grades something over fifty schools and colleges where law is taught.

The first Board of Trustees was organized as follows: President, Hon. Greene C. Bronson; Vice-President, Thomas W. Olcott; Secretary, Orlando Meads; Treasurer, Luther Tucker.

In 1855 Thomas W. Olcott became President, and so continued till his death in 1880, when Orlando Meads succeeded him, and held that office till his own death in 1883. Marcus T. Hun was elected Secretary in 1880.

The first Faculty consisted of Hon. Ira Harris, LL.D., who lectured on Practice, Pleading and Evidence; Hon. Amasa J. Parker, LL.D., on Real Estate, Wills, Criminal Law, Personal Rights, and Domestic Relations; Amos Dean, LL.D., on Personal Property, Contracts and Commercial Law. For seventeen years the Professors continued to constitute the Faculty till the death of Professor Dean in 1869, followed by the resignation of Professor Parker in 1870, and the death of Professor Harris in 1875.

Professors Harris and Parker were Justices of the Supreme Court. Chancellor Reuben H. Walworth at an early date became President of the Faculty, but took no part in instruction. In 1856 the name of Amasa McCoy appears as Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory, which position he filled for several years.

Isaac Edwards, LL.D., succeeded to the chair of Professor Dean; Hon. Mathew Hale, LL.D., to that of Professor Parker; and C. T. F. Spoor, Esq., to that of Professor Harris.

In 1870 a large accession was made to the ranks of the students, and the Faculty was enlarged by the addition of William L. Learned, LL.D., Justice of the Supreme Court, who lectured on Equity, Jurisprudence, Civil Law, and the Trial of Causes; and William F. Allen, LL.D., then Judge of the Court of Appeals, who lectured on Real Estate.

In 1873 the University of Albany united with Union College to form Union University.

In 1874, Hon. John T. Hoffman, LL.D., Governor of the State of New York, was added to the Faculty, as Professor of the Law of Real Property.

In 1878, Eliphalet N. Potter, D.D., LL.D., became lecturer on the Feudal System; Henry Coppee, LL.D., on International Law; Hon. Henry E. Sickles on Evidence; and C. T. F. Spoor, Esq., on Practice and Pleading at Common Law and under the Code.

In 1879 Professor Edwards died, and was succeeded by Hon. Horace E. Smith, LL.D., as Dean, and lecturer on Personal Property, Contracts, Commercial Law, Common Law, Pleading, Torts, and Medical Jurisprudence. Henry S. McCall, Esq. and Irving Browne, Esq., entered the Faculty about this time, Professor McCall lecturing on Real Estate and Wills, and Professor Browne on Domestic Relations and Criminal Law.

Hon. Nathaniel C. Moak commenced to lecture before the school in 1883 on Books and Judicial Systems.

Professor Dean published a History of Civilization; Professor Edwards published several text-books, one on Bailments, another on Bills and Promissory Notes; and Professor McCall published a Form Book, and a work on Real Estate. Professor Sickles has long been Reporter of the Court of Appeals. Professor Parker published a series of Criminal Reports; Professor Browne edits the *Albany Law Journal*, and has published several text-books; Professor Moak has edited several legal text-books, and is publishing the English and the American Reports; and Professor Coppee has published a text-book on Logic and other works. So that a vast amount of literary work has been and is being done by the Professors of the Faculty. Judge Parker survives and is a trustee, though no longer a lecturer.

The first course of lectures was delivered in the Exchange Building, on the site now occupied by the Federal Building on the corner of State street and Broadway, commencing the first of December, 1881, and continuing sixteen weeks. The two following years the lectures were delivered in the Cooper Building on the corner of State and Green street, and continued for the same length of time.

In 1854, the south wing of the Medical College, now Alumni Hall, was erected for the law school, and the course was extended to two terms of twelve weeks each. This arrangement continued until 1880, when a two years' course was adopted. Now, to entitle a student to graduate with the degree of LL.B., he must have attended two years at the school, or one year of three full terms, preceded or supplemented by a year of approved legal study outside.

The exercises of the school consist of about three hundred and fifty lectures during the year; a weekly oral examination; two Moot Courts each week during most of the time; a written examination at the close of each term; and every candidate for graduation is required to read an original thesis upon some legal topic before the Dean, or some other member of the Faculty, and the school prior to the close of the course.

On the accession of Profesor Smith, it was evident to him that the building in the Medical College, where lectures had been delivered for a quarter of a century, was no longer suitable nor adequate to the requirement of the school, and a new site was found in the Universalist Church on the north side of State street, above Swan, to which the school was removed, and where it still remains. This building, through the liberality of Thomas W. Olcott, Esq., President of the Board of Trustees, was converted into a pleasant and very convenient building for school purposes. It was dedicated to its new use on the evening of March 10, 1879, when addresses were made by Hon. Amasa J. Parker, LL.D., Hon. Samuel Handl, Charles E. Smith, Esq., then editor of the *Albany Evening Journal*, and Professor Smith.

The first class that attended the law school in 1851, but graduated only seven in 1853, namely Edwin E. Bronk, Charles A. Fowler, Worthington Frothingham, Willard P. Gambell, John C. McClure, Edward Wade and George Walford, contained twenty-three members; in 1854 was fifty members; in 1855–56, eighty-five; 1857–58, one hundred and eight; in 1859–60, one hundred and twenty-nine. These statistics are taken from a historical sketch, published in "The Concordiensis," for December, 1883, and probably include all the students in attendance, many of whom did not receive diplomas.

The official catalogue shows, of actual graduates, in 1860–61, ninety; in 1861–62, fifty-seven; and in 1862–63, fifty-nine.

At the close of the war, the classes were larger than ever before, one class numbering one hundred and fifty members. At one time every rank in the army, from Private up to Brigadier-General, was represented among the students. For the last few years the classes are smaller than formerly, which is attributed to the great increase in the number of law schools throughout the country.

The Almuni Association was organized in 1883 under favorable anspices, which has awakened new interest in the school among the numerous graduates scattered throughout the land.

The writer entered the law school in the fall of 1860. At that time the three original Professors were there. Most of the instruction was given by Professor Dean, and all the routine work of the school fell to him, as well as the conduct of the Moot Courts, which were then, and are still, a part of the school system. We had then, the Kent Club, which still survives, after all the changes of nearly thirty years ago, when it was first organized, the Mansfield Club, and the Associated Congress, both of which are now defunct. It was during our time that Judge Harris was elected to the United States Senate.

In the following spring, at the outbreak of the Rebellion, a drill company of the students was organized under the Captaincy of William P. Prentice. Many of the members afterwards joined the army.

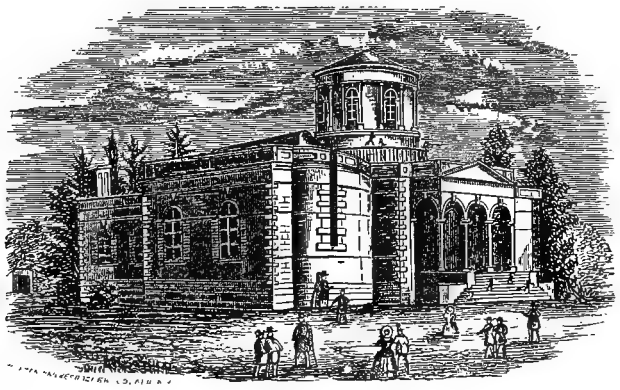
No record is found of any earlier clubs than those above named, but a year or two later we find mention of the Webster Club; and in 1872 of the University Court, Edwards, Allen, and 290 Clubs; University Lyceum, Literary Association, and Associated Congress. The Kent Club is not mentioned in this list, although it was subsequently revived, or else another bearing the same name, which stands on the present list, along with the Learned, the Smith Debating, the McCall Real Estate, the Edwards Moot Court, and the Sickles Moot Court Clubs.

The present attendance is about fifty students, and the Faculty consists of Learned, Smith, President Potter, Hale, McCall, Spoor, Sickles, Brown and Moak.

It is considered one of the best law schools in the country.

DUDLEY OBSERVATORY.

The Dudley Observatory is located in the northern part of the city, near the line of the Central Railroad. The grounds on which it is placed are the highest in Albany, and are 200 feet above mean tide. They are about eight acres in extent, and are planted with trees and shrubbery. The buildings consist of the Astronomical, the Meteorological and the Physical Observatories, and a large dwelling-house, the official residence of the director. The Astronomical Observatory is a handsome structure of brick and freestone, in the general form of a cross,



DUDLEY OBSERVATORY.

80 by 70 feet. It is surmounted by a large revolving turret, which contains the great equatorial refractor of 13-inches aperture, and 15-feet focal length. In the west wing of the Observatory is a large and excellent transit instrument, which is among the latest productions of the celebrated firm of Pistor & Martins, of Berlin. In the east wing is the great Olcott meridian circle, one of the largest and finest of its class. This instrument is also the work of Pistor & Martins. Its optical qualities are not exceeded by any similar instrument in the world. The object-glass is eight inches in diameter, and the telescope is about ten feet in length. The mounting of this instrument is specially massive and costly. Its principal feature consists in three enormous monoliths of limestone, of which one, weighing several tons, forms the cap-stone of the main pier, while the other two, weighing each nearly eight tons, rest upright upon this and serve as the direct supports of the instrument. In the same room is a variety of delicate and costly apparatus auxiliary to the principal instrument, which is in constant use for the most refined operations of astronomy, and employs the chief activities of the observing corps. Among other remarkable instruments belonging to the Observatory are the Sheutz tabulating engine, the Clark comet-seeker, the disk and printing chronographs, astronomical clocks, self-recording meteorological instruments, etc. The Observatory also possesses an astronomical library of about 2,000 volumes, besides numerous pamphlets and charts.

This institution was founded by the munificence of Mrs. Blandina Dudley, widow of the late Hon. Charles E. Dudley, and leading citizens of Albany. The act of incorporation was secured in 1852. The Observatory building was formally dedicated to astronomy in August, 1856, under the auspices of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (which that year held its annual session in this city), and in the presence of many distinguished men of science from abroad. Geological Hall had been opened on the previous day. The address commemorating the inauguration of the Dudley Observatory was delivered in the Academy Park by Edward Everett, and has since become celebrated as a fine specimen of American oratory. Previous to the delivery of the address, an additional gift of $50,000 to the Observatory was unexpectedly announced from Mrs. Dudley, whereupon Professor Agassiz, who was seated on the platform, arose, and, delightedly swinging his hat, proposed, in trumpet tones: "Three cheers for Mrs. Dudley!" It is needless to say that the audience was electrified, and warmly responded to the summons.

The total donations to the Observatory up to the present time exceed $200,000. Of this sum, Mrs. Dudley gave $105,000. More than $100,000 have

been expended in buildings and equipment, and about $100,000 is safely invested as a permanent fund for the support of the institution.

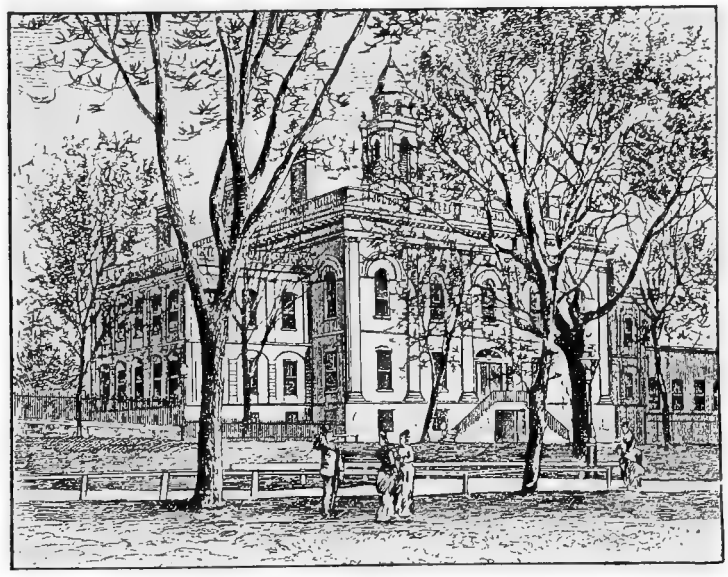
Since 1878, the astronomical operations of the Observatory have experienced a new impulse, in the zone work, which has been undertaken in co-operation with European observatories, under the general direction of the International Astronomical Society. In aid of this enterprise, considerable donations have been made by citizens of Albany and others.

From the normal clock of the Observatory, standard time is furnished to the various railroad and telegraph offices in this vicinity. At 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. the fire bells of the city are struck in coincidence with a signal from the Observatory clock, by the Fire Alarm Telegraph Service. At noon each day, the standard time of the Observatory is transmitted over the lines of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company's system of railroads, and also over some of the Western Union telegraph lines. There is also a system of clocks controlled electrically from the Observatory.

Among the distinguished astronomers who have been in charge of this Observatory are Dr. B. A. Gould, now Chief Astronomer of the Argentine Confederation, South America; Professor O. M. Mitchel, who afterwards died in 1862, Major-General of a corps U. S. Volunteers; and Dr. Brunnow, since Astronomer-Royal of Ireland. The present Astronomer and Director is Professor Lewis Boss, a graduate of Dartmouth College. The management of the Observatory is intrusted to a board of sixteen Trustees. The Observatory is opened Tuesday evenings, when visitors are admitted in limited numbers.

THE ALBANY ACADEMY.

In the summer of 1780, the question of erecting an Academy in the city occupied much of the attention of the Common Council, and in September of that year the matter had proceeded so far that proposals were accepted by George W. Merchant, of Philadelphia, to take charge of the same in school-rooms which had been fitted up for the



ALBANY ACADEMY.

Academy until more convenient buildings could be erected. These school-rooms were in the house occupied by Mr. Ryckman.

As early as 1804, the citizens of Albany held a meeting to devise ways and means to establish an Academy, but without immediate results. Again in 1806 the agitation was renewed, only to be again abandoned or deferred. At last in November, 1812, notwithstanding the war with England, then just commencing, under the auspices of Philip S. Van Rensselaer, then Mayor of the city, the movement was resumed, and January 18, 1813, the Common Council called a meeting of citizens to be held at the Capitol on January 25th. It also appropriated the old jail, on the south side of State street, just below Eagle street, now the site of Van Vechten Hall, then valued at $15,000; also about $5,000 of other property.

The institution was incorporated March 4, 1813, by the Regents of the University. The first Board of Trustees was composed of Stephen Van Rensselaer, John Lansing, Archibald McIntyre, Smith Thompson, Abraham Van Vechten, John V. Henry, Henry Walton, Rev. Wm. Niell, Rev. John M. Bradford, Rev. John McDonald, Rev. Timothy Clowes, Rev. John McJimpsey, Rev. Frederic G. Meyer, Rev. Samuel Merwin, and the Mayor and Recorder of Albany, *ex officio*. The Trustees held their first meeting March 23, 1813.

The Common Council donated the site where the Academy building now stands, between Elk street and the Capitol Park. They also appropriated

funds for the building, and further grants were made by the Regents of the University and by private citizens.

On July 29, 1815, the corner-stone was laid, and the building was erected within the two following years at a cost of $90,000. Some of the inside work however was not finished till many years later. It is a handsome freestone structure, consisting of a main building 70 by 80 feet, with wings on each end 30 by 45 feet; with a cupola surmounting the central portion of the main building.

Meanwhile the school opened temporarily, in a large wooden building owned by Kilian Van Rensselaer, on the southeast corner of State and Lodge streets. Here on the 11th of September, 1815, the first session was held, under the presidency of Benjamin Allen, LL.D., then recently from Cambridge, and previously from Union College. The Principal and Rev. Joseph Shaw, Professor of Languages, together with Trustees Niell, Beck and Sedgwick, welcomed the first students to the Academy. There were about eighty enrolled that year. The Faculty was soon afterwards augmented by the accession of Moses Chapin, afterwards Judge Chapin, of Rochester, as tutor.

In August, 1817, Theodoric Romeyn Beck, M.D., LL.D., was appointed principal, and continued to hold that office till 1848, with the exception of the period from 1841 to 1844, when Rev. Andrew Shiland acted as Principal. At the accession of Dr. Beck, the present building was occupied, in September, 1817. It was during Dr. Beck's time that the events occured which have made the Albany Academy world-renowned. He was born at Schenectady in 1791; graduated at Union College in 1807; and, at the time of his accession to the principalship, he was a practicing physician in Albany. He combined extensive erudition with a rare faculty as an educator. His especial delight was in chemical, geological and meteorological studies, and he organized courses of lectures on chemistry which were largely attended by citizens as well as students. He and his brother, John B., published the work on "Medical Jurisprudence," which has ever since been a standard authority, and is still referred to, notwithstanding the great advance in science during the generation that has passed since its publication. He also took great interest in the State Library, and contributed largely by his efforts in building it up to its present stage of usefulness. Another brother, Lewis C. Beck, was for a time Professor of Chemistry, and author of a text-book of that science, and of several other works.

But it was reserved for Joseph Henry, LL.D., Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy from 1826 to 1832, to make within the historic walls a discovery of more profound significance and far-reaching results than almost any other—that of the possibility of conducting the electric curent through long distances, and transmitting signals which could be understood by a mere touch of the key at the other, perhaps distant, end of a wire. In 1830, and subsequent years, he coiled in an upper room of the Academy a mile or more of wire, and for the first time transmitted through it those electric signals which have since become so well known wherever the electric telegraph extends; and where does it not? Professor Henry afterwards organized the Smithsonian Institution at Washington.

Rev. Peter Bullions, D.D., was Professor of Latin and Greek from 1824 to 1848. He published a series of Latin and Greek text-books which were extensively used, and have passed through numerous editions, being still preferred by many educators to any other. His style is clear and simple, and easy to grasp and remember. He adopted the continental system of pronouncing Latin.

In 1823, and for several years subsequently, four boys each year were promoted from the Lancasterian school and educated in the Academy.

Since 1836, when H. W. Delavan died, and left by will $2,000 to the Academy, the income of this sum has been used to educate five poor boys from year to year, no one receiving the benefit of the fund for a longer period than two years. The income now suffices only to educate one or two boys. Some of the most brilliant of the Academy Alumni have been beneficiaries of this fund.

The medal system too, dates from the Beck *regime*. In 1831, William Caldwell gave $100, the income of which was to be devoted each year to the purchase of a medal for the student of four years' standing who has made the greatest proficiency in mathematics. The first recipient was William Austin. In 1832, the record says "no public examination in consequence of the prevalence of the cholera." We thus learn that the original design was to determine the question of proficiency by examination; but this method had fallen into disuse at the time the writer first became an academician, in 1854, and the four medals that were thereafter distributed were given without any explanation of the method, and were generally supposed to be awarded in conformity with the notion of the Principal, except the Beck medal for literary essay, which was awarded by a committee. The original method of examination has now been restored, and the number and variety of awards at the annual exercises is bewilderingly great. Competition for the earlier medals was limited to students who had been for three or four years in attendance, and as students used to publish burlesque programmes, this was spoken of in these burlesques as a distribution of medals for long attendance.

From the time of the first occupancy ot the Academy building, the Albany Institute has had a room there, where meetings are held twice a month, and the Institute library is kept.

The later Principals have been Rev. William H. Campbell, 1848–51; George H. Cook, A. M., 1851–53; Rev. William A. Miller, A. M., 1853–56; David Murray, Ph.D., LL.D., 1856–63; James W. Mason, A. M., 1863–68; Rev. Abel Wood, 1869–70; Merrill E. Gates, Ph.D., LL.D., 1870–82.

In 1856, the merit roll system of marks and grading was adopted, and has continued ever since.

For a long time prior to 1858, the records show no graduating class, and but very rarely a diploma conferred. In that year a class of six was gradu-

ated, and from that time on, graduating classes have been the order of the Academy. This first class, given in the order of the catalogue, which is a transcript from the merit roll, consisted of William H. Hale, Charles E. Smith, Edward S. Lawson, Thomas M. Gaffney, Thaddeus R. White, and Thomas S. Willes.

In the spring of 1862, the Academy was converted into a military school, with cadet uniform and drill.

A semi-centennial celebration was held at Tweddle Hall, June 26, 1863, which was presided over by Peter Gansevoort, for fifty-one years a Trustee, and for twenty-one years President of the Board of Trustees. Prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. Isaac Ferris, Chancellor of the University of New York, formerly a Tutor in the Academy. Valuable historical addresses were made by Orlando Meads, Esq., and Alexander W. Bradford, LL. D., both former students. A commemorative volume was also published, containing a list of all former students, believed to be complete, except for the years 1839–47, in which there is some confusion of the records.

The Academy was formerly inclosed by a high iron fence, which has within a few years been removed, and the Park neatly laid out in conformity with the modern ideas of landscape gardening.

Many historic associations cluster around this Park. It was here, in August, 1856, under the auspices of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, that the Dudley Observatory was dedicated, with the immortal address by Edward Everett. Here, too, in 1864, was held the Sanitary Fair for the benefit of the Union army.

Between six and seven thousand students have at one time or another been enrolled on the lists of the Academy. Its instructors have numbered over one hundred and thirty, not counting repeated names. Many, both teachers and pupils, have become eminent.

From the original complement of two, the Faculty has increased in number to fourteen, under the direction of James M. Cassety, Ph. D., the present Principal, who entered into the office in 1882. The number of students on the catalogue of 1884 was 322, said to be the largest attendance in the history of the institution.

A notable circumstance is the drafts which Rutgers College has made upon the Principals, she having called Campbell and Gates to the presidency, and Cook and Murray to professorships. Principals Beck and Murray have been Secretaries to the Regents of the University of the State of New York, and Presidents of the Albany Institute.

The hours of instruction have always been, as now, from nine o'clock until two.

There were no literary societies until September 28, 1849, when Principal Campbell called a meeting of some of the older boys, and a few who had but recently left the Academy, and suggested to them the desirability of organizing a society. The students thus assembled, thirty-two in number, formed the *Alpha Sigma* society, taking their name from the Greek letters which form the initials of the words *Anthropoi Sophoi*, wise people. This society is said, however, to have had some other motto with the same initials. Possibly as the lads matured they concluded to adopt the better Greek of *Andres Sophoi*, wise men. The first president was John T. McKnight; one of the presidents subsequently was John E. McElroy. To this society was entrusted the management of the Academy's semi-centennial. Very few new members were ever elected, and the membership dwindled to about sixteen in 1871, when the last meeting of which there is any record was held on December 26th, and William Headlam was elected president. Since these lines were written, on January 8, 1885, the society reconvened.

The *Phi Mu Alpha* (*Phren Metron Andros*) was founded November 26, 1851, and its first meeting held December 5th of the same year. Its first president was J. Campbell Boyd. The last meeting recorded was held in March, 1855, and the last president was William Lansing. In those days, the society's desk, with the Greek letters inscribed on it, stood in the school-room, and proved a perplexing mystery to the boys who were not initiated.

The *Delta Sigma Gamma* (*Demokratikos Sullogos Grammatos*) originated about 1853 or 1854, and continued to meet regularly till about 1860.

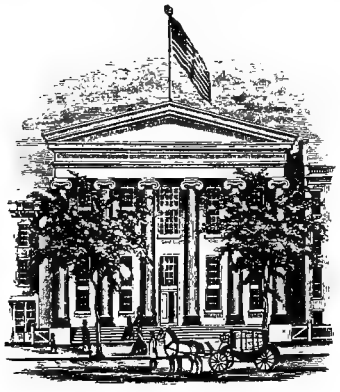
The longest lived society in connection with the Academy was organized December 11, 1857, and continues to the present day. As a name for it, *Nu Lambda Epsilon* (*Neanion Logike Ekklesia*), Youth's Debating Society, was adopted. A few years later this was changed to the Beck Literary Society, and the days of the Greek letter societies were numbered. The first president was William H. Fassett, another name which has become celebrated by the renown of the lady whom he afterwards married, who acquired great celebrity as a contralto singer. This society was developed out of a prior organization called the Young American Assembly, which used to co-operate with the Young American Senate till the latter broke up and left the Assembly to become a literary instead of a political union. Among the leading members of the Young American Senate should be named its first president, Charles E. Smith, who there learned the elements of that political skill which in later life made him the framer of numerous political platforms at the Conventions of the Republican party.

The *Nu Lambda Epsilon*, or Beck Literary Society, was the only society in the Academy for nearly a quarter of a century—not reckoning the *Alpha Sigma*, whose members were no longer schoolboys—till the Gates Literary Society was founded September 24, 1883, with Edmund C. Knickerbocker as first president, and it now divides with the elder organization the honors of the Academy.

ALBANY FEMALE ACADEMY.

A school for the higher education of Albany girls was started in this city, mainly through the efforts of Ebenezer Foot, a prominent lawyer of his day. It was opened on May 21, 1814, in

a one-story building on Montgomery street, and known as Union School. It was incorporated, under the title of the Albany Female Academy,



Female Academy.

February 16, 1821. The first Board of Trustees were James Kent, John Chester, Joseph Russell, John V. Henry, Asa H. Center, Gideon Hawley, William Fowler, Teunis Van Vechten and Peter Boyd, who in the same year built a school building, in the rear of the Delavan House, at a cost of $3,000, capable of accommodating 120 pupils. The growth of the institution more than met the expectation of its early friends. In 1833, the school building was again outgrown by the increasing number of its pupils, when the present edifice on North Pearl street was begun. It was finished in 1834 at a cost of $30,000, and opened May 12, 1834. Its architecture was planned by Jonathan Lyman, and was pleasing in effect and well adapted to its uses. The front faces the east, and is ornamented with a beautiful hexa-style portico of the Ionic order. The proportions of the columns, capitals, bases and entablature are taken from the temple on the Ilissus, the most beautiful example of the Ionic among the remains of antiquity.

The first principal was Horace Goodrich, who was succeeded by Edwin James, and then, in 1815, by Lebbeus Booth, who remained until 1824, when Frederick Matthews came in charge. Alonzo Crittenden succeeded Mr. Matthews in 1826, and remained as principal until 1845, during which period the success of the Academy was remarkable. He was a pioneer in advanced female education in America. L. Sprague Parsons was Mr. Crittenden's successor, remaining at the head of the school until his resignation in 1854, when he was succeeded by Eben S. Stearns, who resigned in 1868. Miss Caroline G. Greeley became, for a brief term, his successor. Miss Louisa Ostrom soon after became principal, and remained as such until 1879, since which time, with a short intermission, it has been under the management of Miss Lucy A. Plympton, who has advanced its high character.

The Academy is now in a flourishing condition. The corps of professors and teachers is full and efficient. The course of study extends from the kindergarten through a post-graduate course, inclusive of elocution, music, drawing and painting. It is the oldest institution in the world devoted exclusively to the higher education of women. The Presidents of the Board of Trustees have been James Kent, John Chester, Isaac Ferris, Greene C. Bronson, John Ludlow, John W. Campbell, William L. Marcy, Amasa J. Parker, and William L. Learned. Miss Lucy A. Plympton, the present judicious and energetic principal since 1879, is a native of Massachusetts and a graduate of a leading female college in New Hampshire.

CONVENT AND ACADEMY OF THE SACRED HEART.

The Right Rev. John McCloskey, Bishop of Albany, desirous of procuring the advantages of higher education for the Catholic young ladies of his diocese, made application for *religieuse*, in 1853, to the Mother House of the Ladies of the Sacred Heart, at Paris, France. These *religieuse* had a high reputation for learning and refined culture.

His request was granted, and the Rev. Mother Hardy, the Provincial for the United States, by the direction of the Mother-General, sent Mothers Jennings and Dunn, with several companions, from the convent at Manhattanville to found an Academy and School at Albany.

Upon their arrival in the city, they opened a boarding and day school in the Westerlo Mansion at No. 41 North Pearl street. The pupils increased so rapidly that it was found necessary to provide more ample accommodation for them; and, for this purpose, the extensive and beautiful grounds of Thomas Hillhouse, on the Troy road, were purchased.

The building was altered and fitted up for an academy, and the pupils and the *religieuse* took possession of their new home.

In 1858, the magnificent residence of Joel Rathbone, situated on the Bethlehem Turnpike, near the village of Kenwood, was offered for sale.

The house, which had been lately erected, was elegant and commodious, and attached to it were forty acres of land, laid out in gardens, groves and flower-beds.

The Ladies of the Sacred Heart, deeming the site very desirable for an academy, on account of its situation, commanding, as it does, for several miles a charming landscape of the Hudson and its valley, by the permission of Bishop McCloskey, requested the Very Rev. J. J. Conroy and Mr. John Tracey to purchase it for them.

The purchase was accordingly made for the sum of $45,000.

The property on the Troy road was sold, and the academy and school were removed to Kenwood.

The house of Mr. Rathbone, though large, soon became inadequate for the daily increasing number of applicants for admission to the academy. In 1856, a large building was erected, affording accommodation for about two hundred pupils.

On account of the retired and quiet situation of the convent at Kenwood, Rev. Mother Hardy considered it particularly adapted to the training and

formation of novices and young *religieuses*. She therefore resolved to remove the novitiate from Manhattanville to Albany.

The original dwelling of Mr. Rathbone was taken down, and the materials incorporated into a large wing to serve as the novitiate and training academy for those young ladies who wished to consecrate themselves to God as *religieuses* of the Sacred Heart.

There are usually in this building about fifty novices.

To provide chapel room for the sisters and pupils, Mother Hardy erected a large and beautiful chapel. It is situated in the center of the building between the academy and novitiate. It is of Gothic architecture, and the interior is elegantly carved and decorated. There are three beautiful marble altars, the gifts of friends to the academy.

The convent is situated on the brow of a hill, and presents a river front of three hundred and ten feet. It is heated by steam and has all the modern improvements for cooking, laundry purposes, etc. The convent and the grounds around it are laid out with great taste. The buildings are estimated to have cost over $200,000.

On the grounds, at some distance from the academy, is a large and commodious school-house, in which one hundred and sixty children receive a gratuitous education in all branches usually taught in the common schools.

In the academy the young lady pupils are instructed in all branches of higher and refined modern education.

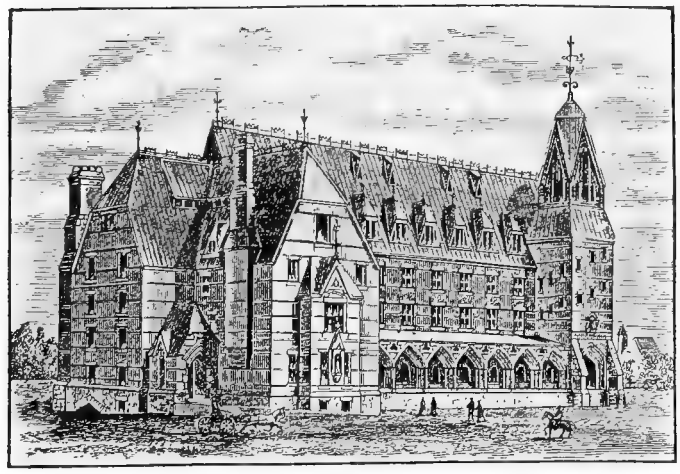
Numbered among its Superiors are the Rev. Mothers Hardy, Jones, Thompson, Peacock, Henratty, Dunn, Fowler, Hogan and O'Rorke.

For several years the Ladies of the Sacred Heart conducted a day school in the city. Their first day academy was opened corner of Broadway and Wilson street. They afterwards removed to 766 Broadway, and in 1868 purchased the mansion of the late Thurlow Weed, on Beaver street. They had a daily attendance of one hundred scholars.

In 1871, to the great regret of the Catholics of Albany, their day school was closed, and was merged into the academy at Kenwood.

ST. AGNES' SCHOOL.

This school was founded in 1870 by the Right Rev. William Croswell Doane, Bishop of Albany, for the education of Christian women. The Corning Foundation for Christian Work was incorporated March 14, 1871; the ground for the building erected on this foundation was broken May 8th,



ST. AGNES' SCHOOL

and the corner-stone laid June 19, 1871. It was modeled after St. Mary's Hall, Burlington, N. J.

The school was opened Hallowe'en, 1872. The financial basis of this worthy institution was laid by the Hon Erastus Corning, Sr. In all its appointments this worthy institution is successfully carrying out its noble purpose, the training of our girls into the learning and character demanded in an intelligent, Christian womanhood in this age. Its situation is admirable; its guardianship and teaching judicious. The building accommodates 110 with board and lodging; its graduates number over 225; its annual attendance is about 200 pupils. Its trustees are Rt. Rev. Bishop William C. Doane, S.T.D., LL.D., Erastus Corning, Walter A. Wood, Thomas Hun, James G. Averill, Selden E. Marvin, Amos P. Palmer, Abraham Van Vechten and Erastus Corning, Jr.

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' ACADEMY,

132 State street, was founded in 1864, and incorporated by the University Regents of New York, August 3, 1869. The object of the institution is to train young men for business or college life. Besides the ordinary training, it offers a purely moral and religious education to its students. Though attended mainly by Catholics, yet no ob-

jection is made to the reception of students of other denominations, who are, however, obliged to assist at the religious instructions given.

The course of studies in the academic department embraces rhetoric, essay-writing, literature, debate, extempore speaking, oratory, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, surveying, navigation, calculus, Latin, German or French, architectural and ornamental design, and the duties of a Christian.

The commercial course, specially adapted to prepare young men for mercantile pursuits, embraces arithmetic, penmanship, reading, grammar, composition, phonography, book-keeping, German and plan-drawing.

Many of its former students at present rank high in the ecclesiastical and legal professions, both in this city and elsewhere.

The staff consists of six members of the order of Christian Brothers, and several secular professors.

ALBANY BUSINESS COLLEGE

is located at 51 and 53 North Pearl street, Carnell & Carhart, proprietors. C. E. Carhart, President, J. R. Carnell, Business Manager. Faculty, C. E. Carhart, J. R. Carnell, E. G. Folsom, B. H. Spencer, C. H. Gorsline, B. S. Hoit, O. Hazelton.

This institution is devoted to the practical education of young men and women, and was established by Bryant & Stratton, January 1, 1857, as one of their system of business colleges then and now located in every important city in the Union. No change of location has occurred in the history of the college, and but few in its management.

Prof. E. G. Folsom, who may be said to be the father of the present system of business colleges, after several years' experience in teaching book-keeping and penmanship at Cleveland, Ohio, came to Albany in 1862, where he remained as an earnest and successful commercial teacher until 1884. He was the first to introduce commercial law in the curriculum of business studies; the first to add political economy and business ethics; among the first, if not the first, to introduce the modern system of actual practice into the course of instruction. As an author, Mr. Folsom is widely known. His "Logic of Accounts" is a work of recognized merit among business educators. Mr. Folsom was born May 1, 1821, in Ashtabula County, Ohio, and graduated from Oberlin College in 1847. Bryant and Stratton were Prof. Folsom's pupils in his Mercantile College at Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. Folsom was associated as proprietor. with Bryant & Stratton until 1866, and from 1878 to 1884 with C. E. Carhart, at which time he disposed of his interest to J. R. Carnell, who was, for ten years, proprietor of the Troy Business College, the two gentlemen last mentioned being now the college proprietors.

During the twenty-nine years of its existence, the Albany Business College has had upon its rolls the names of some five thousand pupils; and today its representatives may be found in every line of honorable occupation. The branches taught embrace book-keeping by single and double entry, arithmetic, penmanship, correspondence, business practice, spelling, reading, grammar, stenography, type-writing, telegraphy and commercial law. Mr. Carhart's text-book on "Business Law" has long been recognized as a standard work on that subject.

The annual attendance at the day and evening sessions of the college now averages three hundred pupils.

CHAUTAUQUA LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC CIRCLE.

There is a branch of the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle in Albany, formed in 1880 by Mrs. J. B. Jump, and Misses Gussie Lord, Anna K. Staats, Ada Viele and Eva Kennedy. During the first year, and since, lectures have been given by Rev. Dr. J. H. Vincent, the founder of the institution, and others. Regular meetings are held at which literary subjects are discussed. It now numbers about seventy-five members. Its exercises are of great literary advantage to its members. It includes a course of study, which contemplates a graduating diploma when completed.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

The Industrial School, on Beaver street, near Daniel, is under the care of the Children's Friend Society, which was organized in 1856, and incorporated April 7, 1863. The managers seek to gather into the school, vagrant children who, from poverty or vice of parents, are unable to attend the public schools, and to instruct them in morals, industry and the elements of learning. Girls are received between the ages of four and fifteen; boys, four to fourteen. The school is supported by individual and church contributions and sales of articles. Number of scholars, 160. The new building cost, including ground, $15,500; was completed and dedicated in the spring of 1884; and is free from debt.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY.

The New York State Library was founded by act of the Legislature, passed April 21, 1818. The Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Chancellor, and Chief-Justice of the Supreme Court for the time being, were constituted a Board of Trustees, who were directed to cause to be fitted up some proper room in the Capitol, for the purpose of keeping therein a public library for the use of the government and the people of the State. The Trustees of this period had mainly in view the collection of an extensive library of law books, and a great proportion of the appropriations were expended for this department. The Legislature, however, needed for consultation works on political economy, and books on such other subjects that touched upon their legislative labor, and thus the field for collection was gradually enlarged. For

thirty years the library continued under the control of the officers above mentioned as Trustees (to whom, in 1824, were added the Secretary of State, Attorney-General, and Comptroller), and its magnitude and importance then made it necessary that a more permanent Board of Trustees should be intrusted with its management. Accordingly, on the 4th of May, 1844, the Legislature enacted that the Regents of the University should be the Trustees of this library. Upon assuming this trust they caused an inventory of the library to be taken, and its whole arrangement was reconstructed. One result of the inventory was the discovery that three hundred and eleven volumes were missing, some of which, however, were recovered by advertising. It was determined to be important to secure for the State every historical work illustrating American history, and especially the history of New York. The growth of the library has been a steady one, depending on a moderate annual appropriation, which has heen increased some years for the special purpose of large collections. Among such notably was the Warden collection in 1843, made by David B. Warden in Europe, numbering over two thousand volumes relating to American history.

In 1853, the Legislature authorized the purchase of the correspondence and other papers of George Clinton, the first Governor of the State. These manuscripts are of the highest importance, covering the period of the Revolutionary War, and illustrating the part taken by New York in the struggle for independence. They have been bound in twenty-three folio volumes, and a calendar since added. A copious index to all names mentioned in these papers is now in preparation. Enough of other Clinton manuscripts have since been procured to fill ten similar volumes. The papers found on the person of Major Andre by his captors at Tarrytown, were among the Clinton manuscripts, and have been framed and put under glass. The papers of Sir William Johnson, covering a period of the history of Central New York from 1738 to 1774, were also purchased and arranged, and bound in twenty-two folio volumes.

In 1854 the library was removed to a new building, west of the old Capitol, constructed by the direction of the Legislature of 1851. It was intended to be fire-proof, and was so considered before the great fires of Chicago and Boston. It was intended to accommodate 100,000 volumes; it had, before the removal to the new Capitol, packed and padded on the shelves, over 125,000 volumes, besides scores of volumes of atlases and thousands of duplicate books for exchange. The duplicate volumes are chiefly the reports of the several departments of the State Government and Institutions, and books presented to the library from time to time by various persons. In order to make room for preparing the approach to the new Capitol on the east, it was decided to take down the building. The library was removed during the months of September and October, 1883, to the new Capitol, the law library occupying the well-known golden corridor and the general library the adjoining room, formerly prepared for the Court of Appeals. This is inadequate to afford shelf-room for all the books, but nearly all are accessible to the public. Ample rooms are in process of preparation on the third floor of the west side of the Capitol.

The library of to-day represents the best thoughts of the human mind and the record of human action for the last six thousand years. While every department of letters is represented on the shelves, yet the library is by far the richest in works relating to American history. Hundreds of books have been printed in this country in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, of the editions of which not twenty copies remain undestroyed. Quiet, unremitting watchfulness and care for the past thirty years have succeeded in gathering in most of these publications, so that few libraries on this continent are richer in early Americana. The library does not seek literary curiosities as such; but when a book is offered which is needed to complete the set of laws, or illustrate the history of the State, it is obtained, as when, in the spring of 1880, $1,600 was paid at auction for the first book of the laws of the State, of which but two or three perfect copies are known to be in existence. The library contains, in addition to these rare or almost unique volumes, many illustrated volumes of travels, of natural history, and of ancient and modern art. Among these are "Kingsborough's Mexican Antiquities," the text of which is mainly in the Spanish and Italian languages; the great work on Egypt, in twelve folio volumes, executed under orders of Napoleon I; "Audubon's Birds of America," in four volumes, elephant folio; and twenty volumes illustrating the humming birds of Central and South America. The leading journals of France and England are represented in almost complete files of the *Moniteur* and London *Times*. Sixty thousand pamphlets have been preserved, to illustrate every phase of human industry, eccentricity, passion, patriotism, stupidity, or genius, The collection of American genealogies is, perhaps, unsurpassed by any other country. About three thousand volumes of specifications and drawings of English patents are stored on the shelves, besides those of the United States, Canada, France, and Victoria. Hardly a library day in the year passes that one or more readers do not ask to consult some of these patent volumes. The law library has but one equal in the extent and value of its collections in this country, and that is the Library of Congress at Washington. Every book and pamphlet in the library is catalogued under the author's name, in alphabetical order, and in addition to this catalogue is a subject-index, in which, under subjects presented in alphabetical order, are given the treatises, in book or pamphlet form, upon that subject.

In addition to the books, other articles of value and interest have drifted in as to a safe place of deposit for the inspection of visitors. Among these are a sword and pistol and the surveying instruments of Washington; busts of some of the eminent statesmen of New York; portraits in oil of many of the Governors, and of the Regents of the University, and a numismatic collection of considerable value. It is a reference library, and only members of the

Legislature, heads of departments of the State government, and the Trustees of the library have the privilege of taking books to their residences. There is hardly a field of human industry that is not represented in applicants for information to assist them in their several spheres of labor in office, workshop, or outdoor occupation.

The library is open daily from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M., except Sundays and holidays, and from the 5th to the 20th of August.

The new rooms now being prepared for the library consist of one large reading-room and several smaller store-rooms for the books, from which the attendants in charge will bring the volumes required by readers. The stairway leading to the library will be the most magnificent one in the Capitol.

ALBANY INSTITUTE.

The Society of the Albany Institute dates back through other organizations, of which it is the legitimate successor, to the year 1791. Its charter was granted February 27, 1829, the Society for the Promotion of Useful Arts and the Albany Lyceum of Natural History having consolidated under that name. Its membership has included many persons of distinction as scholars and in professional and civil life. Its standard publications are ten volumes of Transactions, two of Proceedings, and one entitled "Field Meetings of the Albany Institute." The annual fee for resident members is $5. There are now about two hundred members. Meetings are held each alternate Tuesday evening, from October to June, in the Albany Academy.

The library contains about six thousand volumes, and many old newspapers, including a collection made by De Witt Clinton; but, owing to lack of proper accommodations, it is not easily accessible; hence, not very useful. The institution is respectable, and has been very useful; but it needs among its members more vitalizing influences, and ought to command more popular sympathy.

YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION.

The Young Men's Association, rooms corner of North Pearl and Steuben streets, is the oldest institution of its character in the United States. It was founded, with a membership of about 750, December 10, 1833. Amos Dean was its first President, elected December 13th, and re-elected at first annual meeting, February 3, 1834. It was incorporated March 12, 1835, for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a library, reading-room, literary and scientific lectures, and other means of promoting moral and intellectual improvement. For twenty-two years it sustained a debating society. It occupied rooms in Knickerbocker Hall, on Broadway, where Nos. 451 and 453 now are, until 1840; in Exchange Building, where the new Government Building now stands, until 1852; in the Commercial Bank Building until 1870; in Music Hall Building until 1877, when it came to its present rooms, having leased the Bleecker Building, on North Pearl, Steuben and Chapel streets, for ten years, with right to re-lease for ten years longer. It has some valuable pictures, a good variety of current magazines and newspapers, and a well-selected circulating and reference library of about seventeen thousand volumes. Its largest benefactions have been $1,000 in books from Dr. George Cooke; $10,000 in a bequest from Hon. Erastus Corning; and $1,000 from Miss Catherine Quackenbush. All real estate and vested funds are under management of a board of trustees. The ordinary affairs are managed by a board of managers, eighteen in number. Life members, of which there are over one hundred and eighty living, pay $50 at one time. Annual members, male and female, pay $2. The Association deserves, as it has, the strongest claims upon the sympathy and support of the best men and women of Albany. A catalogue of two hundred and ninety pages, prepared by Professor Jonathan Tenney, was published in 1880, and a supplement of forty-two pages in 1882. Annual election occurs fourth Thursday in March. Membership about 2,000.

Presidents of the Association from its organization to the present: Amos Dean, Robert E. Ward, Charles A. Hopkins, John Davis, Robert H. Pruyn, Denison Worthington, William E. Bleecker, Charles P. Smyth, Walter R. Bush, Arthur C. Southwick, Rufus King, Charles H. Stanton, Franklin Townsend, William A. Rice, Hooper C. Van Vorst, George B. Steele, William Dey Ermand, Rufus G. Beardslee, James I. Johnson, Theodore Townsend, Gilbert L. Wilson, George C. Lee, Ralph P. Lathrop, Richard Merrifield, Clinton Cassidy, Charles T. Shepard, Robert L. Johnson, Charles P. Easton, Edmund L. Judson, John T. McKnight, John Templeton, Samuel Hand, Franklin Edson, William D. Morange, Edward De Forest, Frank Chamberlain, Robert Lenox Banks, Grenville Tremain, John S. Delevan, Frederick T. Martin, John Swinburne, Henry C. Littlefield, Charles A. Robertson, Amasa J. Parker, Jr., Fred. W. Brown, Jacob S. Mosher, Thurlow Weed Barnes, John M. Bigelow, William P. Rudd, George E. Oliver, Fred'k Harris, Oren E. Wilson, Eugene Burlingame, Isaac D. F. Lansing. The successive librarians of the association are as follows: Robert Gray, Abraham F. Lansing, William C. Minor, Abraham F. Lansing, Joseph F. Winne, Dwight Adams, Jonathan Tenney, Cornelius H. Chase, Joshua E. Crane. It is the only popular library in the city and, by its lectures, books and periodicals, has been a great blessing to the citizens. In 1883 it celebrated its semi-centennial.

DANA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

This ranks among the leading literary societies of Albany. It was organized November 19, 1868, at a meeting of ladies, and named in honor of Professor James D. Dana, of Yale College. Its active members are all ladies of scientific tastes and culture, who meet statedly for the study of nature, and are engaged in collecting a library and cabinet to aid in this study. At its meetings papers are read, recent scientific facts reported and principles

discussed. Public lectures are given occasionally by scientists, and classes in botany, geology and other special topics in science are formed. Field meetings in the country are usually held in late spring and early autumn, oftentimes in connection with the Albany Institute and Troy Scientific Association.

The number of members is not far from one hundred, including honorary members, among whom are Professors Dana, Hall, Peck, Lintner, Tenney, Ward, Boss, Perkins, Bradley, Prescott and other scientific gentlemen. Its Presidents have been Miss Lottie Titcomb, 1868; Mrs. David A. Thompson, 1869; Mrs. William Barnes, 1870–71; Mrs. Daniel J. Pratt, 1871–72; Mrs. Arthur Bott, 1873–74; Mrs. John E. Bradley, 1874–75; Mrs. Jonathan Tenney, 1875–82; Mrs. Robert D. Williams, 1882–85; Mrs Ira B. Sampson, 1885–86. Annual meeting last Tuesday in November. It is a growing and useful institution, reflecting great credit upon its members and officers.

THE DICKENS CLUB

is the outgrowth of the Flower Mission of the Congregational Church, and its membership is confined to ladies who attend that church or its Sabbath-school. It originated in 1875, and has held stated meetings ever since for the study and rendition of English authors, beginning with Dickens. It has given several successful public readings and renderings of some of these authors in public. Its Presidents have been Miss Josephine B. Sedam, Mrs. J. E. Sherwood, Mrs. I. B. Sampson, Miss Anna MacNaughten, Miss Annie Kingsbury, Miss Harriet E. Ludington, and Mrs. J. M. Lawson.

JONATHAN TENNEY.

[Compiled chiefly from "Class Memorial" and "The Academician."]

Jonathan Tenney was born in Corinth, Orange County, Vt., September 14, 1817, eldest son of Jonathan and Lydia Owen (Crane) Tenney. His father died in 1865, aged 69 years; his mother is now living, in her 91st year.

Thomas Tenney, the common ancestor of the Tenneys of this country, was an English Puritan, from Yorkshire, England; a member of the Rev. Ezekiel Rogers' colony of sixty families, which, in 1637, settled the "Rogers Plantation," now Rowley, Bradford, Georgetown and Merrimack, Mass., and vicinity. His descendants have always been among the leading men of New England.

Hon. Samuel Tenney, his grandson, had twelve children. He was a truly great and good man. He was a member of the Colonial Assembly from Bradford, Mass., in 1725, when, 50 years before the Declaration of Independence, he was one of the 30 who voted against receiving the King's Charter, a step more bold than that of the 56 signers of 1776. Not a few of his numerous descendants inherit the same spirit of daring to do right.

From his early boyhood, young Tenney had his home with his parents on a farm, and was attending public district schools. During these years, his paternal home was chiefly in Bradford and Newbury. In the Seminary in Newbury, under the tuition of Rev. Charles Adams and Rev. Osmon C. Baker, D. D., since a Bishop in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in Bradford Academy, Vt., Rev. Franklin Butler, Principal, he pursued his studies preparatory to Dartmouth College, which he entered in 1839, and from which he graduated in 1843.

In 1846, he received the degree of M. A., and in 1880, the honorary degree of Ph. D. from Dartmouth.

For the nine winters previous to his graduation, he was a popular teacher in the district and village schools of his native State.

The following is abridged from a sketch of Dr. Tenney prepared by Hon. Henry Barnard, late Commissioner of the National Bureau of Education, and published in the *American Journal of Education.*

* * * After graduating in 1843, he taught the Academy in Hebron, N. H., but resigned in order to establish a High School in Newbury, Vt., which was successfully organized under his care. He was then five years Principal of Pembroke Academy, near Concord N. H., which attained under his management a very high reputation and popularity. Many of his pupils of this and other schools graduated from college, and are found in prominent positions all over the country. A portion of his time was here devoted to the study of law; but his success led him to adopt teaching as his profession. From this time he lost no opportunity to extend his acquaintance with the best schools and educators, their principles and methods. A desire for wider experience, a spirit of independence and progress, and an unwillingness to become settled in any one routine of thought and action, have induced a frequent change of position by voluntary resignations, and have prompted the undertaking of much collateral work.

In August, 1849, resigning his place in Pembroke, he became Master of the South Grammar School in Lawrence, Mass. Being elected Principal of the new Pittsfield High School, Mass., he entered upon this trust in November, 1850; organized the school, and remained in its charge until his resignation in March, 1853. The "History of Pittsfield," lately published, speaks of Mr. Tenney, after an interval of thirty years, as the first principal of the school and "a teacher of very high ability." While there, he was actively engaged in the educational work of the State, especially in Berkshire County. While in Dartmouth, he attended lectures in the Medical College there; and while in Pittsfield, he attended lectures in the Berkshire Medical Institute, and gave much spare time, then and since, to the study of medicine, especially to make himself more useful as a teacher.

Returning to New Hampshire, he was chosen Principal of the Manchester High School in April, 1853, and held the place until he resigned in November, 1854, to become Editor and Publisher

Jonathan Tenney.

of the *Stars and Stripes*, which he conducted with great success as an independent newspaper. Its influence resulted in placing the Republican party in power in the State. From 1855 to 1857, he was, at the same time, Chairman of the School Committee of Manchester, Commissioner of Schools for Hillsborough County, and Secretary of the State Board of Education. His reports in these several capacities were full,- able, and models of their kind. During this time he introduced various reforms in the city schools; visited many schools of the State; conducted Teachers' Institutes; and lectured upon and taught various subjects in all parts of the State.

In 1854, he was the originator of the New Hampshire State Teachers' Association, and was one of its most active and practical workers and supporters. He was elected its President in 1855 and 1856. After January, 1862, he was the resident editor of the *New Hampshire Journal of Education.* He prepared a catalogue of the teachers and schools of Massachusetts, with notes, the first that ever appeared in any State. He has contributed largely to the educational and other statistics of the country. * * *

During the years 1855–57, he was occupied chiefly in his duties as Chairman of the School Committee of Manchester; in visiting the schools of the thirty-one towns of Hillsborough Co.; in giving about seventy-five public addresses; in arranging and conducting his own County institutes; in lecturing in those of the ten counties of the State; in conducting correspondence as Secretary of the Board of Education; and in preparing the City, County and State School Reports. The work demanded great industry, system and energy.

In 1856, the Trustees of Boscawen Academy, New Hampshire, a school founded by Rev. Dr. Samuel Wood, and Daniel and Ezekiel Webster, having proposed to repair their buildings, lease the same free of expense for twenty years, and surrender to him their trust, Mr. Tenney accepted the propostion; opened his school in 1857, under the name of Elmwood Literary Institute, and successfully sustained it through the next nine years of financial depression and civil war.

During the War he was very active as an officer of the State Union League, in forming Town Leagues, over one of which he presided; in encouraging enlistments in the Union service; and in furnishing aid to the soldiers. More than 100 of his pupils enlisted. The delicate duty of Enrolling Officer of his district was entrusted to him.

While in Boscawen he was Superintendent of the Schools of this good old town, the native place of John A. Dix and William Pit Fessenden; and also Commissioner of Schools for Merrimack County.

In September, 1866, having sold his interest in Boscawen six months previous, he purchased, in Newton Center, Mass., and opened a family and day school for girls, called Silver Lake Institute, five miles from Boston, which he disposed of in

July, 1868; went to Albany, N. Y., the health of his family requiring the change. He had accepted, for one year, the State agency of a New York Life Insurance Company, with no idea of giving up his work as an educator.

From October, 1869, to August, 1874, he was a resident of Owego, Tioga County, N. Y., a part of the time as Superintendent of the Village Schools and Principal of the Owego Free Academy. The rest of the time he was an Institute conductor.

In 1874, having been appointed Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction for the State of New York, he removed to Albany, where he has ever since had his home at 484 Madison avenue, opposite Washington Park. Two years later he was made Librarian of the Young Men's Association, the library of which was entirely re-formed, improved and catalogued by him, so that it is now a delightful and useful place of resort. In 1883, after seven years service, he resigned this place to enter upon the editorship of "New England in Albany," and the "History of Albany County and City."

In civil affairs, besides being an officer in several political organizations, he was Moderator of Town Meetings, Coroner and State Justice of the Peace and Quorum, and held other civil offices in New Hampshire.

He is a Corresponding Member of the Vermont, Wisconsin, and New Hampshire Historical Societies; of New England Historic-Genealogical Society, New York Genealogical Society, and other literary and scientific associations.

He has lectured before academies and educational associations in New England and New York. He has been an officer in Essex County, Middlesex County, Berkshire County, and Massachusetts State Teachers' Associations. In Manchester, Lawrence, Pittsfield and Owego, and in every large town where he has taught, he has organized and helped sustain Teachers' Associations. Out of the one in Manchester originated the New Hampshire State Association, which was organized at Concord in June, 1854, by a large Convention called by him, incorporated the next July, and has, ever since, been the most interesting and efficient agency in the educational progress of that State, through its annual meetings and publications. He was its first Secretary, then its President, Director, and Editor of its works, while he resided in that State.

Besides Institute work in New Hampshire, he has done the same work in Vermont, Massachusetts and Maine. From 1867 to 1874, he was Conductor of Institutes, with marked success, in many of the Counties of New York, under appointments from Superintendents Rice, Weaver and Ruggles.

In several of these counties he revived Teachers' Associations. In the work of education he has always been earnest, faithful and practical; particularly zealous in his efforts to elevate the teachers by stimulating them to cultivate self-respect, sound scholarship, character, and best methods of teaching and government. School reports abound in commendation of his labors, and he has a warm place in the hearts of thousands who have enjoyed his instruction.

Besides numerous contributions to newspapers, magazines and educational publications, he has written and edited "Septenary History of Dartmouth Class of 1843;" Reports on the Schools of Manchester, N. H.; Six Annual Reports on Schools in Boscawen N. H.; Tenth and Eleventh Annual Reports of New Hampshire Board of Education; "Watch Repairer's Hand-book," Boston, 1868; "Class Memorial of Dartmouth Class of 1843," Albany, 1869; Two Reports on Schools of Hillsborough County, N. H.; "Genealogical and Historical Memoirs of the Tenney Family;" "History of Congregational Church, Owego, N. Y.;" "New England in Albany;" "History and Catalogue of Young Men's Association, Albany;" "History of the County and City of Albany;" also numerous catalogues, reports, papers and circulars on various topics.

He married in Boston, Mass., March 20, 1852, Harriette Ackland Bachelder, Preceptress of Pittsfield High School. She died in Boscawen, N. H., September 13, 1864.

He married September 19, 1866, Ellen J. Le Gros, of Great Falls, N. H., Associate Principal in Elmwood Institute, Boscawen, N. H., in Rhode Island Normal School; and in the Lincoln Young Ladies' School, Providence, R. I. Mrs. Tenney is a lady of rare gifts and accomplishments, and held in high estimation for her works' sake by all who know her. She is an excellent pianist and organist. Quick perceptions, ready tact, common sense, pure benevolence, delicate love of justice, womanly modesty and great energy, are united in her character in a wonderful degree.

His children are Calvin Pettengill, born September 2, 1853; Harriette Lydia, December 7, 1857; Hermann Jonathan, March 29, 1860; Ellen Celina, June 30, 1864; Edgar Herbert Le Gros and Mary Laura Adelaide, December 20, 1870; Edbert Le Gros, March 14, 1875; Laurence Harlow, June 28, 1878. Four of these are now living.

Prof. Tenney was made a Mason in the Horace Chase Lodge, No. 72, Penacook, N. H., and represented that Lodge several times in the Grand Lodge of the State. He is now a Member of Temple Lodge, No. 14, Albany.

Dr. Tenney is a man of quiet and retiring habits. He is exeedingly fond of domestic life and ardently devoted to his family. To him there is no place like home. In his friendships he is true and constant—intimate with few, but courteous to all. He is a reader of character; cordial and frank when approached by the whole-souled and honorable; distant and reticent with the artful and cold-hearted. Patient in details, diligent and methodical in work, without vain boasting and showy demonstration, he accomplishes more than he promises. His efficiency is seen when results are reached. Deliberate, careful and conscientious, his conclusions can be depended upon. He unites in an unusual degree an excellent memory and sound judgment.

While a good conversationist, showing, when once engaged, a mind laden with valuable knowledge, as a public speaker he is not of the off-hand, flippant kind. He speaks only when he has something to say. His well-studied lectures abound in brilliant thought, terse expression and pointed logic. Says one "they are solid gold." His mind is given to philosophy, but his action is exceedingly practical. His literary style is didactic, and his utterance direct and without attempt at oratorical display. As a scholar he is accurate and sound, but never pedantic. He hates nothing more than sham and affectation.

In religious faith he is a Congregationalist, having for forty years been a member of that Church. But no man is more liberal and charitable. He has intimate friends among all creeds. He holds that home is the most sacred place on earth, and that the purest worship and noblest duty is to be done there, not "to be seen of men." He has been an active Sabbath School worker, holding for many years the office of Superintendent and Bible Class Teacher. He was licensed as a preacher, by vote of the Susquehanna Congregational Association, and was made Moderator of its meetings. He has often been delegate to Congregational State Associations and other religious bodies. He is a Life Member of the American Home Missionary Society and of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. In politics he was first a Whig; then a Republican in the days of Lincoln, Grant and Garfield. But he has little confidence in the politics of partisan office-seekers of any name. He prefers country to party, and votes by his convictions of duty. He is a friend of all good causes, and does what he can to promote them, be they social, moral, benevolent, literary, patriotic or religious.

PUBLIC EDUCATION.

In the article on "Education in Albany County," the state of schools and of learning, as there given, includes the City of Albany. It is made evident that very little attention was given to these matters by the public, and that only the rich enjoyed the benefits of such teaching as there was. And it may be added, that, for many years after the Revolutionary War, the rich even gave more attention to making and hoarding wealth than to any learning, except what could be turned into good business account, and that the poor had no time or money to give to the education of their children.

Judge Campbell tells us that Rev. Mr. Dunlop had a school in Cherry Valley from 1744 to the Revolution, which was attended by boys from Albany. He took them under his paternal care in his own house, and it is said they often followed him as he cultivated his fields, and recited their lessons as he plowed, planted, hoed, and gathered his crops. The Judge calls this the first Grammar School in the State west of Albany.

Elkanah Watson, who came to Albany in 1788, observes in his "Reminiscences" that the schools were taught mostly in the English language.

As early as 1796, a movement was made by the Common Council of Albany in relation to free schools. During this year, an ordinance was passed authorizing their establishment; but beyond this passage of the law, nothing practical was done for a long time afterwards.

It is recorded in the *Gazette*, November 26, 1804, that in a school building erected by the contributions of the benevolent for the benefit of helpless and neglected female children, were gathered a school of twenty-three such children, under the care of a discreet governess, who were daily instructed in reading, writing, and plain work, and in the strict observance of every Christian and moral duty.

In Munsell's Annals, we read, under date of August, 1810: "As yet it is believed there were no public schools in this city. The corporation had under consideration the project of establishing a free school on the plan of Joseph Lancaster." Twelve years later, fifty schools of all grades, both public and private. are reported, including a Lancaster School, a Mechanics' Academy, the Boys' Academy and the Female Academy.

In 1813, we find the schools and teachers following as having a local habitation and a name: Widow Catherine Goheen, 1 Liberty; Widow Esther Bedford, 119 Washington; Catherine Peck, 39 Hudson; Widow Martha Wilson, 39 Steuben; Miss Brenton, 118 State; Catherine B. Thompson, Young Ladies' School, 38 Colonie; Sarah McGeorge, Young Ladies' Seminary, 66 Market; Mrs. Smith, School, 13 Washington; John Nugent, Young Ladies' Seminary, 81 Pearl; and the following male teachers: Thomas D. Huggins, 43 and 45 Pearl; John Keys, 57 Church; Joshua Tinker, 16 Deer; George Upfold, 8 Van Tromp; William Andruss, 19 Pearl; Robert O. K. Bennet, 67 Pearl; James W. Blacket, 70 Hudson; John Brainard, 35 Chapel; Joseph Caldwell, 25 Steuben; Thomas Ennis, 48 Beaver. History doesn't tell us what they taught, or how they taught, or what they were paid. We have only their names, but these indicate that there was a demand for "schooling," which was soon outspoken in the Albany Academy, the Female Academy, the Lancaster School, and other noted schools, some of which are having a green old age amongst us to-day. But the time for tax-supported public schools had not come to Albany in 1813.

LANCASTER SCHOOL..

The nearest approach to a free school was made in 1812, when the Legislature passed a law incorporating the Albany Lancasterian School Society. The trustees of this school were composed of thirteen citizens, among whom was Mayor Philip S. Van Rensselaer, who was President of the Board. The members of the Common Council were also members of this society, *ex officio*. Any person contributing $25 to its benefit was entitled to the tuition of one child. Its first and only principal was William A. Tweed Dale, a Scotchman and a disciple of Joseph Lancaster, England. Charles R.

Webster was one of the leaders in founding the school. The school was first situated in the upper part of the building of the Mechanics' Society on the corner of Chapel and Columbia streets. In 1815 the site now occupied by the Medical College

Lancaster School.

was purchased, and a school-house was erected thereon at a cost of $24,000, and opened April 5, 1817. It was capable of accommodating 500 pupils.

The income for the support of the school was derived from various sources. The Corporation made an allowance of $500 a year from the receipts of the Excise Board. About the same amount was appropriated from the school fund, and the tribute received from scholars amounted to $400, averaging $1 a piece yearly. All the expenses of the school were paid out of this sum.

The Lancaster School was continued until March 28, 1836, when it was closed by order of the Common Council. At this time the number of scholars in this school had greatly decreased, and it was found that they might be accommodated more cheaply in the common schools.

During the twenty-four years of the existence of the Lancaster School, it was stated that 10,000 boys had been educated at that institution. In Albany it paved the way for the present free-school system. Mr. Dale, who so long and acceptably held the position of preceptor, was a graduate of Edinburgh University, a man of strong will, great patience and persistence. His perfect control of 400 boys and girls gave evidence of his wonderful tact and knowledge of child-life. Mr. Dale died in 1856.

The Lancasterian system proposed the education of the masses of the children by means of few teachers and self-help. It made excellent readers and spellers, and ingrained the first principles and formulas of arithmetic so thoroughly that they were never forgotten. When the Lancaster School was discontinued, the school building passed into the hands of the medical faculty, and has since, with some alterations, been used as the Albany Medical College.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

From 1830 to 1866, we can say little in commendation of the system of the Public Schools of Albany. The importance of the subject does not seem to have been considered by the citizens. They kept pace neither with the growth of the city nor the demands of the times.

The first important step toward the Free School system in Albany occurred April 17, 1830, when an act of the Legislature was passed, providing that a Board of School Commissioners and a Board of School Inspectors should be elected annually by the people—one Commissioner and one Inspector from each ward. By this act the city was divided into nine districts for common schools. The Commissioners had power to appoint three trustees for each school district. They apportioned the money received from the State, to which each district was entitled, on the basis of the number of scholars of school age, and they fixed the rate of tuition so as not to exceed two dollars a quarter for each scholar. Under this law the Supervisors were directed to cause a sum of money to be raised to be paid to the Chamberlain for the support of the Common Schools in the City of Albany. The schools east of Perry street were to be kept nine months of the year, and those west of Perry street four months, in order to receive this apportionment of the public money. The Inspectors examined teachers and gave them certificates of qualification. The several Boards of Trustees at this date were compelled to supply the want of proper rooms or buildings for school purposes, for which no provision had been made by the city authorities. The school in the first district was kept in a building which had formerly been a stable. In the Ninth District, the cellar of the old Universalist Church on Herkimer street was used; but this school was soon removed to the basement of a church in Westerlo street. District No. 8 was held in the lecture-room of St. Peter's Church for some years. Another school occupied the upper part of the engine-house which stood back of where Martin Hall now stands, on William street, while the remaining schools occupied quarters equally unsuitable and incommodious.

Such was the character of the public school buildings until 1832, when the first building for school purposes, with the exception of the Lancaster School, was erected by the Trustees of District No. 2, at a cost of $22,000. It was three-stories high, and contained four large rooms for school purposes, two large halls, and a room occupied by an engine company. It was located at 218 State street. It was sold in 1884, when the present school building, 29 Chestnut street, known as No. 2, was erected, at a cost of $27,650.

In September, 1833, a petition, signed by many citizens, was sent to the Common Council, asking them to abolish the Lancaster School, and to erect new buildings in the several districts. At

this time there were 6,277 children in the city of school age, of which number 3,578 had been taught by thirty-four teachers.

A new impulse was given to the cause of public education in 1838 by the erection of eight new school buildings. The unwise and narrow policy of exacting school rates still prevailed throughout the State, and proved a serious impediment to the advance of general education. The children of those who were too poor to pay tuition were called charity scholars, and this degrading distinction prevented many from attending the schools. The right of free education was not recognized till 1862, when the odious system of school rates, through the influence of Victor M. Rice, was abolished.

The location and character of the school buildings erected in 1838 were as follows: School No. 1, 310 South Pearl, three-stories, cost $13,000, 312 seats; School No. 3, 7 Van Tromp street, three-stories, cost $13,000, 200 seats, sold in 1882; School No 4, 55 Union street, three-stories, cost $11,000, 206 seats, sold in 1882; School No. 5, 172 North Pearl street, three-stories, cost $13,000, 296 seats, sold in 1882, when a new building, subsequently referred to, was erected on the same street, now known as No. 5; School No. 7, 56 Canal street, three-stories, cost $11,000, 300 seats; School No. 8, 157 Madison avenue, three-stories, cost $17,000, 338 seats; rebuilt in 1880, with eight rooms, 448 seats, cost $25,000; School No. 9, corner South Ferry and Dallius streets, three-stories, cost $12,000, 210 seats; School No. 10, 182 Washington avenue, three-stories, 312 seats; School No. 18, formerly No. 6 Madison avenue, corner of Western avenue, originally one-story, cost $7,000; another added in 1870. The change in the number of this school was caused by the passage of a law by the Legislature defining the city limits for school purposes to be east of Perry street. This school then passed out of the jurisdiction of the Board of Education and came under the control of the Trustees west of Perry street, when the school on Second street (Arbor Hill), in 1849, took the number which originally belonged to No. 18.

In 1838, $119,000 were expended on school buildings, while, with the school building erected in 1832, accommodation was furnished to 2,783 pupils. But at this time there were at least 7,000 children of school age in the city, a greater part of whom attended private or select schools. The Public Schools remained in the same condition in regard to capacity from 1838 to 1849, when the school 105 Second avenue, now known as No. 6, was erected.

In 1844, a law was passed creating the Board of Education. Their powers were more restricted, but otherwise similar to those now performed by the Board of Public Instruction. The members of this Board were elected by the people, and was something of an improvement upon the old system of Commissioners and Trustees.

In 1854, School No. 24, formerly No. 11, 417 Madison avenue, was erected. It was enlarged in 1868, and, on completion of the Grammar School adjoining, the number was changed, the Grammar School taking the old number, and No. 24 given to the old building. It has 576 seats. In 1856, School No. 12, corner of Washington avenue and Robin street, was erected, at a cost of $50,000, 786 seats. At this time, when there were but thirteen Public Schools, there were seventy private schools, besides the academies. During the school year ending May 1, 1856, 6,813 pupils were registered as attending the Public Schools, about double the number for which there were proper accommodations; 5,292 attended private or select schools, and 602 attended incorporated schools.

In the report of the Board of Education for 1857, it was declared that the capacity of the Public Schools was inadequate, and in the following few years a great deal was done in the way of building. School No. 16, known as 201 Hudson avenue, the Wilberforce School for colored children, was opened with acommodation for 143 pupils. In 1874, it ceased to exist as a distinct colored school, the colored children being received in all the schools. It was sold in 1883. The several school buildings erected in 1832 and 1838, from No. 1 to 10 inclusive, except No. 6, were overhauled by putting on another story or adding buildings for recitation-rooms, in the years 1856–58.

In 1858, the Common Council purchased the old State Arsenal, corner of Broadway and Lawrence street, for $10,800, erected in 1799, and remodeled it into a building suitable for school purposes for 594 pupils, at a cost of $73,000. It is known as School No. 13.

School No. 14, 70 Trinity place, at a cost of $41,000, was built in 1860, being three-stories high, and now capable of accommodating 928 pupils. It was not opened until 1861, and was the last school building erected under the supervision of the old Board of Education. In 1861, there were 154 schools with a registered attendance of 8,395 pupils, almost double the real seating capacity of the schools. Ninety-three teachers were employed.

By an Act of the Legislature in 1866, the Board of Education became known as the Board of Public Instruction. When the new Board took possession of the City Schools under the new Act of 1866, the number of schools or capacity had increased from 1861, but the number of teachers had increased to 100. The estimated value of school property was estimated at $187,000, and the annual expense of maintaining the schools was about $69,000. At this time (1866) there were two academies in the city, 71 parochial and other incorporated schools.

The establishment of the High School, the natural outgrowth of the public school system, had a corresponding beneficial effect upon the common schools, and from 1868, it can be truly said the Public Schools of Albany began a rapid growth, and soon became adequate to the educational interests of the city. A night school was first opened December 2, 1867, in School No. 6 (Arbor Hill), and has been continued in other schools with vary-

ing success at different times. At present the city does not support a night school.

School No. 15, corner of Herkimer and Franklin streets, was erected in 1871, at a cost of $92,000. It was the first school-house of modern construction built on the "single school plan." Here nineteen teachers are employed, with room for 928 scholars.

School, formerly known as No. 19, located at West Albany, came within the jurisdiction in 1870. It accommodated 130 pupils. It was abandoned in 1876, and in 1877 the School, 54 Canal street (No. 19) was erected, to take its place, at a cost of $5,000, and consists of four rooms, with seating capacity for 225 scholars.

Old School No. 17, corner of Second avenue and Steuben street, was erected in 1856, and was built by the town of Bethlehem. It came under the jurisdiction of the Board by enlargement of the city bounds in 1870. In 1878 it was enlarged by rebuilding, and now accommodates 448 scholars.

The School, formerly in Tivoli Hollow, known as No. 21, was erected by the town of Watervliet. It was a small affair, and came within the city limits in 1870. It was abandoned in 1875, when School No. 21, 658 Clinton avenue, was erected, at a cost of $31,000, to take its place. It has nine rooms and accommodates 764 scholars.

School No. 20, formerly on Mohawk street, was erected in 1872. It was sold in 1880, when the present building, corner North Pearl and Second streets, was erected in its stead, at a cost of about $22,000. It is two-stories brick, nine rooms, and accommodates 666 pupils.

School No. 23, 140 Second avenue, was purchased from the Trustees of the Fourth Presbyterian Church in 1871, and was known as Second Street Mission. It was opened in 1872, is one story, with seats for 184 pupils.

School No. 22, Second street, west of Lexington avenue, was erected in 1877 at a cost of $31,000. It is two stories, with seats for 504 pupils.

School No. 25, on Morton street, between Hawk and Swan streets, was erected in 1878. It is two stories, brick, eight rooms and contains 448 seats.

School No. 11 (referred to in connection with School No. 24), 409 Madison avenue, was erected at a cost of $56,250, in 1873, and was first used June 4th of that year. It is three stories, and seats 560 pupils.

In 1882, school buildings Nos. 3 and 5 were sold, when the Tabernacle Baptist Church, North Pearl street, was purchased and converted into a school building in 1883, known as No. 5, 206 North Pearl street, at a cost of about $35,000. It contains accommodation for 598 pupils.

The twenty-four schools (1885) have a seating capacity for 12,391 pupils, the net registration 13,720, and an average daily attendance of 9,740. There are 234 teachers employed, excluding the High School, compared with 59 in 1857, and 100 in 1867. At the latter date the average was about 88 registered scholars per teacher. At present it is about 58.

HIGH SCHOOL.

The new Board of Public Instruction was confronted with grave educational problems to solve. The inadequacy of the schools was clearly manifest, yet the opposition of the public to enlarge the school facilities by the expenditure of any large money, at a period of financial uncertainty consequent upon the close of the war, and already suffering under heavy taxation, was particularly strong.

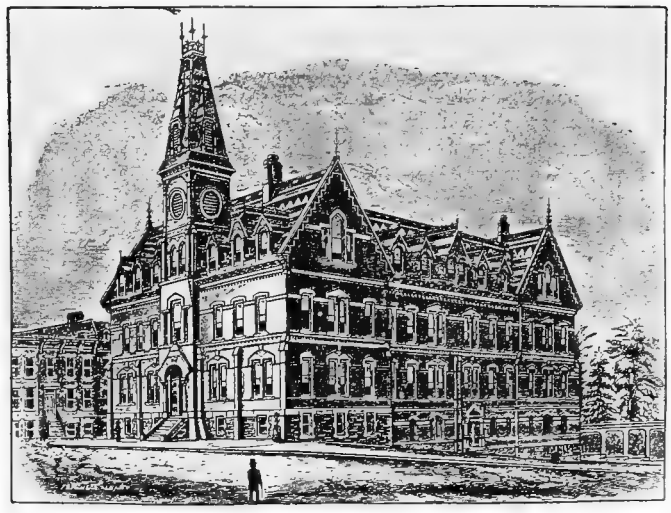
The want of a higher department where more advanced studies could be pursued by the graduates of the common schools was almost a necessity. The more liberal of the citizens favored the idea of building a Free Academy to meet this want. A majority of the Board were also in favor of the project, and December 17, 1866, submitted a draft of a bill to the Legislature to establish a Free Academy. It met the opposition not only of a large body of citizens, but of the Common Council. The latter body went so far as to pass a resolution instructing the Legislature not to pass the bill proposed. The Board of Public Instruction, thus far, had labored under the impression that it required the passage of a law to authorize the construction of the institution; but a careful examination of the law of 1866, under which the Board was organized, revealed the fact that the Board was clothed with ample authority to authorize the building of an Academy, and that further legislation was unnecessary. Accordingly the Board leased Van Vechten Hall on State street. Here the Normal School was held until 184–, when the Lady's street building was erected. A select school had been held in it for a number of years. The Free Academy as it was then called, was opened September 1868, with Professor John E. Bradley as principal, and 141 pupils. Besides the principal, the following teachers were employed: Charles W. Cole, Samuel B. Howe, Mary Morgan and Rebecca I. Hindman. A short time after, Mr. Howe resigned, to accept the Superintendency of Public Schools in Schenectady, and Charles A. Horne was chosen in his place. Soon the capacity of Van Vechten Hall proved too small, and other rooms connected with the premises were procured. The rooms over Harris' livery stables, fronting on Maiden lane, were fitted up in 1870; those in the second story, formerly part of Watson's carpet store, were hired in 1873.

The success and rapid growth of the Free Academy, in attendance and proficiency of instruction, even under the disadvantages of inadequate quarters, proved the best argument for the existence of such an institution.

The Free Academy was placed under the visitation of the Regents of the University by an Act of the Legislature, in 1873, at which time its name was changed to the Albany High School. Of the money appropriated by the Regents according to number of Academic Scholars—that is those holding Regents' preliminary certificates—since January, 1874, to January 1885, $29,568.48 have been received by the institution. In 1874 there were 130

Academic Scholars in the High School, and in 1885, 527.

The High School was held in Van Vechten Hall until 1876, when the present commodious structure was erected. It is in the style of architecture known as the domestic Gothic, and stands 87 feet front on Eagle street, 135 feet 4 inches on Steuben, 120 feet on Columbia, and 92 feet and 7 inches wide on the rear. It comprises sub-cellar, basement and three stories above the basement. The superstructure is of Philadelphia pressed bricks, with light stone trimmings, interspersed with courses of black stone and white bricks, presenting an outward appearance singularly attractive and pleasing to the eye. Fortunate in its location, beautiful in appearance, and complete in all its appointments, it is one of the most perfect of its kind in the State. It was designed by the Albany Architects, Ogden & Wright, and cost about $140,000. The High School is still



ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL.

under the direction of John E. Bradley, its principal, a discreet manager and an able instructor. He is assisted by eight male instructors and twelve female teachers. In 1885, there were 608 scholars. The language studies pursued consist of Latin, Greek, German, French and English. The other branches are mathematics, chemistry, physics, drawing, vocal music, rhetoric and elocution, and the various English branches.

John Edwin Bradley, Principal of Albany High School, was born in Lee, Mass., August 8, 1839. He was educated in Lee, Mass., High School, and Williams College, from which institution he graduated in 1865. After leaving college he was Principal of the Pittsfield High School until 1868, when he came in charge of the Albany Free Academy. The remarkable success of this school has been in great measure due to his excellent management. Mr. Bradley received the degree of Ph. D. at the Convocation of Regents in 1879. In 1878 he was appointed Commissioner to the Paris Exposition on the educational exhibits, upon which he made an able report. Dr. Bradley has been very prominent in all public educational interests of the city. He married, in 1870, Martha Jeannette Gould, eldest daughter of William Gould, the law book publisher. His energy, executive ability, and magnetism have made him a teacher widely known and respected.

FINANCES.—The average yearly expense for public schools in Albany from 1844 to 1853 was over $14,000; in 1854, $27,000; in 1857, $47,000; 1858, $61,000; 1860, $49,000; 1867, $69,000; 1872, $196,000; 1875, $319,000. The total income of the Board for the year ending August 31, 1885, was $314,954, of which $170,750 was raised by tax, $91,494 08 was carried over from the preceding year, and $47,394.76 was received from the State. The total expenditures were $219,923.37, of which $149,225.69 was for teachers' salaries. The cost of yearly tuition per pupil, based on total expenditure and registered number, is $16.02.

The estimated value of school property in 1858 was $117,000; in 1871, $362,000; in 1885, $766,000. The salaries of teachers range from $1,800 to $350 The Principal of the High School receives $3,200; the Superintendent of School, $2,500. The net cost of pupils in the High School, based on registered number for 1885, was $33.52.

The Public Schools are divided into primary and grammar grades, ten being of the primary and twelve of the grammar grade. The Board of Public Instruction is composed of twelve members. Four members go out of office each year. Their successors are chosen at the annual election—two Democrats and two Republicans. The Board has entire charge of the Public Schools, fixes the grades of study, appoints teachers, builds, maintains and regulates school-houses, etc. No salary is attached

to the office. The rooms of the Board are in the High School Building, where meetings are held on the first and third Monday evenings in each month, except August. The Board chooses its own President. The Secretary of the Board acts as Superintendent of Schools.

Table showing number of schools and registered number of scholars for the following years.

Year.	No. Schools.	Registered Number.
1845	..	4,320
1846	..	5,025
1847	..	5,053
1848	..	5,009
1849	..	5,830
1850	..	6,798
1851	..	6,744
1852	..	6,679
1853	..	6,302
1854	..	6,079
1855	..	6,036
1856	..	6,813
1857	12	6,529
1858	13	7,760
1859	13	7,832
1860	14	8,395
1861	15	9,182
1862	15	9,614
1863	15	9,507
1864	15	8,917
1865	15	8,850
1866	15	8,924
1867	15	8,880
1868	15	9,414
1869	16	9,665
1870	16	9,933
1871	22	10,939
1872	24	12,060
1873	24	12,327
1874	25	12,460
1875	25	13,773
1876	24	13,941
1877	24	14,412
1878	25	14,024
1879	26	14,632
1880	26	14,049
1881	26	13,976
1882	26	13,984
1883	26	13,914
1884	24	13,708
1885	24	13,720

Table showing the registered number of students in High School since its establishment.

Year.	Total.
1868-69	141
1869-70	209
1870-71	279
1871-72	314
1872-73	328
1873-74	362
1874-75	429
1875-76	494
1876-77	532
1877-78	580
1878-79	581
1879-80	595
1880-81	583
1881-82	584
1882-83	591
1883-84	607
1884-85	608

Members of the Board of Public Instruction since its organization in 1866: John O. Cole, George W. Carpenter, Michael Delehanty, Charles P. Easton, Paul F. Cooper, John G. Treadwell, Charles Van Benthuysen, Stewart McKissick, James L. Babcock, Bradford R. Wood, Jacob S. Mosher, William C. McHarg, Howard Townsend, Portis L. F. Reynolds, Joseph Lewi, Robert H. Waterman, Warren S. Kelly, William L. Learned, Barent B. Sanders, Daniel V. O'Leary, William L. Learned, John Tracy, Daniel L. Babcock, Arthur C. Quinn, Alfred Edwards, Thomas Hayes, Addison A. Keyes, John McKenna, Charles Senrick, George B. Hoyt, James J. Franklin, James H. White, John V. Lansing, Samuel Templeton, Joseph P. Morrow, John Kautz, Peter J. Flinn, Isaac Edwards, Timothy D. Keleher, James Morris, William Morgan, Daniel Casey, Henry P. Lipman, Charles A. Robertson, John H. Lynch, John A. McCall, Jr., Linzee T. Morrill, Andrew S. Draper, Douw H. Fonda, Herman Bendell, Alden Chester, Charles E. Jones, James M. Ruso, Henry T. Sanford, Robert D. Williams, Edward J. Graham, Oren E. Wilson, Edward A. Durant, Jr., Peter A. Stephens, Francis B. Delehanty, Robert G. Scherer, John Neil, Jr., Edward Phillips.

Officers of the Board of Public Instruction since its organization in 1866—

Presidents: John O. Cole, George W. Carpenter, Charles P. Easton, Addison A. Keyes, Charles P. Easton, Herman Bendell, Alden Chester, George B. Hoyt, Peter J. Flinn.

Secretaries and Superintendents of Schools: Henry B. Haswell, John O. Cole, Charles W. Cole.

Superintendents of Buildings: John G. Treadwell, Alexander Sayles, Hugh J. McDonnald.

Number of Graduates of the High School: 1871, 27; 1872, 43; 1873, 46; 1874, 47; 1875, 49; 1876, 65; 1877, 58; 1878, 69; 1879, 76; 1880, 84; 1881, 73; 1882, 79; 1883, 76; 1884, 68; 1885, 86.

PRINTERS AND PRINTING.

THE first printing-office in Albany was established by Alexander and James Robertson, who came from New York for that purpose, in 1771. From the best information that can be gathered, Albany was the second place in the State of New York into which the art of printing was introduced. Their office is said to have been in Barrack, now Chapel street. The first work of importance done by this firm was the publication of the *Albany Gazette*, the first newspaper published in this city. The only other work of which we have any knowledge is a copy of the city ordinances, bearing date 1773, now in the City Chamberlain's office. They remained in Albany until 1776, when they

joined the Royalists in New York. On the evacuation of that city by the British, they took refuge, with many others, at Port Roseway, Nova Scotia, where Alexander died in 1784, aged forty-two. James died in London in 1802.

In 1782, Solomon Balantine and Charles R. Webster established a printing-office in Albany. Their printing materials consisted of as many types, as Balantine often said, as a squaw could carry in her bag. In the Philadelphia library is a copy of a pamphlet by the Rev. Thomas Clarke, of Cambridge, in Washington County, entitled "Plain Reasons: being a Dissuasive from the Use of Watts' Version of the Psalms in the Worship of God," printed by this firm in 1783, and, perhaps, the oldest pamphlet ever issued from the Albany press. In 1783, Mr. Webster dissolved his connection with Balantine, and removed to New York. Balantine left soon after, when Webster returned and again established a printing-office in Albany. In 1784, he printed the first number of what came to be the well-known Webster Almanac, still annually published by Joel Munsell's Sons. About the same time the New England Primer was reprinted in Albany. At this time his printing-office, which was destroyed by fire in 1793, stood on Middle lane, a narrow alley connecting State street and Maiden lane. A short time after he erected a building on the old Elm-tree Corner, where he conducted his business until his death in 1832. Here bookselling, printing, and binding was carried on. For a number of years his brother, George, was associated with him. This firm was dissolved in 1821 by the death of George Webster, when E. W. and George Skinner became associated with Mr. Webster under the firm name of Webster & Skinners, which continued until Mr. Webster's death.

New York State has been for many years the most liberal patron of the printer. At the present time many thousands of dollars are annually expended by the State for its public printing, and, with few exceptions, this work has been done by Albany printers. In the early days of the State government, the position of State printer was not such a lucrative position as at present. In 1791 he was allowed a salary of $250. In 1788 the Journal of the Assembly was contained in 143 pages; and in 1796 the whole amount paid for State printing was $832.40, a sum less than is now expended by the Board of Supervisors of the counties of the State for county printing.

The first State printers after the Legislature was removed to Albany were S. & J. Louden, of New York; but the work was done by Thomas McMurray in Barrack street, Albany.

In 1795 there were but seven printing-offices west and north of Albany. About 1793 John Barbour and Solomon Southwick formed a partnership in the printing business in Albany. They were chiefly known as the proprietors of the *Albany Register*. In 1793 they printed *Poor Richard Revised*, being the *Farmer's Diary*, or *Barbour and Southwick's Albany Almanack*. In 1808 Barbour died, aged fifty years. He was printer to the State, and a man highly respected for his moral and social worth. The establishment was continued by Mr. Southwick. He was at one time State printer.

John McDonald conducted a printing-office in Albany some time previous to 1796. In the latter year, his office in State street, first house below the corner of Pearl, on the south side, was burned. He commenced business again in Middle lane, now James street.

In 1798, Joseph Fry and Henry C. Southwick were engaged in the printing business in a building on the corner of Dean street and Mark lane, now Exchange street. In 1799, Mr. Fry left the printing business, and is now chiefly known as the compiler of the first Albany Directory, published by Webster & Skinner in 1813. Packard & Conant advertised a new book store and bindery at 41 State street.

In 1806, the celebrated establishment of E. & E. Hosford was opened at 72 State street. They did a large printing and publishing business for that day. In 1810 they removed to 100 State street. They issued a volume of sermons by Timothy Clowes, Rector of St. Peter's Church, in 1817, entitled "December Sermons." They became lax under prosperity, and having met with heavy losses in printing an edition of Hume and Smollett's History of England, followed by other reverses, the concern was sold by the sheriff in 1827.

In connection with this article, it may not be out of place to state that as early as 1807, John Rodgers was engaged in making printing presses in Albany. In an advertisement which appeared in a newspaper of that day, he states that he is prepared to make all the "newest fashioned and most approved printing presses" at his shop in Chapel street. How long or to what extent this business was carried on we were unable to learn. A. Romeyn, an Albany printer, in 1808, advertised that he had invented a new method of locking up forms with screws. He also made a model of a printing press which he claimed possessed superiority over the presses then in use.

In 1807, Van Benthuysen & Wood established a printing-office in Albany in connection with a literary paper called *The Guardian*. This was the germ of what is now one of the largest printing establishments in Albany.

In 1813, Jesse Buel, printer, commenced the publication of the *Albany Argus*, which is still continued. In connection with this paper a great amount of printing, such as books, pamphlets, etc., has long been done. It has one of the best stocked job offices in the city.

Moses Pratt, Jr., had a printing-office in Albany, at 162 Lion street, now Washington avenue. He was an eccentric character. He died in 1845.

Pratt & Doubleday conducted a printing-office at the corner of Lion street and Academy square in 1813. Doubleday afterwards went to Auburn and was a Member of Congress from that district.

In 1814, George J. Loomis, a book-binder, located at No. 9 Washington street, where he conducted a stereotyping and printing business. The following year the firm of George J. Loomis & Co.

was formed. Their office was located on the corner of State and Lodge streets.

For some years the firm of George Churchill and Daniel McGlashan was engaged in the printing business in Albany; but in 1815 it was dissolved, and the firm of Churchill & Abbey was established with an office at 95 State street. In 1815, Abbey retired, and at the time of the rebellion in Canada enlisted in the cause and was captured and hung. Churchill went to Illinois and was a Member of Congress from that State.

The oldest printing firm in Albany is that of Van Benthuysen & Sons. It has been chiefly conducted by members of the same family since 1807, when Obadiah R. Van Benthuysen & Wood established a printing-office at No. 19 Court street. The grandfather of Obadiah, Paulus Martense Van Benthuysen, is supposed to have come to Albany from the town of Benthuysen prior to 1666. He had three sons. The eldest was Baltus. He had a son named James Parker, who married Lydia Daley in the City of New York, 1707. He had nine children. His eldest son, James Parker, Jr., married Sarah Cooper, February 6, 1741. The result of this marriage was nine children, the youngest of whom was Obadiah Romney, who was born in 1789, and the one referred to in this sketch.

O. R. Van Benthuysen continued in partnership with Wood but a short time, and, in 1808, opened a separate office in Liberty street, rear of present 376 Broadway. In 1813, Robert Packard became associated with him, under the firm name of Packard & Van Benthuysen. At this time the aggregate value of all printing materials of this firm, including two hand presses, amounted to only $2,290.86. Prior to 1827–28, the office was located on the northwest corner of Beaver and Green streets, when it was removed to the present location on Broadway. In 1839 the firm of Charles Van Benthuysen & Co. was established, composed of O. R. Van Benthuysen and his son, Charles. In 1848, Charles Van Benthuysen was the sole member of the firm. He continued as such until 1866, when Charles H. and Frank, sons of Charles Van Benthuysen, became members of the firm. Since then it has been known by the firm name of Charles Van Benthuysen & Sons, although the father died a few years ago. Besides carrying on a large printing and binding business, this firm makes its own paper, type and ink, and has a stereotype and electrotype foundry; all of which it now carries on, with the exception of the paper mill, which was sold in 1881. For about eighteen years preceding 1840, it did all the Legislative printing and binding, under Crosswell, who was State printer at that time.

This printing-house, in 1828, was the first in the United States to employ steam to run printing presses. All grades of printing, electrotyping and binding are done by this firm, now employing a force of one hundred and eighty men. Their present location is 403 to 409 Broadway and 53 and 55 Dean street, where fifteen rooms, averaging 25 x 60 feet, are required. A branch office is located at 64 College street.

From 1820 to 1850, considerable of the printing in Albany was done by the newspaper offices, most of which had job offices connected with them. Henry D. Stone, Edward Henly, H. H. Van Dyck, Thurlow Weed, George Dawson, Edwin Croswell, Hugh J. Hastings, A. B. Case, John Weed, all practical printers, may be mentioned at this period as connected with printing outside of journalism.

In 1831 the well-known printing-office of Joel Munsell was established at 78 State street. An account of Mr. Munsell's work as a printer and publisher will be found in another part of this History. Since his death the business has been conducted by his sons, Frank and Charles Munsell. At this office a general line of printing, electrotyping, and binding is conducted. Special attention is given to works of genealogy, biography and history.

No printing firm in this State is better known than Weed, Parsons & Co. It was founded, in 1843, by James B. Weed, a son of the late Thurlow Weed, and John D. Parsons, both practical printers, the latter of whom is still an active member of the firm. Their first office was located in the second and third stories of No. 73 State street, over the clothing store of Grange Sard, their whole outfit costing less than $1,000, and consisting of two Washington presses, a Gilmore card press, type, etc. For two years they continued at this location, and by untiring business energy established a lucrative business. May 1, 1845, they moved their office to No. 75 State street, third story, over the store now occupied by Joseph J. Price as a grocery.

October 12, 1847, Weed & Parsons, and the proprietors of the *Albany Evening Journal*, then consisting of Thurlow Weed, George Dawson and Visscher Ten Eyck, became partners in the book and job printing, under the firm name of Weed, Parsons & Co. At this time the office was removed to the third and fourth stories of the *Journal* building, Nos. 65 and 67 State street, corner of James. A book-bindery and a large addition in printing materials were added. By this arrangement a rapid advancement in business was the consequence.

June 18, 1851, James B. Weed, of this firm, died. He had not only a practical knowledge of the printer's art, but possessed admirable business qualities, and his loss was a great blow to the firm.

In 1852, the increase of business again made it necessary to move to more commodious quarters. This was obtained by moving to Nos. 7 and 9 James street, with an entrance through the *Evening Journal* office. They also rented rooms in the adjoining building of Van Heusen & Charles, on James street, the upper stories of Nos. 59 and 61 State street, and two large rooms on Morton street. At this time their employees numbered about two hundred. Their facilities for printing had increased fourfold, and lithographing, electrotyping and stereotyping had been added. From 1862–69, various changes took place in the firm. Visscher Ten Eyck retired May 1, 1854, his interest being sold to W. F. Seward, son of Governor W. H. Seward, and Phillip Ten Eyck. Seward disposed of his interest to Dawson, Parsons and Ten Eyck in 1869. Samuel Wilkeson, now one of the

editorial staff of the *New York Times*, was a member of this firm 1856–58, when he sold his share to Thurlow Weed. The latter, in 1860, sold half of his interest to Dawson, Parsons and Ten Eyck.

In 1869, the amount of business done by this firm made it necessary to procure quarters where the work could be concentrated in one building. The dividing up of various departments and so widely separated, was a decided disadvantage. To remedy this matter, the property Nos. 37, 39 and 41 Columbia street, running through to Van Tromp street, was purchased, and a five-story building was erected. This was first occupied November, 1869. Here they combined under one roof all the various departments. A more commodious and well-arranged printing-office at this time did not exist in the State. From 300 to 400 men were employed.

In the midst of success, April 7, 1871, the entire property was destroyed by fire, entailing a severe loss to the firm. But business adversity displayed the energy and perseverance of the members of this firm. Rebuilding was begun at once, and in seven months from the fire, their present building was completed and occupied. In the meantime the large building on the north end of Van Rensselaer Island was used as a printing-office, having been stocked with all the needed materials in three weeks after the fire, sufficient to begin full operation with 300 men. Since 1878, the interest of Thurlow Weed has been assigned to Thurlow Weed Barnes. By the death of George Dawson a few years ago, his interest reverted to his wife and son.

For many years this firm has done all the Legislative printing, and since 1850 has done the State Department printing. In late years this work has grown to immense proportions. From this establishment yearly is published a large number of law books. The excellent character of their work and their large facilities for doing it, has made this firm known all over the United States. They now average over 300 employees.

In the article on "Journals and Journalism" in this History, other printers in Albany are named; and many of more recent date are to-day honoring their craft and extending their patronage by doing first-class work, among whom are Brandow & Barton, Burdick & Taylor, C. E. Houghtaling, Prouty Printing Co., Riggs Printing and Publishing Co., C. F. Williams Printing Co., and the newspaper firms of the Press Co., Times Co., Argus Co., Morning Express Co., Journal Co., M. & E. Griffen, all of which do printing and publishing in almost every variety called for.

LAW BOOK PUBLISHERS.

In no city in the United States is the publication of law books carried on on a larger scale than in Albany. The first law book publisher in Albany was William Gould, located at 104 State street. A few years after, David Banks, father of the present Mayor, A. Bleecker Banks, became associated with him, under the firm name of Gould & Banks. At this time a branch store was opened in New York City, in which William Gould, David Banks and Stephen Gould were associated as partners. This partnership was dissolved in 1817.

William Gould died in 1846. He was succeeded in the same business by Anthony Gould, brother of William. He died in 1856, and was succeeded by William Gould, a nephew of the first publisher of that name. In 1867, the firm of William Gould & Son was established. This firm continued to exist until 1885, when William Gould, Sr., retired from the firm, and the present firm of William Gould, Jr., & Co. was formed, and consists of William Gould, Jr., Otis Allen Gould, and Albert L. Gould.

In 1850, this firm was located at 475 Broadway, and in 1857 removed to the present store, 68 State street.

The firm of Banks Brothers was established in 1804 by David Banks, who remained in this business until his death, in 1872, and at that time was the oldest bookseller in the United States. He was succeeded in 1872 by his sons, David and A. Bleecker who have conducted the business ever since. Their warehouses and sales-rooms in this city, 473 and 475 Broadway, have a total floor space of 80,000 square feet. There is another large store belonging to this firm at 144 Nassau street, New York City, which has been occupied by them since 1835.

The firm of W. C. Little & Co. was established in Albany, in 1828, by W. C. Little, a native of Bangor, Me., born in 1805, who engaged in the publication and sale of law books as successor of E. F. Backus, who, in a small way, began the business here. Mr. Little was very successful in the trade, and became widely known. He was succeeded by his son, C. W. Little, who carries on the business at the old stand, 525 Broadway, since his father's death in 1885.

The law books published by Albany firms embrace a most extensive list of standard volumes, and are sold to the legal profession wherever English and American law is consulted.

PHOTOGRAPHY.

Few of the arts have made such rapid strides as has that of photography. It is comparatively a few years ago since the first photographs made their appearance, and, wonderful as they were, they would appear as ridiculous caricatures if placed beside the life-like portraits produced at the present time by the improved photographic appliances. The Albany artists have kept pace with their brothers in the profession, and in no place is a higher order of photographic skill displayed and demanded. Probably the leading studios of Albany are those of Aaron Veeder, 32 North Pearl street, and the Notman Photographic Company, 48 North Pearl street.

Mr. Veeder is a native of Albany, and for fifteen years devoted himself to landscape photography; but, in 1881, he began to make a specialty of portrait photography, in which he has shown remarkable skill and taste. A number of colorists, retouchers and artists are employed in addition to the regular photographers.

The Notman studio is a branch of the Notman Photograph Company of Montreal. It has been

located in this city for a number of years. The artistic work done at this studio is of a high order of excellence. A specialty of this house is photographing large groups, notably the yearly group of the members of the Legislature, classes graduating from schools, clubs, etc.

Besides the two firms named, the following are engaged in this business: J. L. Abbott & Son, probably the oldest firm in Albany; John N. Byron, R. E. Churchill, V. W. Horton, McDonald & Sterry, Charles S. Robinson, John M. Wood, and W. W. Wood.

THE ALBANY STAGE.

IT has with truth been said that "the history of the Albany stage is, in a great measure, the history of the drama in America." Before the time when the land was dotted with cities, every city with its "opera house," the field for the drama was not only sterile, but limited. With Boston and Philadelphia further away by days than they now are by hours, Albany, on account of its river communication with New York, was looked upon as a convenient place in which to expend any managerial effort over and above what had exhausted the possibilities of profit in the Metropolis; and afterwards, actors waiting for a New York engagement, were glad to put in their time so near by as Albany.

So it happened that in the summer of 1769, the first American company organized in England by the Hallam Brothers having worn out their welcome in New York, obtained permission of the Governor of the Colony, Sir Henry Moore, Baronet, to play in Albany for one month, three times a week, opening July 3d, in Otway's "Venice Preserved." This was the first recorded visit of professional players, although, as Mrs. Grant's "Memoirs of an American Lady" tells us, the enactment of the "Beaux's Stratagem," by officers of an English regiment stationed here in 1760, created such a division of sentiment in regard to the morality of stage plays as to lead the worthy dominie, Rev. Theodorus Freylinghausen, to start back in despair for his native Holland, being induced to do so by an emblematic message in the shape of a club, a pair of old shoes, a crust of bread and a dollar in money, left at his door the morning after preaching a scathing sermon against the wickedness of amateur theatricals. Taking the hint that he was no longer wanted, and that, therefore, his opportunity for usefulness was gone, he sailed away, and never came back, having been drowned on the passage, whether by accident or suicide none ever knew, although the latter was surmised.

Of the first visit of the Hallam company nothing is known, except that they played in the Hospital to a schedule of six, four and two shillings. The Hospital stood near the site of the present Lutheran Church on Pine street. The city then contained only about 3,000 inhabitants. There was no newspaper, consequently all record of the season is lost.

In 1785, when, after the Revolution, a detachment of the American company again came up from New York to try their luck in Albany, they found the *Gazette* ready to publish their advertisement, which appeared December 5th, announcing a performance, "by authority," of "Cross Purposes," and "Catharine and Petruchio," for December 9th. It did not take place, however, till December 13th. Meantime the storm of opposition to the theatre, common throughout the country at that time (except in the South), broke forth in great violence Seventy inhabitants signed a petition to the city authorities asking them to reconsider the permission given by them November 28th, for the players to act, and a whole number of the *Gazette* was given up to the consideration of the subject by correspondents, most of whom were violent in their denunciations of the drama; and one or two went so far as to threaten to destroy the building in which the plays were to be presented. But the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Assistants, after due deliberation, decided, by a vote of 9 to 4, that consent having once been given, and that without haste, and the players having been to expense in fitting up the rooms, the city could not withdraw from the contract without dishonor; and so the performances began and were given twice a week till the latter part of February, when the company, after paying all their debts, departed for Montreal.

In 1803, the company then managed by William Dunlap, assisted by Lewis Hallam, played here three nights a week, from August 22d to October 27, in a dancing-room which stood on what is now North Pearl street, two doors south of Clinton avenue. It was much the strongest company that had ever visited Albany, and numbered among its members Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Jefferson, grandparents of the Jefferson of the present day. Several ineffectual attempts to establish the drama here by other and less important companies followed, and, in the spring of 1811, John Howard Payne, the author of "Home, Sweet Home," played a star engagement, being then about twenty years old, with two years' stage experience. It is fair to suppose that he aroused here something at least of the enthusiasm which attended his performances elsewhere.

Up to this time there had been no building erected for a theatre. In November, 1811, John Bernard, actor, manager and *litterateur*, came on from Boston, with this project in his head. The burning of the Richmond (Va.) theatre, with its

loss of seventy-one lives, which occurred December 26th, following, had a most depressing effect upon the plan. It threw a gloom over theatricals in all parts of the country, and was looked upon by many excellent persons as a visitation of Heaven's wrath upon unholy amusements. The pulpits renewed their thunders against the play-house; the newspapers teemed with long and wordy arguments for and against this form of amusement, and the controversey waxed warm and bitter, as it has done time and again, from the days of Jeremy Collier to the present. In Albany, where the proposition to build a permanent theatre was just being agitated, the feeling was intense, and a motion was made in the Board of Aldermen to put down all theatrical exhibitions as a nuisance. This being referred to the Law Committee, they made, January 12, 1812, a long report, supposed to have been written by Recorder John V. N. Yates, and advancing the opinion

"That a well-regulated theatre, supported by the respectable portion of society, so far from being contrary to good order and morality, must essentially contribute to correct the language, refine the taste, ameliorate the heart, and enlighten the understanding."

The report closed with a resolution "that the Board cannot legally interfere, nor would it be expedient for it to pass laws regulating or restraining theatrical exhibitions in this city." This was adopted, ten to three, and the theatre-building went slowly on; Mr. Bernard, meantime, acting at the old Thespian Hotel, as the hall near Clinton avenue was called.

The theatre was formally opened to the public, January 18, 1813. The building still stands (1886) on Green street, west side, south of Hamilton. It is of brick, and was originally 56 by 110 feet. Its builder was Lewis Farnham, and it was owned by a stock company, among whom were Recorder Yates, Isaac Hansen, George C. Sharpe, Isaac Q. Leake and John J. Godfrey. Mr. Bernard was the manager. The opening bill was the "West Indian" and "Fortune's Frolic." Admission $1, 75 and 50 cents. Solomon Southwick wrote the opening address. Leigh Waring, father of Mrs. J. W. Wallack, was the star, and in the company were Mr. and Mrs. Bernard, the Placides, and Mrs. Young, afterwards Mrs. Hughes, the favorite "old woman" for so many years at Burton's. Mr. Bernard managed the theatre for four seasons, and soon after returned to Europe, where he died November 29, 1828, aged seventy-two, in destitute circumstances. His "Retrospections of the Stage" show him to have been a man of wit and learning, as he was unquestionably a fine comedian, while his character was beyond reproach. Altogether, Albany's first manager was an ornament to the profession.

The theatre did not have a very long life. In less than five years it was found to be hopelessly unprofitable, and in June, 1818, was sold to the Baptist Society for a church, for which purpose it was used till 1852. Its brief existence as a temple of the drama has proved a mine of theatrical reminiscences, well worked by Sol. Smith, the veteran actor, who first went on the stage there, and by Thurlow Weed, who was a frequent attendant. N. M. Ludlow, the veteran St. Louis manager, made his start from the same place, having appeared on the stage there for a few times, and then running away from home with Drake's expedition, which started from here, *via* Cherry Valley and Cooperstown, for the wilds of Kentucky, *en route* introducing the drama in Utica, Auburn, Geneva, and other towns in the west of the State. With them went Miss Denny, a native of Albany, afterwards Mrs. Drake, and for more than forty years a star in the Western theatres.

In 1824–25 a theatre was built on South Pearl street by a stock company. It stood on the site of the present Leland Opera House, and is in part the same building, although for nearly twenty-five years it was used as a church, and once, all but the front, was destroyed by fire. Philip Hooker was the original architect. The building was 62 by 116 feet, and cost, with lot, about $25,000. It was opened May 13, 1825, under the management of Charles Gilfert, with "Laugh When You Can," and "Raising the Wind." The company was of the best, and included George H. Barrett, in his prime, a prince of light comedians; Mrs. Henry, a beautiful woman, soon after his wife; Thomas Faulkner, George P. Hyatt, Mrs. Stone, and others. The elder Booth was the first star, and he was followed by the brightest and best in the profession. For a time Albany had a model theatre. In the second season, Edwin Forrest was a member of the stock company, and here made rapid advance towards the greatness he soon after reached. Here he played second to Edmund Kean. It was the only time they were associated upon the stage, and the great actor's influence upon the young American was of the utmost importance, while Kean publicly expressed his admiration for Forrest. The company was soon found too expensive for Albany patronage, and the opening, on North Pearl street, of a popular circus resulted in Gilfert's abdication in May. He took most of the Albany company with him to the Bowery Theatre, of which he was the first manager, and which opened the following October.

At the circus dramatic performances were given in connection with equestrianism and spectacles, and the place was largely patronized for a time, at 50 and 75 cents.

George Barrett, Henry Wallack, C. W. Sanford, George Vernon, Duffy & Forrest, Dinneford & Blake, H. W. Preston, and others, managed the South Pearl Street Theatre during the next thirteen years, none of them making much money. However, the best attractions of the day were seen here, including Fanny Kemble and her father; Macready, Clara Fisher, Hackett, George Hill, Master Burke (who subsequently resided near here), Tyrone Power (who was nearly mobbed because he declined to play one evening to a small audience), the elder Booth, Forrest (frequently), Josephine Clifton, James W. Wallack, T. D. Rice, James E. Murdoch, Charles Kean, Celeste, and many others. The firm of Duffy & Forrest consisted of William

Duffy (an excellent actor, an Albanian by birth, who was stabbed by one of his company, John Hamilton, and died March 12, 1836) and William Forrest, brother of the tragedian.

In October, 1836, Charlotte Cushman, afterwards the very famous actress, became a member of the stock company here, and on the very stage where Forrest perfected himself in his life work, she practiced in a great variety of characters. She was here till the following April, and became a favorite both on the stage and in society.

In 1839 this theatre was also turned into a church, and was used by the Congregation of St. Paul's (Episcopal) till 1863.

In December, 1840, Samuel H. Nichols opened an amphitheatre on Dallius street, corner of Westerlo, and for some time it was both popular and fashionable. Alfred B. Street wrote the opening address. Later it was used for dramatic performance, and, under various managements, Hackett, Edwin Forrest, the elder Booth and others appeared. William Warren, Boston's favorite comedian for so many years, was in the company in 1841. The last performances were given in 1845, and a year or two after the building was partly destroyed by fire.

The Odeon on Broadway, east side, south of Division street, was the next theatre to open, which it did February 1, 1847. It was small, but well arranged, and many attractive performances were given. It was burned in the great fire of 1848.

Meantime the Albany Museum, started in a small way as early as 1808 or 1809 (there was a Museum as early as 1798), by Trowbridge, and continued by Harry Meech in 1826, was removed January 1, 1831, from the corner of Hudson avenue and Broadway to the corner of State and Broadway, and established in a new building owned by Thorpe & Sprague, and which for many years was a very popular resort. At first largely devoted to curiosities and freaks of nature, the Siamese Twins, Joyce Heth, Tom Thumb and other Barnum enterprises were exhibited here. Concerts, monologues, lectures and light entertainments of various sorts were frequently given, and more and more the place assumed a dramatic character. In 1848 it was considerably enlarged, and then became the leading, and at times the only place of amusement in the city. Mary Wells, Mary Gannon, Mary Taylor, Mrs. Vernon, Mrs. John Drew and Mrs. Maeder (the famous Clara Fisher of former days), frequently played long engagements, and there were stars almost without number. The last performance was given here April 28, 1855.

Before this, however, the drama returned to its old home in this city, the old Green street theatre, which, having been given up by the Baptists, was opened July 5, 1852, by Henry W. Preston, manager, who proved unfortunate, and December 20th, by Madame de Marguerites, an opera singer and dashing adventuress, who fitted up the old place in the most lavish manner, with two great mirrors for the curtain. Her career was short and troubled. E. S. Connor next tried his hand, with equally disastrous results, then Frank Chanfrau, with like experience; then C. T. Smith. Under the latter, Rose Eytinge played her first permanent engagement in a stock company. In the season of 1857 and 1858 Burton played here, as did Matilda Heron. Later, under the management of Captain John B. Smith. Adah Isaacs Menken, in 1861, made here her first appearance as Mazeppa, the *rôle* in which she attracted so much attention in this country and in Europe.

Another Green street theatre was the Gayety, opened March 30, 1859, on the east side, south of Beaver. The second season J. W. Albaugh was the acting and stage manager. The Menken, John Wilkes Booth, E. A. Sothern, George Holland and other stars appeared here before the place degenerated, as it did within two or three years, into a concert saloon.

In 1863, the city being without a respectable theatre, John M. Trimble, a well-known theatre builder, who had retired from active life on account of blindness, bought the Pearl street property and remodeled it from a church back to its original purpose. The opening was December 22, 1863. It was run for four or five seasons with good stock companies, which, from time to time, supported the principal stars. Mr. Trimble died in June, 1867, and the next season his daughter Ada was the manager, till January 29, 1868, when the theatre took fire in the morning and burned to the ground. For a year or more there was not so much as a drop-curtain in the City of Albany, although Tweddle Hall, corner State and North Pearl (erected in 1860, burned January 16, 1883), was occasionally used for dramatic performances.

October 4, 1869, a theatre, made out of a church, in Division street, east of Pearl, was opened under Frank Lawlor's management, and for a year or two did extremely well, both artistically and financially, although the location was against it, and the rebuilding of the Pearl street theatre eventually made it unprofitable. Tony Denier, Walter Keeble and others succeeded to the management, and a number of afterwards well-known actors played in stock companies. The theatre was burned December 8, 1876.

The present Pearl street theatre was rebuilt by Lucien Barnes in fifty-one days, and opened as the Trimble Opera House December 31, 1869, with a strong company. Mr. Barnes managed it for two years and a half in a liberal manner—too liberal for the support given and his limited capital. The property became the subject of much litigation, but its title was finally acquired by Charles and Warren E. Leland, who, in November, 1873, leased it to Mr. J. W. Albaugh, who was the manager of the Leland Opera House, as it is still called, till August 27, 1881. Mr. Albaugh was the last manager to employ a stock company in this city. His leading lady for several seasons was Ada Rehan, now one of the favorite *comediennes* of the metropolis. September 15, 1881, Mrs. Rosa M. Leland assumed the management, which she still retains, playing, as is the custom in all

cities outside the very largest, traveling combinations in from one to six-night engagements.

Another place of amusement which should not be overlooked is Music (originally Martin) Hall on Pearl street, corner of Beaver. It was erected in 1870, General John S. Dickerman being the first agent. It was partly burned March 11, 1872, but at once repaired, and has been the scene of many notable performances. Charlotte Cushman made her last appearance in this city here. For the past two seasons it has been devoted to amusements afforded at very low prices by Jacobs & Proctor, and, so far as attendance is concerned, has become the most popular place of entertainment Albany has ever known, with two performances daily, and crowded houses being the rule every evening in the week, Sundays excepted.

The history of the Albany stage has been quite fully written by H. P. Phelps, under the title of "Players of a Century" (Albany, 1880).

JOSEPH K. EMMETT.

The truthful history of the struggles of any young man to earn his living in that mimic world, the stage, has never yet been written. When it is, it will make very entertaining reading. It will have, of course, to be done in the most intimate manner, and must include so many curious studies and strange episodes, that its author, when he comes, will perhaps do best to postpone the publication of his work until he himself is comfortably tucked away under that grassy counterpane, beneath which the most reviled or the most lauded can sleep in peace. Such a history would include the narrative of many feasts of reason and unreason; it would tell of many acts of kindness and many of heartless oppression; it would lay open to the world's view the life of the oddest society, the most mixed, intimate and discordant to be found on the surface of this planet. How generously befriended, how zealously helped by kindly men who are almost strangers, how pitilessly swindled, how stabbed in the back, how wealthy with a transient dollar, how poor with a liberal income—all these must be faithfully described. The human animal is, however, so constructed, that he can become accustomed to the strangest ways of living.

A typical life, one which has embraced poverty of the acutest kind, giving place to opulence and a life of success, rarely met outside the vivid imagination of the dreamer, is that of Joseph Kline Emmett, known to the world as "Fritz."

He was born in St. Louis, Mo., March 13, 1841, in Sixth street, between St. Charles and Locust streets, and next door to Armstrong's school. His father, William B., and his mother, Evelina, were of Irish descent, the latter being a member of the famous Nihell family, of Ireland. Their circumstances were humble. When Joseph was ten years old his father died, throwing upon the lad the support of his mother and two sisters.

Their little store of money was soon exhausted. One day he discovered his mother and sisters in tears, and, in reply to his query, his mother said "My boy, we are starving!" Fired by hope and love, he exclaimed: "You shall be hungry no longer," and left the room in search of work. His age was almost an insurmountable barrier. Finally, near the close of the day, he entered a hominy mill and applied for work—"Work! Work! Anything to give my mother bread!" The miller told him he was too young, that his work demanded the strength of a man. Joe persisted and begged for a trial. Touched by the boy's evident earnestness and independence, he asked him, as a trial, to lift a large tub of corn and empty it into the bin. This was done, and, upon a promise that he would do the same during all the day's working hours, he was engaged at a salary of $1.50 per week and all the "hominy the family could eat." Some money was advanced, and, filling a large basket with bread, the happy boy returned home. To this day Emmett's eyes fill with tears and his voice falters when relating the joy of his mother. When commenting upon his after success, "If my poor mother could but have lived to enjoy it with me," is a frequent expression from him. He worked in the mill for five months, doing the work of a man. Down to 1856, in which year occurred the greatest grief of his life, he found a livelihood at different occupations. In this year his mother died. His sisters soon married and he was left alone. There is nothing wonderful in this old story of a boy's struggle with poverty. That is only too common. But the independence then shown has been the marked characteristic of the man. Emmett loves to tell the story of his early life. There is no false pride in him.

A few years afterwards, Mr. Emmett met Elizabeth Webber, daughter of Mahlon and Ellen Webber, the former of Philadelphia, the latter belonging to a leading family of Tennessee. The acquaintance grew into friendship, and from this to love. Emmett desired a speedy marriage, but his poverty seemed an obstacle not easily overcome. At last he said to her: "I am miserable away from you. In four days from now will you become my wife? True, I have no money, no work; but you shall never want?" With a woman's love and faith she consented. Emmett was overjoyed, and at once went to a friend, told him of his joy and asked him to serve as "best man," and, equally as important, to loan him a suit of clothes in which to be married. The friend gave him well-meant advice of worldly prudence—that it was folly for him to even dream of such a union in his impoverished condition; but with no avail. He then yielded to his requests and promised to attend the wedding, adding: "Joe, I'll bet you a hat that you laugh during the ceremony." This wager was at once taken. In July, 1864, the marriage ceremony was performed by the minister who had officiated at the funeral of Emmett's mother. To this event he alluded so touchingly that smiles were lost in tears. The hat was worn by Joe. Married life, with its joys and responsibilities, was now upon them; but the young couple, cheered on by a mutual love, increasing with the growing years, never feared. Mrs. Webber had prepared a room

for her new son, but, with his usual independence, he declined any aid, saying that he had "married his wife to support her." After a short experience at a boarding-house, which they were compelled to leave, they removed to that part of St. Louis known as "Dutch Town," where, in a small tenement house, they hired one room. Their entire household goods consisted of a grate, a dry-goods box and a frying-pan, with nothing but the bare floor for a bed—no mattress, no covering. The simplest necessities of life were denied them. A knife, fork or spoon, even, were unknown in their domestic outfit.

One afternoon, while Joe was preparing dinner, a rap was heard at the door. He called "Come in," and turning around, frying-pan in hand, met the astonished gaze of the minister who had married them. Without embarrassment, Emmett with cordial cheer said: "Come, Doctor, pitch in; fingers were made before forks," and proffered the contents of the dish. The good old Doctor answered: "Hold on, my boy, we must ask God's blessing first." They all knelt around the dry-goods box, and a prayer was offered up which, Emmett says, has followed him through life. After this the Doctor joined in the simple meal.

For about two years they struggled on, Emmett striving to subsist by any decent means. He had gained considerable note as a "drummer boy," but, from a natural desire to follow some higher social occupation, had given it up.

In 1866, he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he had secured an engagement in the Varieties Theatre. There he originated the "Dutch Song and Dance" business, which has had so many admirers and unsuccessful imitators. His success succeeded his expectations. Two years later he went to New York, had "Fritz" written, and November 22, 1869, it was first given to the public at Buffalo, N. Y., in the Academy of Music. His success was instantaneous and phenomenal, opening with a $500 house. The next night the receipts were three times as much. Albany was the second place in which "Fritz" was played, the engagement opening in December, and continuing two weeks to crowded houses. Since then "Fritz" has had uninterrupted success. "Fritz" Emmett is known in all countries. Since 1871 he has filled yearly engagements in London. His "Lullaby" is one of the sweetest songs of the world. Its pathos affects the listener when rendered by Emmett as words cannot describe. He has listened to its melody as produced upon the church organ, and his songs are heard in the "parlors of the rich and the garrets of the poor." He composes all songs given by him, and is the father of the "Dialect German Comedy."

As an actor it is easy to rightly place "Fritz." He simply acts in a perfectly natural manner. He has no "method," no "theory" of acting, except absolute naturalness, and it is this natural manner, added to the inherent qualities of the man, that has given him his unparalleled success. "Nothing succeeds like success," and success defies criticism or rigid analysis. Were we to compare him to any living actor it would be to Joseph Jefferson. There is much of similarity.

Since 1880 Mr. Emmett and family have made Albany their home. The house is located on the boulevard named Rensselaer avenue, and commands a magnificent view of the Hudson, the Catskills, the City of Albany and surrounding towns. The grounds and interior of the house—"Fritz's Villa"—beggar description. From every clime have been brought articles of interest, rare and costly. To simply catalogue them would require pages of this work. Occupying places of honor are the old musical instruments which gave "Fritz" his start. Every musical contrivance, from a hand-organ to the grand pipe-organ, has a place.

One room, richly hung in silk, contains only an easel concealed by heavy drapery, upon which, in letters of gold, is the word "Mother." It holds a portrait of his mother. The tender and loving words with which he mentions her, shows better than aught else the sweet side of this man.

As a man, Joseph K. Emmett is whole-souled, generous, a kind father and a true husband. Fond of the animal creation, his kennel of St. Bernard dogs attracts world-wide interest. His love of art and all kindred refining things is a part of himself.

Still a young man, rich in fortune, fame and friends, with a loving, devoted wife and son, Joseph K. Emmett, Jr., his life contains all the elements of present joy, with no cloud to dim the horizon of the future.

DENTISTRY.

IT is within a period less than a century that dentistry began to take the rank of a distinct profession, although centuries ago the art of preserving and improving the beauty of the teeth had been much studied. In the time of Herodotus dentistry was practiced in Egypt with considerable skill. Some of the work of these early dental practitioners his been discovered, which shows a surprising knowledge of dental surgery—knowledge which seems to have been completely lost at a later period of history.

During the latter part of the eighteenth century the attention of the medical men of France and England appears to have been seriously directed to this branch of surgery. Numerous works on this subject appeared at this time. Conspicuous among them were those of Bichat, Blake and Hunter, and about 1803 the treatises of Fox appeared,

which laid the foundation of the English school of dentistry.

Dentistry was first introduced in the United States during the Revolution by Le Mair, a Frenchman. About 1788, John Greenwood established himself in New York as the first American of his profession. The next American dentist of prominence was Leonard Koecher, author of the "Principles of Dental Surgery," which appeared in 1826, and fully established the claims of the art to take rank as a distinct branch of science.

Preceding the advent of the regular dental surgeons in this country, even as late as 1803 the making of teeth, and cleaning them, appeared to have been in the hands of the silversmith and jeweler. Extracting and other necessary dental operations were performed by regular physicians.

In 1820 there were but one hundred dentists in the United States. Whether at this precise date there were any regular practitioners in Albany, we have not been able to learn. But as early as 1824 there were two dentists in Albany, Beriah Douglas and Richard C. Skinner, the former of whom remained in practice for many years, and was the father of George Douglas, a dental surgeon of this city of long practice and much prominence in his day, who died in 1860. The elder Douglas and Richard C. Skinner were reinforced about 1832 by Ira W. Rutherford, probably the third regular dental surgeon who settled in Albany. In 1835 we find the names of Henry Viller, Louis Burdell and Verner Cuyler added to the list of practitioners. The former was in practice here for many years. Dr. Cuyler died a few years ago at the Home for Aged Men.

From 1835 to 1840, the names of Josephus Brockway, Alexander and Robert Nelson, W. A. Hamilton, J. S. Wood, James S. McAllister, and David Newcomb, appear among the dentists of Albany. Of this list David Newcomb is the only survivor. For many years he was a prominent member of his profession. A few years ago he retired from active practice, and at present resides in Lansingburgh. Josephus Brockway will be remembered by many of our citizens. He opened an office on the corner of Maiden lane and North Pearl street as early as 1835, and continued in practice for many years. He died in 1879. He had four sons, Josephus, William, Charles and George, all of whom became dentists and followed their profession in Albany. Of his sons, George is the only survivor. Under the elder Brockway's instruction, many of the earlier Albany dentists studied the art of dentistry. Among his students were Andrew Hoffman and the Nelson brothers, three well-known members of the dental fraternity in this city.

A few years after the advent of the elder Brockway, John C. Austin, C. Copeland, Josephus Brockway, Jr., J. Monroe, U. H. Wheeler, and Simon Van Naum, were added to the list of Albany's dental surgeons.

John C. Austin was prominent in the dental profession here for many years. He was born in England in 1817, came to America in 1826, and settled in Albany in 1843, where he continued in the practice of his art until his death in 1881.

From 1850 to 1860, George Douglas, Barney Wolfe, D. F. Beune, Thomas Elkins, E. Griffin, Edward Owens, Horace Hogel, M. L. Rhein, and W. F. Winne commenced the practice of dentistry at various dates in Albany, Drs. Elkins, Rhein and Winne being still in practice. D. F. Beune and Robert Nelson both died in 1867, after many years of successful practice.

In the period from 1860 to 1870 we find the names of A. Bauer, J. A. Perkins, A. Carter, Barnabus Wood, William Brockway, Caleb J. Wood, C. F. Wheeler, F. Le Grand Ames, Alexander McRoberts, and E. C. Edmonds included among the Albany dentists, of whom Ames, Wheeler and Edmonds only are now in practice.

Since 1870 up to the present time, the following have been engaged in the practice of dental surgery at different periods in this city, but are no longer included among the Albany dentists: E. F. Skinner, M. Borst, Charles Morrison, R. D. Monroe, H. J. Traver, Henry T. Flagg, J. P. Niles, and B. L. Rhein.

The Third District Dental Society was formed in 1868 by the dentists of the Third Judicial District, as a division of the State Dental Society. At the time of organization most of the members of the profession in this district joined the Society; but from internal discord, comparatively few of the Albany County dentists now belong to the Society. F. Le Grand Ames, E. C. Baxter, D.D.S., Frank Schermerhorn, C. F. Wheeler, H. L. Whitbeck, D. D. S., F. Ouimet, and A. I. Verplank, embrace the limited number now belonging to this organization.

The dentists at present practicing in Albany are F. Le Grand Ames, Joseph L. Appleton, C. F. Wheeler, William F. Winne, Thomas Elkins, Andrew Hoffman, J. Bogardus, J. F. Brown, J. W. Canaday, P. C. Carmichael, E. C. Edmonds, J. Hine, E. C. Baxter, Frank Schermerhorn, H. L. Whitbeck, F. Ouimet, A. I. Verplank, M. L. Rhein, C. W. McConnell, John Roberts, M. L. Rowe, D. E. Rugg, S. Tibbetts, T. R. Whitney, S. W. Whitney, and E. M. Willett.

Following are short sketches of a few of Albany's prominent members of the profession.

C. F. Wheeler was born in Albany in 1838. He attended the Albany Public Schools and the Albany Medical College, and studied dentistry with David Newcomb; commencing the practice of his profession in Amsterdam in 1862, where he remained four years and then removed to Albany, where he has been located continuously ever since. He is a member of the Third District Dental Society, and justly considered one of the leading dentists of Albany.

William F. Winne was born in Albany in 1839. Attended the public schools of the city until his fifteenth year, when he commenced the study of dentistry under George Douglass, and began practice here in 1860, where he has continued ever since. For three years he was President of the Third District Dental Society, and is a member of

the New York State Dental Society. In the latter organization he has been Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements for the last five years.

ANDREW HOFFMAN was born in Albany in 1824. He removed from the city when quite a young man to Waterford, and established the *Waterford Sentinel*, a journal which is still published. Later he started the *Vermont Christian Messenger*, and the *Northfield Herald*, at Northfield, Vt. In 1857 he returned to Albany, studied dentistry, and began practice in 1863.

H. L. WHITBECK was born in Coeymans, Albany County, in 1854. He practiced dental surgery for a number of years at Greenville, Green County. In 1880, he graduated from the Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery, and began the practice of his profession at Albany in 1882. He is a member of the Third District Dental Society, and author of a treatise on "Caries: Cause, Treatment, and Preservation of Natural Teeth."

B. F. RHEIN was born in Albany in 1853; graduated from the Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery in 1870. He has practiced his profession successfully in the cities of San Francisco, Albany, and Chicago, to which last place he removed in 1884.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION, 1786.

JULY 22, 1786, was the centenary of the existence of the corporation of Albany as a city. At a meeting of the Common Council held in the City Hall, July 15, 1786, it was resolved to celebrate this anniversary in an appropriate manner. A committee, consisting of Aldermen Rensselaer, Yates, Wendell, Lush, and Winne, was appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

At a subsequent meeting, held July 18th, the Committee made a report as follows: "The Committee to whom was referred the mode of celebrating the 22d of July instant, being the century anniversary of this city, do report that, in their opinion, the Common Council do convene in forenoon of that day, at ten o'clock, at the City Hall, and from thence proceed in procession to the hill westward of the city, attended by such citizens as shall choose; that, during the procession, all the bells of the several churches in this city shall ring; and at the arrival at the place assigned for the purpose, on the hill, thirteen toasts, and one for the charter, under the discharge of fourteen cannon; and that a barrel of good spirits be purchased for the occasion." The report was accepted.

A Committee was appointed to conduct the whole business of the celebration, who made it one of the most magnificent displays ever known in the city down to that time. The procession was an imposing pageant, and as it moved up State street presented a splendid appearance. The ceremonies of the celebration took place on the ground subsequently occupied by the Old Capitol. The expenses of this celebration were directed, by a vote of the Common Council, to be paid by the Chamberlain, or by the Mayor, including the supper, of which the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the city partook at Lewis's Tavern on the evening of the day of celebration.

MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS.

FOR many years in its early history, Albany was a military post of no mean importance. During the Revolution and the War of 1812, it was the key to all the strategic movements of the North. As a consequence of the importance of its position, there has always been a militia of some numbers and importance here. In the early part of this century the uniformed corps were mostly independent bodies, designated by a special title and wearing uniforms of various patterns. Conspicuous among these early companies, besides those which will be more especially mentioned hereafter, were the Albany Republican Artillery, Albany Independent Volunteers, Ninth Rifle Regiment, and Governor's Guards. At a later period were the Emmet Guards, City Cavalry, Worth Guards, City Volunteers, and Albany Scotch Light Artillery—nearly, if not all of which companies were enrolled at different times in the State Militia. The earlier attempts at enrolling and instructing the Militia is now chiefly remembered as "general training day," when all able-bodied men of the ages required for military service were assembled, often without uniforms or arms, and a day spent in instructing them. The Washington Parade Ground, now a part of the Washington Park, was frequently used for a day's encampment. The Old Bull's Head on the Troy road was also used for that purpose. In 1827 the 27th Regiment of New York City (now the 7th), encamped there for a week. But these yearly exhibitions became more and more a farce until 1846, when an Act of the Legislature was passed providing for a new enrollment and organization of the State Militia.

Albany has been the Headquarters of the State Militia since the adoption of the State Constitution, and it is but natural that some of the foremost men in the organization in the past and present, have been residents of this city. To give anything like a complete history of the term of service of these representatives of Albany, would include a longer and more extended account of the Militia of the State than we are at liberty to give.

Major-General John G. Farnsworth, recently Adjutant-General, who, prior to the Civil War, was a private in Company B, 76th Regiment N. G.,

S. N. Y., April 14, 1862, became Captain and Assistant Quartermaster U. S. V. In the following July he was made Chief Quartermaster, 4th Army Corps. August, 1863, he was made Inspector in Quartermaster's Department, West Virginia, with local rank of Colonel, and was honorably discharged October 23, 1865, with the honorary title of Brevet-Colonel U. S. V. In 1868, he was made Colonel 10th Regiment N. G., S. N. Y., and retained this position until 1871, when he resigned. He became Adjutant-General January 1, 1883. General Farnsworth was ably assisted in the management of his department by Assistant Adjutant-Generals Colonel John S. McEwan, Colonel J. B. Stonehouse and Colonel Frederick Phisterer.

THIRD DIVISION N. G., S. N. Y.—The State Militia is divided into divisions, these subdivided into brigades, regiments, battalions aud companies. The Albany portion of the National Guard since 1846 has been enrolled in the Third Division, which from 1846 to 1881 comprised the Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth Brigades. The Ninth Brigade included the military forces of Albany, which from 1861 to 1875, beside infantry companies, comprised two cavalry companies and one battery of artillery. The Ninth Brigade for many years was under the command of Brigadier-General John F. Rathbone, of this city. He was succeeded in 1867 by David M. Woodhall, who remained in command until 1877. J. S. Dickeman, Frederick Townsend, and T. Ellery Lord were, in the order named, in command of the Ninth Brigade until 1881, when the Ninth became the Fifth Brigade.

The Third Division, under the reorganization of the Militia in 1881, was made to include the Fifth and Sixth Brigades and Fourth Battery of Artillery. This Division is now under the command of Major-General Joseph B. Carr, with headquarters at Troy.

THE FIFTH BRIGADE, as at present organized, was created in 1881, and now includes the Tenth Battalion and thirteen separate companies. It is under command of Brigadier-General Robert Shaw Oliver, who in 1864 was Second Lieutenant 5th Mass. Volunteer Cavalry; in 1866, Lieutenant U. S. Infantry; and in 1869, Captain 8th U. S. Cavalry. In the National Guards of this State he has been Colonel 10th Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General of Brigade, and Inspector-General. The staff of the Ninth Brigade is composed of Colonel Frederick Phisterer, Assistant Adjutant-General; Major Richard T. Lockley, Brigade Inspector; Major Jacob H. Tremper, Jr., Engineer; Major Albert Hoysradt, Judge-Advocate; Major Samuel B. Ward, Brigade Surgeon; William Omar V. Sage. Ordnance Office; Major Le Grand C. Tibbetts, Quartermaster; and Major Henry F. Allen, Commissary of Subsistence.

THE TWENTY-FIFTH REGIMENT was organized in 1847. The first Colonel was Edward Frisby. In 1857 he was succeeded by J. W. Harcourt. From 1858 to 1860, E. J. Lansing was Colonel of this regiment. The first call for troops for the Civil War, 1861, was responded to by the 25th Regiment, then under command of Colonel Michael K. Bryan, James Swift, Lieutenant-Colonel, and David Friedlander, Major. In 1861, with 575 men, it proceeded to Washington, and for three months served in the defence of that city, and during its term of service built Fort Albany. The companies which accompanied the regiment were: Albany Republican Artillery, Company A, Captain J. Fredendall; Montgomery Guards, Company B, Captain T. McDermott; Worth Guards, Company C, Captain John Gray; City Volunteers, Company D, Captain F. Marshall; Albany Washington Light Infantry, Company E, Captain J. J. Huber; McGraw Guards, Company F, Captain M. McGraw; Albany Emmet Guards, Company G, Captain Henry Mulholland; Garde Lafayette, Company H, Captain Godfrey; Albany Washington Rifles, Company L, Captain F. Niewdorf; Albany Burgess Corps, Company R, Captain Hale Kingsley.

After its term of service was completed, it returned to Albany, but was again mustered in the United States' service for three months, May, 31, 1862, and ordered to Suffolk, Virginia, where it remained during its period of enlistment, and there completed its active service during the Rebellion.

Colonel Michael K. Bryan, after the return of his regiment, was instrumental in raising the 175th Regiment, N. Y. V., and in 1862 accompanied it to the field as its first commanding officer. He was a courageous and intrepid leader, and while gallantly leading his command at the battle of Port Hudson, was mortally wounded, and died on the field at the head of his command. For nearly a quarter of a century Colonel Bryan had taken an active interest in the military organizations of this city, and was held in high esteem as a gentleman and a brave and worthy soldier.

Colonel Bryan was succeeded as Colonel of the 25th by James Swift, who was followed, in 1864, by Walter S. Church, who remained in command four years. D. Friedlander, F. Andes, M. J. Severance, in the order named, were the commanders of this regiment, until it was mustered out in 1881.

THE SEVENTY-SIXTH REGIMENT was formed in 1856. Its first Colonel was Frederick Townsend, who was succeeded in command, in 1857, by R. C. Bentley, who remained its Colonel until it was mustered out of the service in 1860, at which time it was composed of seven companies: Washington Continentals, Carroll Corps, Jackson Guards, Marion Rifles, Union Artillery, Albany Washington Rifles, and Lafayette Guards. Of the above companies, two are still in existence, the Washington Continentals and the Albany Washington Rifles.

The companies of both the 25th and 76th Regiments were known by independent names and continued to wear distinctive uniforms. The dress of the rifleman, with its green trimmings, was to be seen side by side with the red of the artillery, yellow of the cavalry, red coats of the British, white of the Austrian, and Scotchmen in kilts and bare legs, were parts of the same regiment.

THE TENTH REGIMENT was formed in 1860. Col. Ira W. Ainsworth, who was instrumental in organ-

izing it, was its first commander. Three times did it volunteer its service to the general Government, but it was not accepted till September 2, 1862. At this time it contained ten companies: Company A, commanded by L. U. Lennox; Company B, under Captain Charles E. Davis; Company C, under Captain Stephen Bronk; Company D, under Captain James Dodds; Company E, under Captain James McFarlane; Company F, under Captain R. Harris; Company G, under Captain Morgan L. Filkins; Company H, under Captain Harmon N. Merriman; Company I, under Captain Edward H. Tomlinson, and Company K, under William H. Brandenburgh.

It entered the United States service for nine months, and was assigned to General Banks' division as the 177th Regiment of N. Y. V. Sailing from New York City in 1862, to New Orleans, to take part in the campaign of the Gulf, on its arrival there it was assigned as one of the outposts of the defenses to that city, serving in that position until March, when the campaign in Louisiana was commenced. It served with the 3d Brigade, 2d Division 19th Corps, on the Amite River, and participated in the campaigns from New Orleans to Port Hudson; at the latter place it was actively engaged during the entire siege, taking part in the battles of May 27th and 29th, which resulted in the surrender of the fort and the opening of the Mississippi River. The 10th Regiment returned to Albany in September, 1863. During its term of service it lost nearly 200 men.

The different Colonels of the 10th Regiment, in the order of their service, are as follows: Ira W. Ainsworth, Frank Chamberlin, D. M. Woodhall, L. U. Lennox, John G. Farnsworth, Daniel S. Benton, John Burns, Robert Shaw Oliver, Amasa J. Parker, Jr., and John D. Brooks.

In 1864, considerable interest was taken in perfecting and strengthening the 10th and 25th Regiments, which resulted in making them military organizations which, for drill, discipline and appearance, continued the pride of the city as long as they remained in the National Guard.

A general reduction of the military forces of the State, in 1881, resulted in the disbandment of the 10th and 25th Regiments, and the 10th Battalion of four companies was organized out of the disbanded forces.

The Tenth Battalion since its organization has been commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel William E. Fitch. Mr. Fitch was a member of Company E, 10th Regiment, when it enlisted in the United States service as the 177th N.Y.V. He remained with this regiment during its entire period of service, and was honorably discharged with the State brevet of Second Lieutenant, N. Y. V. Mr. Fitch has for many years taken warm and active interest in military matters, and held many positions in the National Guard. The Staff Officers of the 10th Battalion are: First Lieutenant Norton Chase, Adjutant; First Lieutenant Howard Batchelder, Quartermaster; Major Lewis Balch, Surgeon; Captain Charles H. Gaus, Inspector of Rifle Practice. The Tenth Battalion is composed of Companies A, B, C and D, which were formerly connected with the 10th Regiment. Company A is commanded by Captain John H. Reynolds; armory, 80 State street. Company B is commanded by Captain Horatio P. Stacpole; armory, 110 State street. Company C is commanded by Captain James L. Hyatt; armory, State Arsenal. Company D is commanded by Captain Edgar V. Denison; armory, State Arsenal.

Company A was organized as an independent company about June 7, 1860, and is known as the Albany Zouave Cadets. It was joined to the National Guard December 29, 1860, as a part of the 10th Regiment. It accompanied that regiment during its period of enlistment during the Civil War, a description of which service is elsewhere given. It was in the service of the State in 1865 in the Anti-rent War, and in July, 1877, during the railroad strikes at West Albany. During the Civil War this company furnished nearly seventy-five commissioned officers. An Old Guard, composed of honorably retired members, was organized in 1883, and now numbers many members.

Company B, known as the Washington Continentals, was organized as an independent company July 4, 1854. August 28, 1856, it joined the State Militia, a company of light artillery, and was attached to the 76th Regiment. December 26, 1860, it was assigned to the 29th Regiment, and a few days after became the nucleus and Company B of the 10th Regiment, and remained with the latter until it was mustered out of service. Company B furnished the United States during the rebellion with sixty commissioned officers.

Third Division Rifle Association.—In 1873, the 10th Regiment, National Guard, organized a Rifle Association for the purpose of maintaining a rifle range for the benefit of the members of the National Guard. Subsequently, in 1875, it gave up its organization and was succeeded by the Third Division Rifle Association. This association, composed of amateur and military riflemen, secured a plot of ground at the Center, about eight miles from Albany on the line of the New York Central Railroad, and spent several hundred dollars in clearing the place and putting it in shape for the erection of the butts for the accommodation of targets. Its distance from the city and the time required to reach the grounds, led to its abandonment before any targets had been put up.

In 1877, ground was leased in the town of Greenbush, Rensselaer County, on the Genet Farm, and the range known as Grand View was laid out and completed. It was opened in the spring of 1878. This range was used until June, 1880, when the lease of the ground having expired, and the demand for a range more accessible required its removal, the targets and other appurtenances were removed to a place about a mile above Bath on the Hudson, and the new range, known as Rensselaerwyck, was formally opened. This being on the line of the railroad, easily reached at any hour of the day, has become quite popular. At present there are four targets used up to three hundred yards, and three targets from four hundred to six hundred

yards. The National Guard in this vicinity use it for their class practice during the summer, while the amateur riflemen use it the year round.

The practice at the Rensselaerwyck range has developed many first-class marksmen, some of whom have achieved a national reputation, and from the excellence of the scores made there, are known to the shooting fraternity of the United States.

The principal event of the year is the fall meeting, which usually takes place in October of each year. At that time, representatives from all the military organizations assemble and compete for a prize offered by the State of New York. The organizations from this city have uniformly been successful in these contests, probably on account of their being able to practice more frequently and their better knowledge of the peculiarities of the range.

The Third Division Rifle Association numbers about 175 members. The officers are Colonel Amasa J. Parker, Jr., President; Lieutenant Charles H. Gaus, Vice-President: Lieutenant-Colonel Wm. E. Fitch, Secretary; and Joseph N. McDonald, Treasurer.

ALBANY RIFLE ASSOCIATION was organized in 1885 and contains about 38 members. J. W. Freshknecht is President. Its range is situated at the Abbey, about three miles from the city. Rooms, No. 69 South Pearl street.

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

The idea of forming a society of the surviving soldiers and sailors of the Union Army which served in the late Civil War, originated with Dr. B. F. Stephenson of Springfield, Illinois. The first post was organized April 6, 1866, at Decatur, Illinois. The first attempt at organization in New York State was made in December, 1867, Post No. 1 being started in Rochester. Among those chiefly instrumental in introducing the order in this State were General Barnum, Geo. F. Hooper, John Palmer, and Edward Cole. The first Commander of the New York State Department was General McKean. The Department Commanders since have been General Sickles, Colonel Lansing, Generals J. C. Robinson, Barnum, Stephen P. Corliss, Jardine, John Palmer, Rogers, Tanner, McQuade, L. Coe, Young, Merritt, J. S. Fraser, Reynold Hedges, and H. Clay Hall. Of the above list the name of Corliss, Palmer and Young, represent Albanians who have been especially prominent in G. A. R. circles. Both Palmer and Young are charter members of Post 5 of this city, the former of whom was at one time Past Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, and is regarded as one of the most zealous workers in the organization.

LEW BENEDICT POST, No. 5. The surviving veterans of the war in this city were among the first in the State to take an interest in advancing the order, forming Lew Benedict Post, No. 5, the fifth established in this State, which was organized January 30, 1867. The first department conventions were held in the rooms of this post, corner Green and State streets in December, 1867, when General Daniel E. Sickles was elected Commander and James L. Fanly, Assistant Adjutant-General of the State.

It was named in honor of Brevet Brigadier-General Lewis Benedict. Mr. Benedict was born in Albany, September 2, 1817. He was a lawyer by profession, and stood deservedly high among the legal fraternity of Albany. In early life he took much interest in military matters, and in 1847 was made Judge Advocate-General, on the Staff of Governor Young, and held the same position in 1849, under Governor Fish. In 1861, he was made Lieutenant-Colonel Second Fire Zouaves and accompanied his regiment in several engagements. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Williamsburgh, but was shortly after released. September 30, 1862, he was made Colonel of the 162d Regiment, N. Y. V., and served gallantly with his regiment in numerous engagements, till he was killed at the battle of Pleasant Hill, April 9, 1864, where his bravery and soldierly qualities received the highest encomiums from his superiors. His title of Brevet Brigadier-General was gained by gallant conduct at the battle of Port Hudson. The Grand Army Post named in his honor was among the first organized in this State, and has always taken a high rank among the Posts of the G. A. R. The first Commander was Morgan L. Filkins. The following have been at different periods Commanders of Post 5: John Palmer, E. A. Ludwig, C. H, Zeilman, William Blassie, C. C. Shaw, R. H. McCormick, T. C. Rowe, Jacob R. Terwilliger, Moses Stern and N. S. McOmber, the latter of whom is the present commander. One of the most commendable features of this Post is the efforts that have been put forward toward aiding sick and disabled comrades, and in assisting widows and orphans of deceased soldiers. More than $3,300,000 have been expended by Post 5 in charities, and it is the only post in the city that pays weekly benefits to its sick members. From Post 5, Posts Nos. 121 and 63 of this City, and one in New Baltimore, have been organized. On the roll of membership there are at present over 400 members, while over 1,400 members have joined it since its organization. It has been represented in the State Department of the G. A. R., besides those already mentioned, by William Blasie and William H. Terrell, both of whom at different periods have been Assistant Adjutant-General. Connected with Post 5 is the Lew Benedict Relief Corps No. 44, organized in 1885, and at present composed of 60 ladies, the object of which association is to assist the Post in works of charity.

For many years it has been noted for the excellence of its social entertainments, and especially for its Field Days, from which large sums of money have been realized. Headquarters of the Post are situated at Grand Army Hall, corner Green and Beaver streets.

LEWIS O. MORRIS POST, No. 121, was organized August 21, 1870, and was the second post formed in this city. It was named after Lewis Owen

Morris, who was born at Albany, August 14, 1824. In 1847 he received the commission of Second Lieutenant in the First Artillery of the regular army, in which he remained until 1854, serving in the Mexican War, at the close of which he was offered a brevet by the Secretary of War, which he declined. In 1861 he was stationed in command of Fort Brown, Texas. At this time the Federal officers and soldiers in this State were joining the Southern Confederacy, and his company was the only one which refused to turn over the property of the Government to the rebels. In 1862 he became Colonel 113th N. Y. S. V., an Albany County regiment, which subsequently was changed to 7th Regiment N. Y. S. V. Artillery. In every position where duty called, Colonel Morris showed himself to be a brave and courageous officer. He was killed at the Battle of Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864. Colonel Morris was a worthy son of a sturdy line of patriots, his father being killed in the Mexican War, while his grandfather was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Post 121 is a strong and efficient organization, numbering June 30, 1885, 319 members. It has an auxiliary order, called the Women's Relief Corps No. 45, numbering 50 lady workers, who assist the Post in all charitable enterprises. The first Commander of the Post was George H. Treadwell. At different periods the following gentlemen have held this position: S. P. Corliss, Martin Harens, S. F. Busham, C. R. Becker, G. McFarland and E. A. Coon. The present Commander is George H. Treadwell, who has held this office continuously since 1878.

In 1876 and 1877, Post 121 was greatly reduced financially, and in numbers, owing to the large sums of money it had expended in assisting sick and disabled members. During this period, and subsequently, the Post was much indebted to the personal efforts of Commander Treadwell, who so successfully managed its affairs, that to-day the Post is out of debt, owns much valuable personal property, and stands very high in the estimation of the State Department. About 125 of its members are uniformed. Post headquarters are located at 480 Broadway.

GEORGE S. DAWSON POST, No. 63.—This Post was organized November 25, 1875, with about 40 members, and was named after Major George S. Dawson, who was born in Rochester, November 7, 1838. For a few months preceding the fall of Fort Sumter he was a member of Company B of the 10th Battalion. November 6, 1861, he became First Lieutenant of Company F, 2d Regiment N. Y. S. Volunteer Artillery. February, 1862, he was promoted to captain. He died in Albany December 6, 1865, from the effects of a wound received before Petersburg June 16, 1865. During his term of service he distinguished himself as a brave and efficient soldier.

The first Commander of Post 63 was Charles D. Rathbone, since whom E. D. Ronan, Clarence Corning, Edward McCammon, Angus McD. Shoemaker, and R. C. Folger have held the position of Post Commander. The present Commander is Frederick McCammon. The Post numbers 82 members, with headquarters at the Armory, No. 480 Broadway.

OTHER ASSOCIATIONS OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.—Besides the three G. A. R. Posts in this city, there are two other military associations in Albany composed of soldiers and sailors who served in the late Civil War. One is called the Ex-Prisoners of War Association, and the other the Seventh Regiment Heavy Artillery Association.

THE EX-PRISONERS OF WAR ASSOCIATION was organized in this city in December, 1879, and is composed of the soldiers and sailors of Albany County who were confined as prisoners of war during the Rebellion, and at present has a membership of 200, representing ex-prisoners from the rebel prisons of Andersonville, Bellisle, Libby, Millers, Florence, Salisbury and Camp Ford. The objects of the association are to assist indigent ex-prisoners of war and to secure the passage of a law granting an additional pension to all who in the service of their country were forced to endure the hardships of the rebel prisons.

There are a State and National Order of this Association, the State Association numbering 3,000 members, and the National 7,000. C. C. Shanklin is President of the National Association.

Meetings of the Albany Association are held quarterly, at 480 Broadway. The present officers are Angus McD. Shoemaker, President; Lewis H. Stremple, Secretary; and C. Schurr, Treasurer.

THE 7TH REGIMENT HEAVY ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION was organized in 1881, and is composed of the surviving members of the 7th Regiment, N. Y. S. V., which participated in most of the great battles of the Rebellion, and was largely composed of Albany County soldiers. It numbers about 200 members. Meetings are held annually, the main object being social intercourse. The present officers are George H. Treadwell, President; David Caswell, Secretary; and Angus McD. Shoemaker, Treasurer.

SONS OF VETERANS.—The Order of the Sons of Veterans is composed of the sons of the soldiers, sailors and marines who aided in suppressing the Rebellion. The object is to keep alive and perpetuate the memory of the defenders of the Union, and to preserve a spirit of loyalty and allegiance to the United States.

There are 39 Posts in different parts of this State, and of these, Frederick Townsend Post No. 1, of this city, is the largest in membership, and takes high rank for efficiency of organization. It has 140 members, fully uniformed, a drum and fife corps of 20, and a glee club of 10 members.

The present officers are James F. McCabe, Commander; Joseph C. McClellan, Adjutant; and Edward Fay, Quartermaster.

Besides Frederick Townsend Post, there are two others, James M. Warner Post No. 30, and Wm. H. Russell, Jr., Post No. 25, the former being commanded by D. S. Harrigan, and the latter by R. S. Cunningham.

INDEPENDENT COMPANIES.

From the very earliest period of the settlement of Beverwyck to the present time, the citizens of Albany have had many causes to kindle their military spirit, and to keep alive an excusable pride in their military organizations. In the history of the early wars this has been shown.

From the untrained, uncouth and burlesque soldiers who maneuvered on the old Washington Parade Ground, in a later period came many a patriot who subsequently served his country with fidelity and distinction, during the War with Mexico, under Worth, Scott and Taylor, and later still, on the stubbornly fought fields of the Civil War. The un-uniformed militia of half a century ago did much to encourage the organization of regularly enlisted bodies of citizen soldiery.

Independent companies offered a field wherein martial ambition could be gratified. To this state of feeling the Burgesses Corps, Washington Continentals, and a few other military companies may be said to owe their origin. Into such, young men have flocked to learn the arts of war.

But the present excellent condition of the independent companies which now exist, in this city more especially, can be attributed to the state of feeling which existed at the close of the Civil War. Then an immense army of trained soldiers, who, on their discharge, returned to their homes to resume their peaceful occupations, still kept the fire of patriotism burning in their breasts. They had become educated in the life of a soldier on the tented field, and almost irresistibly their thoughts reverted to scenes of camp life, its trials and its pleasures, whenever they saw a parade or heard the strains of martial music. They naturally drifted in the military organizations which then existed or have since been organized. It was chiefly the infusion of this new influence which has raised to such a high standard of excellence the present military organizations of Albany.

ALBANY BURGESSES CORPS.—The Albany Burgesses Corps was organized on October 8, 1833, at No. 28 Maiden lane, and derives its name Burgesses—*i.e.*, Citizens—in honor of the original governors of Albany.

The first military officers were: Captain, John O. Cole; First Lieutenant, Thomas Bayeux; Second Lieutenant, John Shorts; Third Lieutenant, George Vance, Jr.; Ensign, Henry C. Southwick; Orderly, John Osborne. The first civic officers were: President, Parker Sargent; Vice-President, Wynant Crannell; Secretary, George Trumbull; Treasurer, Joseph Chatterson.

The first parade was made July 4, 1834, with 45 muskets and 5 officers. On July 25, 1834, the Corps assisted in the torchlight obsequies of General Lafayette. The pall-bearers were the revolutionary companions of General Lafayette, being Gregory, Van Rensselaer, Van Alstyne, Hilton Winne, Rockman, Russell and Slichl. The Yorktown ordnance, 12 pounders, captured by Lafayette, was in the procession. The first anniversary of the corps was celebrated by an excursion to the United States Arsenal at Watervliet and Troy. Subsequently, on the spur of the moment, the Lafayette Guards of New York were received and escorted to Cook's Garden, on State street, where they encamped and were entertained, leaving the next day for Saratoga, this interchange of military courtesy being the first time in which the Corps had an opportunity to show its hospitality. It was chartered by the Legislature of the State of New York, Chapter 304, Laws of 1834.

On the 22d of July, 1835, the Philadelphia National Grays and Tompkins' Blues, of New York, were received, and, with the Corps, were reviewed by Vice-President Martin Van Buren. On the 14th of September the Monroe Blues, of New York, visited Albany, and were received and entertained by the Corps.

On the 22d of February, 1836, the Corps gave its first ball in Stanwix Hall, which had just been erected, and continued at the same place on each recurring anniversary of the birth of Washington until 1848; afterwards at Knickerbocker, Van Vechten and Bleecker Halls, the Delavan House and Tweddle and Martin Halls.

In the latter part of 1836 the Corps made its first extended trip, consuming ten days of time, and visited New York, Brooklyn and Philadelphia, and were all along the line received with free-hearted and bountiful hospitalities. In 1837, the Corps escorted Governor Marcy to Schodack Centre, on the occasion of the presentation of a flag; and the same year, in conjunction with the Troy Citizens' Corps, visited Catskill on an excursion.

On July 4, 1838, the First Company of Philadelphia State Fencibles were the guests of the Corps. A grand public dinner was tendered them, of which 500 partook. A reception to the Utica Citizens' Corps was another event during the same year.

In 1839, the Troy Citizens' Corps were entertained and a target excursion to Bethlehem took place; and later, the Corps, with five other companies from Albany and three from Troy marched to the Helderberg mountains, under command of Major Bloodgood, to quell the anti-rent riots, which was quickly done, without bloodshed, the formidable appearance of the troops intimidating the rioters.

In 1840, a target excursion was made to Saratoga Springs, and later the Corps camped at Coxsackie, Governor William H. Seward and staff being the guests of the company on this occasion.

In 1841 the uniform was changed from blue to scarlet after a long and lively debate. The New York Light Guard were received and entertained. The same year the Corps visited New York as the guests of the Tompkins' Blues; also participated in the second Helderberg War, and were received upon their return by Governor Seward.

In 1842 the Poughkeepsie Guards were received; also escorted and banqueted Eagle Engine Company No. 7.

In 1843, the Corps visited Boston, and took part in the celebration; attended the exercises upon the completion of the Bunker Hill Monument, and

were highly spoken of by the Boston papers; also made an excursion to Schenectady. During 1844 the Washington Phalanx, of Boston, and the Newark City Guards were received; a target excursion was made to Pittsfield, Mass.; acted as escort at dedication of Albany Rural Cemetery; participated in the Columbia Anti-rent War; and buried Captain Thomas Bayeux, and afterwards erected a handsome monument to his memory. In 1845, the Seventh Regiment of New York was escorted to Camp Schuyler on the Troy road. Encamped at the Catskill Mountain House in 1846. During 1847 escorted the remains of the Mexican War veterans—Fields and Williams—to Buffalo. In 1848 the Corps' armory was burned; received and entertained Company H First New York Volunteers and the Boston City Guards. Saratoga was visited in 1849; In 1850, New York, Boston, Providence, Fall River, Lowell and Springfield, consuming ten days. Guests of Boston City Guard and Providence Light Infantry. In 1851, reception of President Millard Fillmore; and visited Springfield and met Boston City Guards. In 1852, attended funeral of General Solomon Van Rensselaer; also accompanied remains of Henry Clay to Syracuse; escorted Kossuth; also Major-General Winfield Scott; received the Paterson (N. J.) Blues. In 1853, received the Providence Artillery. In 1854, grand banquet at Capitol—twenty-first anniversary; at funeral of Adjutant-General Temple: also on guard under Sheriff. In 1855, first meeting in Museum Building Armory; received Company D, of Buffalo; on guard under Sheriff; also visited Lansingburgh. In 1856, paraded as escort at dedication of Dudley Observatory. In 1857, escort at Inaugural of Governor King; attended inauguration of President Buchanan at Washington; also Guard of Honor and escort at funeral obsequies of Governor William L. Marcy; also visited Waterford. In 1858, visited Saratoga; by invitation of Corps, a joint parade was made in Albany of Utica Citizens Corps, Troy Citizens Corps and A B C's, in honor of defeat of attempt to disband independent organizations; reviewed by Governor King and staff; also visited Hudson; also, paraded at night on completion of laying the Atlantic Cable. In 1859 the monument to Captain Thomas Bayeux was dedicated; also guests of Governor Morgan on July 4th; also received Fifth Company Seventh Regiment, N. Y. S. M.; also, target excursion to Saratoga Springs; also escorted Perseverance Hose Company of Philadelphia; paraded at Troy at funeral of Captain Edward D. Blanchard, of Troy Citizens Corps.

In 1860, escort to the Prince of Wales; also received Ellsworth Zouaves, of Chicago, and Providence Light Infantry; also encamped with Troy Citizens Corps at Camp Morgan, Saratoga Springs, and reviewed by Governor Morgan; also on guard under Sheriff. In 1861, escort to President Abraham Lincoln; also escort to Governor Morgan at inauguration. The Company, 84 rank and file, under Captain Hale Kingsley, fully equipped, at its own expense, left for the seat of war, April 30th, in response to first call for troops; dedication of Fort Albany on Arlington Heights, Va.; also paraded at funeral of W. A. Jackson, of A B C's, 18th N. Y. V. In 1862 paraded at funeral of Colonel Edward Frisby and Harman Visscher, of the A B C's, and Colonel Pratt. Armory removed to Bleecker Hall; also escort to Fire Department. In 1863 paraded at funerals of Colonel M. K. Bryan and Captain Douglas Lodge. In 1864, paraded at funerals of Colonels John Wilson and James D. Visscher, and Captain Robert Bell, all of A B C's; also presented a battle flag to Colonel Wilson's 43d N. Y. V. In 1865, escort to remains of President Abraham Lincoln; also received and entertained at armory the 43d Regiment, N. Y. V., on its return from the war. In 1866, reception and Guard of Honor to President Johnson; also grand banquet at Congress Hall. In 1867, grand charity ball, gross receipts $2,740; also excursion to Newburgh. In 1868, Utica Citizens' Corps, our guests; received Company B. on its return from New Haven; also ball and concert at Tweddle Hall. In 1869, at Washington, at inauguration of President U. S. Grant; also an excursion to Binghamton, presenting Fire Department with silver trumpet; also funeral of Major-General John E. Wool; also reception of 7th N. Y. Regiment. Old Guard of A B C was organized September 20th. In 1870, excursion to Elmira; grand ball at opening of Martin Hall; also paraded at funeral of General George H. Thomas, U. S. A., at Troy. In 1871, at laying of corner-stone of New Capitol; also received Fountain Hose Company No. 4, of Binghamton; also subscribed $1,000 and sent 300 blankets to the relief of the Chicago sufferers. In 1872, excursion to Poughkeepsie; also presented with a silk flag by the Binghamton Fire Department. In 1873, escort at inauguration of Governor John A. Dix; also at Washington at second inauguration of President U. S. Grant; also funeral escort of Captain William H. Taylor. In 1874, excursion to Syracuse; also grand charity ball at Martin Hall; net proceeds $2,683. In 1875, excursion to Hudson; also, a parade at Schenectady. In 1876, the Nation's Centennial; made a midnight parade. In 1877, excursion to Rochester, Buffalo and Niagara Falls; guests of Buffalo City Guard; also served six days in July railroad riots; also escorted Worcester Continentals. In 1878, excursion to Utica; guests of Utica Citizens' Corps; also at Saratoga with Old Guard of A B C; also at funeral of John O. Cole, the first Captain of Corps; also the Charter of Corps confirmed by the New York Legislature. In 1879, escort at National G. A. R. and Army of the Potomac celebrations at Albany, during which time the Old Guard of New York and the Utica Citizens' Corps were our guests; also escorted Post 2, G. A. R., of Philadelphia, and Post 1, G. A. R., of Baltimore; also went on an excursion to Pittsfield; also on guard under Sheriff; also a grand ball in Martin Hall, in adjunct to the opening of the New Capitol. In 1880, gave a reception to its own Old Guard; also escorted the Albany Fire Department; also at funeral of S. S. H. Parsons, for twenty-five years

President of Corps. In 1881, grand ten-day excursion to Binghamton, Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati and Cleveland, in a great special train of Pullman cars; also funeral escort of Hale Kingsley, ex-Captain of Corps; also a midnight reception to Utica Citizens' Corps while on its way to Washington.

In 1882 it made an excursion to North Adams, through Hoosac Tunnel and to Williamstown. In 1883, funeral escort to ex-Captain William J. Thomas; also celebrated its "Semi-Centennial," October 8th and 9th, by parades, banquets, ball, etc., with Governor Grover Cleveland and Staff as guests; also at celebration of Centennial of Evacuation of New York, in New York City. In 1884 visited Slingerlands on target excursion; also escort at laying of corner-stone of All Saints Cathedral. In 1885, participated in funeral ceremonies and as Guard of Honor to General U. S. Grant, at Albany, August 4th and 5th; also excursion to Boston, Providence and Worcester.

For twenty-five years the Corps commemorated Washington's Birthday by a ball; and has not failed, in fifty-two years, pursuant to the requirements of its constitution, to parade upon the day of the Celebration of the Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of the United States; and since 1841 it has acted as escort to the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany on that day.

The Commandants of the Corps since October 8, 1833, have been John O. Cole, Thomas Bayeux, John Osborn, B. R. Spelman, Rufus King, Franklin Townsend, James W. Blanchard, George Humphrey, William J. Thomas, Hale Kingsley, James C. Cook, Michael H. Donovan, William H. Taylor, Walter Dickson, Henry B. Beecher, Frank W. Vosburgh, and Oscar Smith.

The following are the present officers of the Corps 1884–85. Military: Oscar Smith, Commandant; Wm. M. Hussey, First Lieutenant; James McIntyre, Second Lieutenant, James A. Shattuck, Third Lieutenant, Charles E. Wolf, First Sergeant. Staff: Graham Martin, Adjutant; Frank J. Childs, Inspector; Henry C. Haskell, Engineer; Jacob C. Cuyler, Judge Advocate; H. E. Mereness, M.D. Surgeon; Chas. E. Jenkins, Sr., Ordnance Officer; William J. Sherman, Quartermaster; Morton Havens, Assistant Quartermaster; A. H. Ackerman, Paymaster; Charles E. Leland, Commissary; George L. Thomas, Inspector Rifle Practice; Galen R. Hitt, Signal Officer; A. F. Brown, Aide-de-Camp; Civic: Galen R. Hitt, President; Henry C. Haskell, Vice-President; Charles E. Wolf, Recording Secretary; J. J. Van Schoonhoven, Financial Secretary; H. E. Mereness, M.D., Treasurer.

Washington Rifle Company.—This military organization was formed February 22, 1844, with only 26 members. Formerly it was composed entirely of Germans, and now is composed largely of that element. Its first captain was Henry Fakle. During its first year it was presented by ladies of Albany with a beautiful flag, costing $600, upon which was a portrait of General Washington. This the company still retains. In 1845 it went to Hudson with 40 men, against the anti-renters. In 1861, with about 40 men, it joined the State Militia as a part of the 25th Regiment, and went with it to Washington. After it returned to Albany, it assisted in guarding the Albany barracks. In 1866 it joined the 25th Regiment as Company K, remaining as the State Militia until the disbandment of the regiment in 1881.

In 1881 it was reincorporated as an independent military association, with the right of wearing and bearing arms, holding property and paying benefits. At present it is a military organization, finely drilled and handsomely uniformed, containing 46 regular members, 3 line and 10 staff officers, 2 color bearers, and a company of 25 members, constituting the Old Guard. This company has always taken much pride in its uniforms. In 1866 it spent over $4,000 for that purpose, and while in the State Militia it retained its own uniform.

George Krank, now Captain of the Washington Rifle Company, has always taken much interest in this organization from its start. He served with it in the Rebel War, and after its return from service, entered the 44th Ellsworth Zouaves. Afterward he was made Brevet-Captain in the 7th Heavy Artillery. In the National Guards he was made Major of the 25th Regiment, afterward Lieutenant-Colonel, having command of the regiment when it was mustered out in 1881.

Since the organization of the Washington Rifle Company, besides those already mentioned, the following have been Captains in the order named: Christopher Triger, J. J. Huber, W. P. Paff, John Zimmerman, Frederick Wenderfer, Frederick Kreendler, August Widdman, and Mathias Keiser.

Albany Jackson Corps.—For many years previous to the year 1868, there existed in this city a Young Men's Democratic Association, which was large in numbers and wielded no little influence as a political body. It was in its zenith of vigor when Franklin Pierce was elected President in 1853; but after the election of Buchanan, in 1857, began to wane. It gradually grew weaker until 1866 or 1867, when the Jackson Association was formed upon the ruins of the once powerful Young Men's Democratic Association. The new association, as well as the old, had quarters in the old Exchange Building; but in 1867 the Jackson Association changed its quarters to the iron building on Broadway. In the ranks of the latter association were several of the leading local politicians of the day; but they, like their predecessors, gradually became less interested in the welfare of the association, until the early days of 1868, when they resolved to disband. At this time there were several active men in the organization, among whom may be mentioned the following:

Andrew M. Combs, Samuel K. Brate, Adam Cook, Wm. J. Cook, John C. Nott, George W. Harcourt, Michael L. Mead, William Hodgsett, Peter Hogan, John M. Carroll, George H. Graves, Denis A. Rowan, James A. Browne, Thomas H. Dwyer, Jerome Smith, Edward Bostock, Andrew Vosburgh, Harry Ball, John J. Mee, Henry C. Haskell, Joseph B. Zeiser, William Le Galley, James H. Mulligan, G. Dudley Burdick, Charles

H. Blake, Albert Albers, George B. Conley, John M. Rankin, Alexander Reed, John R. Bradstreet, James Allanson, Edward J. Keating, James A. Lynam, James Macfarlane, Conrad Reno, Robert A. Scott, Oscar L. Hascy, Andrew Tennant, Robert H. Moore, James Quinn, Terence J. Quinn, George W. Hoxie, Henry R. Haskins, William J. McCann, and other well-known citizens.

Captain James Macfarlane, a member of the Association, who had served during the Rebellion, in the 177th N. Y. V., and who was also identified with the National Guard, conceived the idea of organizing a military company from the remnant of the old Jackson Association. In this suggestion he was ably supported by Jerome Smith, Albert Albers, T. J. Quinn, Wm. J. Cook, Thos. H. Dwyer, Peter Hogan, and Henry C. Haskell, who had also served as soldiers during the war. The idea was received with enthusiasm, and pushed forward with vigor, resulting in the organization of the Albany Jackson Guards, August 13, 1868, with the following officers :

Captain, James Macfarlane; First Lieutenant, William Le Gallez; Second Lieutenant, Jerome Smith; First Sergeant, John R. Bradstreet. Staff Officers: Adam Cook, Henry C. Haskell, Peter Hogan, John M. Rankin, Alexander Reed, George H. Graves, Oscar L. Hascy, James H. Mulligan, Henry R. Haskins, William D. Dickerman, Andrew M. Combs, George W. Hoxie, John L. Staats, Andrew Vosburgh, Edward Bostock.

For a year or two the organization was known as the Jackson Guards, after which the name was changed to the Albany Jackson Corps. In political campaigns the organization formed the popular Jacksonians, and took part in all the great political demonstrations occurring during the ensuing ten years.

The Jackson Corps acted as escort to Hon. John T. Hoffman on the occasion of his inauguration as Governor, January 1, 1869. It was a memorable day, a blinding snow-storm prevailing, the members of the Corps being literally covered with snow as they marched along the streets.

The Jackson Corps also acted as the immediate escort to Hon. Samuel J. Tilden on the occasion of his inauguration as Governor on January 1, 1875. This was an honor which the members appreciated so greatly that they engaged the famous Gilmore's Band, of New York, at a great expense, to furnish the music for the parade.

The Jackson Corps participated in the ceremonies attending the laying of the corner-stone of the New Capitol, June 24, 1870. On this occasion they marched though a drenching rainstorm, each man getting saturated.

The Jackson Corps also took a prominent part in the Centennial displays which took place on New Year's Eve, 1876, and on July 4th of the same year.

During the riots of 1877, the Jackson Corps was assigned the important position of guarding the upper railroad bridge, and so satisfactorily did they perform their duty, that the Commanding Officer, Major-General Joseph B. Carr, took occasion to compliment them in general orders.

Two of the grandest public balls ever given in Albany were under the auspices of the Jackson Corps. One was at Tweddle Hall in 1872, and the other in 1874, when Music Hall and the City Building were joined by a bridge, and both buildings devoted to the pleasure of the immense throng in attendance. The decorations of the above halls on these respective occasions were never excelled. On the latter occasion a real stream of water flowed down among the rocky formations on the stage, while canaries, Cologne fountains and an elaborate floral display, converted the hall into a bower of enchanting beauty.

About the year 1878, the Jackson Corps, which had hitherto been looked upon as a political body, became in every sense an independent military organization, its doors being thrown open to all respectable young men, no matter what their politics, and the company is to-day one of the strongest and best disciplined bodies of citizen soldiery in the State.

Since organization it has visited Hudson (twice), Kingston (twice), Saratoga, Utica, Troy (three times), Schenectady, Springfield, Mass., Elizabeth, N. J. (twice), Boston, Mass., Washington, D. C., Baltimore, Md., and Philadelphia, Pa., in each of which the company was hospitably received and royally entertained by citizens and soldiers.

In 1879, the Corps received and entertained the veteran Zouaves, of Elizabeth, N. J., General J. Madison Drake commanding, and acted as escort to the above organization in the grand parade which took place on the occasion of the reunion of the Grand Army of the Republic in this city in 1879.

One of the memorable events in which this organization participated, was the inauguration of Governor Cleveland as President of the United States, at Washington, D. C., March 4, 1885, on which occasion the Company was a marked feature in the military parade, winning applause all along the line for its magnificent appearance, splendid marching and thorough discipline. Another event of note in which the Jackson Corps added to its proud record and reputation, was the funeral procession in Albany over the remains of General Ulysses S. Grant, August 4 and 5, 1885. In the procession on the 4th of August, the Jackson Corps acted as escort to the Grant Club, when the brilliant uniform of the Corps shone resplendent amid its somber surroundings, and the steady, soldierly marching of the men won general admiration from the assembled spectators. On the morning of August 5th, the Jackson Corps acted as a Guard of Honor over the remains of General Grant, while they lay in State in the New Capitol, from 7 A.M. until 9.45 A.M., the casket being removed from the Capitol at 10.20 A.M.

The Jackson Corps owns property valued at $10,000, embracing uniforms, equipments, arms, furniture, pictures, etc.

The company was organized August 13, 1868. It is named after General Andrew Jackson, the hero of New Orleans, and President of the United States from 1829 to 1837, whose birthday, March 15th,

the Corps annually honors by a parade and banquet, the latter being always attended by many leading citizens as guests.

James Macfarlane was the first Commandant of the Albany Jackson Corps, and has been unanimously re-elected to the same position each year since. He is still at the head of this organization, with a record of over thirty-five years of consecutive military service. He commenced his military career in 1850, being one of the organizers of the old Worth Guards on May 27th of that year. He also served as Captain of Company E, 177th N. Y. V., during the campaign of that regiment in Louisiania, under General Banks, in 1862–63.

The Jackson Corps Association is incorporated under the laws of the State, and is composed of members of the Corps. This association owns the building No. 38 Beaver street, occupied by the Jackson Corps as an armory.

Corning Corps.—This company, composed of thirty-three young men in the lower part of the city, has been but recently organized. It is named in honor of Erastus Corning.

SECRET ORDERS.

FREEMASONS.

THE first organization of Freemasons existing in Albany after its settlement, was Lodge No. 74 (Registry of Ireland), composed of officers in the Second Battalion Royal, holding a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Ireland, dated October 16, 1737. There is every evidence that they were scholars and gentlemen, as they brought with them and kept up a large and valuable library of rare books, which they left here when the battalion was ordered away. Many, if not all the volumes are now in the library of the Albany Female Academy.

In April, 1759, the battalion having been ordered to some other post, left the city. Several citizens had been admitted to the lodge during the stay of the battalion, and the officers left authority for the resident members to continue their meetings.

Masters' Lodge purchased from the city a plot of ground on the northwest corner of Lodge street and Maiden lane, and the city having donated an adjoining piece of ground, a lodge-house was erected by Masters' Lodge and the Ineffable, the corner-stone of which was laid with ceremony, May 12, 1768. This was the first lodge-house in America. The building after completion was occupied by the two bodies for some years, but the records fail to show at what time it was vacated. The ground is still the property of Masters Lodge, and has been leased to St. Peter's Church for a term of years. The rectory of the church stands upon the ground.

Henry Andrew Francken came from Jamaica, and on the 20th of December, 1767, instituted the Ineffable and Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection. The original charter of the body is still in its possession, and has been its authority from that time to this. The Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem was organized at the same time.

Meetings of all Masonic bodies are now held in the Albany Savings Bank Building, where are two lodge rooms, a library, an armory, waiting and reception rooms, all handsomely furnished and nicely adapted to their use.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State have met annually since 1798, on the first Tuesday in February, in Albany. All meetings, from an uncertain date, were held in the building southwest corner Broadway and Steuben, until 1861, when they were removed to a hall in the building occupied by W. M. Whitney & Co., until 1875, when the present hall was formally dedicated and occupied. The Order has had public parades, and laid the corner-stones of the Old and New City Halls, the New Capitol, the U. S. Government Building, and many other public buildings.

Before the American Revolution most of the Grand Lodges of the United States were held under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons in England, and were denominated Provincial Grand Lodges, and subject to the supervision of the Grand Lodge of England.

The first Masonic Lodge constituted in Albany was called the Union Lodge. It was organized February 21, 1765, under the authority of George Harrison, Provincial Grand Master, who installed Peter W. Yates as Worshipful Master. The following year the city gave a plot of ground on the hill near the fort adjoining the English burying-ground, on which to erect a lodge building. The name of this lodge was afterward changed to its present title, Mount Vernon Lodge.

Masters' Lodge, No. 5, was organized March 5, 1768. Its first Master was William Gamble, and its first Wardens Samuel Stringer and Jeremiah Van Rensselaer.

After the Revolution, and about the year 1785, the Provincial Grand Lodge of the State of New York was closed, and an Independent Grand Lodge opened in its stead. Yet the Masons of the State of New York looked to the Grand Lodge of England for instruction in the operations of the craft.

About the year 1793, John Hanmer came from England to the City of Albany, and remained here until 1800. He was well skilled in the ancient lectures and mode of work as practiced in England. T. S. Webb, Ezra Ames, Gideon Fairman, Philip S. Van Rensselaer, and many others residing

in Albany, put themselves under his instruction who conformed his practice to the lodges then existing. He awakened much interest in masonry, and during his stay, on November 14, 1796, Temple Lodge, No. 14, was established, of which he was first Master; Temple Chapter, of which he was the first High Priest; and the Grand Chapter, of which he was Secretary. The early Masonic institutions in and around Albany were reorganized under his supervision, and owe much to his thorough knowledge and instruction.

Below will be found a table giving the most important facts relating to the several lodges in this city.

Lodges.	Instituted.	Incorporated.	Membership. 1882–83.	Monthly Meetings.
Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 3	Feb. 21, 1765	Mar. 17, 1874	198	1st and 3d Mondays.
Masters' Lodge, No. 5	Mar. 5, 1768	.....	185	2d and 4th Mondays.
Temple Lodge, No. 14	Nov. 11, 1796	May 26, 1881	357	1st and 3d Tuesdays.
Washington Lodge, No. 85	1841	.....	130	2d and 4th Thursdays.
Ancient City Lodge, No. 452	July 21, 1852	June 15, 1868	224	1st and 3d Wednesdays.
Wadsworth Lodge, No. 417	Jan. 23, 1856	June 12, 1857	185	2d and 4th Wednesdays.
Guttenberg Lodge, No. 737	June 20, 1873	.....	80	1st and 3d Thursdays.
			1,359	
Chapters.				
Temple Chapter, No. 5	1797	1878	.....	2d and 4th Tuesdays.
Capital City Chapter, No. 42	Feb., 1870	March, 1870	.....	2d and 4th Fridays.
De Witt Clinton Council, No. 22	June 4, 1861	.....	.....	3d Thursday.
Commandery.				
Temple Commandery, No. 2	1797	1877	.....	1st and 3d Fridays.

The returns made in 1849 showed a total membership of 117 in the lodges then existing. There have been many additions made to all the organizations since 1882–83.

Other Masonic bodies in Albany are: Temple Tabernacle, No. 5, U. S. A.; Albany Conclave, No. 8; Red Cross of Constantine; Ineffable and Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection; Grand Council of Princes of Jerusalem; Albany Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix, Albany Sovereign Consistory; Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret; Cypress Temple, N. M. S.

ODD FELLOWSHIP.

Odd Fellowship makes no claims to antiquity, but history gives no record of the date of its origin. The first public notices, at the beginning of the eighteenth century, show it to have at the time been an Order of considerable membership, with a sufficient number of subordinate organizations to be worthy of notice by poet and historian. Its existence was mainly confined to Great Britain, where there now exists twenty-seven branches of Odd Fellows, and the entire membership of the world is estimated to number nearly two millions. The establishment of the Order in America was a transplanting from England. The first lodge in this country is supposed to have been organized at Baltimore in 1802, and one is known to have sprung up in New York in 1806, but the first successful planting of the Order on this continent was by Thomas Wildey, an Englishman, and four associates, members of the Order in the mother country, at Baltimore, April 26, 1819. From that foundation has been built up the great Independent Order of Odd Fellows of America, which has admitted 1,365,000 members, given relief in 1,152,000 cases of sickness and distress, aided 152,000 widowed families, buried nearly 113,000 members, and expended for the same the sum of $39,000,000, out of an income of $104,000,000. On January 1, 1885, the Order contained 8,057 lodges, with an active membership of 532,467. The sum of $2,111,927 was expended in relief during 1884, or $5,800 each day; while the income from dues and fees amounted to $5,275,000, or $14,450 each day.

The Order's first principle, Fraternity, is founded on the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, requiring the practice of true friendship and brotherly love. To visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead, protect and aid the widow, and educate the orphan, is the obligated duty of the membership. Its teachings lead to the improvement and elevation of character and enlightenment of the mind.

The history of the Order in Albany County has never been written, and the limited time at our command does not permit of searching the records of the numerous subordinates to obtain a continuity of facts and figures. The first lodge to be instituted was Hope Lodge, No. 3, now existing as No. 2, which was granted a dispensation April 24, 1826.

The second lodge was Philanthropic Lodge, No. 5, for which a charter was granted in September, 1827, to Russell Watts, John Snyder, John Osborn, Isaac L. Welsh and Peter H. Snyder.

In August, 1828, Russell Watts, of Albany, was elected Grand Master, and shortly afterward Clinton Lodge was organized by John O. Cole, Daniel P.

Marshal, Martin Gaylord, John F. Porter, and Eli Perry.

The Grand Lodge of the State was then moved to Albany and held its sessions in the city till 1836, all the grand officers being from the local lodges.

The Order experienced years of great prosperity as well as years of adversity, but from decade to decade has shown a steady growth, and contains in this county to-day 19 lodges with a membership of 1,600. The receipts of the past year amounted to $12,455.52, and expenses $5,839.36. There was paid for relief during the past year $5,213.30, and it is estimated that during its existence it has paid $150,000 in relief in this county alone.

There are three encampments of the patriarchal branch of the Order in the county. New York, No 1, was one of the first few encampments instituted, its charter dating back to 1829. It, for eleven years, held grand encampment powers in the State of New York. Albany encampment, No. 58, and Cohoes encampment, No. 71, are births of the last decade. The encampment membership numbers 450 in this county.

The military branch of the Order is represented by Canton Nemo, No. 1, Patriarchs Militant, containing 75 members and fully equipped with the beautiful uniform of the Order. Its reputation as an organization is widespread.

The Ladies' Branch of the Order, the Daughters of Rebekah, composed of the wives, sisters and daughters of members, is represented by Albany Lodge, No. 9, of Albany, German Oak Lodge, No. 31, of Albany (working in the German language), and Prospect Lodge, No. 57, of Cohoes. They are each prosperous and doing a great benevolent work. The first named has a world-wide reputation for its proficiency in the ritualistic work, and for its enterprise and prosperity.

Auxilliary to the Order is the Odd Fellows, Relief Association, on the assessment plan of co-operative insurance, containing about 500 members.

The Order owns no hall, but has leased for a term of years the upper part of the building No. 20 North Pearl street, and fitted up the same in a splendid manner. There are three lodge meeting rooms, beside the usual auxiliary rooms, and every organization of the Order in this city holds meetings there, except two subordinate and one Rebekah degree lodges.

The Order in the county must be considered prosperous, strong and influential; doing a good work in relieving distress and ameliorating the condition of the unfortunate.

The leading organ of the Order in the Eastern States, *The Guide*, was established in this city in July, 1881, and is still published, having a wide circulation and making the city renowned in the Order as its place of publication.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

The Order of Knights of Pythias was founded in the City of Washington, D. C., on the 19th day of February, 1864, by Justus Henry Rathbone, a native of Utica, in the State of New York, assisted by several gentlemen, all of whom were members of a club of musicians. Its growth was rapid, and it soon extended over the States adjacent to the District of Columbia, and was introduced in New York early in the year 1868. On the 20th day of September, 1869, some forty citizens of the village of West Troy joined in an application for a dispensation to form Watervliet Lodge, No. 23, which was instituted on the 24th day of that month. Soon after, several citizens of the City of Albany, desirous of organizing a lodge, became members of Watervliet Lodge, afterward withdrawing therefrom and starting Peabody Lodge, No. 32, in their own city. The application was made January 3, 1870, and its initiation followed on the 20th of the same month. Both of these lodges had representatives present at the second annual session of the Grand Lodge, which convened in Masonic Hall, in the City of New York, on the 27th of January, 1870. On May 21st of the same year, dispensation was granted to organize Mount Gilboa Lodge, No. 42, to be located in the City of Albany, and its organization followed soon after.

Previous to August 1, 1870, several members of Peabody Lodge withdrew, and organized Riverside Lodge, No. 47, at Bath on the Hudson, which Lodge has been one of the most flourishing in the State ever since that time, and at the present writing is one of the institutions of that suburb of the City of Albany, there being no other lodge of any kind in the place.

On the 20th day of May, 1871, Egbert Lodge, No. 56, was organized at Cohoes, followed by the organization of Chancellor's Lodge, No. 58, at Albany, on July 25th, and on the 11th of September by Steuben Lodge, No. 62, at Albany. This last Lodge was and still is composed of Germans, many of whom were among the leading citizens of the city.

On the 8th of January, 1872, Grove Lodge, No. 71, was organized, and on March 13th, Columbia, No. 77; followed by Fort Orange, No. 79, on March 20th; Barbarossa, No. 84, a German lodge, on May 21st; and Carnaut, No. 88, in October of the same year, all in the City of Albany. Since that date no new lodges were organized in Albany County until March 17, 1882, when Washington Lodge, No. 181, was instituted at Knowersville.

Of the twelve lodges organized in this county, ten of them are still in existence and in a flourishing condition. Of the two others, Mount Gilboa, No. 42, surrendered its charter in 1879, owing to internal dissensions among its members; and Covenant, No. 88, consolidated in 1878 with Columbia, No. 77. Grove Lodge, No. 71, surrendered its charter in 1880, but reclaimed it, and was reorganized December 8, 1881. Watervliet, No. 23, removed from West Troy to Green Island some time previous to 1873, and has ever since that time been located at the latter place. Of these lodges, Steuben, No. 62, and Barbarossa, No. 84, work in the German language.

In January, Sections No. 56 and No. 76 of the Endowment Rank of the Order were instituted at

Albany, the latter of which is composed almost wholly of members of Chancellor's Lodge. The object of this rank is the insurance of its members upon the co-operative or assessment plan of insurance, and this branch of the Order is entirely under the control of the Supreme Lodge. At the inception of the Order of Knights of Pythias, its purpose was that all its members should procure uniforms, the style of which was in some respects similar to that of ancient chivalry; but the rapid increase in membership soon outgrew that idea, or, at best, made it difficult to enforce, and at a later period in the history of the Order, gave rise to a separate rank, called the Uniform Rank, the members of which were compelled to procure the required outfit. Some time in 1875 an association was formed composed of members of the different lodges, and called the Uniformed Knights Association of the City of Albany, all of whom procured the required uniform and perfected themselves in the drill and discipline of the Order. In 1878, when the Supreme Lodge created the Uniform Rank, this association reorganized under the name of Albany Division No. 2, U. R., subject to the laws governing the same, and has ever since formed a part of that Rank.

In July, 1876, the Grand Lodge held its eighth annual session in the City of Albany. Through the courtesy of Governor Tilden, the Assembly Chamber of the then Old Capitol was occupied by it, and owing to the excellent light and ventilation, ample committee-rooms, comfortable chairs, and freedom from noise, that session has become memorable as one of the most pleasant held by the Grand Lodge. Among those who have become prominently and permanently connected with the Order in this State, who are members of lodges in this city, are Henry C. A. Sauer, who acted as D. D. G. C. from 1870 to 1872; was elected Grand Vice-Chancellor in 1872, Grand Chancellor in 1873, and Supreme Representative in 1877. Hon. John C. Nott, Albany County Judge, acted as D. D. G. C. in 1877; was elected Grand Vice-Chancellor in 1878, Grand Chancellor in 1879, and Supreme Representative in 1881, to which position he was re-elected in 1885. John J. Acker became D. D. G. C. in 1874, and served as such until 1876, when he was elected Grand Vice-Chancellor, becoming Grand Chancellor in 1877. Upon the death of Grand Keeper of Records and Seal, Frank W. George, of Poughkeepsie, in 1878, he was appointed to fill the vacancy, and in July of that year was elected to that office, and has been re-elected each year since that time, and is so serving at the present. The office of the Grand Lodge is now located at No. 496 Broadway, in the City of Albany, where it has been ever since the selection of P. C. Acker as G. K. of R. S.

The returns of these lodges show a total membership in good standing, January 1, 1885, of 749; cash balance on hand of $8,354.05; total assets of $15,204.98; and amount expended for relief of members during the year, $1,213.17. Peabody, Fort Orange, and Columbia Lodges own the furniture, etc., occupy and sublet Pythian Hall, in Cooper Building, at the corner of State and Green streets; and Chancellor's have fitted up and occupy a very handsome hall at No. 50 Swan street. Egbert's Lodge, of Cohoes, have fitted up a beautiful hall in Silliman's Block in that city; and Watervliet Lodge occupy the new Odd Fellows' Hall on Green Island. Steuben Lodge, Section No. 56, and Albany Division, No. 2, U. R., rent Pythian Hall, in Albany.

MUTUAL AID SOCIETIES.

IN Albany there are a number of local, or branch, societies for the object of assisting sick and disabled members, and to render pecuniary aid to their heirs after death. They are managed similarly to mutual insurance companies, on the assessment plan. They embrace the following associations: Ancient Order of Hibernians, organized in 1858; Ancient Order of United Workmen, organized in Albany, 1878; Albany Mutual Benefit Association, organized 1873, incorporated 1874; United Irishmen of America, organized 1873, incorporated 1874; New York State Relief Association, incorporated 1880; Albany Boatman's Relief Association, organized 1874; Capital City Benefit Association, incorporated 1882; Mercantile Mutual Accident Society of Albany, organized and incorporated 1881; Empire Order of Mutual Aid, organized 1878; Order of United Friends, organized 1881; and the Equal Rights Benefit Association, organized in 1883. At one time there were three Courts of the United Order of Foresters in Albany, but their charters have been surrendered.

POLITICAL CLUBS.

IT has been said "there are more politics to the acre in the City of Albany than almost any other locality than can be named." The famous regency which, from 1824 to 1837, controlled the politics of the nation, made Albany a political center. Since its potent sway in State and national politics, Albany has continued to be an important field of political strife. It is the State Capital. Political clubs of both parties maintain permanent organizations. The representatives of the Republican party are the Unconditionals and Grant Club. The former was organized in 1872, and has participated in every presidential campaign since. The Grant Club was organized in 1879, named in honor of General U. S. Grant, and has upon its roll no less than 3,000 members.

The permanent Democratic organizations are the Jacksonians, organized in 1868; the Albany Phalanx, organized in 1880; the German Young Men's Democratic Club, organized in 1882; and the Young Men's Club, organized in 1883.

During the presidential campaigns, these clubs do active work, keeping the streets attractive and lively with music, splendid uniforms, banners, torchlights and fine marching.

LABOR AND LABORERS.

IN no country in the world have the rights of free labor been more fully recognized than in the United States. But even here the liberty of labor has not always been so firmly established. In 1680, the first court of assistants, held at Charlestown, Massachusetts, settled the price of mechanics' wages, and passed a law ordaining that carpenters, joiners, bricklayers and thatchers should take no more than 2s. per day under a penalty of 10s. to give and take. This arbitrary and unjust law reads like the middle ages, when we consider the untrameled condition of the toiling masses at the present day in this country. The rights of free labor in America have secured just recognition from a power which far transcends that of legislation or rulers, the power of public opinion. John Bright, the great English orator, and one of the best friends of America in the mother country, speaking of the condition of labor in this country in 1861, said: "Among all the great nations of the globe is that one where labor has met with the highest honor, and where it has reaped its greatest reward."

Since the settlement of America there has been a steady and substantial progress in society at large, but the laboring people have had the more especial benefit of that progress. The workingman of to-day is far better clothed, fed and housed than were men of his station one hundred years ago; while in respect to means of education, improvement and enjoyment, he is in advance of the wealthy of former generations. Every reader of history is familiar with Macaulay's description of England two hundred years ago : "Times when noblemen were destitute of comforts, the want of which would be intolerable to a modern footman; when farmers and shopkeepers breakfasted on loaves, the very sight of which would raise a riot in a modern workhouse; when men died faster in the purest country air than they now die in the most pestilential lanes of our towns; and when men died faster in the lanes of our towns than they now die on the coast of Guinea." Such details as Macaulay gives us, show how much better is the condition of the laboring class to-day than in any other age of the world, and that society exists no longer for the few, but the many.

In the City of Albany, as truly as can be said of any city in the United States, the best interests of the industrial classes have been defended and guarded with zealous care; while the exertions of the laboring element in behalf of educational projects, and whatever has tended to benefit and advance the city, have been repeatedly demonstrated in its history. No one factor was more prominent in promoting the early educational interests of this city than the Mechanics' Society. The work accomplished in this direction is more especially mentioned in the article on Schools in another part of this work. This society was formed in 1793. January 10th of that year, about one hundred and fifty mechanics met for the purpose of forming a society. A committee of one from each trade was appointed to prepare a constitution, which was adopted on the 11th of February following, under the title of the Albany Mechanics' Society. It was composed of the principal mechanics of Albany and its vicinity, for the laudable purpose of "protecting and supporting such of their brethren as, by sickness or accident, may stand in need of assistance, and of relieving the widows and orphans of those who may die in indigent circumstances, and also of providing the means of instruction for their children." The first officers elected were John W. Wendell, President; Charles R. Webster, First Vice-President; Bernardus Evertsen, Second Vice-President; Isaac Hutton, Treasurer; John Barber, Secretary.

The society was incorporated by the Legislature, March 6, 1801, and was dissolved by like act, November 25, 1824. John W. Wendell was succeeded as President by Charles R. Webster, in 1796. In 1797, Jacob Wright was elected President, and remained as such until 1799, when Charles R. Webster was again elected, and was annually re-elected to that office until the final dissolution of the society. Mr. Hutton continued as Treasurer until 1808, when William McHarg was chosen, and remained as such officer during the existence of the society. John Barber was succeeded as Secretary by John W. Fryer, who was succeeded by Elisha W. Skinner.

The society as incorporated consisted of sixty-four members, comprising at the time the prominent and leading mechanics and tradesmen of the city. The number of members was subsequently swelled to one hundred and fifty.

The work accomplished by this society was most beneficent. The untiring efforts of its members in the cause of education and good morals, in the establishment of schools and the erection of schoolhouses, and in elevating the grade of education in this city, has left for it a cherished recollection of being among the pioneers and promoters of sound learning and good morals in the early history of Albany in this century.

Trade Unions, which have grown to be such powerful organizations in the interest of labor, have been but the natural outgrowth of civilization; and the tendency to combinations for the purpose of promoting the mutual interest of labor is no new thing among the industrial classes. The guilds of the middle ages were but the forerunners of the trade unions of to-day; and the strikes of modern times have had their prototype in the Jacquerie riots of the fourteenth cen-

tury. The objects of these organizations are so generally understood, that it is unnecessary to state them here.

Probably the oldest trade organization in Albany is the Typographical Society which existed here as early as 1813. Following this, in 1835 there existed several societies of saddlers, tailors, painters, house-carpenters, silver-platers, cordwainers, founders, machinists and millwrights. All of the foregoing orders, in 1835, formed a general society made up of representatives from the different societies, and which corresponded in its character to the present Workingmen's Assembly. Andrew Dietz was President of this central organization, and William Baldwin, Secretary. At this date these labor organizations were confined more especially to improving the mechanical abilities of the members than in making them an effective force in demanding from employers any set scale of wages. At this time the present powerful local organizations, representing almost every trade and branch of State and national orders, with clear, well-defined principles and policies, were not thought of.

About the middle of the present century almost every branch of trade in Albany was represented by a union or society. The principal ones, with the exception of those already mentioned, were the molders, cigar-makers, bricklayers, masons, hatters and cartmen. In 1860 the stone-cutters, tin, copper, and steel workers were represented by separate unions.

After the close of the late Civil War, the various trades unions of the State united in an effort to form a central State organization for the purpose of securing from the Legislature the enactment of laws for their common protection. A State organization, by their efforts, was started by the State in 1867, and known as the "Workingmen's Assembly of the State of New York.' This recognition of the right of organization, sanctioned by law, produced much discussion among propounders of the law. Chief-Justice Savage decided it to be an indictable offense for mechanics to enter into an association which undertook by the imposition of fines to prevent a member from working below certain fixed wages. But in 1870, the members of this State organization were successful in securing the enactment of a law, which provided that the laws prohibiting conspiracies to injure trade and commerce shall not be construed in any Court of this State to restrict or prohibit the orderly or peaceable assemblage or co-operation of persons employed in any profession, trade or handicraft, for the purpose of securing an advance in the rates of wages or compensation, or for the maintenance of such rate.

The workingmen's organizations developed rapidly in numbers and influence after this victory. In this same year they secured the enactment of the law making eight hours a legal day's work for all laborers and mechanics employed by the State or any municipal corporation; and since then have exerted not a little influence in every Legislature.

Albany Workingmen's Assembly, a branch of the State organization, was organized in 1882, for the purpose of assisting in the promotion of trades-unionism, and whatever in its opinion might be beneficial to the working class. It is composed of delegates from any regularly constituted trades union or labor organization in Albany or vicinity; the basis of membership being three delegates from every union numbering less than one hundred members, five for every one hundred, and one delegate for every additional one hundred or fractional part of one hundred over fifty. At present there are thirteen trades unions represented in this assembly, being the molders, cigar-makers, bricklayers, masons and plasterers, carpenters, shoemakers, lasters, tailors, coopers, polishers and nickel-platers, typographers, painters, plumbers, and stone-cutters.

Albany has long been noted as a stove manufacturing city, and in this branch of trade excels any other in the United States. This extensive business necessitates the employment of a large number of molders, who for many years have had a powerful labor organization in Albany. It was formed in 1859 with 675 members, being the eighth Molders' Union. It is now a branch of the international union organized in this country.

Cooperage was formerly a very important industry in Albany, nearly all the ale barrels used in this county being manufactured here. A Coopers' Union was formed at Albany in 1863, and has existed here ever since. It is a branch of the international order, which is ably represented by a monthly periodical called the *Cooper's Journal.* The Albany Union has a membership of 100.

The Cigar Makers' Union was organized in Albany in 1879, and now includes between three and four hundred members. No serious difficulty has ever existed between the members of this union and employers in regard to wages, with the exception of a strike in 1883, lasting four weeks, which was finally settled by compromise.

Since the building of the New Capitol, the number of stone-cutters has been greatly reinforced, and in 1878 the Albany Granite Cutters' Union was formed, largely made up of the stone-cutters employed on that work. Mainly through the efforts of the members of this order, the Albany Workingmen's Assembly was organized.

The Typographical Union, the oldest, and, in many respects, the most powerful labor order in Albany, has had an almost continuous organization from 1813 to the present. It is now active, full and resolute.

The remaining trade's unions are all of comparative recent growth; but all have organizations varying in membership according to the number of men employed in the various trades. It is claimed that there are at least 7,000 members belonging to trades unions in this city. There are six local assemblies and one district assembly of the Knights of Labor.

Prison Labor.—No one subject connected with labor has been more generally discussed than that of the present prison contract system, by which the State leases to contractors the labor of prisoners

confined in the State prisons. Since 1878 there have been, on an average, about 6,000 prisoners at work on contracts in this State. It is claimed by opponents of the contract system that the work of these prisoners at the low price it can be obtained, works immense damage to honest labor. Especially prominent in opposition to contract system has been the attitude of the present trades unions of Albany, where this competition is most severely felt, not only because of the location of the Albany Penitentiary, but it affects the two leading trades of the city, that of the iron-molders and the boot and shoemakers.

Nearly a fourth of all the prisoners confined in our State prisons are employed in the iron molding industry, while about 2,000 are employed in making boots and shoes. These two trades are the greatest sufferers, as more than one-half of all the prisoners in this State are employed in them. The great problem is, how the State prisons can be made self-supporting or nearly so, without injuring honest labor. Many plans have been proposed and the subject has been ably discussed, but as yet no plans have been advanced which serve to meet the approval of a majority of our lawmakers. But it is certain that a solution of the question by which the present injurious bearing on any two or three trades could be avoided, would be hailed with delight by the industrious, law-abiding mechanics; and in no city would this happy result be more gladly welcomed than in the City of Albany.

STRIKES.—Albany has been remarkably free from the disastrous and foolish outbreaks which have marked the conduct of many unfortunate laborers in other cities, and which have worked such incalculable harm to the best interests of labor and capital. This has been due to the wisdom and good sense displayed by both employers and employees. Strikes are too often the result of ignorance on the part of the members of trades unions of the condition of their particular trade. The propriety of asking for an advance in wages, and of striking if it is refused, depends entirely upon the condition of trade, the amount of business in prospect, and the profits the employers are liable to realize, circumstances of which the trades unions are too often entirely ignorant, and which frequently proves fatal to the interests of the toilers.

The most important strikes have occurred with the molders. They have several times resorted to this manner of benefiting their condition, with varying degrees of success. In 1859, 400 of them resolved to do away with what is known as the Berkshire system; that is, every certain number of skilled mechanics are obliged to take an apprentice and assist him in learning the trade. As most of the molders work by the piece, the time spent in teaching the apprentice is just so much time lost, so much really taken from their salary. In the strike referred to, the molders, after remaining out of employ for some time, were obliged to resume work without gaining their object. During the present year, the molders made a similar result against this system, and remained on a "strike" for several months, but a short time ago (October, 1885) submitted without accomplishing anything of substantial benefit.

The most formidable strike which ever occurred in this city, happened in 1863. At this time the dock laborers were joined by the Central Railroad laborers for an advance of 37½ cents per day. In pursuance of a published call, there was a large gathering of laborers held at the corner of Quackenbush and Water streets, June 15, 1863. The refusal of the Railroad Company to accede to their demands infuriated them to an intense degree. In a body they walked to West Albany, and there forced the men at work in the Central shops to leave their work. They then returned to this city and proceeded down State street in a body, some of them armed with clubs. They compelled the employees at Davidson's Safe Works to leave their positions, and in a few moments all work was stopped. They visited Taylor's Brewery, where they burst open the doors, ransacked the brewing and malt-houses, and drove the men from their work. They did considerable damage by stopping the men while pouring off the castings at Ransom's Foundry. The police were apparently powerless, and the city was virtually in the hands of the mob for two days. June 17th, the violent demonstration of the strikers caused the arrest of one of their number, which so enraged them that a general fight took place, in which one of the rioters was shot. After this occurrence, the citizens of Albany induced the Governor to call upon the National Guard to restore order. This was done, and the 25th Regiment was called out by the Sheriff. But there was no necessity for their services, as the Central Railroad officials soon after informed the laborers that they acceded to their demands.

With the exception of the foregoing, the relations between the employers and employees in Albany have been marked by moderation and good sense. Fair wages have been the rule, and in no city has the honest, industrious laborer been more prosperous, contented and happy.

COLORED PEOPLE OF ALBANY.

THE County of Albany has a colored population of about 1,300. They engage in all the ordinary pursuits, and are creditably represented in the professions. They often achieve comfortable positions in life, and are, as a class, honest, industrious and law-abiding. They have not to contend against the race prejudice that exists in some cities. Coming here originally as slaves, they have passed through the successive stages of emancipation and elevation to citizenship. One of the oldest and best preserved in body and mind of their numbers is John J. Williams, of 169 Second street. "Uncle John," as he is familiarly called, has a clear, retentive memory and an active, well-balanced mind. He was born in 1809, and belonged to Colonel Philip P. Satats, father of Barent and Peter Staats, both physicians of Albany. Mr. Williams thinks the first colored church in this city stood opposite where the two-steepled church now stands, about 1815. The next church was built in Hamilton street, and the minister's name was Nathaniel Paul. The colored folks had a Wilberforce school under this church. The first teacher was an Irishman, by the name of McCabe; then Mr. Bassett was the teacher; and then Thomas Paul, nephew of the pastor, and graduate of Dartmouth College. John Q. Allen was the last teacher of that proscribed school. The admission of colored children to equal privileges with the whites in the common schools of this State, under the operation of the "Civil Rights Law of 1873," brought the Wilberforce to a close.

Mr. Williams says, "Pinkster Day" was in Africa a religious day, partly pagan and partly Christian, like our Christmas day. Many of the old colored people, then in Albany, were born in Africa, and would dance their wild dances and sing in their native language.

"Pinkster" festivities took place usually in May, and lasted an entire week. It began the Monday following Whit-Sunday of the Catholic and Episcopal Churches, and was the Carnival of the African race, in which they indulged in unrestrained merriment and revelry. The main and leading spirit was "Charley of the Pinkster Hill," who was brought from Angola, in the Guinea Gulf, in his infant days, and purchased by a rich merchant living on the eastern bank of the Hudson. "King Charles" was said to have royal blood in his veins.

The Beau Brummel of the day was Adam Blake, then body servant to the Old Patroon, and a grand master of ceremonies he was.

The dancing music was peculiar. The main instrument was a sort of "kettle-drum," a wooden article called an eel-pot, with a sheep-skin drawn tightly over one end. Astride this sat Jackey Quackenboss, beating lustily with his hands and repeating the ever wild, though euphonic cry of "Hi-a-bomba, bomba, bomba," in full harmony with the trumming sounds of his eel-pot.

Mr. Jackson, a colored man, was at one time the principal baker in Albany; and a teamster, by the name of Lattimore, got to be a man of property. Still there were but few colored voters in this county under the old law, requiring a $250 property qualification. One of the great institutions of the Northern States in slavery times was the great "Underground Railway." No modern railway ever had so many lines, so many trains, so many stations, or so many agents or conductors. It was very exclusive, for its passengers were all colored people. It started anywhere and everywhere in the Slave States and always ended in Canada. No through route ever had such a signal light, for it ran its trains by the north star. Every genuine lover of liberty was a stockholder, and every stockholder was a minute-man. Of course every true black man was a charter member. One of the most noted agents at the Albany station was Stephen Meyers. He was born a slave in Rensselaer County in 1800, in the family of Dr. Eights, but was soon liberated by the abolition of slavery in this State. Thousands of slaves reached Canada through his aid. He enlisted the first company of colored men from Albany, upwards of forty, but Governor Morgan would not accept them, and they went to the front as a part of the 54th Massachusetts Regiment. Some of his principal assistants were John G. Steward, Charles B. Morton, William H. Topp, William P. McIntyre, William H. Matthews, Primus Robinson, Benjamin Cutler, George Morgan, and Dr. Elkins, most of whom have passed away. The latter was appointed by Governor Andrews, of Massachusetts, as a Medical Examiner in the 54th and 55th Regiments. Dr. Elkins went to Liberia, and brought home valuable collections of minerals, shells, and curiosities. Joseph A. Smith, born in South Carolina, has spent much of his life in this section, trusted and respected by the best citizens. James Matthews, the colored lawyer, has a professional standing and record that are an honor to any man that achieves them.

Adam Blake, late proprietor of the Kenmore Hotel, was born in the City of Albany April 6, 1830. He died September 7, 1881. He was the richest and best-known business man of his race in this county. Mr. Blake received a Grammar School education. He was a born hotel-keeper. He took to it as a fish takes to water. Every venture was a success. Commencing as the keeper of a restaurant in Beaver street in 1851, from there he went to James street, and thence to State and Pearl. From State he went to the Congress Hall, on Capitol Hill. He left an estate valued at $100,000. His

wife, Catherine, and four children survive him. The hotel is now successfully managed by his widow.

William H. Johnson, the well-known orator and writer, was born in Alexandria, Va., of free parents, March 4, 1883. His early education was confined to what he received as a pupil in Christ Church (Episcopalian) Sabbath-school, in his native city. He came to Albany in 1851. He was the author of the Civil Rights Bill of this State. He has always been a firm Republican in politics. His oratorical talent is widely known, often appearing on the rostrum with the ablest speakers of the country. He is one of the four survivors of that noble band of original Abolition speakers, whose thunderbolts of truth started a moral and political earthquake that culminated in the slave-holders' suicidal rebellion and ended in the extinction of American slavery.

The Albany Female Lundy Society was organized in the City of Albany June 19, 1833, by a few earnest and benevolent colored ladies for mutual benefit and the development of social, intellectual and religious principles. It has had an unbroken existence for fifty-two years, continually growing in strength and usefulness. While officers are elected annually, only three persons have been elected Presidents of the Association in these fifty-two years: Mrs. Catherine March, Mrs. Levi Johnson and Mrs. Michael Donge.

The Lovejoy Society of Albany is also composed of colored ladies, and while not so numerous nor as old as the "Lundy's," has a kindred purpose and deserves commendation. Mrs. John G. Stewart is the President.

Jephthah Lodge, No. 13, F. & E. M., was constituted in the City of Albany on the 26th of December, 1860, under a warrant from the M. W. Grand Lodge (colored) of the State of New York. The Grand Lodge of the State of New York derived its jurisdiction from a charter or warrant granted to the Prince Hall Lodge, of Boston, Mass., composed of colored men, by Lord Howard, acting Grand Master, under the authority of his Royal Highness Henry Frederick, Duke of Cumberland, Grand Master of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Great Britain, on the 29th day of September, A. D. 5784, A. D. 1784. The warrant bears the great seal of the Grand Lodge of Great Britain. The record of this Lodge is good. Three of her members have been elected Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of this State, namely, Samuel J. Scottson, William H. Johnson, 33°, and John Deyo.

Philomathean Lodge, 711, G. U. O. of O. F. Dispensation granted July, 1844.

Foremost among the organizations of colored men in Albany is the Charles Sumner Benevolent Association. This Society takes the name of that illustrious statesman and emancipator who is revered by the oppressed of all nations and of all climes, the late Hon. Charles Sumner, United States Senator from Massachusetts, was organized in 1875. Is incorporated under the general laws of this State. Their motto is: "We care for our sick and bury our dead." The President is John T. Chapman.

THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY

IS the oldest benevolent organization in Albany County. It grew out of the United Irish and Scotch Benevolent Society, which was formed at a meeting held February 8, 1802. Under a resolution that the first President should be a Scotchman, Andrew Brown, merchant, was chosen. At a meeting held October 7, 1803, the society was dissolved. On the 12th day of the same month, a meeting of Scotchmen was held at the Tontine Coffee House to consider the question of instituting a society to be composed entirely of Scotchmen. After a favorable report, the meeting adjourned to October 19th, when it met and organized the St. Andrew's Society of the City of Albany, for social and benevolent purposes. John Stephenson was elected President; William Milroy, Treasurer; and Archibald McIntyre, Secretary.

From that day to the present time, this organization has been kept up with unflagging interest.

July 26, 1804, resolutions expressing grief "for the premature and untimely death of Alexander Hamilton," who was one of the first members of a kindred society in New York City, were passed.

October 12, 1871, the Albany society sent $600 to St. Andrew's Society in Chicago for the relief of the sufferers by the great fire. Space will not admit a record of the many contributions to benevolent objects made by this worthy organization. Its maxim is "help one another." No needy, honest, Scot, man or woman, appeals to it in vain.

In 1805 its surplus funds were $221.15. Its first act of incorporation limited its annual income to $250. In 1857, the Legislature amended its charter, permitting an income of $2,500. It has now a fund of $15,000, the income of which is a source of relief to many unfortunate members.

The officers for 1885 were Peter Kinnear, President; Andrew McMurray, First Vice-President; George Hendrick, Second Vice-President; William S. Smart, Chaplain; H. G. McNaughten, Physician; Walter McEwan, Treasurer; H. C. Kinnear, Secretary; John F. Montignani, Assistant Secretary; Robert D. James, Corresponding Secretary; Thomas McCredie, Donald McDonald, Allan Gilmour, Robert Macfarlane, James Lawrence, Managers.

THE ST. GEORGE'S BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

OF the City of Albany, was organized January 27, 1860, with the following officers, viz.: John Taylor, President; William Lacy, First Vice-President; Thomas Rowland, Second Vice-President; Thomas Smith, Physician; John K. Wylie, Treasurer; W. J. Dickson, Secretary; Rev. Wm. Rudder, Chaplain.

Its object is to afford relief and advice to indigent natives of England, or to their wives, widows or children, and to promote social intercourse among

its members; and form a permanent fund to carry out this charitable purpose. It still continues in existence, doing considerable good. Its membership is eighty-five. It meets in Room No. 16, Tweddle Building, on the second Wednesday of each month.

Its present officers are William Lacy, President; Edward Ogden, First Vice-President; John Cook, Second Vice-President; W. W. Grey, Secretary; R. N. Newton, Treasurer; R. J. Greenwood, Corresponding Secretary; W. Hailes, Jr., Physician; Rev. A. W. Stockwin, Chaplain; William Lacy, W. W. Grey, R. N. Newton, John N. Parker, D. F. Skinner, George H. Stevens, Edward Ogden, Trustees.

PUBLIC BATH.

FOR many years the philanthropic and public-spirited men of Albany agitated the importance of a public bath for the city. Several meetings were held and many plans laid for the carrying out of some project. The difficulty of raising the necessary funds with which to construct the bath always presented itself. On one or two occasions, public benefits were given to raise money for this purpose. The press of the city gave the project their hearty support.

One of the foremost men in these movements was Henry L. Gladding, who deserves great credit for the untiring zeal with which he advocated the measure.

The project was revived in 1879, when Garry J. Benson started a swimming school on the east side of the river, which was carried on with great success until 1881.

About this time, a number of citizens formed an organization known as the Bath-House Committee, the purpose of which was to collect funds by voluntary subscriptions for the construction of a public bath. Mr. Benson and others served as a committee to furnish a suitable building. They bought of the Round Lake Camp Company, for $100, a structure which was removed to Albany. This was reconstructed and greatly enlarged. The citizens generously contributed $2,700 for this purpose, which has made a structure of beautiful and ample proportions. Annual contributions have been made ever since. With these, new improvements have constantly been added.

During the four years since it was opened to the public, 180,880 persons have availed themselves of its privileges. Mr. Benson has always been its Superintendent, and during all this time not a single accident has occurred. Garry Benson's public bath has become one of the institutions of Albany.

CHRISTIAN WORK.

ALBANY CITY TRACT AND MISSIONARY SOCIETY was organized in 1835, and incorporated in 1856.

The New Mission Building, corner Franklin and Rensselaer street, was dedlicated in 1878. The Ladies' Auxiliary Board was organized in 1879.

The branches of the work given below were placed in 1874.

It employs as many mission workers as can be paid to do the work of the society, in visiting the needy, distributing gospel literature among them, and ministering to them in many others ways.

It conducts gospel, temperance, social and literary evening meetings in the Mission Building, for the benefit of all who will attend them.

It keeps open one of the most inviting Coffee Rooms in the city, having an extensive bill of fare, where food is sold at low rates.

It has a Cooking School for women and girls, where they may receive instruction in the arts of household life.

It sustains a neat Boys' Lodging House, where the homeless boys of Albany can have the use of books, games, papers, a well-warmed and well-lighted room, and furnished with a good bed, all for the sum of five cents a night.

It has a Fruit and Flower Mission, having special reference to the sick poor in homes and hospitals. Through this branch of work is yearly distributed thousands of articles essential to the comfort of the sick, which they cannot afford to purchase.

It publishes *The Work at Home* every month, to keep before the public the Christian work in the City of Albany.

The entire work is kept free from debt, has neither mortgage nor interest to pay, and every dollar given to it is directly used for one of the objects above named.

This society is undenominational; it is supported by the gifts of the charitable, in and out of churches; makes no distinction in its benevolent work on account of race or creed; and invites the contributions of all to sustain it.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

The objects sought to be attained and the influence for good exerted by the Young Men's Christian Associations all over the country, meet the approval of a majority of the people acquainted with the principles and aims of these organizations. That there is mighty power in every such association, and that the principle of united actions is most important, both in the Church and in the world, will not be denied. The great principles and aims of all Christian organizations are so well understood, and their importance so universally acknowledged, that they need not be urged.

That the Young Men's Christian Association of Albany has not attained the strength and efficiency of similar associations in other cities, and seemingly out of proportion to the population of the city, can be accounted for partially from the fact that associations of young men exist here which are thought to accomplish a part at least of what is sought to be done by the Young Men's Christian Association.

This division of what may be termed the legitimate work of a Young Men's Christian Association, has prevented the present organization from becoming what it otherwise might have become. But perhaps the same, and may be greater, results for good have been accomplished by the diversity of organizations, all striving for either the moral, intellectual or physical welfare of young men.

The present Young Men's Christian Association was organized March 23, 1857, with a membership of 206. A preliminary meeting was held in the old Pearl Street Baptist Church a short time previous, called together at the request of 147 young men of this city, who were desirous of forming such an association. Suitable rooms were secured at 124 State street soon after organization, where a library of 588 volumes and a free reading-room, containing newspapers and other periodicals, were opened, religious services were regularly held, and the Association grew in usefulness and numbers. Five years later, rooms were obtained in the Tweddle Building, where the Association remained until May, 1868, when a location on the southeast corner of North Pearl and Steuben streets was secured. Here the society remained one or two years, when it removed to the Commercial Bank Building on State Street. While occupying this place the association became particularly strong and active, numbering at one time about 1,200 members, nearly one-third of whom were ladies.

During the period of financial depression in 1872 the association disbanded, vacated its rooms, and suspended active work, although a nominal existence was maintained by the election of officers by the Board of Directors until the reorganization in June, 1881, when the work was resumed at the present quarters, 20 North Pearl street. From the time of the organization of the association in 1857 to 1872, ladies were admitted as members the same as men. With the reorganized association this state of affairs was changed, and none but men were admitted. To assist in the work of the association, a ladies' auxiliary was organized in 1883, which at present consists of over 100 members.

The association has not had the good fortune to be the recipient of any large sum of money at any one time, but has been supplied mainly by small contributions.* The only legacy ever received came from F. E. Andrews, who bequeathed the house and lot, No. 96 Madison avenue, valued at $3,000, to the Association, the proceeds of which are to be applied to furnishing bread to the deserving poor.

The annual expenses of the association are about $3,000; membership, 600. The library contains 1,006 volumes. A small gymnasium is attached to the rooms, where instruction in physical culture is given. The present work consists mainly of lectures and educational exercises in the winter; religious services; a free employment bureau; and a boarding-house directory.

Presidents of the association since its organization, 1857, and time of service: 1857–58, Justus F. Taylor; 1858–59, John G. Treadwell; 1859–60, William M. Woollett; 1860–61, Rufus K. Viele; 1861–62, John Templeton; 1862–63, Levi Dederick; 1863–64, Francis W. Holbrook; 1864–65, George B. Byron; 1865–66, John E. Page; 1866–67, Stephen R. Gray; 1867, Alexander L. Van Buren; 1867–68, A. A. Wemple; 1868–70, John H. Osborne; 1870–72, Edward Savage; 1872–82, John Templeton; 1884, Charles H. Mills.

The present officers of the association are Charles H. Mills, President; Samuel S. Hatt, First Vice-President; Robert McRoberts, Second Vice-President; Walter J. Eaton, Recording Secretary; Frank W. Ober, General Secretary; I. D. F. Lansing, Treasurer; V. H. Youngman, John A. Howe, D. R. Niver, Ezra H. Stevens, Oscar D. Robinson, George Bouton, Dr. Henry March, John Templeton and A. H. Holmes, Board of Managers.

THE RAILROAD YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION was organized in 1880, having for its mission the moral improvement of railroad employees. At the time of organization, a building in the yard of the Union Depot, between Columbia and Orange streets, was secured and has been used for this purpose ever since.

This association, as well as similar ones in other cities, is very favorably considered by the various railroad companies, and receives substantial support from them. The current expenses amount to about $1,600. It is in a good financial condition. It has a library of 600 volumes, with a reading-room supplied with the leading newspapers and periodicals of the day; 200 members belong to the association. The present officers are: George S. Weaver, President; J. H. Hunter, Treasurer; Lemuel S. Fish, Secretary.

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

had its origin about the end of the year 1833, with only eight members, of whom the venerable Frederick Osnam was the ruling spirit. It is now established throughout Europe, America and Africa. In India the late Viceroy, Earl of Ripon, deemed it an honor to be president of a simple conference.

The main object and aim of the society is to encourage its members by example and counsel in the practice of a Christian life and in deeds of charity.

In the winter of 1847–48 the society was first introduced into this city, in the parish of St. Mary, through the instrumentality of the young priest, Rev. C. Putnam, and Rev. E. P. Wadhams,

*Since the above was written, Mr. James B. Jermain has donated $50,000 to this association for the erection and completion of a suitable building for its use, and nearly an equal amount has been subscribed by citizens of Albany for the purchase of a lot for the structure and furnishing the same when completed. It will probably be located on the northwest corner of North Pearl and Steuben streets, adjoining Kenmore Hotel.

now Bishop of Ogdensburg, and was soon extended, by the efforts of the late Cardinal Bishop McCloskey, to St. John's parish and the cathedral. In 1858 it was deemed advisable to institute what is called a particular council—that is, a council, according to the rules of the society, composed of the spiritual directors, presidents and vice-presidents of the various conferences. This was soon accomplished, with the conferences of Troy, West Troy, Cohoes, Waterford, Lansingburgh and Greenbush added; but soon those out-of-town conferences became so numerous, it was deemed well that their connection with the Albany council should be severed and other councils formed—one at Troy and another at Cohoes, all, however, connected with the supreme council of New York.

Some time afterwards a conference was established in St. Joseph's parish, then at St. Ann's, St. Patrick's, and later at the Assumption. The principal work of the society consists in assisting poor families at their homes, every family on the relief roll being visited weekly by a committee of the society.

The City Almshouse, as well as the Charity Hospital, is visited weekly by one or more members of the society, and religious instruction imparted to the inmates. The City Penitentiary and Jail are also visited weekly, prayers maintained, and reading matter supplied to the Catholic inmates.

The work of organizing Sunday schools (in places remote from the churches) is made a special feature of the society, and much good work has been done in that way.

By a recent general report, it was seen that the society had expended in cash in this city, since its commencement, $100,000 for relief in kind, besides vast quantities of provisions and clothing donated by charitable persons, during the winter seasons. The number of visits made to families was shown to be 12,500, and the number of persons constituting those families amounted to about 40,000.

ALBANY ORPHAN ASYLUM.

The Albany Orphan Asylum was the outgrowth of the philanthropic efforts of Mr. and Mrs. James D. Wasson, assisted by a number of the charitable citizens of Albany. It is the oldest and one of the best managed of the Albany charitable institutions. A frame building was hired at the upper end of Washington street, and the institution was opened December 1, 1829, with eight children, which at the end of the month had increased to twenty. A permanent organization was effected May 19, 1830, and the first officers, elected June 10th, were Edward C. Delavan, President; Dyer Lathrop, Treasurer; John G. Wasson, Secretary; and Erastus Corning, Jabez D. Hammond, Samuel M. Hopkins, James Gourlay, Joshua A. Burke, John Willard, George Young, James D. Wasson, Dyer Lathrop, and Oliver Steele, Managers.

In 1831, an act was passed to incorporate the society. During the following year, the erection of a building on Robin street, between Western and Washington avenues, was commenced, and finished in 1833. The asylum, during the first eighteen years of its existence, provided a home for seven hundred and thirty children. In 1851 the work of the society had so increased that an enlargement of the building was commenced, which cost over $7,000. The asylum was under the matronship of Mrs. Heeley, a warm-hearted and devoted friend of the poor, for over twenty years, ending in 1852.

Albert D. Fuller is the present Superintendent; Mrs. Albert D. Fuller, Matron. Mr. Fuller succeeds to the long and useful administration of his father.

ST. VINCENT'S FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

For several years the Catholics of Albany felt the great need of providing a suitable home for Catholic female orphan children.

Up to the year 1829 no special institution had been provided in which little girls, deprived by death, or other causes, of the care of their parents, could receive parental care and a Christian education.

To meet this urgent want, the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph's Mother House, Emmettsburgh, Md., were invited to Albany by Rev. Father Schneller, Pastor of St. Mary's Church.

The urgent request of the Rev. Father was granted, and Sister Mary DeSalle and three other Sisters were sent to Albany, and there opened a day school for the education of Catholic children in a house near St. Mary's Church.

In connection with this school the Sisters also opened an asylum, in which they provided for the temporal and spiritual needs of destitute Catholic orphan girls. A short time afterward a separate building was rented for these orphans.

After many and serious vicissitudes, the asylum, which was supported solely by voluntary contributions of the Catholics of Albany, began to decline for want of necessary funds. In 1848 it was feared the asylum must be closed.

At this critical juncture, the Very Rev. J. J. Conroy, Pastor of St. Joseph's Church, came to the rescue of this noble charity, and purchased lots adjoining the church, on North Pearl street, upon which he erected a large and commodious building, to which the Sisters and orphans were forthwith removed.

This building served both as a day school for girls and asylum for orphans. In a short time an addition was made to this building.

An incorporation by the name of St. Vincent's Orphan Asylum was formed in 1849. The incorporators were Rt. Rev. J. McCloskey, Very Rev. J. J. Conroy, V. G., Rev. Thomas Doran, Rev. E. P. Wadhams, Rev. P. McCloskey, Thomas Mattimore, Peter Cagger, Peter Morange, John Raleigh, John Tracey, Richard Carmody, and others. To this corporation the asylum building and grounds were deeded by Very Rev. J. J. Conroy.

In 1865, Rt. Rev. J. J. Conroy, desiring to provide more ample accommodations for the girls' day school in St. Joseph's parish, purchased the

building formerly owned and occupied by the Young Patroon, situated on the southeast corner of Broadway and North Ferry street. To this building he removed the orphans, and they occupied it four years. The number of applicants constantly increased, and it soon became manifest that larger accommodations must be provided for them.

In 1868, Bishop Conroy purchased, for $30,000, the mansion and grounds situated directly west of the Executive Mansion. As these grounds were too small, an additional lot was purchased of Mrs. Charles Austin, on Elm street, and a wing was erected, at a cost of $25,000.

The late John McArdle, who had always been a great benefactor of the orphans, left, by his will, a large sum of money to the asylum. With this money another wing was erected. This building is of tasteful architecture and very attractive in its appearance. It affords abundant room for two hundred and fifty children.

The orphans are most tenderly cared for by the Sisters, and daily receive instructions in all the branches of a good English education. The institution is supported by an annual appropriation from the county, which allows $1.50 per week for each child, and from voluntary contributions of the Catholics of the various parishes of the city.

Besides those provided for by the county, there are many children who, having exceeded the legal age, are maintained at the expense of the institution until suitable homes are provided for them.

There are at present in the institution two hundred and sixty children and ten Sisters, under the direction of Sister Anacaria.

The institution is yearly visited by the Board of County Supervisors, who have always been profuse in their praises for the efficient manner in which it is conducted, and the great care bestowed in promoting the happiness and welfare of the children.

THE ORPHANS' HOME OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

This institution was organized in 1864. It grew out of a nucleus of a few little homeless children who had been gathered from the streets of the city and kindly cared for by that devoted Christian woman, Miss Elizabeth Knapp. The charity was familiarly known as The Ragged School. Both boys and girls were received, and very young children admitted. The house in which these little ones were sheltered was known as the Salem Dutcher House, on South Pearl street. In time the institution became incorporated, under the name of the Albany Juvenile Retreat; but, notwithstanding the best efforts of Miss Knapp and of Mrs. Margaret Gourlay, who was her zealous coadjutor in the work, it received but desultory support. In 1864, the Clergy of St. Peter's Church, the Rev. Wm. T. Wilson and the Rev. Wm. Tatlock, having obtained assurances of support from the members of the parish, resolved to undertake the maintenance of the children, then about fifteen in number, in the Retreat.

In October, 1864, the charity was formally adopted and reorganized under the name of The Orphans' Home of St. Peter's Church. It was not, however, until 1876 that the name was, by an act of the Supreme Court, legally changed.

Under the new *regime*, the Rector of St. Peter's Church was, *ex officio*, President, and a Board of Managers was formed from the ladies of the congregation. A matron was appointed who should have the immediate care of the children. The managers held monthly meetings, made weekly visits, provided the necessary supplies for the household, and exercised a general supervision of the work. This plan has been faithfully adhered to, and the interests of the wards of the institution carefully studied and provided for to the present time.

In 1865 a commodious building was secured at No. 59 Chapel street, and from twenty to twenty-five children accommodated. In 1873, this property was needed for the erection of the Albany Savings Bank, and the children were temporarily located at No. 50 North Pearl street until, in 1874, the trustees purchased the house No. 1 Pine street, which for nine years was known as The Orphanage. In 1883 this property was rendered unsuitable for occupancy by the erection of the City Hall building, and the household was transferred to No. 2 Madison place. During the present year, 1885, the trustees purchased the house at No. 9 High street. It has been thoroughly renovated and remodeled. The appointments here are complete and carefully adapted to the requirements of children who should be conscientiously trained to become self-sustaining.

At least twenty-five children can be cared for in the new house. On the 6th of October this building was dedicated, with appropriate services, by the Bishop of the diocese, and the Rector of St. Peter's Church.

The scope of the charity is limited to the care of orphan and destitute girls, who, when possible, are indentured to the Home until sixteen years of age, the managers reserving the right to place them at service in suitable homes at a proper age. The religious training of the children is in accordance with the usages of the Episcopal Church. They are instructed in the ordinary English studies and in all branches of household labor, and so fitted to become self-supporting when called upon to leave the shelter of the orphanage.

In the course of the twenty-five years that have elapsed since Miss Knapp's venturesome planting of the germ of this institution, a large number of children have been its beneficiaries. The girls who have grown up in the home and gone out from it, bear it in grateful remembrance, and from the shelter of their own happy homes, or from the positions of trust and responsibility to which they have attained, come most satisfactory evidence of the value to the community of an institution of this kind.

Some valuable gifts and legacies have been made to the institution. The average cost of maintenance is about $1,200 per annum.

THE ALBANY HOUSE OF SHELTER.

On the 24th of February, 1868, by invitation of Mrs. Samuel Pruyn, a number of ladies and gentlemen met in Mrs. Pruyn's parlor, to discuss the subject of establishing a home for the purpose of reclaiming and reforming women who had strayed from the path of virtue and were living in vice. A committee to propose some plan of organization was composed of Rev. Dr. Elmendorf, Rev. Dr. Douw, Rev. Dr. Bridgeman, Dr. Alexander, and Captain George Hagadorn. On the 9th of March, the committee made the following report: "That they recommend the establishment of an institution to be known as the Albany Home. The establishing and management of the home to be placed in charge of a board of managers, consisting of thirteen gentlemen, and a board of supervision, consisting of nine ladies."

No. 49 Hudson avenue was the first house occupied. At a meeting held February 8, 1869, the name of the institution was changed to the Albany House of Shelter, and it was incorporated the same year.

During the year, the house No. 56 Howard street was purchased for the home. In November, 1871, Mr. R. H. Pruyn resigned the presidency, and Austin Kibbee was elected, and has since held the office. In February, 1872, the lot corner of Howard and Wendell streets was purchased, for the purpose of building a house suitable for the wants of the institution. The following year the present building was erected, and has since been occupied.

The wisdom of the founders of this institution has been fully proved in the success that has uniformly attended its work for the homeless and the erring. Hundreds of these most unfortunate women have found shelter, a Christian home and kind friends, who have, by their untiring kindness, won them back to womanhood and society. Very many mothers have brought their wayward daughters here, that the kind and helpful restraints of the home might be the means of winning them from dangerous paths and associations.

The uniform success of the institution during all these years in its humane work has gained for it many friends by whom it has been generously sustained, and it may be said with a good degree of assurance, that there is no institution in our city of a charitable character that stands higher in the public estimation than the House of Shelter.

ALBANY GUARDIAN SOCIETY AND HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS.

The beautiful three-story brick building on the north side of Clinton avenue, facing Perry street, is the Home for the Friendless.

With ample space for a large garden back of it, and a well-kept lawn upon the front and either side, it looks inviting to the passer by. The lot was a gift from the late James Kidd.

The building itself is 56 feet front by 75 feet in depth, and is finished off by a Mansard roof, from the windows of which a beautiful view of the surrounding country can be had.

There are accommodations here and all the comforts of home life, for about fifty women.

No age is specified in the rules of the managers, but as of late years those who have seemed most deserving, with strongest claims upon Christian sympathy, have been those advanced in years, the home has become a refuge for these, and by many has been called "The Old Ladies' Home."

No admission fee is necessary. The first question concerning an applicant is, Is she worthy? and following that, Has she no relatives who should provide for her?

If, after careful investigation, she is thought to be such a one as this home is provided for, one who will appreciate the privileges of this charity, she is admitted.

Need we say this building is always full? It has a long history—this Home, and in the days gone by has sheltered many from hunger and cold.

On the walls of the chapel, which is the first room at the right upon entering the corridor of the first floor, there is a marble tablet bearing this inscription: "In memory of Christina P. Lee, who having obtained help of God, in faith and by prayer and effort, laid the foundation of the Home. Opened January 27, 1852."

Above this tablet hangs Mrs. Lee's picture, the face of a beautiful woman whose heart felt for all the poor around her, and whose faith and prayers reached out towards the friendless of Albany in all coming years.

Nor was Mrs. Lee alone in these strong desires for the good of mankind. Other women joined her in her prayers, and on November 18, 1851, they met, formed plans for the adoption of a constitution, elected their officers, and named their society The Albany Guardian Society. January 27, 1852, they opened No. 23 Montgomery street for their work. Two years later, these rooms being too small, they moved to the corner of Dove street and Lydius street (now Madison avenue); and in a year or two subsequently, and for the same reason, they again moved to Nos. 15 and 17 Park street. Then they built this home on Clinton avenue, which was dedicated, free from debt, May 5, 1870.

This is a charity of which the citizens of Albany may well feel proud, one which has been well fostered by them, and abundantly blessed by heaven.

The work of the Albany Guardian Society is controlled by a board of managers, consisting of ladies selected from the different churches of the city. They have also an advisory board of gentlemen.

This board of ladies elect their own officers annually.

The present officers are Mrs. J. B. Sanders, First Directress; Mrs. James McNaughton, Second Directress; Mrs. Samuel Patten, Third Directress; Mrs. George B. Steele, Treasurer; Mrs. George Doelker, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Stephen R. Gray, Receiving Secretary; Mr. Archibald McClure, Treasurer of the Investment Fund.

HOME FOR AGED MEN.

The Home for Aged Men is located on the Albany and Watervliet Turnpike, near Menand's road. Incorporated October 5, 1876. "It is to provide for respectable men, who, at an advanced age, are left helpless and alone in the world, and whose poverty is due to misfortune rather than to idleness or vice." The corporators named were John Taylor Cooper, Maurice E. Viele, William Sawyer, Visscher Talcott, Dudley Platt, Ebenezer Halley, W. M. Van Antwerp, B. W. Arnold, J. H.

HOME FOR AGED MEN.

McClure, J. B. Jermain, J. Waterman, and D. A. Thompson. The home was dedicated March 28, 1878. It is pleasantly situated; has accommodations for 30 persons; and has at present 24 inmates. The institution is free from debt, and has an invested fund of $12,641. Inmates are, some of them, supported in whole or part by friends; others are supported at the expense of the society. Beneficiaries are to be natives of the United States, 60 years old or more, Protestant, and residents of Albany County 10 years next preceding application for relief. Exceptions to these restrictions may be made by a three-fourths vote of all the trustees. As a general rule, beneficiaries pay $125 entrance money and furnish their own room. Annual cost of supporting each inmate about $170.

CHILDREN'S FRIEND SOCIETY.

In November, 1856, a meeting of philanthropic men and women interested in elevating the condition of the poor, was held in the middle Dutch Church of Albany, and there formed the association known as the Children's Friend Society. The initial movement was made by Mrs. Mary Pruyn and a few kindred spirits, whose faith and enthusiasm carried them through many discouragements, and resulted in the good work which has extended its benefits to hundreds of destitute children, and placed them in the way of a good moral and industrial training through the schools established by this society. The earliest statement of its work says that "the school opened in the Rensselaer Street Mission House, with two hundred scholars, rude, dirty, noisy—in every respect neglected children." Subsequently, after a few years of struggle, the school was transferred to a building purchased for its use at 81 Hamilton street, and as the needs of the work increased, a second school was opened in Canal street, in a building whose rental was donated by Mr. William White for several years. Another change became necessary at his death, when the idea of the consolidation of the two schools gained favor, and through the earnest effort of a few of the managers, the necessary funds were contributed for the erection of the fine building on Beaver street, known as the Industrial School. The aim and object of the society is emphasized in its name, and its claim to be the children's friend is daily wrought out in the work of the school, and in the benefits offered to poor children struggling against the mighty trio of vice, ignorance and poverty. It provides a day home for them, where, in addition to the ordinary branches of study and moral teaching, an industrial training is offered, which fits them for service. They are taught housework and sewing, and the kitchen training system lately introduced, is fitting the girls to take positions as waitresses and chambermaids. At 12 o'clock each day they are marshaled from their school-room to a comfortable dining hall, where a substantial meal awaits them. Clothing is also furnished in a system of rewards. Boys are also received, and the society looks forward to the time when a system of trades for their instruction can be introduced.

The society was incorporated in April, 1863, and a remarkable fact is, that in about thirty years of existence, the position of President has been held by only two ladies, Mrs. Mary Pruyn and Mrs. Sophia Winne.

CHILD'S HOSPITAL.

The Child's Hospital, for children who are crippled or ill with chronic disease, was begun March 21, 1875, in a small house in Lafayette street. It numbered at first only two patients; but in the early summer of the same year a house was opened on Elk street, with beds for sixteen patients. The rapidly increasing work soon showed the necessity for a larger and more convenient building, and, in

1877, the present hospital on Hawk street was opened, with fifty beds. In 1879 a gift of $2,500 from St. John's parish, Troy, was used to erect a quarantine house, called St. John's House; and in 1882 the hospital building was enlarged by the addition of two new wards. There are now accommodations for seventy-five children.

The work is duly incorporated on The Corning Foundation of Christian Work in the Diocese of Albany.

THE WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION

is the largest temperance society in America, and the largest on record as having been organized, officered, and exclusively controlled by women. It has more than 150,000 members, in more than ten thousand local auxiliaries, and has organizations in forty-eight of the States and Territories. This society is the lineal descendant of the great temperance crusade of 1873–74, and is a union of Christian women of all Christian churches for the purpose of educating the young; reforming the drinking classes; transforming, by the power of Divine grace, those who are enslaved by the immoderate use of intoxicants; and removing the dram-shop, which is the gilded temptation. The society from its commencement has had three distinct aims set before it—whatever line of work has been taken up, or new departure made, these ends have ever been in view—1. The reformation of the drinker; 2. The salvation of the children and youth from the degradation of drunkenness; 3. The final banishment of dram-shops by wise and salutary laws, and the dissemination of scientific and Christian knowledge.

The first years of this society were given to the work of pledges, prayers, songs, appeals and gospel meetings. The relation of this organization to the home, the church, and social life is well assured. No society has been more earnest in advancing the truth.

The auxiliary branch of the Women's Christian Temperance Union in Albany, was organized in 1873. The members of this society give time and personal effort to temperance and mission work, in this wide field of reform and Christian charity. The needs and sufferings of the intemperate class call for careful investigation, and the mission of these kind hearted-ladies demands many sacrifices to meet the pleadings and wants of those who are made to drink the bitter cup of sorrow, poverty and shame caused by intemperance, while the perpetrator of this source of crime and misery is protected and shielded under a license sanctioned by law, and permitted by the sufferance of the people.

The motto of this Women's Organization is "For God, and Home, and Native Land." The Albany society now has rooms at 69 South Pearl street, where stated meetings are held and calls answered. A lady missionary is employed.

The present officers are Mrs. J. H. Ecob, President; Mrs. M. A. Wyatt, Mrs. J. B. Jump, Mrs. S. R. Gray, Vice-Presidents; Mrs. David N. Kirk, Secretary; Mrs. Jonathan Tenney, Treasurer.

Previous to its present home, it had rooms with the Young Men's Christian Association, and at 26 William street, and elsewhere. While the Union could well expend more money in its good work, it has never stopped for the want of funds. It visits the families of the drunkard, and gives them sympathy and help; it keeps open pleasant rooms for reading and instruction; it circulates useful literature; it furnishes wholesome food and drink to the needy; and uses special efforts to keep the young from the dangers of evil appetites and temptations. The great doctrine of the union is that prevention is better than cure. The statute law of 1884, providing for the instruction of children and youth in schools upon the influence of stimulants and narcotics, was passed especially through the active agency of the officers of the Albany branch of the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

THE OPEN DOOR MISSION

is the outgrowth and development of missionary efforts put forth by Mrs. Eleanor Spensley, who has consecrated her life and means to the noble work of alleviating the pain and ameliorating the condition of mankind. Coming to Albany in 1879, for a year she went about among the poor, the sick, and the dying doing good; and then, more effectually and systematically to carry on her work, she rented quarters, No. 75 North Pearl street, on her own personal responsibility; but when the nature, necessity and purpose of the work became known, a large number of Albany's representative citizens became deeply interested in the benevolent enterprise and gave it most hearty support. This mission field of usefulness has been continually broadening, until to-day it is the peer, though not the rival, of any charitable institution in the City of Albany.

On the 14th day of April, 1882, it became incorporated, under the title of The Open Door Mission, with Mrs. Frederick Townsend, President, and Mrs. Lyman Tremain, Vice-President. Soon the necessity of more commodious and permanent quarters was realized, and so generously were the appeals made in behalf of the Mission responded to, that it was enabled to purchase the house and lot No. 3 Columbia place. The premises are to be used wholly, only, and constantly for the purposes above set forth. The Mission is governed and controlled by Trustees and Managers. No pecuniary or other remuneration is paid to the Superintendent or any one connected with the institution, except the cook and laundress. The Mission is non-sectarian in character, and its charities are extended to respectable women and little children, without regard to religion, race, color, or condition.

The city grants two thousand dollars per year on the same conditions as other hospitals. Mrs. Spensley resigned her position as Superintendent in the spring of 1884.

ALBANY HOSPITAL FOR INCURABLES,

No. 2 Madison Place, is one of the youngest benevolent institutions in the city. It was conceived in the heart and brain of Mrs. Eleanor Spensley. She had graduated from Oberlin College in 1878, with a settled purpose to devote the remainder of her life to destitute and helpless sufferers. As a preparation for this, she had spent a year in the prisons and hospitals of New York City and vicinity in special training. After leaving The Open Door Mission, she at once received the assistance and co-operation of kind and able friends, and about the middle of November, 1884, again had a family of unfortunates. On the 1st of May following, the number had outgrown all available room on the corner North Pearl and Columbia streets, when rooms were secured and occupied at No. 2 Madison place. While her main object is to furnish a permanent home for hopeless disability, still there has been no time when one or more persons in temporary distress have not found the institution over which she presides the protecting, helpful avenue through which they passed from a state of dependence to self-help; and in some instances from conditions of despair to positions of high respectability and usefulness.

These cases have not been sought for, but have seemed to be brought to her door by the waves of misfortune from the sea of human misery by a directing providence, so that she could not refuse or resist their claim. Already every available room at No. 2 Madison place is occupied by a family of over thirty unfortunates, so that more roomy quarters must soon be obtained.

WOMAN'S UNION MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

In 1861, the Woman's Union Missionary Society of America for Heathen Lands was organized, in New York City. Mrs. T. C. Doremus its President. This society has between forty and fifty Missionaries (ladies) of every evangelical denomination, at this time working for women in foreign lands. It has mission stations in India, China, Japan, and the Island of Cyprus. The society is managed entirely by women, has no salaried officers, and has never been in debt. Expends about $50,000 annually. There is in this city an auxiliary called the Albany Branch of the Woman's Union Missionary Society. Officers as follows:

Mrs. Robert Starin, President; Mrs. D. K. Bartlett, Mrs. J. W. McNamara, Mrs. George R. Meneely, Vice-Presidents; Mrs. Frederick Townsend, Treasurer; Mrs. J. Townsend Lansing, Secretary; with a Board of twenty-six Managers, representing every Christian denomination.

The yearly contribution to the general fund of the society from this branch averages $800. This amount is collected by the individual effort of the friends of the society. There is one meeting held each year. No public appeal is ever made in its behalf.

THE ALBANY WOMAN'S EXCHANGE

is the outcome of a meeting held November 3, 1881, "to provide additional facilities to worthy women in obtaining work." Mrs. C. P. Williams was appointed chairman. In less than a month after this meeting, the Woman's Exchange was opened at No. 25 Steuben street, its object being to "afford impoverished gentlewomen an opportunity of quietly and unobtrusively earning money to supplement narrow incomes." During the first four weeks the sales reached nearly $500. In less than six months the managers secured larger quarters. In February, a lunch room was opened in connection with the sales-rooms. The premises No. 14 North Pearl street were rented and occupied April 20, 1882. During the first year nearly two thousand articles were sold. Any person paying $5 becomes a member, and is entitled to enter the work of three persons for one year. All work is entered through numbers instead of names. Tickets are issued for $2 each, admitting the work of one person for one year. Prices on all articles are fixed by the persons entering the work. The society receives 10 per cent. commission on all sales. Last year 318 persons were paid sums ranging from 27 cents to $230.

WOMEN'S ALBANY INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

In 1879 Miss Mary L. Bonney, President of the Philadelphia Women's Home Mission Society, became greatly interested in the subject of our national wrongs to Indians, and bringing facts concerning these wrongs to her society, she awakened a sentiment which resulted in presenting to President Hayes, February 14, 1880, a petition on behalf of justice to Indians, signed by 13,000 influential men, representing fifteen States.

In May, 1880, a committee was appointed for the purpose of publishing and circulating petitions, pamphlets, leaflets and circulars, and in June, 1881, the society was organized under the name of the Indian Treaty-keeping and Protective Association, with Miss Bonney as President. In 1882, with auxiliaries in twenty States, it assumed the name of the Women's National Indian Association, and adopted a revised constitution with the objects:

First.—To strengthen public sentiment on behalf of justice to Indians, and to help secure their civilization and education and the payment of debts to them under existing governmental compacts.

Second.—To aid in securing needed new legislation, giving to Indians protection of law, lands and citizenship.

Third.—To labor for the elevation of Indian women and homes, and the Christianization of tribes now destitute of Christian instruction.

On the morning of March 22, 1883, about fifty women assembled in Geological Hall, in Albany, to listen to an address by Mrs. A. S. Quinton, General Secretary of the Women's National Indian Association. Rev. Charles Wood, Pastor of the Fourth Presbyterian Church, presided. After the address, it was decided to organize an auxiliary to the National

Association, to be known as the Albany Indian Association, whose boundaries should be New York City and Rochester. Mrs. W. W. Crannell was appointed Secretary *pro tem.* At a subsequent meeting the following officers were elected:

President, Mrs. Howard Townsend; Treasurer, Mrs. William Barnes; Secretary, Mrs. W. W. Crannell. During the winter of 1884, the society framed the following memorial, which passed both Houses of the New York State Legislature, and was sent to the representatives in Congress by Governor Cleveland:

Whereas, Believing that the education of Indians and their voluntary citizenship in the United States will most justly, quickly, and economically solve the Indian problem;

Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be and they are hereby requested to aid in the passage of resolutions solemnly pledging the faith of the nation to the Indian policy embodied in the following principles:

First, That the unpaid sum pledged for educational purposes by the Government as part payment for the cession of lands by Indians, be appropriated for the purchase of stock, farming implements, tools, etc., for Indian manual-labor schools.

Second, That so much of the net proceeds of the sale of Indian lands as may be necessary, shall be set apart for the purpose of creating a permanent fund for the education of Indians.

Third, That lands in severalty, making their titles inalienable for twenty-five years, and United States citizenship, may be granted at once to all Indians who so desire.

Fourth, That the legal personality of all Indians may be granted, and that protection of law may be given them, as it is to all other races within these United States.

Fifth, That the civilization of Indians may be hastened by providing for and rewarding their civilized industries.

Sixth, That the salaries of Indian Agents be increased sufficiently to secure good men of large capacity and business experience, and to retain them in service.

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to transmit a copy of the foregoing resolutions to each of the Senators and Representatives in Congress from this State.

In June, 1874, Mrs. Maurice E. Viele was elected President. In the spring of 1885, auxiliaries to the Albany Association were established in Troy and Poughkeepsie. There is at present about two hundred ladies, with the following officers elected November 11, 1885:

President, Mrs. Maurice E. Viele; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. W. W. Crannell; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Charles B. Nichols; Treasurer, Mrs. Wm. Barnes; Assistant Treasurer, Mrs. Benjamin W. Arnold; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Howard Townsend, Mrs. J. DeWitt Peltz, Mrs. Theodore D. Van Heusen, Mrs. James H. McClure, Mrs. J. D. Countermine, Mrs. Leonard Kip, Mrs. George A. Woolverton, Mrs. William L. Learned, Mrs. Jeremiah Waterman, Mrs. J. Townsend Lansing, Mrs. Montgomery Throop, Mrs. J. A. Lintner, Mrs. Samuel Patten, Mrs. John O. Cole, Mrs. John Taylor Cooper, Mrs. Leander Stickney, Mrs. Lemon Thomson, Mrs. David Murray, Mrs. Charles Wood, Miss C. W. De Witt, Miss Anna McNaughton, Miss Harriet Monteath, Miss J. Anna Lansing, Miss C. J. Van Rensselaer.

THE ALBANY WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

IN 1852, Miss Susan B. Anthony, as delegate to a temperance convention held in Albany, attempted to speak during the first session. Although she had been received as a member of the convention, she was informed that she was "invited to listen, and not to take part in the proceedings." The men and women present who considered her wronged withdrew from the convention, and held a separate meeting in the vestry-room of the First Presbyterian Church. This was the beginning of active work in Albany for the rights of women. Mrs. Thompson, Lydia Mott, and Phebe Jones, of Albany, were pronounced in this revolt.

A convention was held in Association Hall, February 14 and 15, 1854, by the advocates of equal rights. Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Antoinette L. Browne and Ernestine L. Rose were among the notable women present. A hearing was given them by both Senate and Assembly Committees, and 6,000 names of petitioners for the right to vote were presented to both branches of the Legislature. The editorials of the Albany newspapers were, in nearly every instance, furious in their attacks upon the woman suffragists. The *Knickerbocker*, then as now, demanded "fair play and truthful criticism."

Another convention was held in the Green Street Universalist Church, February 13 and 14, 1855, and again petitions were presented, and hearings in Senate and Assembly were accorded.

A convention was held in Association Hall, February 3 and 4, 1860. Miss Anthony was the ruling spirit. On the 18th of this February, Mrs. Stanton addressed the Legislature on woman's right of suffrage.

February 7 and 8, 1861, just before the War of the Rebellion, a woman's suffrage convention was held in Albany. It is proper to note that all the eloquent addresses of these eminent women never aroused even a quartet of women in Albany to organize for woman's suffrage work. Lydia Mott's parlors in Columbia street furnished the center for the workers who came from other cities.

After the war, the Constitutional Convention of the State of New York was held in the Old Assembly Chamber. Mrs. Stanton addressed the Judiciary Committee, asking that the word "male" be stricken from Sec. 1, Art. 2, of the Constitution of New York. The women of Albany again had the opportunity of listening to Mrs. Stanton pleading for justice to her sex. From that year to the present, Mrs. Lillie Devereux Blake has each year made effort in the New York Legislature to bring about woman suffrage. Early in the year 1880, her efforts, and those of the earnest women who pre-

ceded her, were crowned with partial success by the passage of the school suffrage law. Soon after the right to vote at school elections was gained, Mrs. Blake came to Albany for the express purpose of holding a meeting whereby she might confer with the women of Albany, and lead them to take part in the charter election about to be held. The meeting was held in the Geological Hall, March 19, 1880. Mrs. Blake and Mrs. Slocum, of New York City, and Mrs. Saxon, of New Orleans, spoke with great earnestness, and urged the women to form themselves into an active local working society for future help. Mrs. William Barnes and Mrs. Mary Pruyn were nominated for members of the school board, who afterwards refused to accept the nomination. At the close of the meeting, Mrs. Mary S. Howell called an extra session, and a local society was then and there organized. Mrs. Howell was chosen President, and Miss Kate Stoneman, Secretary. Another meeting was held Monday, March 22, 1880.

From that time to the present, meetings have been held each week, with scarcely an exception, except during the summer vacation. During the exciting presidential campaign of 1884, meetings were held by the Society every week through the year, the members taking a deep interest in every move and counter-move of the parties in the contest.

The first meetings of the Suffrage Society were held in Geological Hall, afterwards the old Tweddle Hall. After a few weeks in Mr. Hill's rooms on State street, the school-room and parlors of Miss Cooley, 23 Dove street, were opened to the society, where it had a home for three years without charge. Next the society for one year used the Old Assembly Chamber. After this its meetings were held from house to house for the purpose of reaching more people in different parts of the city, and the parlors of Mrs. H. V. Chapin, Mrs. J. M. Watkins, Mrs. W. H. Williams, Mrs. M. E. Mull, Mrs. Henrica Iliohan, and Miss Kate Stoneman were, in turn, the scene of interesting meetings. The society now holds its meetings in room No. 16 of the New Tweddle Building.

The President of the Albany Woman's Suffrage Society for the first three years was Mrs. Mary Seymour Howell. Mrs. Howell was succeeded by Miss Martha Winne. The society never had a more earnest worker in the cause of woman suffrage than Miss Winne. Her earnestness cost her dear, however, as her position of Principal of School No. 17 was lost to her by votes of anti-suffragists in the Albany School Board. She now holds a far superior position in the Nebraska State Normal School. She was the first martyr to the cause of woman suffrage in Albany. Mrs. Joan W. Cole succeeded Miss Winne.

Miss Kate Stoneman has been Secretary of the society from the first. Miss Stoneman is a sister of General Stoneman, now Governor of California, and also of Judge J. T. Stoneman, of the Superior Court of Iowa, and a teacher in the State Normal School in Albany.

Mrs. Dr. Brown, former Treasurer of the society, and her mother, Mrs. Melius, wife of Wheeler B. Melius, of the Albany County Clerk's Office, have given most important aid in the management of the society. Mrs. Charles Werner, the first Treasurer, will long be remembered for her engaging manners. Miss Adeline E. Coley, present Treasurer, more than any other member, has helped the society to keep its standing in Albany.

Mrs. E. S. Miller has given the society a work of love which must never be forgotten.

Mrs. Henrica Iliohan, the young Hollander, has always been a prominent member of the society. With her keen wit and her ready repartee, she has always defended the society in many an extempore speech.

Miss Mary A. McClelland, of the State Normal School, has brought to the society the finished style of her letters, addresses, and press articles.

Mrs. M. L. Smith gave to the society the benefit of her experience in the anti-slavery struggle.

Mrs. Dr. Cook, on rare occasions, narrated her experience as hospital nurse on the bloody battle-fields of the War of the Rebellion. Mrs. J. M. Watkins, the present Vice-President, a sister of the artist, George W. Boughton, brought her acquaintance with deliberative bodies, and her experience as president of temperance societies, and of the Woman's Relief Corps connected with the G. A. R.

The limitation of space in this history, alone prevents the mention of many more active workers in the Albany Woman's Suffrage Society. They form a company of women remarkable for strength of character, and devotion to religious and charitable works. Their work has advanced the woman suffrage cause in the entire Republic. It has made itself felt in the most marked and beneficent manner in the Legislature in Albany. The members of this society have been granted hearings by committees in both houses of the Legislature, and woman suffragists now receive respectful attention from members of Assembly in place of the sneers, contempt and ridicule which were thrown at the women who presented petitions the year when the society was first formed.

The society has had occasion to call upon the Mayor, Common Council, Chief of Police, and other officers of the city, in connection with efforts to secure women matrons for police stations, and though the bill to secure this desirable purpose has not yet become a law, the society has full faith that the unfortunate women in station-houses may yet bless the day when the Albany Suffrage Society began its existence.

Mrs. S. Le Bœuf is the most prominent worker for this aim of the society.

A notable event in the history of woman suffrage in Albany was the memorial service for the women of the War of the Rebellion, held in the Old Assembly Chamber—the last public meeting held in the Old Capitol before its walls disappeared from the earth. It was a fitting service for the last use of the room where the gallant Ellsworth and the martyr Lincoln had rested. At that memorial, held on the eve of Decoration Day, the old Assembly desk was covered with beautiful spring flowers that found their way the next morning to soldiers' graves

in the Rural Cemetery. Anna Ella Carroll, who planned the campaign of Tennessee, was not forgotten. Harriet Beecher Stow's immortal work was called the force that led to the emancipation of the negro. Recognition of women living is the pledge which the Albany Suffrage Society gives with its tears to the memory of the noble dead of all ages who have offered up life for liberty.

ART AND ARTISTS.

AT one time Albany had a Gallery of Fine Arts, where were collected quite a display of good pictures by such artists as Durand, Sully, Peale, Chapman, Carleton, Weir, the Harts, Ames and others. Several creditable public exhibitions of pictures were opened at sundry times. But most of the artists sought more favored homes, and the treasures of the gallery were scattered. Some of their pictures are now in trust with the Young Men's Association and may be seen in its rooms. Ames, who was the founder and leading spirit had died. There are good pictures in Albany now in private homes, and some considerable art appreciation, but no organized exhibition or encouragement. Page, the younger Ames, the younger Palmer and Low, were born here. Boughton once resided and now has family friends here. Launt Thompson was brought out here by Dr. J. H. Armsby, and the elder Palmer, and is now one of the most eminent living sculptors. Wm. M. Hunt, born in Vermont, has left one of his masterpieces in our New Capitol. Palmer has done some of the best work in American sculpture; while Elliott was a master in portrait painting; and Twitchell, many think, quite equals, if he doesn't excel him in some requisites of true portraiture. His studio is here. The Hart Brothers and McDougall were once Albany boys. The colored female sculptor, Edmonia Lewis, was born in Greenbush.

Art owes something to Albany. But it has now no art gallery. Some nice pictures may often be seen in the art store of Richard Annesley, who succeeds his father, Lawton Annesley, who started the business in 1802. Mr. Vint, late partner of Annesley, has an art store, and so has John Pladwell.

We give below sketchy notes of most painters and sculptors who have had Albany as their place of birth or their home.

AMES, EZRA, born in Worcester Co., Mass., about 1768, was in Albany in 1793; died February 23, 1836. He was a painter, and acquired distinction as a student of art; executed with great fidelity a large number of original portraits, and made copies of many paintings of merit. His wife was Zipporah Wood, of Uxbridge, Mass. He was a Director in the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank, and left a good estate. He was one of the first, brightest, and most prominent Masons in Albany; once Master of the Grand Lodge of the State. He left several children, among whom were Julius Rubens, an artist of merit; Angelo, a well-known citizen; and Mrs. Rev. William James.

BENJAMIN, SAMUEL GREEN WHEELER, was born in Argos, Greece, in 1837, son of an American missionary. He began his art education with Brindesi, of the Spanish and Italian school. He furnished cuts for *Illustrated London News*. Was elected a member of the Boston Art Club in 1873. Mr. Benjamin is an author as well as an artist; has contributed essays and poems to the *North American Review*, *Atlantic*, *Harper's*, and other periodicals, and prepared many interesting volumes illustrated by his own pencil.

BOUGHTON, GEORGE H., born in England, 1834. Taken to Albany in 1837, where, without masters, he began the study of his art, opening his first studio in 1850. He sold one of his earliest works to the American Art Union in 1853, and on the proceeds went to London for study. Returned to Albany in a few months. In 1861, removed to London, where he has since resided. All his pictures command high prices, and many are to be found in the finest private galleries in England and America. His brother, Daniel, is a well-known hat and fur dealer in this city.

BROWN, HENRY KIRKE, born in Massachusetts, 1814, but in 1840 settled in Albany. In 1846 he cast, in bronze, the statue of Washington, in Union Square, New York City—the first bronze statue executed in this country; unveiled July 4, 1856. His late works are a statue of General Nathaniel Greene, in the Capitol at Washington; one of De Witt Clinton, in Greenwood Cemetery, and one of General Winfield Scott, in Washington, D.C.

CARPENTER, FRANCIS BICKNELL, born in Homer, N.Y., 1830. Settled in New York City, 1851. In 1852, elected Associate of the National Academy, and was at the time its youngest member. Among his full-length portraits are Abraham Lincoln, in the Capitol at Albany, painted in 1874. His most important was "The Emancipation Proclamation," which was exhibited in 1864–65, through the Northern States. It was purchased for $25,000 by Elizabeth Thompson, and presented to Congress in 1877. It now hangs in the House of Representatives.

DIX, CHARLES TEMPLE, born in Albany, 1840, graduated at Union College in 1858, and turned his attention to art at an early age. Entered the army at the outbreak of the Civil War, serving on the staff of his father, General John A. Dix. On the return of peace he adopted art as a profession, and settled in Rome. "Sunset at Capri" is one of his best known works. He died in Rome in 1873.

DOOLITTLE, EDWIN STAFFORD, born at Albany, 1843. He studied painting with Hows and Hart. In 1869, he painted his "Shadow of a Great Rock in a Weary Land." His subjects are chiefly land-

scapes and marine. He has also executed illustrations, designed book-covers, and written occasional poems.

DURAND, ASHER B., born in New Jersey, 1796. He was one of the original members of the Academy of Design, organized in 1826. Was its President for sixteen years. About 1835 he decided to become a painter. Mr. Durand may be termed the father of American landscape, which he treats as a poet would treat it. He uses mountains, lakes and trees to express the emotion they have awakened in him. His "Old Man's Reminiscences," may be seen in the Young Men's Association. His "Lake George" (1875) is the production of an octogenarian whom American art and American artists honor.

ELLIOTT, CHARLES LORING, born in Scipio, N. Y., December, 1812; died in Albany, August 25, 1868. He is said to have painted more than seven hundred portraits of eminent people, among them Erastus Corning, in the State Library at Albany. "The Head of Skaneateles Lake" is the only landscape he ever painted. He was once a pupil of Trumbull. He was not a genius, but gained his eminent rank by hard work.

FREEMAN, JAMES E., a native of Nova Scotia, came when young to Albany. He has resided for many years at Rome. His wife has devoted herself to sculpture, one of her best known works being "Culprit Fay."

GAY, EDWARD, born in Ireland in 1837. He commenced the study of art in the studio of James Hart, in Albany. In 1867, he opened a studio in New York, where his professional life has since been spent. "Late Afternoon near Albany" was exhibited at the Centennial Exhibition in 1876.

HART, JAMES M., born in Scotland, 1828. Brought when young by his parents to Albany. His landscapes exhibit a thorough knowledge of light and shade of atmosphere, and of perspective. He is also remarkable for his representations of cattle.

HART, WILLIAM, born in Scotland, 1822. Came to America in 1831, and lived for some time in Albany, where he worked in the establishment of a coachmaker, painting panels, etc. In 1848, he opened a studio in Albany. He was first President of the Brooklyn Academy of Design, and President of the American Society of Painters in Water Colors, from 1870 to 1873. His style is rich and glowing, and he seems to prefer Nature in her brightest rather than in her dark and gloomy phases.

HARTLEY, J. S., born in Albany, 1845. He began his professional life in sculpture under E. D. Palmer. Going abroad to study, he spent three years in England, entering the Royal Academy, and gaining a silver medal in 1869. He has been for some time a resident of New York.

HUNT, WILLIAM MORRIS, born in Brattleboro, Vt., 1824. It was his original intention to become a sculptor, but he soon abandoned this design and turned his attention to painting. He has painted portraits of many noted people. He excelled also in landscape studies. His pictures in the Assembly Chamber at Albany have attracted much attention. They are intended to represent Morning and Night, and were painted by artificial light. Hunt was drowned at Portsmouth, N. H.

HUNTINGTON, DANIEL, born in New York, 1816. Studied under Professor Morse in 1835. Went to Florence in 1839; was President of the National Academy from 1862–69; again elected in 1877. Excelled in portraits and in landscapes. Among his portraits is that of President Van Buren, in the State Library, Albany.

INMAN, HENRY, borne in Utica in 1802; died in 1846; portrait, *genre*, and landscape painter. He numbered among his sitters in America many distinguished men, and while in England painted Wordsworth, Macaulay, and others.

LOW, WILL H., born in Albany, 1853, a *protege* of E. D. Palmer; studied, also with Gerome and Duran. Among his important works are "Reverie—Time of the First Empire," belonging to J. B. Thatcher, of Albany, and a portrait of Albani, the property of Robert Higgins, of Albany. He is a son of the late Addison Low, and brother of Mrs. Judge Danaher. He is a popular and growing artist.

MARTIN, HOMER D., a native of Albany, a self-taught artist, with the exception of a few days' study under William Hart. Very successful as a landscape painter. His "Adirondacks," belonging to the Century Club, was at the Philadelphia Exposition of 1876. In 1878, he made, for *Scribner's Monthly*, a series of sketches of the homes of American poets.

PAGE, WILLIAM, born in Albany, 1811. His talent was early developed, as at the age of eleven he received a premium from the American Institute for Indian ink drawing. In 1828–29, we find him engaged as a portrait painter in Albany; but later he opened studios in New York and Boston. He was considered the leading American portrait painter in Rome. A head of Christ, exhibited at the National Academy and elsewhere, attracted much attention. He died recently at an advanced age.

PALMER, ERASTUS D., born in Pompey, N. Y., April 2, 1817. For many years he resided in Utica, following his trade of a carpenter. In 1846, settled in Albany, and began his professional career as a cameo-cutter. In 1852, he executed his first important piece of sculpture, "The Infant Ceres," which attracted much attention. "The Angel at the Sepulchre," in Albany Rural Cemetery, is well known. He has done much in marble. He has executed portrait busts of Erastus Corning, Governor Morgan, and other prominent men. His bronze statue of Chancellor Livingston was commended for artistic excellence at the Centennial Exhibition in 1876.

PALMER, WALTER S., native of Albany, and son of the sculptor, Erastus D. Palmer. He studied in Paris, and on his return, in 1877, opened a studio in New York, devoting himself to landscape painting. He has also been very successful with interiors. He has a studio in Albany, and is regarded here with much pride as an artist.

SMITH, S. L., born in Glasgow, 1825. Coming to America when quite young, he studied for a short time under George H. Boughton, in Albany. In 1859 opened a studio in Albany, and remained three years. In 1862 he removed to New York, where the rest of his professional life has been spent. He has devoted himself almost exclusively to the painting of winter scenes with marked success.

TWITCHELL, ASA W., was born in Swanzey, N. H., January 1, 1820. His ancestry goes back to the Puritan emigrant from England in 1634. After spending his boyhood in Vermont, Keeseville and Lansingburgh, N. Y., he came to Albany in 1843. He had an early passion for making sketches of the human face. His first portrait was painted in 1839. He has been a master to himself. He aims to delineate character, and endeavors to present his subject at its best in active life. Hence his portraits are life-like in expression. A few years ago he visited the galleries of the old world, and brought back with him a new enthusiam in his favorite art. He is still closely at work in his studio, and producing some of the best portraits in Albany.

WILES, LEMUEL M., born in Wyoming County, N. Y., 1826. Studied under William Hart, in the Albany Academy, between 1848 and 1851, and under Cropsey in New York. In 1864, he settled in the metropolis. His specialty is landscape and figure painting. In 1873–74, he went to Panama, California and Colorado, where he executed a large number of views, which are valuable as being the only studies in color of the old mission churches and cathedrals of those regions.

EZRA AMES

was born in Worcester County, Mass., about 1768, and was a resident of Albany as early as the year 1793. A painter by profession, he acquired distinction as a student of art. He executed with great fidelity a large number of original portraits, and made copies of many paintings of merit. He was a Director in the Mechanics and Farmers' Bank and left a good estate. He married and had children. One of his sons, Julius Rubens Ames, was an artist of much promise, but his course was cut short by an untimely death. Another son, Angelo Ames, is a well-known resident of Albany.

ENGRAVING.

Probably the first engraver who settled in Albany was G. Lansing, who, in 1806, advertised that he intended to practice his business of wood engraving on Court street. He studied with the celebrated Anderson, of New York. Simultaneously with his advertisement appears some cheap woodcuts in the *Gazette.*

In 1818, Rawdon & Balch advertised a partnership as engravers, at the old stand of Mr. Rawdon.

Joseph E Gavit settled in Albany in 1838, and was engaged as a bank note engraver from 1841–59, and carried on an extensive business. He removed to New York City in 1859, and was instrumental in forming the American Bank Note Company. His son, Joseph Gavit, is still carrying on the work of steel engraving and printing in Albany, at 52 North Pearl street.

The other steel engravers are R. K. Quayle, 54 North Pearl street, and George W. Lewis, 452 Broadway, who also produce wood and copperplates. The wood engravers are Hiram Ferguson, 448 Broadway, and R. Z. Sheridan, 26 Douw's Building.

ARCHITECTURE.

The following account of the architectural features of Albany, with a few changes in the text, is taken from Phelps' Hand-book of Albany:

But few examples of the primitive Dutch structures of about two hundred years ago exist in this city. The buildings on the southeast corner of State and Pearl streets, and northeast corner of Pearl and Columbia and Chapel and Steuben streets are the best examples of these early buildings, one of them bearing the date of 1710. Modern buildings in Albany are erected with brick of local manufacture; also Philadelphia, Croton, and other pressed brick; sandstone from Nova Scotia, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Ohio; Schenectady bluestone; granite; and cast-iron for fronts, and for trimmings to doors and windows. In Albany, as in all old cities, three periods in architectural designs are distinctly noticeable, viz., the "Carpenters," as are a majority of the domestic houses in the oldest portions of the city, together with public buildings, such as Geological Hall, Globe Hotel, and old Normal School. Secondly, the "Transition" from the first named to architects' handiwork, included in which are the numerous buildings remodeled for stores, offices, etc. Lastly, "Art Culture," in which may be cited numerous private residences upon Elk and State streets, and on Washington and Madison avenues, and near the Park; the Kenmore Hotel, Mechanics and Farmers' Bank, and many modern suburban residences.

In ecclesiastical architecture, prominent as examples of decorated Gothic are St. Peter's and St. Joseph's; the Cathedral furnishes a good example of the Perpendicular. The carved work in the tower of St. Peter's Church is probably unsurpassed in design and faithfulness of the workman by any work in America or Europe. The Lutheran Church on Pine street is a creditable specimen of early English, wrought out of brick. The Methodist Church and Baptist Church on Hudson avenue are interesting studies in Gothic and Greek characters. In Romanesque we might mention the Reformed Church, on Pearl street; St. Mary's, on Lodge street; and Our Lady of Angels, on Central avenue; while the new City Hall is one of the finest examples of the style in America, with a square Norman tower for the fire alarm. The new Post Office and the Presbyterian Church near the Park, are also examples of the Romanesque. The New Capitol may be generally described as belonging to the French Renaissance style, distinguished

from the Italian by the introduction of Gothic features. The Presbyterian Church upon Chapel street approaches Sir Christopher Wren's style in many of its prominent features, although its spire finish, the pumpkin and codfish, are wide departures therefrom. The interior design and arrangements of All Saints Cathedral Chapel furnish proof of success of culture in the architect.

This building promises to be one of the finest church edifices in America. The Holy Innocents Church on Pearl street, a gem, pure in conception, should be seen by tourists and lovers of art.

The public schools of the city are genuine, practical, sensible designs, embodying interiors and floor plans in keeping with intended purposes, affording comfort to teachers and pupils, while familiarizing the eyes of youth with taste, cleanliness, and sanitary demand. The St. Agnes' School is a model of its kind, and although simple, almost severe, in style, yet its numerous architectural surprises tend to leave an agreeable impression on the memory. The Grecian pretensions of the Female Academy are in rather unpleasing contrast with their modern surroundings, and calculated to suggest unfavorable criticisms. The Sacred Heart Convent, at Kenwood, deserves particular mention for its charming location, and as an illustration of Gothic character adapted to an institution of education. Another illustration of simple good taste in architecture, striking the eye favorably and leaving pleasing impressions, is the Child's Hospital, modern, yet antique, in its conception. In the State Armory, corner of Eagle street and Hudson avenue, is a fine type of military architecture, resembling the baronial style introduced into England by King Edward I upon his return from the crusades. Among many other edifices worthy of note are the Boys' Academy, the Madison Avenue Reformed Church and the State Hall.

The most noted architects in the early part of this century were Christopher Batterman, of Boston, Philip Hooker and Elias Putnam, of Connecticut, and Jonathan Lyman, of Massachusetts. They came here to reside, and designed and erected most of the larger and better public and private buildings of their time, which have been admired for the common sense of their proportions and the good taste and finish of their work. They have stood well the test of time.

Walter Dickson, J. B. Halcott, Charles C. Nichols, Fuller & Wheeler, Ernst Hoffman, Gilbert Prettyman, Robert W. Gibson, Charles S. Edgerton, Adolph Fleischman, F. H. Janes, Ogden & Wright, are the architects of to-day.

WILLIAM L. WOOLLETT.

William L. Woollett, whose name is so inseparably connected with the architecture and buildings of Albany, was born June 24, 1815, in Waterbury, near Maidstone, Kent, England, and came to America in 1834. From that time his life was passed almost continuously in this city, where he advanced by sure and rapid steps to a foremost place in his chosen profession, and achieved honor and distinction in both public and private life. Mr. Woollett was a man of strong individuality, distinguished for intolerance of everything false or equivocal, and of the most inflexible honesty in all his dealings. These characteristics are well remembered by our builders and contractors, who recall many instructive incidents connected with his professional career.

The principal features of his work were thorough and scientific construction, a uniform avoidance of all shams and doubtful expedients, and general excellence and utility both of design and execution. Among the important buildings erected under his supervision may be mentioned the Delavan House, the Albany Savings Bank, the First Congregational Church, etc., in this city; the Jermain Memorial Church at West Troy; a large number of private residences, and a great variety of high-class work throughout the State. Mr. Edward Ogden, of this city, was for some years connected with him as junior partner.

Mr. Woollett was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, and member of the Royal Society of Architects of London, and he constantly advanced the standing and dignity of the profession by every means in his power.

Of his private life and virtues, no adequate account can be given in the few lives at our disposal, but it hardly needs the saying that his memory and influence will ever remain powerful factors in the lives of those who were near and dear to him. Mr. Woollett's home was at Loudonville, where for nearly eighteen years he was Superintendent of the Watervliet Union Sabbath School. He was also President of the Young Men's Christian Association in 1859 and 1860, and a Trustee of the College of Missionaries, Syracuse University. In religious life he was always earnest and active, both as officer and member, in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

On May 2, 1874, this steadfast disciple of the Divine Architect passed suddenly away. He left a wife, Mrs. Mary (Mills) Woollett, to whom he was married May 24, 1848, and one son, William M. Woollett, who became his successor in business. A brief notice of the latter is given below.

William M. Woollett was born in Albany, July 6, 1850. In addition to first-rate ability, and an ardent love for the profession, he united the many advantages of thorough education. Graduating from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1870, with highest honors, he speedily became associated with his father in practice, and at the latter's death in 1874, he assumed full control and carried on the business with energy and success. His work from the first exhibited a remarkable growth in skill and power, and his early death was a severe blow to the art interests of the city. We need only cite a few examples of his style at this time, and among them the three elegant residences on Englewood place, designed for Messrs. B. W. Wooster, Oscar L. Hascy and Henry Russell, are of the best. His last work was the Calvary Baptist Church, on State street. It was completed after his death, and is often mentioned as a fitting monument to his skill. He also designed the Fort Building; the fine tower

William L. Woollett.

of the Jermain Memorial Church at West Troy, completing his father's work there; and a host of other edifices in this city and vicinity.

Mr. Woollett published two books, "Villas and Cottages," a collection of designs made from time to time in the ordinary routine of business, and "Old Homes Made New," a series of plates showing how old and unattractive structures might be remodeled and beautified at comparatively small expense—a line in which he was particularly successful. Both of these books had a wide circulation and procured him commissions in all parts of the country.

At an early period of his professional life, unusual exposure brought on a heavy cold and this was followed by consumption. Though constantly hampered and restricted in his efforts by the progress of the disease, his wonderful courage and perseverance remained unimpaired to the end, and it was only on the day that his pencil was laid aside forever that his business was neglected.

His career though so brief was an exceedingly progressive one, full of richest promise. Like his father, he ever maintained the highest standard of truth and courtesy in all his affairs, and enjoyed universal confidence and esteem. He died on the 17th of October, 1880, at his home in Loudonville, working hopefully, cheerfully, to the very last.

He was only 34 years of age. His wife was Miss Fannie Nellegar, daughter of Joseph Nellegar, the well known druggist, of Albany, to whom he was united in marriage, November 6, 1872, who, with four children, survives him.

SURVEYORS AND ENGINEERS.

Simeon DeWitt was born in Ulster County in 1756, and died in Ithaca in 1834. He graduated from Rutgers in 1776. He was chief of the topographical staff under Washington. For fifty years, from the year 1784, he was Surveyor-General of the State, and did distinguished service in that capacity in locating lands, public roads, and especially in promoting the Erie Canal project. He was long time a resident of Albany, and active in promoting its literary, religious and material welfare. His name should be perpetuated in honor.

Evert Van Allen, now deceased, was the surveyor who laid out the most part of the City of Albany.

He was employed by the Mayor and Common Council to lay out streets and city lots, and his map is considered good authority, and is still referred to in titles to lots, etc. He was also surveyor for the Patroon for many years, locating and surveying lots in the Manor of Rensselaerwyck.

Among the surveyors of olden times we find John R. Bleecker prominent. In more recent times, George W. Carpenter, now Superintendent of City Water-works, was City Surveyor, an office which has been now held for a long time with great

acceptance by Reuben H. Bingham, as noticed in another part of this work. Peter Hogan is a well-known engineer and surveyor of much practice; and Verplanck Colvin has gained an enviable fame as Superintendent of the Adirondack Survey, as has also James T. Gardineer, Superintendent of the much-needed State Survey.

Honorable W. H. Slingerland, of Slingerlands, member of the Assembly of 1880 from the first district of Albany County, was born in New Scotland November 13, 1820. He is of Holland and English descent.

He was educated in the public and select schools of Albany, and is a civil engineer and surveyor. He located the line of the railroad adopted by the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad Company over the Helderberg Mountains; was engineer on the New Government Building at Albany; and was appointed by the New Capitol Commissioners and State authorities to measure, examine and report any defects in the New Capitol Building. He is a noted breeder of shorthorn (cream pot) stock. At the age of eighteen he was elected a Colonel in the State Militia; afterwards held the position of Division Judge-Advocate. He was enrollment officer during the late war. He has also held the office of United States Loan Commissioner; was a delegate to the convention at which the Republican party was organized in this State; and has several times since been delegate to State conventions. As member of Assembly, he served on the Committees on Cities and Villages and on Public Printing.

He was nominated by the Republicans and elected, overcoming a majority of 2,400 against his party. In his town he received the largest majority of any man who ever run for State or County office since the organization of the Republican party. He had charge of many important bills affecting both State and County, notably the amended election law of 1880, and the bill for rebuilding the new City Hall of Albany, and many other bills, all of which were enacted into laws weeks previous to the adjournment that year. He prefers his profession of civil engineer and surveyor, in which he is considered an expert, to any political office.

MUSIC IN ALBANY.

IN gathering material for the History of Albany County, the author has collected much valuable musical information. The following was written by a gentleman to whom the generation of to-day are deeply indebted for musical tendencies which were fostered and cultivated nearly half a century ago in this city:

NEWARK, N. J., September 8, 1885.

DEAR SIR: I wish it was in my power to reply to you with more extended information. I have most cheerfully written such events and data as I could recollect, but they are rather meager, and will serve more as hints for investigation relative to the facts. Leaving Albany in 1854, I have known almost nothing of musical matters in that city since. My residence in Albany dates from September, 1839. At that time the Rev. Dr. J. N. Campbell was Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, then located on the corner of Pearl and Beaver streets. I took the leadership of the choir almost immediately, and it numbered about fifty ladies and gentlemen. Messrs. Ashley, Nelson and Charles Scovel, with their wives, were among the number; also Anthony M. Strong and sister; the Messrs. Russell, Philips, Whitney and Hall; Mrs. Henry, Miss Olmstead, the Misses Waite and Miss Robinson, afterward Mrs. Gavit, and others whom I do not now recall. At the Second Presbyterian Church, the Rev. Dr. Sprague, Pastor, Mr. George Warren, father of George W. Warren, now organist of St. Thomas' Church, New York, was chorister; and Dr. Flagler held the same position in the Middle Dutch Church. Mr. George Walker was at the North Dutch Church and Mr. Solomon Cone was at the Third Presbyterian Church. Mr. Russel Packard was at the Baptist Church, on North Pearl street; Colonel Levi S. Littlejohn was at the Fourth Presbyterian Church, and Mr. P. A. Mayer was organist and leader of the First Lutheran Church, corner of Pine and Lodge streets. Only a few of the churches at that time had organs, the Second Presbyterian, the Episcopal, on State street, St. Mary's Catholic, on Lodge street, and the Lutheran. The city rejoiced in three music stores: Mr. Meacham, on State street, Boardman & Gray, corner North Pearl and State, and Mr. P. A. Mayer, on North Market street, now Broadway. Early in December, 1839, a large number of the musical people of Albany held a meeting in the First Presbyterian Church to consider the feasibility of giving an oratorio entire. Among those present were Messrs. E. and H. Russell, A. M. Strong, L. Phillips, A. Scovel, J. G. Whitney, James Whitney, L. Steele, George Warren, George C. Treadwell, S. Pruyn, Dr. Flagler, Dr. Hinckley, Dr. Wheeler, Mr. George Walker, Mr. Packard, Colonel Littlejohn, Mr. Platt, and Philip A. Mayer. The meeting was very harmonious and enthusiastic, Dr. E. Russell acting as chairman, and resulted in the decision to give the oratorio of "The Creation" during the winter. The sum of $150 was subscribed, and a committee appointed to make preliminary arrangements and assume the responsibility of all expenses in giving the performance. The oratorio was given three times with fine success, winning the marked approval of the good people of Albany. It also proved a financial success, realizing $1,300. The expenses were $1,000. It was given in the Second

Presbyterian Church, April 9, 1840. After the success attending "The Creation," it was thought advisable to continue the meetings for practice, which were held during the summer, although no society was organized. Early in the autumn it was resolved to give another oratorio the following winter, and that of "David," by Nieuwkomm, was rehearsed and given in April, 1841, with about the same success as the one the year previous. Nothing more was attempted in oratorio music until 1850, when "The Seasons," by Haydn, was given by the Harmonia Society, an organization formed in December, 1849, for the purpose of culture in classical compositions, and not to seek applause by public entertainments. The "Seasons" called the Harmonia Society into public notice. The first president of the society was Mr. Marcus Colburn, a very fine tenor, and Mr. Russell Packard was the second. Soon after I was established in Albany, I was engaged by Mr. Samuel Steele, principal of one of the public schools, to make the experiment of teaching music in his building in Union street. At that time music was not taught in any of the schools. I arranged to give two lessons a week for a specified time—six months, I think. The new branch proved so popular, there were more applications for pupils than could be accommodated. Shortly after this first venture, I was engaged in teaching music in all the public schools, and this result was brought about through the influence of such men as the Hon. Thurlow Weed, Governor W. H. Seward, Senator Samuel Young, and Francis M. Dwight. All of these gentlemen, now deceased, were deeply interested in this branch of instruction in the schools of Albany. In 1844, there were several gentlemen engaged in the manufacture of pianos, namely: Meacham & Co., State street; Boardman & Gray, North Pearl street; F. P. Burns, State street, and James H. Grovesteen, corner Lodge and Columbia streets. About the same date I entered into partnership with the latter gentleman, and we opened a store in Stanwix Hall for the sale of pianos and a general music business. Later we removed to Bleecker Hall, and afterwards to the building occupied by the late J. H. Hidley, to whom I sold out in 1855. Luke F. Newland had a music store, in 1841, at 81 State street. If there are further inquiries suggested by what I have written, I shall be glad to reply to them.

Very truly yours,

FERDINAND I. ILSLEY.

The oratorio of "The Creation," to which allusion is made above, was, as stated in the libretto, performed by the professors and amateurs of Albany. The writer of the above letter, Mr. Ferdinand I. Ilsley, was Conductor. Mr. Burke was Leader of the Orchestra, and P. A. Mayer was Organist. Dr. J. A. Flagler was President of the Committee of Management, and L. S. Littlejohn, Secretary. The vocal choir showed: sopranos, 40; altos, 20; tenors, 20; bassos, 15; orchestra, 24; and organist, 1, making the whole number of participants 150. The oratorio of "The Seasons," which was performed, at the solicitation of the New York State Agricultural Society, by the Albany Harmonia Society, September 3, 4, 5, and 6, 1850, had for its Conductor, F. I. Ilsley; Leader of Orchestra, G. F. Bristow, of New York City; and soloists, Mrs. C. L. Merrick, *nee* Ilsley, Francis L. Ilsley, and Marcus Colburn. The oratorio was repeated October 21st and 22d.

The Executive Committee of the Harmonia Society comprised the names of John G. Treadwell, Chairman; Jason Collier, Levi S. Littlejohn, Thomas Treadwell, Henry Russell, J. Augustus Reed, Erastus E. Platt, Darwin G. Eaton, George Warren, Sumner C. Webb, Philip A. Mayer, Russell Packard, Horace H. Babcock, Ferdinand I. Ilsley.

A most interesting musical event took place in Albany, July 9, 1851, when Mlle. Jenny Lind's concert of sacred and miscellaneous pieces was given in the Third Presbyterian Church. She sang the air, "I Know that My Redeemer Liveth," from Handel's Messiah; "On, Mighty Pens," from Haydn's Creation; the prayer, "Und ob die Wolke" (Der Freyschutz), Weber; scena and aria, "Casta Diva" (Norma), Bellini; Taubert's "Bird Song;" and Bishop's arrangement of "Home, Sweet Home." Mr. Otto Goldschmidt appeared twice in the evening, with Mendelssohn's "Lied Ohne Worte," prelude from E minor, and Liszt's "Tarantella" of Rossini. Signori Salvi and Belletti and Mr. Joseph Burke also took part in the concert, and Mr. Julius Benedict was conductor.

We regret that our information is so fragmentary, and that we are not able, for want of knowledge, time and space, to treat this theme so completely as its importance would seem to demand.

THE SINGING SOCIETY CÆCILIA

was organized February 3, 1866. A few of the first members were John Waas, Frank Rietz, Louis Wink, Anton Schneider, John Lindon, Christian Dalchen, Frank Engel, N. Wink.

First President, John Waas; First Director, Prof. William Boehm.

Present number of members, 149,

Cæcilia took part in the following prize singing festivals: Prize singing at Utica, 1874; grand picnic and prize singing at Albany, 1882; grand picnic and prize singing at Albany, 1884; grand picnic and concert at Troy, 1884; concerts and balls at Albany, Troy, Amsterdam, Schenectady, etc. Cæcilia took part in the great saengerfest at Brooklyn, July, 1885.

THE UNION MUSICAL ASSOCIATION

was organized in October, 1858. Officers: R. L. Johnson, President; Henry Russell, Vice-President; J. C. Austin, Second Vice-President; W. F. Sherwin, Secretary; A. P. Stevens, Treasurer; Thomas Spencer Lloyd, Conductor; J. Augustus Reed, Organist; Charles M. Traver, Librarian.

On March 1, 1859, they gave their first concert, consisting of Mozart's Twelfth Mass, in the Methodist Church, Hudson avenue, with a chorus of 150 voices and an orchestra of Albany and New York musicians.

The soloists were Miss Lilly Brown, afterwards Mrs. Thomas Wiles, Mrs. Serviss and Miss Jennie Ferry, afterwards Mrs. E. P. Durant, soprani; Miss Sarah E. Bentley, alto; Messrs. Cutter and Cook, tenori; and Stonehouse and Whitney, bassi.

On the following 4th of July, the Young Men's Association held their public exercises in the Academy Park, the musical part of which was furnished by this association.

They subsequently gave an entertainment in the large drill room in the Arsenal Building, corner of Eagle street and Hudson avenue.

The chorus numbered 150, and the orchestra was brought from New York, made up of the best of Dodworth's musicians.

The music rendered was Spohr's cantata of God Thou Art Great, Mendelssohn's Ninety-fifth Psalm, and Reis' cantata of Morning.

The association flourished for several years, and other equally creditable entertainments were given.

ALBANY MUSICAL ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting held at the Lecture-room of the Congregational Church, September 30, 1867, the Albany Musical Association was organized, the following thirty gentlemen affixing their names to the articles of association as members:

J. Collier, J. H. Hickox, C. M. Traver, T. S. Lloyd, S. W. Whitney, J. S. Dickerman, John B. Marsh, Arthur Bott, Frederick S. Lawrence, B. Lodge, Rodney G. Kimball, J. B. Stonehouse, E. D. Worcester, Samuel Moffatt, Austin M. Halley, John E. Sherwood, D. F. Craw, William Davis, Jesse B. Wooley, P. S. Gates, Thomas H. Mitchell, R. Mernhew, D. Russel Niver, E. P. Treadwell, J. L. Mitchell, James P. St. John, Eugene Burlingame, Walter McEwan, Eugene McGarrah, Robert F. Todd, F. W. Brown,

Its first Conductor was T. Spencer Lloyd, its first Organist was R. J. Sarndley.

John B. Marsh was appointed first President; John B. Stonehouse, the first Vice-President; John S. Dickerman, Secretary; E. D. Worcester, Treasurer; and Frederick S. Lawrence, Librarian.

The whole number of members registered was 251, though the average number attending regularly was about 130.

The first public rehearsal was given at Tweddle Hall, January 28, 1868, at which time the Oratorio of "Judas Maccabeus" was rendered by a chorus of 145, the solo parts being sustained by Misses La Jeunesse, now Albani, Werles, Hoag, Cuyler, Williams and Murray; Messrs. Lawrence, Whitney, Stonehouse and McLean.

This rendition was followed by "The Seasons," April 30, 1868, "The Messiah," February 3, 1869, and "The Creation."

The Albany Musical Association was incorporated February 19, 1870.

In 1878, Mr. John G. Parkhurst started a class for instruction in music. In the fall of the same year he gave "The Creation," with his pupils, at Tweddle Hall.

In 1879, the Albany Musical Association was again incorporated, with a Board of Directors, with Mr. John G. Parkhurst as Conductor. On December 9, 1879, "St. Paul" was rendered by the association at Tweddle Hall, assisted by Miss Kellogg, Mrs. Belle Palmer Fassett, W. H. Fessenden, M. W. Whitney, and the Germania Orchestra, of Boston.

On January 20, 1881, the association rendered "The Messiah" in the Congregational Church, assisted by the following artists: Mrs. Bentley, Miss Gomph, Mrs. Gavit, Mr. W. C. Torren, of Boston, Mr. Remmert, of New York, and a local orchestra.

On December 12, 1881, "Elijah" was performed at Music Hall by the association, with Miss Kellogg, soprano, Boston; Miss Winant, alto, New York; Mr. Courtney, tenor, New York; Mr. Mario Bartlett, basso; and the Germania Orchestra of Boston.

On December 12, 1882, a second rendition of "St. Paul" took place at Tweddle Hall.

A concert was given at the Leland Opera House, January 29, 1883, by the association, assisted by Theodore Toedt, tenor. Another in the same place on April 13, 1883, with Mr. Monroe, violin; Mr. Adolph Hartdegen, violoncello; Mr. A. J. Jeffrey, piano.

The association gave another concert December 11, 1883, at the Old Hudson Avenue M. E. Church, of a miscellaneous character, with entirely local talent.

Owing to the burning of Tweddle Hall there is no place in Albany suitable for the rendition of oratorio. This has compelled the association to cease their work—at least for a time.

On December 18 and 19, 1884, however, Mr. J. G. Parkhurst gathered around him some 700 in the new Skating Rink, and gave "The Messiah," with his own pupils as soloists. The undertaking was conducted entirely by himself on his own responsibility, and reflected great credit on him as a conductor, teacher and manager.

GESANG-VEREIN EINTRACHT.

The Eintracht Singing Society was organized November 22, 1868. The purpose was, like all similar organizations, the cultivation of German song and music, both vocal and instrumental. The first musical director was Mr. Theodore Suppes, followed by Mr. Aug. Schoenewolf, leader for nearly twelve years. The society participated in several musical festivals, and competed with others for prizes at the following: Utica Maenner Chor, 1874; Schenectady Inartet Club, 1879, on which occasion they were awarded the first prize; Troy Maenner Club, 1880, receiving the first prize, also Rondout Social Maenner Chor, where they gained the third prize, and at the thirteenth Musical Festival of Philadelphia, 1883. Aug. Schoenwolf resigned as Director, and was followed by Professor William Boehm, leader at the present time. The society is composed of 38 active, 175 passive, and 4 honorary members. It may be mentioned that the Eintracht arranged a grand prize sangerfest in 1878,

which proved a success. The officers of the organization are elected annually.

THE MOZART,

organized September 20, 1875, Professor William Boehm, Director. It has held successful excursions, picnics and concerts. Professional improvement is its great object.

Rehearsals are held once a week, and meetings on the first Thursday of each month. The annual meeting and election of officers on the first Thursday in September, the officers then elected taking office on the anniversary, September 20th.

The society to-day numbers 53 members distributed in three classes: active, 15; passive, 35; honorary, 2.

APOLLO SINGING SOCIETY

was organized February 18, 1884, by sixteen members of the Eintracht Society, who withdrew from that one, and four others. The membership roll now numbers 375.

On February 21, 1884, Mr. Ja. Grundhoeffer was elected Musical Director. Society first rehearsed at his Conservatory, 74 South Pearl street.

Rooms are now secured and fitted properly at Ames Building, 69 South Pearl street, which were formally opened July 31, 1884. The growth of the society has been unprecedented. A. Schreiber is now Director.

Next public appearance was in the exercises of the G. A. R. on Decoration Day, at the Rural Cemetery, in 1885. Met at Assembly Chamber, New Capitol, in the evening, and German selections were rendered.

The society also took part in the fourteenth National Sangerfest, at Brooklyn, July 4–9, 1885, and was one of the largest societies that attended.

August 10, 1880, held picnic, and a silk flag was dedicated, which was presented by the ladies of the society.

THE NEW HARMONIA SINGING SOCIETY

was organized in March, 1884, with a membership of twelve active and two passive members. Professor Charles Koch, Director.

The society now counts thirty active singers, with about fifty passive members. It has taken part in all festivities given by sister societies, and also gave a picnic and concert last July, which proved to be a grand success. It bids fair to become the rival of the best organizations of its kind.

ALBANY PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

During the fall of 1884, about half a dozen young people, musically inclined, were accustomed to meet weekly for the practice of not very difficult orchestral compositions, simply to gratify their musical tastes. These meetings were largely of a social nature. Gradually, during the succeeding spring, the number of instruments was increased to ten. This was the nucleus which, under the skillful management and untiring exertions of Mr. George H. Thacher, Jr., at whose house most of the meetings had been held, has developed into the present orchestra of twenty-nine pieces.

During the summer of 1885, Mr. Thacher, assisted chiefly by Mrs. Hamilton Harris and the present Secretary, and encouraged by many others of Albany's cultivated and public-spirited citizens, organized the orchestra; rented the two upper stories of No. 69 North Pearl street; adapted them to the needs of the society; furnished them with appropriate equipments, including a Steinway grand piano; and secured the active co-operation of the present Board of Management.

To give instruction in orchestral and concerted practice; to afford opportunity for the proper display of the abilities of the advanced amateur; to present facilities for the practice of both instrumental and vocal music; and to encourage musical taste generally, are some of the aims and purposes of the society. Rehearsals of the orchestra are regularly held every Wednesday evening. Short programme rehearsals of chamber music, comprising duets, trios and quartettes, chiefly instrumental, are given Tuesday and Saturday evenings; and a subsidiary orchestra is organized and practicing.

In the pursuit of its aims, the society gives great promise of success. Mr. George H. Thacher, Jr., President; Mr. B. I. Stanton, Secretary; Mrs. Hamilton Harris, Mrs. James P. Boyd, Miss Sarah J. Monteath, Miss Lillie B. Stanton, Mr. James H. Leake, Gen. Robert Shaw Oliver, Managers.

SOCIAL CLUBS AND SPORTING ASSOCIATIONS.

ISLAND PARK RACING ASSOCIATION.

THE Island Park Association is a stock company with a capital of $10,000, divided into 100 shares. It was organized and incorporated in the spring of 1884, when Hon. Erastus Corning, of Albany, was elected President, and George P. Ide, of Troy, Vice-President. The aim of the association is to provide a gentlemen's driving park for the two cities between which it lies and where its stock is owned; also to improve the breed and speed of trotting horses. The track is situated on the east side of the Troy road, about two miles from Albany. It is one mile in circuit, and is one of the finest and fastest tracks in the United States. It is the property of Hon. Erastus Corning, from whom the association leases it. The original track on this property was built over twenty years ago, but was used

almost solely as a private track until a few years ago, when some of the best horses of the country appeared there. In the year 1879, through the efforts of Captain R. W. Hunt, the track was placed in first-class condition, and at once took a place among the leading race-courses of the country. The "Clay Stakes"—a stake of $3,000 guaranteed by the association, being for horses without record previous to April 1st of each year, when nominations to the stakes close—were established in 1884, and have become the leading event for "green" horses in the United States. In 1884 the association took a place in the grand circuit, which it at present retains. From $3,000 to $4,000 per year are offered by the association as purses for speed. This year (1885) a new track has been built and a new club house erected, to take the place of the one destroyed by fire in November, 1884. The business of the association is conducted by a Board of fifteen Directors, chosen from among the stockholders, and from this Board the officers of the association are elected. An executive committee of three has charge of the affairs of the association. The officers of 1884, to whom much of the success of the association is due, were unanimously re-elected for 1885.

FORT ORANGE CLUB.

The Beaverwyck and Albany Clubs existed in Albany in 1864. Both were popular, and numbered as members many of the first citizens. The latter club disbanded in 1878, and for two years the city was without a creditable association of this kind. The needs of it were soon felt, and resulted in the formation, mainly through the efforts of Grange Sard, of the Fort Orange Club, in 1880. The design of this club is to establish and maintain a library, reading and assembly rooms, and to promote social intercourse among the members. The number of regular members is limited to 200. Admission fee, $50; annual dues, $25.

The club house is at 110 Washington avenue. It is one of the historic buildings of the city, and was built by Samuel Hill as a residence in 1810, and subsequently occupied by John T. Norton. For many years it was one of the only three houses on the hill, the others being occupied by the Governor and the Mayor respectively. Here Aaron Burr resided, while engaged in legal business in the city. The club bought the house for $30,000, and has spent $15,000 to $20,000 in repairs and furnishing.

Entertainments which are largely attended, are frequently given by the club to State officers and distinguished visitors. Its officers, including five of its nineteen Trustees are annually elected by the members at large. The Trustees are elected for three years, and its other officers for one year.

ADELPHI CLUB.

This club was organized as the Adelphi Literary Association, January 26, 1873. At that time it occupied rooms on South Pearl street, between Division and Hudson avenue. In 1876 it moved to Adelphi Hall, formerly Turn Halle, on Green street. While located there, dramatic, literary and musical entertainments were given by the members with success. In 1884 and 1885, a lecture course was given at Beverwyck Hall. A series of balls has been given each year. In 1880, the house 101 Hudson avenue was leased and converted into a club house. The membership rapidly increased, and in order to obtain larger quarters, in 1881 the present beautiful club house, corner South Pearl and Division, streets was built by Mr. Joseph Sporborg, one of its prominent members, the club taking a ten years' lease of the building. February 11, 1881, the association was incorporated as the Adelphi Club. The present quarters are next door to where it was first organized. Excepting the Fort Orange, its quarters are the handsomest of the kind in the city. Among the members are prominent and influential Jewish residents. The club house is a three-story building, convenient and commodious.

The balls given here form prominent social events in the city. The musical entertainments are of a high order, the club containing some prominent musicians. The membership is limited to 125, and at present numbers 118.

THE ALBANY CITY CURLING CLUB

was founded in 1861. Curling is a manly, healthful Scotch game, played with smooth stones on a field of ice, and is governed by rules laid down by the Royal Caledonian Club of Scotland.

ALBANY TENNIS CLUB.

The Albany Tennis Club was established in 1878. Subsequently grounds on the southwest corner of Swan and Jay streets were secured, and a suitable building erected. It contains two courts and considerable gymnastic apparatus. In the spring of 1883 an outdoor court was added, which is situated approximate to the club house. The club is managed by a Board of Governors, which is elected annually by the members. The Board elects the officers and appoints committees. It meets on the second Tuesday of each month.

THE WALNUT CLUB.

The Walnut Club of Albany was organized December 15, 1880, by Charles E. Wolf and N. P. Rugg. Its membership now numbers about eighty in the different cities where branches are established. The object is sociality among its members; and a member visiting any city where he can find a Walnut is usually royally entertained. Each member carries a silver walnut, which he is expected to be able to produce at any time.

ROLLER SKATING RINKS.

The popular amusement of roller skating secured a foothold in Albany soon after Boston had adopted

and indorsed it. Like all other modes of amusement in their nature harmless, it has its excesses and its abuses.

The first place opened in Albany for this diversion was at No. 69 North Pearl street, in the Old Post Office Building. The hall, ready for the public just before Christmas, 1880, was well patronized during the winter. It was closed the 1st of May following. In the fall of 1881, the Old Tabernacle Baptist Church, on North Pearl street, was converted into a skating rink by a stock company of young men of Albany. It was fairly patronized, but from some cause it did not realize the expectations of its proprietors, and the enterprise was abandoned the next spring.

During the winter of 1883 and 1884, Albany seems to have had two roller-skating rinks, one in the Public Market Building, Hudson avenue, and one in the old Tenth Regiment Armory, Van Vechten Hall.

The fifth enterprise of the kind was undertaken in 1884, by Hickey, Downing & Curley, and resulted in the spacious and very creditable rink running on Lark street, Captain Young, Superintendent. The building is 85 by 185 feet on the ground, with a floor 65 by 165 feet, and is provided with 700 pairs of skates, and lighted by electricity. It is the largest audience room in the city, and has been used for concerts and large public gatherings.

The sixth and last roller skating rink was opened in the old Methodist Church in the fall of 1884, by Mr. Munson. Mr. Rice, Manager. It had a successful winter, but the building was enlarged and fitted for laundry purposes in 1885.

THE JOHN C. NOTT ASSOCIATION.

This association was organized September 8, 1882.

The object of the association is social intercourse among the members. A river excursion is given every year, and this feature has become very popular, not only among the members, but with many who are not connected with them. Another very pleasant feature is the dancing parties, of which several are given every winter, and well attended.

The association has increased largely since its organization, and now has upon its roll of members nearly 100 young men.

BICYCLE CLUB.

The Albany Bicycle Club was organized August 24, 1880, with thirteen members, and was soon added to the League of American Wheelmen. May 1, 1884, it was incorporated under the laws of 1875, with a membership of 113. There are at present about 200 members. The elegant mansion owned by E. D. Brainard, situated corner Lark and Lancaster streets, has been leased by the club for a term of years. The club has in its possession about sixty bicycles. The privileges of the park are open to the club till 9 A.M., but efforts are making to have the same privileges accorded to the bicycle as are granted to any other wheeled vehicle.

THE RIDGEFIELD ATHLETIC CLUB.

The Ridgefield Athletic Club of the City of Albany, incorporated in 1884 for purposes of general outdoor sports, may justly be considered as the offspring of the Albany Cricket Club, organized in 1838. A number of years elapsed before a reorganization of the club took place, and the name of the Albany Cricket Club was again numbered among the best organizations in the State. The greatest interest in cricket of later years occurred during the seasons of 1881 and 1882, when the club was strengthened by the services of a first-class "professional." During the latter year, the Albany club secured a notable victory on their own grounds, in a match with a selected eleven from the Western States.

Desirous of securing more convenient and permanent grounds in the city, the members of the club conceived the idea of forming an association which should embrace other sports, and to that end a fund was started in September, 1883, for the purchase of the grounds now occupied by the Ridgefield Athletic Club. The first meeting of the subscribers was held October 1st, at which Mr. William Lacy was chosen chairman, and Mr. John B. Marsh, Secretary. It was decided to call the organization the Albany Cricket Club, and to procure its incorporation. At a subsequent meeting, Trustees were selected, and a committee appointed to contract for the purchase of the grounds.

At a meeting of the Shareholders on the 28th of April, 1884, the name of "the Ridgefield Athletic Club of the City of Albany" was agreed upon. The grounds were first opened for the use of the members on the 16th of June, 1885.

The capital stock of the club is $7,500, in shares of $25 each, and is owned by 248 shareholders. The number of yearly members thus far elected is 233. The grounds and improvements have already cost about $10,000. Included in that amount is $5,000 for purchase money, and $1,500 for bicycle track. When all intended improvements are completed, Ridgefield will rank among the finest of athletic grounds in this country.

THE MUTUAL BOAT CLUB.

The Mutual Boat Club was organized on the 15th of August, 1865, and had at that time 600 members. Rowing in Albany was then at a low ebb, and the Victoria, Knickerbocker, Hiawatha, Excelsior and Mystic Clubs had one after the other quietly disbanded, leaving as the sole surviving organization the veteran Pioneer Club, which soon after ceased. In the formation of all those clubs, the governing motive had been social intercourse and the rowing was incidental, but the founders of the Mutual Club determined to have a rowing club, and such it has been ever since.

The Mutuals have rowed 135 races with other clubs, winning 68 and losing 67. They have championships in the National Association, the Northwestern, the Harlem, the Hudson, the Upper Hudson, the Passaic River and the Inter-State As-

sociations. They have held the championship of Albany in singles for fourteen, and in fours for sixteen years of the twenty that have passed since they were organized. They have entered twenty-two times, and in eleven different years, in regattas of the National Association of Amateur Oarsmen; have there competed in every style of race, except in eights; have won twice in junior singles, twice in six-oared shells, four times in pair-oared shells, and once in four-oared shells, and have thus held nine national championships, while but one other club in the country has secured as many as four. They now stand the foremost rowing organization in the United States, with a record and reputation which is unapproached, and of which they are justly proud.

ALBANY YACHT CLUB

was organized April 16, 1873, with S. G. Payn, Jr., as President. It was reorganized in 1876, with M. F. Cogswell as Commodore (or chief officer), followed by E. F. Hackett, W. W. Grey, F. E. Cooley, and C. S. Babcock. The club house, built in the spring of 1880, is a well-fitted structure for the accommodation of yachtsmen, designed by F. Wright, the architect, situated on the east bank of the Hudson, directly opposite the steamboat landing. The meetings are held monthly—first Monday in each month. The funds for building their present house were raised by the members of the club. Its present membership numbers 60.

MOHICAN CANOE CLUB OF ALBANY.

The American Canoe Association is a large organization, numbering some forty clubs in the leading cities from Montreal to New Orleans, and from New York to San Francisco, whose object is the comparatively new sport of cruising and racing in canoes. Prominent among the clubs is the Mohican of Albany. In 1881, when the association was formed at Lake George there were but two canoeists here—General R. S. Oliver and W. D. Frothingham. The following year it was well represented by some eight or more members. In 1883 the Mohicans prospered so well that they secured the foremost position in all sailing races as well as in equipment for cruising and exploring. Their fleet, including the Snake, Thetis, and Marion, has a reputation for speed and perfection. In 1884 the American Canoe Association elected as Commodore for the ensuing year, a prominent member of this Club, General R. S. Oliver, and with another member upon their Executive Committee, and yet another as Chairman of the Regatta Committee, the National Meeting of 1885 was mainly arranged by the Mohicans. Albany was for two years selected as the place for the executive meetings, and has, undoubtedly, contributed a very large share toward the pleasant mission of popularizing a healthful and exciting amusement.

Besides the innumerable cruises upon the Hudson, from the rapids down to salt water, the Mohican flag has been carried down the Susquehanna and Delaware Rivers, down the falls and swamps of the Walkill, and on the waters of Lake Ontario and Saint Lawrence, and into the backwoods, lakes, and rivers of the Province of Ontario.

The Mohicans now number about thirty members, chiefly Albanians, but including a few in distant cities. The name of the club was appropriately borrowed from the tribe of Indians who formerly lived in the territory east of Albany, and their "totem" is the device of the club flag, which is blue and white, with a golden turtle and eight gold stars. The motto is "Invia nulla via"—"No way impassable."

MILITARY BANDS AND ORCHESTRA.

Probably the first Albany band was organized by John Hughes about 1832. John Cook organized a band in 1844, which for many years was very popular, not only in Albany, but throughout the State. "Captain Johnny," as the leader was called, was a veteran of the Mexican War, and is said to have been the first man to introduce the cornet as a leading instrument, the key bugle being formerly used by leaders. Cook continued to conduct his band successfully for many years. Abut 1860 a new organization, made up in part from Cook's Band, was formed under the leadership of Stephen Schreiber, known as Schreiber's Albany Cornet Band. At this time another was formed, called Krank's Band. During the late rebellion, Cook raised a military company, and served with distinction in the army. He died a few years ago, and was buried with military honors.

Krank's Band flourished for a while under different leaders, and was succeeded by Klien's, which is still in existence, known as Erdmann and Klein's Band, and which furnishes both military and orchestra music.

Schreiber's Band for several years did a large business. It disbanded in 1869.

The Tenth Regiment Band was known as the Capitol City Band prior to 1875. At the latter date it was mustered into the 10th Regiment, N. G., S. N. Y., under the leadership of Mr. Sullivan, by whose name it was more generally known. For several years Frederick Austin was leader of the band. Under both of these leaders it became well known for the excellence of the music furnished. Its reputation was maintained under the leadership of L. Partali, a musician of acknowledged ability. The present leader is John L. Gartland. Several of the older members of this band were formerly connected with Schreiber's Band. Two were members of Cook's Band.

The Albany City Military Band and Orchestra is of recent origin. Joseph Klein is Leader and Charles Friednichte, Conductor of Orchestra. Another excellent leader of orchestral music, who has recently come to notice in Albany, is W. J. Holding. It will be a long time before the eminent cornetist, Austin, is forgotten.

RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS.

THE OLD DUTCH CHURCH.

Built of stone in 1715, over a smaller one built in 1656. It stood on the present State street, on the west side of Broadway.

ADVENTISTS.

THE Society of the Seventh-day Adventists sent missionary workers to Albany in the summer of 1884, who began the work of canvassing and distributing their publications in the houses of the people, in railroad stations, on steamers, canal-boats, etc. A summary of work done to May 1, 1885, is as follows: 4,239 missionary visits, 352 subscriptions to periodicals, 5,469 periodicals distributed, and 50,000 copies of tracts, pamphlets, etc., sold.

In April, 1885, pleasant rooms were secured at 205 State street, which were fitted up for reading and lecture-rooms, and opened May 18, 1885, with Nathaniel S. Washbond as Resident Manager. These rooms, where choice religious works in the English and foreign languages, newspapers of the day, etc., may be found, are open from 2 to 9 P.M.

The missionary operations of this society are conducted under the International Tract and Missionary Society, of which there are branch offices in each State Conference.

BAPTISTS.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.—The first meeting of Baptists in the City of Albany was held January 1, 1810, when the following men and women met and formed themselves into a society, viz.: Joshua A. Burk, Salem Dutcher, John Gray, William Penrey, Charles Boyington, Tamer Page, Betsey Burke, Catharine Gordon, Margaret Jones, Elenor Penrey.

This society voted, on the 23d day of January, 1811, to organize a church, which they did, and started with twenty-one members. The church thus formed met in various places until 1818, when they purchased and remodeled what was then known as the Green Street Theatre. It was dedicated and occupied by them for the first time January 1, 1819. In the year 1852, the lot corner of Hudson avenue and Philip street was purchased, and the present edifice was erected at a cost of about $26,000. In 1865 it was greatly improved, and will seat about 950. There is a Sunday-school connected with it, and the Madison Avenue Mission is under its care. Pastor, Rev. Smith T. Ford. Membership, 487.

The Pastors who have served since its organization are Francis Wayland, 1811–12; Isaac Webb, 1813–17; Joshua Bradley, 1817–19; John Finley, 1819–21; Lewis Leonard, 1821–27; Bartholomew T. Welch, 1828–35; George B. Ide, 1835–36; Alanson L. Covel, 1836–38; James L. Hodge, 1839–42; James M. Coley, 1842–45; Asa Bronson, 1845–46; William C. Clapp, 1846–49; Reuben Jeffrey, 1850–57; E. L. Magoon, D.D., 1857–68; George C. Lorimer, D.D., 1868–70; James B. Hawthorn, 1870–72; David M. Reeves, D.D., 1872–79; Melancthon C. Lockwood, 1880–82; Thomas Rambaut, D.D., LL.D., 1882–84; Smith T. Ford, 1884.

TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH.—This church is the outgrowth of a mission held in a building on North Pearl street, by a few of the members of the North Pearl street Baptist Church, now known as Emmanuel, in the year 1856. Its rapid growth soon became apparent, and it was resolved to form a church. A society was organized October, 1859, and was incorporated under the name of the Tabernacle Baptist Church, November 10, 1859. In 1875 the society purchased the present site, and erected thereon a handsome church, which was dedicated February 14, 1877. The church has a membership of 457, and supports a Sunday-school of 375 scholars.

The following have served as Pastors: Revs. Justin D. Fulton, 1859–64; William A. Alden, 1865–67; Thomas Cull, 1868–70; Robert B. Kelsey, 1871–72; Frank R. Morse, 1873–78; Albert Foster, 1879.

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH.—This church was organized in 1834, and until 1871 was called the Pearl street Baptist Church. Rev. Bartholomew T. Welch, D. D., was the first Pastor. For seven years previous to 1834, Rev. Dr. Welch had been Pastor of the First Baptist Church in this city. In that year, one hundred and twenty members were

dismissed from the First Church to form a new society, and the Pastor went with the new colony. The first House of Worship, costing $46,000, was built on North Pearl street, on the lots now occupied by the Perry Building, and was similar in its architecture to the building occupied by the Albany Female Academy. The present house of worship, situated on the north side of State street, between Swan and Dove streets, was erected in 1869–70. It was formally dedicated and occupied by the church in February, 1871. The beautiful tower on the southeast corner was erected in the summer of 1883. It was the gift of Mrs. Eli Perry in memory of her late husband, who for many years was one of the Deacons of the Church and Chairman of its Board of Trustees. The church proper is 110 feet deep and 81 feet wide, and will seat 1,400 persons. The church and chapel together are 157 feet deep, the chapel being 47 feet by 110 feet. The entire cost of the property has been about $220,000. The church has been served by the following Pastors: Revs. Bartholomew T. Welch, D.D., 1834–48; Luther F. Beecher, D.D., 1849–53; William Hague, D.D., 1853–58; Thomas R. Howlett, 1859–61; C. D. W. Bridgman, D.D., 1862–78; T. Harwood Pattison, D.D., 1879–81.

The present Pastor, Rev. Henry M. King, D.D., assumed the pastoral care of the church January 1, 1882.

Calvary Baptist Church.—This church was organized January 16, 1860, under the name of the Washington avenue Baptist Church of Albany, and started under the pastoral care of Rev. William P. Everett. His labors were attended with such success that a more commodious house was necessary, and they secured the church on Washington avenue erected for the German Baptists. February 4, 1865, they purchased the State street Baptist Church, on the corner of State and High streets, and changed their name to the present one. The society continued to worship in this edifice until the spring of 1880, when, under the successful work of Rev. John Humpstone, the old building was torn down to give place to the present one. This church has a large and prosperous Sunday-school under its care. Rev. James Wolfenden, Pastor, since June 1, 1883. Membership, 736.

The following Pastors have served since its organization: Revs. William P. Everett, 1863–65; J. Spencer Kennard, 1865–66; S. W. Foljambe, 1867; John Peddie, 1868–71; John Love, Jr., 1872–75; Joshua Day, 1876–77; John Humpstone, 1877–82; James Wolfenden, 1883–85.

State Street Baptist Church.—This church was organized in 1845, and a meeting-house erected same year, corner State and High streets. Sold to Calvary Baptist Church in 1865.

Pastors: Jacob Knapp, 1846–47; Edwin R. Warner, 1847–48; Jabez S. Swan, 1848–49; W. W. Moore 1849–51; Charles B. Post, 1852–54; William Arthur, father of ex-President Chester A. Arthur, 1854–64; T. W. Smith, 1864.

Washington Avenue Baptist Church.—Building, No. 252 Washington avenue, purchased in 1859. Sold to Roman Catholics in 1866. Pastor: William P. Everett, 1860–64.

Washington Street German Baptist Church, on Washington avenue, was dedicated in 1854. Pastors: A. Von Pattkammer, 1857–61; H. Feltman, 1864–69; Wm. Argow, 1870–75; Henry Trumpp, 1877–80; John Jaeger, 1882 to present time.

First African Baptist Church.—This was the first African Church formed in Albany, organized in 1820 as the Albany African Church Association. The church edifice was located north side Hamilton street, between Grand and Fulton streets. The name First African Baptist Society was taken in 1826. Property sold to Roman Catholics in 1869. Pastors: Nathaniel Paul, 1822–30; Calvin C. Williams, 1831; Samuel Treadwell, 1832–33; Thomas Ritchie, 1834; Nathaniel Paul, 1838–39; Jonas H. Townsend, 1843; John Kial, 1844; W. Surrington, 1846; William Garrett, 1849; J. Atkins, 1852; —— Hausen, 1855; L. Black, 1859; T. Doughty Miller, 1860–64; John D. Bagwell, 1869. Discontinued.

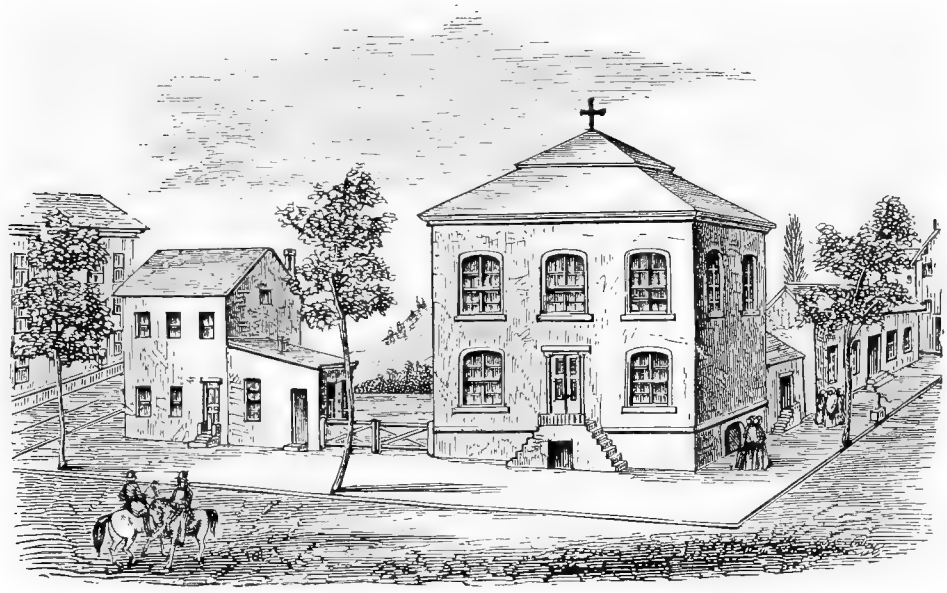
Second African Baptist Church, organized 1870, Chestnut, near Dove. Pastors: Theodore D. Miller, 1872; Charles Charles, 1873; Henry H. Mitchell, 1879. It is now discontinued.

CATHOLIC.

St. Mary's Church.—In the seventeenth century, Albany was the eastern gate to the Iroquois country. Here Catholic missionaries sometimes halted to take breath on their way to the Mohawk villages. Father Isaac Jogues, the martyr of Caughnawaga (now Fonda) was here more than once. Here he became acquainted with the good old Dutch minister, Dominie Megapolensis, and found in him a true friend in time of need. No organized body of Catholics is known to have existed here prior to October 6, 1796. On that day a meeting was held at the house of James Robichaux, in consequence of which they were formally incorporated. The certificate in the County Clerk's office is signed by Lewis Le Coulteaux and David McEvers, is witnessed by Sebastian Visscher and Archibald Campbell, and acknowledged before Robert Yates. The first church was built on the same ground since occupied by the second, and by the third or present St. Mary's. A drawing of it from memory was made by the late Peter M. Morange, Esq., and engraved for Munsell's Annals of Albany. The corner-stone was laid in 1797 by Thomas Barry, a prominent merchant of that day. Barry died in January, 1813, and was buried in the old St. Mary's Cemetery on State street, now covered by the Park. His remains now rest in the new St. Agnes' on the Troy road. Le Coulteaux was born in France of a noble family. From here he moved to Buffalo, and his name is well known there in connection with a revolt which sprang up in the congregation of St. Louis' Church in that city, suppressed with much difficulty by Archbishop Hughes. Prior to the erection of the first St. Mary's, divine service was occasionally celebrated at the old Cassidy home on the corner of Maiden lane and Chapel street; and

also in the house of William Duffy in Court street, now South Broadway.

St. Mary's is older than any other Catholic parish in the State, with the single exception of St. Peter's, in Barclay street, New York. For many long years it was the only place this side of Detroit where an emigrant pushing westward from the great city could bend his head before the august sacrifice. Tradition tells of many distinguished visitors to its shrine, among them such men as Lafayette and Talleyrand. The latter once had his lodgings close by, on the west side of Chapel street and south



ST. MARY'S, THE FIRST CATHOLIC CHURCH IN ALBANY.
Erected by contributions of Catholics and Protestants in 1798, corner of Pine and Chapel Streets.

of Maiden Lane, in a small, quaint old building recently standing. The tramp of Corning's horses is now heard where the wily brain of the great diplomatist brooded in silence over his fallen fortunes.

The entrance to the primitive St. Mary's was on Pine street. The interior was about fifty feet square. The altar stood on the easterly side. The sanctuary was about twelve feet square; the altar platform three steps in hight. The pulpit was fixed to the wall at the northeast corner, about midway between floor and ceiling, and near the sanctuary, from which it was reached by a long, narrow staircase, the lower steps of which came within the sanctuary railing. The altar stood against the wall; was of modest, but tasteful appearance; and was inclosed by two wooden columns, surmounted by an oval. About 1822, the same hand to which we are indebted for the exterior view of the church, graced the space over the tabernacle, and within this oval, by a representation of the three crosses on Calvary. There was a space of about four feet in front of the sanctuary; a range of pews, with an aisle of the same width, on the westerly side, an aisle or passage-way running north and south from the west aisle to the space; and an aisle at the entrance which opened on Pine street. A gallery was reached by a stairway beginning a short distance west of the entrance, and extended along the southern and western walls. The choir with its little organ occupied this western portion of the gallery. This organ, a gift from Mrs. Margaret Cassidy, is believed to have been the first instrument of the kind ever introduced into Albany. A larger one was afterwards placed in the second church, which still does duty in the third, but so enlarged, remodeled and improved, that for sweetness and effectiveness it ranks among the best in the city.

A piece of marble, discovered when excavating for the present edifice, was undoubtedly the inscription stone on the first. The following quaint legend was engraved upon it:

[I. H. S.]
[Skull.] (Cross-bones.]
Thomas Barry, } Founders.
Louis Le Coulteaux, }
E. C. Quinn, Master builder.
A. D. 1798.

Another stone found at the same time bore upon its front the figures 1797. Both these stones have been built into the walls of the present church, and show their legends still.

Among the first clergy officiating in this primitive little building were Rev. Messrs. Thayer, Whelan, O'Brien and La Valenure. They seem to have been only transient, and their dates cannot be ascertained. It is known that Mr. O'Brien went from here to Canada. Rev. D. Mahoney was here from 1806 to 1807; Rev. James Buyshe in 1808. He died and was buried here. Rev. Mr. Hurley from 1808–9; Rev. Mr. Weddin, 1810–11; Rev. Mr. O'Gorman, 1812–13. He died in New

York in 1824. Rev. Paul McQuade, 1813–17; Rev. Mr. Hogan, 1819. He afterwards inaugurated the notable rebellion in St. Mary's, Philadelphia. Rev. Mr. Farnham attended from Utica in 1820; Rev. Michael Carroll, 1821–22; Rev. Mr. Bulger, 1823. Went from here to Utica, and died in New York in 1824. Rev. Mr. Brennan, 1824; Rev. Dr. Savage, 1825–26, and returned to Cork, Ireland. Rev. Charles Smith had previously been a Methodist Minister. He was Pastor from 1826 to 1836, and had a stormy time of it. The Trustees ruled the church, and Freemasonry ruled in the Board of Trustees.

The first Catholic Sunday-school was initiated in 1828, in the gallery of this first church, on the Pine street side. Its first Superintendent was Mr. Peter M. Morange. Soon after, a day school was opened on the east side of Broadway, a little north of Quackenbush street. The young ladies of the Sunday-school conducted this also, teaching by turns, each two days in the week, until relieved by Mrs. James F. Meline, a singer in St. Mary's choir, who took sole charge. Before long it was deemed opportune to establish an orphan asylum. Sister Mary de Sales (Miss Barber, of Boston, a convert) and Sister Josephine were invited to conduct the institution, and the day school passed into their hands.

That this little church of 1798 must have become well crowded at last, is evidenced by the fact that the newspapers of the day refer to it as far too small to contain the congregation. At a sale January 7, 1829, forty-four pews brought $1,475.

The demolition of the old building began on the 14th day of September, 1829. The corner-stone of a second church was laid October 13th, and on the 29th of August, 1830, it was opened for divine service. In the meanwhile the congregation assembled for worship in the Lancaster School-house (now Albany Medical College). It is a singular fact, and one that indicates a very abnormal state of things, that the corner-stone of this second St. Mary's was laid by Freemasons with their peculiar rites. In consequence of this, the Pastor, with a minority of the Trustees, refused to be present at the ceremony.

In preparing the ground for the new structure, it was necessary to dig away a great hill, and to open Steuben street, above Chapel. To push forward this work, members of the congregation contributed teams and personal labor, day after day, under the superintendence of "Yankee White," so called. Many still remember this as a busy and joyous time. One of the subscription lists, still preserved, shows the names of the following distinguished donors: Stephen Van Rensselaer, $100; Charles T. Dudley, $25; Edward C. Delavan, $25; Robert Dunlop, $25; Nathan Sanford, $50; Chancellor Jones, $50; Martin Van Buren, $50. William Mascraft, William Lush, Samuel H. Drake, Jesse Buel, A. Van Vechten, and others, contributed smaller sums.

The corner-stone, besides various coins and newspapers of the period, and some coins also which were evidently memorials rescued from the ruins of the earlier building, contained a copper-plate with the following inscription:

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, ALBANY.

This stone was laid on Monday, October 12, 1829, by the President of St. Mary's Church, in the presence of the Trustees and a numerous concourse of citizens.

John Cassidy, President: Thomas Geough, Vice-President; John Duffan, Treasurer; James Maher, Secretary; Peter Morange, John Reynolds, William Hawes, Patrick McQuade, Timothy Hayes, Trustees; Rev. Charles Smith, Pastor; Peers, Master-builder, 1829.

The newspapers were not successful as memorials of the period. No metallic box inclosed them. They were simply deposited in the hollow stone, and when this was broken open, thirty-eight years later, their charred and mutilated remnants did not afford a single entire paragraph which could be deciphered.

This second building fronted on Chapel street. It was entered by a high, ungainly flight of steps, very inconvenient at all times, and in winter even dangerous. A small door, also on Chapel street, at the Pine street corner, gave admission to the basement, which served as the school-room. A house on Lodge street, adjoining the rear of the church, first used as an orphan asylum, afterwards became the rectory, or pastoral residence. In 1847, when the Diocese of Albany was set off from that of New York, and Bishop McCloskey assigned to its administration, St. Mary's became his cathedral, and this dilapidated rectory had just respect enough for the future Cardinal not to tumble down upon his head. In truth the church itself was weakly built, and lived out its short term of life very poorly. Its walls had to be secured against falling out by iron straps, and even this security was very unsatisfactory. We cannot apply to the master-builder who put up this second St. Mary's what Emerson says of "the hand that rounded Peter's dome, and groined the aisles of Christian Rome," that "he builded better than he knew." This fellow must have known better.

Its brief period of service, however, was a memorable time to Catholics of this region. Its registers record events of deep interest to many families in Albany, and to many now scattered widely and far away. Within its walls resounded many an eloquent and memorable voice. Many hearts brought their fears, joys and tears to its altar and confessionals. Many little feet, since grown weary with more difficult travel, struggled up the steep hillsides to its schools, and gathered to its festivals, confirmations, and first communions. Bishop Loughlin grew up to manhood within sound of its bell. At 83 Canal street, hard by, General Phil Sheridan was born, and it lived to witness the triumphal welcome which Albany gave him at the close of our Civil War. Not a few memorials of the old building still remain. Its altar, tabernacle, sanctuary railing, and stations of the cross still do duty in the basement chapel of the present church. Its bell is in the tower. Its font is preserved in the

sacristy and still used, though not for baptizing. A fine large painting of the "Descent from the Cross," which served it for an altar-piece, still hangs above the high altar. It was bought, in 1843, at a sale of the collection of a Mr. Franquinet, of New York.

The Rev. Charles Smith continued to serve St. Mary's (to govern it then was out of the question) until 1836. After him succeeded several transient, or temporary clergymen: the Revs. J. Kelly, G. Pardoe, J. D. Urquhart, Joseph Stokes, and John J. Curtin. Rev. J. A. Schneller, a very learned and most excellent and active priest, was Pastor from 1837 to 1846. He had a stormy time of it. Near the close of his term, and for a brief while afterwards, the Rev. J. A. Kyle and the Rev. Edward Putnam frequently did duty. The latter was a convert. In 1846, when the Diocese of Albany was organized, Bishop McCloskey made St. Mary's his cathedral, and governed the parish in person until 1853, assisted by the Rev. Edgar P. Wadhams, afterwards Bishop of Ogdensburg, and the Rev. Thomas Doran.

In September, 1866, the present Pastor, Rev. Clarence A. Walworth, was assigned to the charge of St. Mary's. The parish was heavily incumbered, and yet it was absolutely necessary to build another church. The work was promptly begun. A new incorporation was made, under Act of March 25, 1863, changing its title to that of "St. Mary's Church of the City of Albany," and all the church property passed over, by deed, to the new trustees. The use of Association Hall, at the foot of State street, was secured for Sundays. The organ was taken to pieces, and stowed away in the loft of Thomas Behan's store, on Hudson street, below Broadway. By concession of the city, the church lot was extended about twenty feet on the eastern side to the ancient Chapel street line. A meeting of the congregation was called, and a generous subscription started, the names of Thomas Behan and Thomas Noonan heading the list for $500 each. Bishop Conroy and John Tracey afterwards gave $1,000 each. A poor blind man, depending on his daily labor (that of flagging chairs) for the support of a large family, subscribed $25, and was one of the earliest to bring the money. The Hon. George H. Thacher, then Mayor of the city, although unsolicited, sent $100 (under injunction of secrecy, now violated) promising $100 per annum until the new church should be completed. He was never reminded of his promise, but the remittances came for three successive years. After its pews were taken out, the venerable building was made to serve one more good purpose, that of a fair, bequeathing thus to its successor, with a dying blessing, the sum of $11,000 net profits.

The corner-stone of the present St. Mary's was laid on Sunday afternoon, August 11, 1867, with great ceremony, by the Vicar-General, Father Wadhams. The Rev. Ambrose O'Neill preached the sermon. The contents of this stone are as follows: the city newspapers of Saturday, August 10th; specimens of American coinage, obtained from the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, from a silver dollar to a three-cent piece; a half-dime, previously deposited under the second church by John McCardle, and a fifty-cent piece of 1867, stamped with his name; a list of all who at this ceremony contributed to the amount of $1; a plan of the interior of the old building; an original subscription book of 1829. All these articles were put into a leaden box, seven inches deep and one foot square, securely soldered, and for further security, the more perishable articles were wrapped in tin-foil. The box contained also a copper-plate, bearing the following legend:

"Prima hic, eodemq. in situ, ecclesia fuit A. D. 1797; secunda vero (quæ olim Aedes Cathedralis) A. D. 1829. Hunc Tertiæ, cura Rev. Clarencii Walworth parochi constructæ, lapidem primarium posuit Adm. R. EDGAR WADHAMS, Vic. Gen. R. R. Dno. JOANNE CONROY, sedem tenente, Anno xxii. Pii ix Summi Pont. Nostri, ANDREA JOHNSON Præside, REUBEN FENTON Gubernatore, et GEORGIO THACHER urbis Præfecto.

"Præcip Fautores: RR. Joan. Jos. Conroy, Joannes Tracey, sen., Thos. Behan, Thos. Noonan.

"Nichols & Brown, Arch.; Rob'tus Aspinall et Soc. Fab. Mur; Joan. Parker, Fab. Lign."

At the top of the plate, and running partly around it, are the words, "Ad honorem Dei Omnip. sub Patrocinio B. Virginis Mariæ," and at the bottom of the plate, "Die xi Aug. A.D. MDCCCLXVII."

The edifice thus commenced was so far completed by February 16, 1868, that its basement could be used for religious services. On Sunday, March 14, 1869, it was solemnly dedicated at high mass by Bishop Conroy, the Vicar-General, Father Wadhams officiating as celebrant. The large altar-stone was consecrated *in situ* at that time, and carries therefore the privileges of a fixed altar. The new font was blessed in December that same year. The solid marble altar in the Lady Chapel, a donation of Dr. E. B. O'Callaghan, the historian, was dedicated by Bishop Wadhams on Saturday, July 2, 1870, and is a privileged altar. In February, 1871, the beautiful stations of the cross, from Munich, were erected by the Bishop of Albany. The two confessionals nearest the altar date from a later period of the same year.

St. Mary's parish originally included all that part of the Diocese of Albany which lies in the valleys of the Hudson and the Mohawk. Schenectady, Utica, and Athens were among its stations, and its archives show residents of the first two elected into its Board of Trustees. At present it is only one of Albany's twelve parishes. St. John's Church, on South Ferry street, was purchased from the Episcopalians in 1839, and all the southern part of Albany was allotted to this new parish. In 1843, that section of the city which lies north of the center of Clinton avenue was formed into a third parish, that of St. Joseph, and a new church built on the northeast corner of North Pearl and Lumber streets. Next followed the formation of a parish for the new cathedral, built, in 1852, on Eagle street, which left the jurisdiction of St. Mary's limited on the south by Beaver and Lancaster streets; and finally, in 1858, by the birth of St. Patrick's, on Central avenue, the old mother-church was shorn of all her

territory west of Knox street. Since then the boundaries of St. Mary's have remained unchanged.

CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.—The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Albany, is a superb structure, built of brown sandstone in that style of architecture known as the Pointed or Gothic. Its form is that of a Roman cross. The exterior produces the impression of great beauty and majesty, the interior that of deep solemnity and devout reverence. Among cathedrals in the United States it takes high rank. All its interior decorations are characterized by simplicity, richness and sobriety, as befitting a cathedral. The walls and ceiling are blocked and finished in imitation of freestone. Pillars, capitals, ribs and bosses represent the same material. The prevailing somberness of the interior is relieved by the strong, rich tints of the stained glass windows, especially those in the north and south transepts, and over the high altar; by the burnished brass of the high altar; the white and gold of the four side altars; the polished brass gas standards and brilliant tints of the sanctuary mural decorations. The principal altar was made in Paris of burnished brass, elaborately wrought, and the other altars of Caen stone.

Since 1883, the church has been adorned with a magnificent set of stations of the cross, painted by that painstaking artist, A. Ertle, of New York City, whose work is emphasized by much originality and strength of treatment.

The corner-stone was laid July 2, 1848, by Archbishop Hughes, of New York, assisted by Bishop, now Cardinal, McCloskey, of New York, the first Bishop of Albany, and other distinguished prelates. Its construction occupied more than four years. The dedication service was held November 21, 1852, by the same dignitaries who officiated at the laying of the corner-stone. Its total cost was about $150,000. The architect was Patrick C. Keely, of Brooklyn. In 1882, the cathedral was restored, at considerable cost, under the supervision of A. Ertle, of New York, and a rededicatory service solemnized by Right Rev. Francis McNeirny, Bishop of Albany, on October 8th of the same year. Right Rev. E. P. Wadhams, Bishop of Ogdensburg, the first rector, was the preacher on this occasion.

Exterior dimensions.—The cathedral has a frontage of 95 feet on Eagle street, and a depth of 195 feet on Madison avenue. From water-table to apex of roof is 70 feet, and to top of finished stone spire 210 feet. The twin spire, when completed, will be of same hight.

Interior dimensions.—Nave, 125 feet; transept, 96 feet; sanctuary, 35 feet square; hight of nave about 60 feet. Seating capacity, 2,500. Particular attention was given to the acoustic facilities of the edifice, and the result is very satisfactory for pulpit utterances and choral effects.

First Bishop: His Eminence Cardinal John McCloskey, D.D., consecrated March 10, 1844; transferred to Albany May 21, 1847; promoted to New York May 6, 1864; created Cardinal, March 15, 1875.

Second Bishop: Right Rev. John J. Conroy, D.D., consecrated October 15, 1865; resigned October 16, 1877. Present Bishop: Right Rev. Francis McNeirny, DD.; consecrated April 21, 1872, and appointed Bishop of Albany by right of succession, October 16, 1877. First Rector: Right Rev. E. P. Wadhams, D.D.; appointed Rector, 1852; consecrated Bishop of Ogdensburg, May 5, 1872. Second Rector: Very Rev. P. A. Ludden, V. G.; appointed 1872, and transferred to St. Peter's Church, Troy, in 1880. Present Rector: Rev. John Walsh; transferred from St. John's Church, Albany, February 25, 1882; installed rector of cathedral, February 27, 1882.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, Albany, was founded in the year 1837. The first Pastor was Rev. J. Kelly, and the first place of worship was at the corner of Herkimer and Franklin streets. On July 1, 1839, the present edifice, corner of South Ferry and Dallius, was purchased from the Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of St. Paul's Church by the Trustees of St. John's Church, and thenceforth used as a temple of Roman Catholic worship. Rev. Father Kelly was succeeded by Rev. J. McDonough, in 1841, as Pastor. He was a man of resolute purpose, and an indefatigable worker in the cause of Christianity. Many of the oldest residents down town distinctly remember him and bless his memory. In 1847, the Rev. Patrick McCloskey came from Schenectady to Albany and assumed charge of St. John's, and remained fourteen years. His mission in those early days embraced all the lower portion of Albany, Greenbush, and far out into the country on every side. He died in 1861, universally mourned. His successor was the Rev. Cornelius Fitzpatrick, who for several years ministered faithfully to his people. In 1867, Rev. E. Bayard was transferred from St. John's Church, in Greenbush, to St. John's Church in Albany, and Rev. Cornelius Fitzpatrick replaced him in Greenbush.

Needing rest from the onerous duties of an extensive mission, the Rt. Rev. Bishop of Albany Diocese located him in Fort Edward, where he is the present Pastor. Rev. E. Bayard remained Pastor of St. John's for several years. He was a man well known for his amiable piety and charitable disposition. He died a few years since while Pastor of Baldwinsville, N. Y. In 1873 the Rev. John Walsh became Pastor of St. John's, which place he retained until 1882, when he was made Rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Albany. Father Walsh is remarkable as an orator of splendid powers and a devoted priest. In 1882 the Rev. James M. Ludden came from St. John's Church, Utica, where he was Pastor, and became Pastor of St. John's, a position which he most honorably and successfully fills to the entire satisfaction of his large and influential congregation.

There have been many Assistant Priests in St. John's Church. Among others are recalled the names of Rev. William F. Sheehan, now Pastor of St. Patrick's Church, West Troy; Rev. Father Henderson, Rev. M. J. Griffith, of Valatie, N. Y.; Rev. William Nyhan, of Brazier Falls, N. Y.; Rev. Thomas Walsh, now of Plattsburg, N. Y., and

Vicar-General of the Diocese of Ogdensburg; Rev. Thomas P. Walsh, of Coxsackie, N. Y.; Rev. William A. Ryan, of Camillus, N. Y.; Rev. John H. McGraw, of Schenectady, N. Y.; Rev. Father Butler, of Fort Ticonderoga, N. Y.; Rev. William Finneran, of Catskill, N. Y.; Rev. James J. Renehan, of Marathon, N. Y.; Rev. J. J. Kelly, of Baltimore, Md. The Assistant Clergymen in 1885 are Rev. James H. Halpin and Rev. Matthew K. Merns.

There is a peculiar charm about old St. John's Church which highly endears it to even thousands of Albany's Catholic families who are not of its present parishioners. It has been the old landmark of Catholicity in Southern Albany, and the ivy that creeps over its old, but substantial, walls carries the minds of all back half a century.

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH.—In the year 1842 there were but two Catholic churches in Albany, St. Mary's, on Lodge street, and St. John's, on Dallius street.

The Catholics in the northern part of the city had already greatly increased in numbers, and it was found necessary to provide more ample church accommodation for them.

A meeting for the purpose of considering the erection of a new church was called in the early part of the summer of 1842.

Father Schneller, the Pastor of St. Mary's, presided. At this meeting it was resolved to purchase a site for a new church, on the northeast corner of North Pearl and Lumber streets.

The lot was accordingly secured, and the corner-stone of the first St. Joseph's Church was laid on the afternoon of July 25, 1842.

The work was pushed forward rapidly, and completed at a cost of $28,000, and dedicated May 7, 1843, by Right Rev. John Hughes.

Father Schneller retained the charge of the newly-formed congregation, and Father Newell, Father Havermans, of Troy, and Father Hogan, attended to their spiritual wants for several months.

The Rev. John J. Conroy, then a young priest, but very lately ordained, was appointed the first regular Pastor, and was installed in the pastoral charge by Bishop Hughes, March 25, 1844.

The parish made rapid progress under his zealous administration. He erected the building on North Pearl street, known as the Girls' Orphan Asylum, established schools for both boys and girls, and erected a handsome parochial residence on the northwest corner of North Pearl and Lumber streets.

The congregation increased steadily during the next ten years, and at the end of that period the church edifice becoming inadequate for the Catholic population of the parish, the Pastor resolved to build a new church of more ample proportions, and of more artistic and elaborate design. With this intention, the large plot of ground bounded by Ten Broeck, Second, and First streets, was purchased for the sum of $45,000.

The plans of the church were drawn by Patrick Keeley, the celebrated architect, who had built the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, of this city, and many of the more elaborate churches throughout the country.

Ground was broken for the new church in the fall of 1855. The corner-stone was laid by Right Rev. Bishop McCloskey, June 1, 1856. Besides the Pastor, sixteen other priests were present on this occasion. The ceremony was witnessed by over 12,000 people.

The church was completed in 1860.

This edifice, which has justly been considered one of the most beautiful churches in the country, is of mediæval architecture.

It is 212 feet in length by 116 feet in width, and is built of blue limestone, trimmed with French Caen stone. There are fourteen marble columns, of which ten are monoliths. The three altars are likewise of marble, and are in themselves beautiful works of art.

Its stained-glass windows illustrate nearly all the principal events in the life of the Redeemer.

The stations of the cross, which attract universal attention, were imported from Munich. The roof of the church is that style which is known as the open roof, and is carved and adorned in the most elaborate manner. The total cost of the structure is estimated at $250,000.

The organ, which was built by Wilcox & Simmons, of Boston, was, when placed in the church, the second largest in the United States. It is an instrument of rare power and sweetness of tone. Mlle. Emma La Jeunesse (now Mme. Albani) was organist and head soprano in this church for several years.

The church has three towers—one in front, not yet fully completed, and two in the rear.

During the building of this church an accident occurred, in which a carpenter named Murphy was killed, and his brother and several others were seriously injured.

Before the pews were placed in the edifice, a great fair was held, in which the other churches of the city took part, and at which a large amount was realized.

The building was completed in the spring of 1860, and dedicated May 13, 1860. The ceremony of blessing the new edifice was performed by Bishop McCloskey. Bishop Fitzpatrick, of Boston, celebrated the Pontifical High Mass, and the sermon was delivered by Archbishop Hughes. There were present at the ceremony all the Bishops of the Province, and also Bishop Mullock, of Newfoundland. Pontifical Vespers were celebrated in the evening, and a discourse was delivered by Bishop Timon, of Buffalo.

The Caen stone used in the trimmings of the church suffered greatly from the inclemency of the weather, and in 1866 they had so crumbled that it was necessary to remove a large portion of them, and to substitute, in their place, at a great cost, Ohio sandstone,

The church was also struck twice by lightning, and the two rear towers and the organ were considerably damaged.

In 1865, the Holy See appointed the V. R. J. J. Conroy, successor, as Bishop of Albany, to Rt.

Rev. John McCloskey, who had been appointed to the Archiepiscopal See of New York, made vacant by the death of Archbishop Hughes.

Father Conroy was installed as the second Bishop of Albany, October 15, 1865.

After his elevation to the Episcopacy, Bishop Conroy retained the title of Pastor of St. Joseph's, and held it until he resigned the administration of the diocese in 1874.

About this time, St. Joseph's old church, which had been, since the dedication of the new church, used for a boys' school, was sold to the Albany Steam Bakery Company, and the proceeds paid off the debt of the new edifice. The pastoral residence had already been sold, and the proceeds used for the same purpose.

In 1871, a large and commodious school-house for boys, with all modern improvements, was erected on the northwest corner of North Pearl and Colonie streets, at a cost, including ground, building and furniture, of $46,000.

The School is under the charge of the Christian Brothers.

There are eight teachers and a daily attendance of between five and six hundred boys. The tuition is entirely gratuitous.

There is also a flourishing day school for girls taught by the Sisters of Charity, with a daily attendance of four hundred pupils.

There is likewise an Industrial School under the care of the Sisters, in which girls are taught to sew and dress-make. There are ten teachers in the school.

The church was incorporated in 1878.

St. Joseph's Parish was twice divided, at the request of Father T. M. A. Burke, the present Pastor.

All that portion north of Pleasant street was formed into the Parish of the Sacred Heart, North Albany, and that portion west of Knox street was ceded to St. Patrick's Parish.

Many improvements have been made around the church, the grounds have been beautified, and $33,500 of the indebtedness has been paid.

The schools—both boys and girls—are in a flourishing condition, and the congregation is widely known for its generosity, culture and piety.

Church of the Holy Cross (German), corner of Hamilton and Philip streets.—The foundations of this church were begun in 1849, and the corner-stone was laid May 12, 1850. It was finished and consecrated in 1852, Father Noethen, Pastor, who remained till 1878, when he was succeeded by the present Pastor, Father Ottenhaus. The present congregation of this church is comparatively small, but it has had the unusual honor and usefulness of being the parent of three prosperous neighboring churches, whose founders went out successively from its midst, the mother-church often being so full there was hardly standing room; viz., Our Lady of Angels, in 1868; Church of the Assumption, in 1869; and Our Lady Help of Christians, in 1880.

St. Ann's Church, northeast corner Fourth avenue and Franklin street, Rev. Edward A. Terry, LL. D., Pastor.

The corner-stone of St. Ann's Church bears the date 1867.

It was laid in the summer of that year by Right Rev. John J. Conroy, then Bishop of Albany. The edifice was dedicated December 20, 1868. The parish was formed in 1866, and comprised portions to the south of the cathedral parish and that of St. John's. The first Pastor was Rev. Thos. Doran, who had previously been in charge of St. Mary's, Chapel street.

The church and parsonage were built on property donated to the congregation by John Tracey, Esq., who became one of the first trustees. His associates were Thomas Kearnan, John Carmody and James Coyle.

The present Pastor, Rev. Dr. Terry, assumed charge Tuesday, September 22, 1880. His predecessor died July 4th of the same year. Dr. Terry was transferred from the curacy of St. John's Church, Utica, where he had officiated for five years. He had formerly been Professor of Dogmatic Theology and Scripture in Mount St. Mary's College, Emmettsburg, Md., and he was affiliated to the diocese of Albany by Right Rev. Bishop McNeirny.

The present congregation of St. Ann's numbers about twenty-five hundred. It is in a most flourishing condition, its funded debt having been reduced from $18,000 to $11,000.

The Pastor's work proper is very much aided by the many societies into which he has formed the members, old and young. There are no less than ten of these associations, none of them numbering less than one hundred members. Chief among these societies are the Sunday-school Union, the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and the Ladies' Aid Society.

The present roll of the Sunday-school shows a maximum of 650 names, and an average attendance of more than 600. The Pastor invariably presides during the hours of Sunday-school.

The choir of the church is one of its attractive features. It comprises a double quartette and a chorus of sixty-five voices. Mr. Charles Kresser is Organist, and Mr. John Klein, Director.

St. Patrick's Church, Central avenue, corner of Perry street, was consecrated August 30, 1868. Priests: A. McGeough, 1859–64; Felix McGinn, 1865–71; P. J. Smith, 1874 to present time.

Our Lady of Angels Church (German), Central avenue, corner of Robin street, was erected in 1868. Priests: Francis Neubauer, 1869–77; Pius Kotterer, 1878–79; Maurice Bierl, 1880–83; Cæsar Cucchiarini, 1883 to present time.

Church of the Assumption was purchased by the French Catholics from the First African Baptist Society, and dedicated in 1869. Priests: M. La Porte, 1870–72; M. Dugas, 1873; C. M. Lesage, 1874–76; P. O. Renaud, 1877; Joseph Brouillet, 1878–81; Clovis Therbault, 1882–83; G. Hulberdaull, 1883 to present time.

Our Lady Help of Christians.—The congregation, Our Lady Help of Christians, is the outgrowth of Holy Cross Church. It was begun and established in the year 1873 by the Rev. Theodore Noethen, Vicar-General for the Germans in the diocese of Albany.

It was regarded as a matter of necessity, from the fact that the church edifice of Holy Cross had gradually become too small for rapidly increasing congregation. One roof could no longer give satisfactory shelter to all.

In April, 1873, purchase was made of the property on Second avenue. A frame building found standing upon the site was at once transformed into a temporary chapel. In the fall of the same year this chapel was dedicated by the Very Rev. Theodore Noethen. Services were held every Sunday at 8.30 A.M., Very Rev. Theodore Noethen and his assistant, Rev. Stephen A. Preisser, alternating.

There was also a school connected with the chapel, John Hess acting in the capacity of teacher.

In June, 1874, the chapel was separated from its connection with Holy Cross Church, and Rev. Stephen A. Preisser placed in charge of the newly-created congregation as its first Pastor. The old structure was at once enlarged by the addition of an extension in the rear and to the side. In August of the same year, other property was acquired on Krank street, and a commodious school-house erected on the grounds.

The corner-stone of the present church was laid on the 28th of June, 1880, by the Right Rev. Francis McNeirny, Bishop of Albany, assisted by a number of priests from the city and other parts of the diocese.

The church was completed, dedicated and opened for service on the 28th of August, 1881, Right Rev. Francis McNeirny, Bishop of Albany, performing the ceremonies, and Revs. M. J. Decker of Erie, Pa., and John Walsh, of Albany, occupying the pulpit respectively, the first in the morning, and the latter in the evening.

In 1882, the Sisters of St. Francis, from St. Anthony's Convent, Syracuse, N.Y., were invited by the Rev. Stephen A. Preisser to take charge of the school, and have since then labored faithfully, worked earnestly, and accomplished much in the furtherance and promotion of education and manners, religion and learning, among the little ones under their supervision. In March, 1883, Rev. Stephen A. Preisser, after over nine years of labor, was appointed to take charge of St. Peter's Church, Oswego, N. Y., and Rev. Henry Cluver, from St. Joseph's Church, Schenectady, N. Y., was appointed to fill the vacancy at Our Lady Help of Christians, at Albany.

THE PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS was established on August 5, 1884, by the Right Rev. F. McNeirny, Bishop of Albany.

The limits of the parish are Hart's Road on the north, Pleasant street on the south, City Line on the east, and Loudonville on the West. The Bishop appointed Rev. Francis J. Maguire to be first Pastor of this parish. With a Catholic population of nearly eighteen hundred souls, the Pastor began his labors at once. A parcel of land situate on North Pearl street, and comprising sixteen building lots, had been secured at a cost of nearly seven thousand dollars. The debt thus incurred was the only financial possession of the new parish when Father Maguire assumed the pastorate. Unlike some large undertakings, the work of the Sacred Heart Parish was from the beginning marked by a cautiousness and prudence which have resulted in a success which has surpassed expectation. Instead of launching into a scheme entailing elaborate buildings and a grand church debt, a temporary chapel was at once erected on Erie street. Here, at a cost of about sixteen hundred dollars, accommodations for the congregation were secured.

So rapid was the growth of the parish, that the securing of more church room soon became an imperative necessity. It was then thought best to proceed with the erection of the parish church. There was no prospect of bringing a work of such magnitude to completion in the near future, but it was decided to make a beginning.

Ground was broken for the erection of the present church July 31, 1876. The basement, which afforded ample room for all congregational purposes, was occupied in February, 1877; and the building was completed and dedicated May 23, 1880.

The church and adjoining rectory are of brick with stone trimmings. The property is valued at eighty-six thousand dollars, and there is but a small debt upon it. Of this large sum of money collected there was but one subscription of $200, three of $100, seven of $50, and all the remainder was collected in small sums. The interior of the church contains many beautiful gifts, chief among which is a costly marble memorial altar, erected by the family of the late William Cassidy, of the *Argus*. The stained-glass windows, as well as the statuary and stations of the cross, are from the art repositories of Munich, in Bavaria, and are donations of members or friends of the congregation.

Rev. F. J. Maguire, Pastor of the Church, was born in Albany, 1846, a graduate of Manhattan College and of St. Joseph's Seminary. Ordained priest May, 1872. First Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Albany, which church and rectory have been built at a cost of $77,000.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION.—The French Canadians residing in Albany, January 1, 1868, founded the St. Jean Baptist Society, numbering about 25 members. The objects of this organization are to help the members when sick, and give a certain amount at their death to pay for funeral expenses. The weekly benefit of sick members is $5. Within a short period the membership reached 75, but, owing to some of the members removing out of the city, the present membership is only 56.

In 1869, there were 130 French Canadians in Albany without church accommodation, and in October 3d of that year, mass was first said in their present church, corner Dallius street and Fourth avenue.

The church was dedicated October 24, 1869, by Very Rev. Father Edgar Wadhams. In the spring of 1871, the residence next to the church was bought for $4,000. The following have been Pastors: Rev. Fathers Laporte, L. M. Dugas, C. M. Lesage, P. Reneault, Joseph Brouillet, Clovis Thibeault. Rev. Father Gideon Huberdeault is the present Pastor.

In July, 1870, another French Canadian society was established, by the name of Society de Secours Mutuel, for the object of insuring the lives of its members. This society numbers 168 members.

In 1876 a French Canadian Democratic Club was organized, with 175 members.

The 29th July, 1879, J. B. Seney, a popular and public-spirited citizen, started a conference of St. Vincent de Paul, to help poor French-Canadian families. The society has done much good since it was organized.

In January, 1882, the French Canadians of this city united themselves as a body to send delegates to the French Canadians' Convention held yearly in this State.

October 22, 1884, a branch of the Catholic Benevolent Legion was started by two or three Frenchmen in this city, known as Jacques Cartier Council, C. B. L., No. 86. The object of this society is to insure members from $500 to $5,000, according to the grade he joins. Membership numbers forty. According to a census made by J. B. Seney, in June, 1885, there are in the city 162 French-Canadian families.

May 23, 1869, first meeting of the French Canadians to establish a Catholic Church in Albany, N. Y. Number of French families in this city 1869, 135.

September 17, 1869, Rev. Father Mascime Laporte was named first Pastor of the Church of the Assumption.

October, 1869, the church now occupied was bought, at a cost of $7,000.

July, 1870, the house next to the church was bought, at a cost of $4,500.

November, 1872, Rev. Father C. M. Dugas was named second Pastor.

November, 1874, Rev. Father M. Lesage was named third Pastor.

In 1876, the present parsonage was built at a cost of $8,000.

In spring, 1877, Rev. Father Reneault was named fourth Pastor.

In November, 1879, Rev. Father Joseph Brouillet was named fifth Pastor.

June, 1882, Rev. Father C. Thibeault was named sixth Pastor.

March 2, 1884, Rev. Father Gideon Hubertdeault was named seventh Pastor.

In 1875, the school attached to the church was established by Rev. Father Lesage.

But in 1879, Rev. Father Brouillet brought the Rev. Sisters of Jesus and Mary to take charge of the schools.

Since the establishment of this church, the French people have paid over $75,000 in property, repairs, ornaments, construction, salary and current expenses.

CHRISTIAN.

The First Christian Church was organized in 1881. Church located south side of Chestnut, between Lark and Dove streets. Pastors: E. C. Abbott, 1881–84; Warren Hathaway, 1884 to present time.

CONGREGATIONAL.

The corner-stone of the Congregational Church, corner of Eagle and Beaver streets, was laid September 22, 1868; dedicated October 14, 1869. Cost, including lot, $130,000. No debt. Will seat 1,125. Thirteen associated gentlemen, consisting of Anthony Gould, Bradford R. Wood, Rufus H. King, James McNaughton, and others, bought the edifice that had long been owned and occupied by the First Presbyterian Church, corner South Pearl and Beaver streets, now Beaver Block, December 15, 1849, for $20,000, for the purposes of a Congregational Church and society about to be formed. As soon as suitably repaired, it was opened for Divine Service, April 7, 1850, Rev. Leonard Bacon, D.D., of New Haven, Ct., preaching. Other eminent preachers of the denomination followed for a few months. June 6th, a religious society was organized. On the 10th of July, a church of eighty-one members was formed. Rev. Ray Palmer, D.D., of Bath, Me., was installed Pastor, December 10, 1850, and so remained until April 18, 1866. Rev. William S. Smart, D. D., of Benson, Vt., was installed Pastor, May 30, 1867, and so remains. The last sermon in the old church was preached February 8, 1868. After that date, Association Hall, now Board of Trade rooms, was occupied for religious services until the present edifice was completed. Sunday services, 10½ A. M., 7½ P. M. Sunday-school, 2 P. M. It sustains the Bethany Mission-school, 67 South Pearl street. Whole number of church members enrolled since organization, 804; present number, 396. It is free from debt, owning its church building; has an intelligent congregation, and is generally prosperous.

Second Congregational Church Society was organized in 1862. Meetings were held in Gibson's Hall, Clinton avenue. It was discontinued in 1863. R. B. Stratton was Pastor.

EPISCOPAL.

St. Peter's Church.—In 1675 the Rev. Nicolaus Van Rensselaer, a son of the first Patroon, Kilian Van Rensselaer, was colleague to the Rev. Gideon Schaets in the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in Albany. He had received Holy Orders in the Church of England, which was the cause of many differences between him and the Rev. Wilhelmus Nieuenhuysen, the other colleague, and the Pastor, which the Governor's Council determined in Mr. Van Rensselaer's favor. He remained in Albany until his death in 1678. The English garrison at Fort Frederick and the few English families in Albany were occasionally visited by the chaplains of the Fort in New York until 1704, when the Rev. Thoroughgood Moore was sent by the English Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts as Missionary to the Mohawk Indians, and he remained in Albany a year, vainly trying to penetrate to and locate in the Indian country. He officiated regularly in Fort Frederick.* The Rev. John Talbot, in 1702, had spent a

* Occupying the site of the present St. Peter's Church, corner of State and Lodge streets.

few weeks and performed divine service. In 1708 the Rev. Thomas Barclay was Chaplain at Fort Frederick. He organized a parish and held divine service for six years in the Lutheran Chapel, whose site, the corner of Beaver and South Pearl streets, is now occupied by the City Building. October 21, 1714, a plot of ground in the center of Yonker (now State) street opposite Barrack, immediately below Fort Frederick, was granted by patent from the Crown for an English Church and cemetery. In spite of the remonstrance of the City Common Council, who claimed the ground, an edifice of bluestone, 58 feet by 42 feet, was opened in November, 1716. Mr. Barclay continued his faithful fruitful labors at Albany, Schenectady, and among the Mohawks until 1721, when the stipend of £50 from the Propagation Society was withdrawn. The Mohawk Mission, for which a chapel was built at Fort Hunter, near the lower Mohawk Castle, thirty-five miles from Albany, was under the charge of the Rectors of St. Peter's until 1770, with the exception of the years 1712 to 1719, when there was a resident missionary. In 1727 the Rev. John Miln became Rector of Saint Peter's, as the church then began to be called. A parish school, under the instruction of Mr. John Beasley, was founded at this period, and continued for many years. In 1738 the Rev. Henry Barclay, a son of the first Rector, born in Albany, who had been catechist to the Mohawks, succeeded him. He was zealous and successful until the ravages of King George's War compelled him to leave Albany; and in the autumn of 1746 he accepted the Rectorship of Trinity Church, New York City. He died there in 1764. In 1750 the Rev. John Ogilvie, born in New York City, was called to the rectorship. He continued the good work of his predecessors. His thorough knowledge of the Mohawk dialect enabled him, after Dr. Barclay's death, to whom the revision of the Mohawk Prayer-book had been committed by Sir William Johnson, to superintend its publication and correct the proof. It appeared in 1769, from the press of Hugh Gaines. The French and Indian War scattering his Albany and Mohawk congregations, he became Chaplain to General Amherst's expedition in 1758, and to that of Sir William Johnson against Niagara in 1759. He resigned in December, 1760, and remained with the army in Canada until 1764. He died in New York, where he was an assistant in Trinity Church, in 1774. In 1751 the tower of St. Peter's was built, and a bell, still occasionally used, and a clock were procured from England. The Rev. Thomas Brown, Deputy Chaplain of the 60th Regiment, succeeded Mr. Ogilvie, and was the faithful Rector until March, 1768, when he removed to Dorchester, Md., where he died in 1784. The Rev. Harry Munro, missionary at Philipsburgh (now Yonkers) was appointed to the vacancy. Under his charge the congregations were greatly increased, the church repaired, and the present charter of incorporation granted by Governor Sir Henry Moore, April 25, 1769. Being a Loyalist, Mr. Munro was imprisoned in 1777, and escaped to a British post on Lake George. He died in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1801. St. Peter's Church was closed, excepting for occasional services, during the Revolutionary War. May 1, 1787, the Vestry elected the Rev. Thomas Ellison, born in Newcastle, England, Rector. He had the ability to lay the foundation for the future prosperity of the parish, after the devastation of the Revolution. He died, in 1802, in the midst of his usefulness, shortly after a contract had been made with Hooker & Putnam for a new church on the corner of State and Lodge streets. The plans were drawn by Philip Hooker, the well-known architect, of Albany. The building was finished in the summer of 1803, and the Rev. Frederic Beasley, of Elizabethtown, N. J., assumed the rectorship, to which he had been elected in 1802. The consecration of the church took place on Thursday, October 4, 1803. Mr. Beasley resigned in 1809, to the great regret of the congregation and the community, to accept the Associate Rectorship of St. Paul's Church, Baltimore. He died in Elizabethtown, N. J., in 1845. The Rev. Timothy Clowes, of Jamaica, L. I., became officiating minister in 1810, and, in 1841, Rector. A controversy upon the proper disposition of the income of the church lands, with Lieutenant-Governor Tayler and others of the Vestry, led to a war of pamphlets, and finally to his temporary suspension from the ministry in 1817. He died at Hempstead, L. I., in 1847. In 1818, the Rev. William B. Lacey, of Oxford, Chenango County, officiated, and in 1819 became Rector. In 1821 the spire, so familiar to old Albanians, was erected. In 1832, Dr. Lacey resigned, to devote his time to the higher education of women. He died at Okalona, Miss., in 1866. In January, 1833, the Rev. Horatio Potter, Professor in Washington College, Hartford, Conn., accepted the rectorship. A new rectory was built in 1831, and in 1847 the present rectory, on the corner of Lodge street and Maiden lane, was finished and occupied. During the twenty-one years of Dr. Potter's incumbency, the parishes of Trinity, Grace, and Holy Innocents, rendered necessary by the growth of the Episcopal Church in the city, were organized. St. Paul's had been organized in 1826. In 1854, the Rector of St. Peter's was elected Provisional Bishop of New York, and was consecrated in Trinity Church, New York City, November 22, 1854. In December, 1855, the Rev. Thomas C. Pitkin, of New Haven, Conn., became Rector. In 1858 the foundations of the church had settled so much that great cracks were made in the side-walls and ceiling. A new building, to be in the early French Gothic style, after the plans of Upjohn & Co., was contracted for early in 1858, and the church consecrated October 4, 1860. It is a spacious edifice, of massive construction, and is among Upjohn's most successful churches. In 1862, the Rev. Dr. Pitkin resigned on account of failing health, and the Rev. William T. Wilson, of New York City, was called to the parish. The Rev. William Tatlock, of North Adams, became Associate Rector. In 1866 both the Rector and his associate resigned. In 1867, the Rev. William Croswell Doane, B.D., of Hartford, Conn., accepted the rectorship. In December, 1868, at the Primary Convention of the

Diocese of Albany, Dr. Doane was elected its first Bishop. On February 2, 1869, he was consecrated Bishop in the Church of God in St. Peter's Church. In addition to the new burden which he had assumed, he remained in charge of St. Peter's until Easter, 1870, although he resigned the rectorship in 1869. The Rev. William A. Snively, of Cincinnati, O., was his successor. He resigned to accept a call to Grace Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., in May, 1874. The Rev. Walton W. Battershall, of Christ Church, Rochester, N. Y., was immediately elected, and was instituted as Rector, September 29, 1874. Under him the parish has put forth all its energies, and has shown great zeal and resource in the organization of Christian work and the improvement of the church edifice.

In 1876 the Parish House was built on Lodge street, opposite the church. It is a fine structure of stone, designed for the use of the Sunday-school and the charitable and social enterprises of the parish. In the same year the tower of the church was built, as a memorial to the late Senior Warden, John Tweddle, and furnished with a fine chime of bells. The tower was designed by R. M. Upjohn, and is one of the richest and most exquisite examples of decorated Gothic in the country. From time to time during the last fifteen years, the church has been adorned with memorial windows, which have been designed by the best English artists, and are of peculiar excellence both in drawing and color. The whole series, which includes all the large aisle windows and the three middle windows of the chancel apse, while showing a variety in the method of treatment, are splendid examples of religious art, and give great beauty to the interior.

During the last year the chancel has been remodeled and paved in mosaic, with the addition of a beautiful altar and reredos of Caen stone and other articles of furniture. A chancel organ chamber and choir building have also been added to the structure, and the church has been decorated. The cost of these improvements with the tower and the windows has considerably more than equaled the original cost of the church.

Among the older memorials and interesting possessions of the church, is the mural tablet in the tower room, one of the earlier works of the sculptor Palmer, and representing Faith gazing at the Cross. On account of its deep religious feeling, it has probably been reproduced in photography more than any other piece of American sculpture. The communion plate, which has been used at the altar of St. Peter's for a hundred and seventy years, was presented by Queen Anne. It consists of six pieces of massive silver, marked with the arms of Great Britain, and bearing the following legend: "The Gift of her Majesty, Ann, by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, and of her plantations in North America, Queen, to her Indian Chappel of the Onondawgus."

In connection with, and supported by, the parish is St. Peter's Orphans' Home, a sketch of which is to be found elsewhere.

Among those who in its long history have been worshipers in this church, and been well known in State, city, or country, we may mention the names of Colonel Peter Matthews, the first Warden; Edward Holland; James Stevenson; John Dunbar; Samuel Stringer; Colonel Jeremiah Van Rensselaer; Philip Cuyler; John Barclay; Goldsbrow Banyar; Lieut.-Governor John Tayler; Elkanah Watson; Philip S. Van Rensselaer; William A. Duer; John C Spencer; John A. Dix; Lyman Tremain; John T. Hoffman; John Taylor Cooper; John V. L. Pruyn; Orlando Meads; Harman Pumpelly.

The property of the corporation is the church and lot, parish-house and rectory, whose estimated value is $250,000. The successive ministers of the church have been Thoroughgood Moore, Missionary, 1704; Thomas Barclay, Chaplain and Rector, 1708–21; John Miln, Rector, 1727–38; Henry Barclay, Rector, 1738–46; John Ogilvie, Rector, 1750–58; Thomas Brown, Rector, 1759–68; Harvey Munro, Rector, 1769–77; Thomas Ellison, Rector, 1787–1802; Frederic Beasley, Rector, 1802–9; Timothy Clowes, Rector, 1810–17; William B. Lacey, Rector, 1818–32; Horatio Potter, Rector, 1833–54; Thomas C. Pitkin, Rector, 1855–62; William T. Wilson, Rector, 1862–66; William Tatlock, Associate, 1862–66; William Croswell Doane, Rector, 1867–69; William A. Snively, Rector, 1869–74; Walton W. Battershall, 1874.

ST. PAUL'S.—The Parish of St. Paul's was organized November 12, 1827. Services had been held for some time previous in a school-room on South Pearl street. The Rev. Richard Bury was the first Rector. By the efforts of the vestry, aided by the earnest labors of Mr. Bury, a lot was purchased on South Ferry street, and the first building owned by the society erected. This building still stands, and is known as St. John's Church. This church was consecrated August 24, 1829, by the Right Rev. John H. Hobart, D.D. Mr. Bury resigned in 1830. He died, after filling positions of honor in the church, in Cleveland, in 1872.

The Rev. William Linn Keese succeeded the Rev. Mr. Bury in the rectorship of the parish. During the three years of his rectorship, the work of the parish was greatly exended and all debt removed. Mr. Keese on account of ill-health was compelled to give up the charge of the parish in 1834. He died in 1837 in Havana, Cuba.

The Rev. Joseph H. Price, D.D., succeeded Mr. Keese. He resigned in 1837. For a long period he was Rector of St. Stephen's, New York. The Rev. William Ingraham Kip, D.D., became Rector in 1837. His ministry was a long and successful one. In 1839 the church on South Ferry street was sold and the theatre on South Pearl street was purchased.

This church was consecrated by the Right Rev. B. T. Onderdonk, in 1840. The church then numbered 107 communicants. In 1853, Dr. Kip was elected Bishop of California, which position he still ably occupies.

Dr. Kip was succeeded by the Rev. T. A. Starkey, D.D. Before coming to St. Paul's, he was Rector of Christ Church, Troy. Dr. Starkey was Rector

of the parish for five years, resigning in 1858, since which time he has been Rector of Trinity Church, Cleveland; the Epiphany, Washington; and St. Paul's, Paterson. From the last position he was elected Bishop of Northern New Jersey.

In April, 1859, the Rev. William Rudder, D.D., became Rector of the Parish. During his rectorship the church in South Pearl street was sold and the present building in Lancaster street purchased. The purchase was made in 1862, and the building used by the congregation in September of that year for the first time. In 1863, Dr. Rudder resigned, and accepted a call to St. Stephen's Church, Philadelphia, which position he filled until his death in 1880.

The Rev. J. Livingston Reese, D.D., accepted the rectorship in June, 1864. In December of the same year the church was consecrated by Right Rev. Horatio Potter, D.D. The rectory was added in 1867. The Free Chapel on Madison avenue was opened in 1868. In 1880 the church was beautifully decorated. The Parish House was built in 1883. The church now numbers 670 communicants and has 750 children in its Sunday-schools.

Holy Innocents' Church.—This church is on the corner of North Pearl and Colonie streets. It is built in the early English style, and is deemed a fine example of architecture. The society was organized February 15, 1850, and the present building was consecrated in September of the same year. The late Wm. H. DeWitt erected the building, and gave it and the ground on which it stands to this parish. The church has over 250 communicants, and supports numerous societies besides.

The following list contains the names of the various Rectors of the church :

Sylvanus Reed, 1850–61; William R. Johnson, 1862–63; William S. Boardman, 1865–68; Royal Marshall, 1869–74; Samuel E. Smith, 1875–82; Ralph W. Kenyon, 1883.

Trinity Church (Episcopal).—This congregation was organized in 1839. Leased the Presbyterian (Cameronian) church, Westerlo street, until 1841, when services were held in the school-house, corner of Dallius and Ferry streets. In 1842 erected a frame building on the southwest corner of Herkimer and Franklin streets. Present church on Broad street erected in 1849. Rectors : Isaac Swart, 1839–40; William Dowdney, 1840–41; Edward Embury, 1842–43; Edward Selkirk, 1844–84; Charles H. W. Stocking, 1884.

The Cathedral of All Saints.—The Legislature of the State of New York incorporated the cathedral by an Act passed 27th of March, 1873 (Chap. 149), in the first section of which the following members were created a body politic and corporate : (The Bishop) William Croswell Doane, John Ireland Tucker, John H. Hobart Brown, Hiram W. Beers, Theodore Babcock, John Townsend, Orlando Meads, Erastus Corning, Amos P. Palmer, Walter A. Wood, and James Forsyth. These corporators are empowered by the 3d section "to fill vacancies in their own number," and by section 4, to adopt a constitution for the election of new trustees. The object and purposes of the corporation are, by section 2, declared to be "the establishment, erection, maintenance and management of a cathedral church, and its appurtenances, in the City of Albany;" and section 5 declares that "the seats for the worshipers in the said cathedral church shall always be free."

On All Saints Day, 1872, the building at present occupied, formerly an iron foundry, was first used for Divine Service. It has been enlarged once since.

On the festival of All Saints, A.D. 1881, the Bishop announced to the congregation his purpose to begin forthwith the execution of this, one of the great purposes for which the corporation was created, namely, the erection of a cathedral building, and laid before them his plans. At a meeting of the Chapter, held 23d November, 1881, the following Committee was appointed to select a site: The Bishop, Hon. Erastus Corning, Mr. Orlando Meads. It was resolved to endeavor to raise immediately $150,000 to meet the cost of the building, exclusive of the site. Mr. James Moir was appointed to act, under General S. E. Marvin, Treasurer of the Chapter, as Treasurer of the funds collected for the cathedral, and Mr. Meads prepared a form to be copied into the subscription books. The Committee on the site were then instructed to obtain plans for the cathedral. On the 30th of April, 1883, the plans of R. W. Gibson, architect, were adopted, with a modification submitted to the Chapter on the 6th of June.

On the 28th of November, 1883, the grounds given by the Hon. Erastus Corning, valued at $80,000, were accepted as the site, and on motion of the same generous giver it was resolved "that, in the judgment of the Chapter, it is expedient that measures be taken without delay to begin the work of building the cathedral, and that to that end preparations be made to remove the buildings now on the ground, and to procure the working plans and estimates for the excavation and laying of the foundations; and the work be proceeded with as fast and as far as the means in the hands of the Chapter will permit."

At a meeting, held 22d March, 1884, it was resolved that the corner-stone be laid on Whitsun-Tuesday, 3d June, 1884. This stone, with appropriate inscriptions, is the gift of Margaret Doane Gardiner, the Bishop's grand-daughter. At the same meeting a special subscription was authorized for the columns of the new cathedral, to be memorials of churchmen eminent in Church and State. They are to be twenty-four in number, and to cost over $1,000 each. Twenty-one have already been appropriated.

As the day for laying the corner-stone approached, the contributions in money (as distinguished from the gift of land) were found to be nearly $100,000 (no one gift exceeding $7,500, that of the Hon. Walter A. Wood).

According to the modified plans presented by the architect, the building to be erected for immediate use is in every part, save its roof, a portion

of the completed structure, and will be built up to a hight sufficient for a good appearance, and with accommodation for seating practically the same. The style is Gothic, or pointed architecture of the first period; the plan, a Latin cross formed by the choir and nave to the east and west, respectively, of a central crossing with transepts to the north and south. The choir is 91 feet long and 35 wide, and is planned in five bays or divisions, the two eastern forming the sanctuary. The nave is 99 feet long and 40 feet wide, and has narrow side aisles its entire length. The transepts are 110 feet in breadth from north to south (including crossing), and 40 feet wide, forming a square crossing with the nave. The crossing has four great arches, corresponding with those of the nave and transepts; and above them breaks by pendants into an octagon, in the manner frequent in the early Gothic cathedrals.

The main features of the interior are the great pillars made up of grouped shafts and pieces in pure constructional style; they are of unusual size, and will give exceptional majesty to the perspective of nave and choir. The main arcade upon them is simple, but can be at a future time enriched with carving. A triforium of coupled arches is carried all along the nave and choir. Over this comes the clerestory, with large coupled lancet windows in the nave and tracing in the choir—generally the choir has been given richer character than the nave—leading up to the traceried window in the square east end of the sanctuary. The western end of the nave has a rich circular window of radiating tracery. The side aisles are to be used as passages only; the nave is widened to the maximum; and the pillars are so arranged that none of the congregation are seated behind them.

The hights of the interior are: From floor of nave to springing of arches of nave and transept vaults, 48 feet; to top of vaults, 70 feet; to top of ceiling of lantern, over crossing, 113 feet; to springing of arches of choir vaults, 45 feet; to top, 66 feet. The proportions and methods of the octagon lantern are designed to avoid acoustic difficulties. The exterior walling is to be of Potsdam stone. The west front is flanked by towers, with belfries and spires. The hight to top of belfry is 156 feet, and to top of finial, 202 feet. The central tower, or lantern over crossing, is 144 feet high at top of masonry, and 180 feet to top of finial cross.

The seating capacity is for 1,500 person; there are 153 stalls for the clergy, and 54 choir seats, making a total for 1,757 persons. If crowded the edifice would contain 2,000. When completed, it is believed that the cathedral will prove to be no unworthy instance of that architecture which is peculiarly the creation of the Catholic Church, and may be taken as a type of the elevation, subordination, and discipline, and at the same time the unity of the spouse of Christ. Rt. Rev. Wm. Crosswell Doane, Bishop; Rev. F. L. Norton, Dean; Rev. G. W. Dean, Chancellor.

GRACE CHURCH.—The first service held with reference to the establishment of the parish of Grace Church, Albany, was held by the Rev. Maunsell Van Rensselaer, who for some time previous had been in charge of St. Peter's parish, during the absence of its Rector. This service was held on Sexagesima Sunday, 1846, in a room over the store on the southeast corner of State and Lark street, attended by about thirty persons. The services were continued every Sunday by the Rev. Mr. Van Rensselaer, at the same place, until the Sunday after Ascension Day, May 24th of the same year, when a meeting was called for the purpose of effecting a parish organization.

The Rev. Mr. Van Rensselaer presided, and Dr. H. D. Payne acted as Secretary. A resolution was adopted, favoring the establishment of a church.

The Rev. Mr. Van Rensselaer was elected Rector. It was decided to designate the parish by the style and title of Grace Church. The parish continued to occupy the same rooms until the end of the year, when the trustees of the Spring Street Mission having kindly offered the use of their building, it was accepted.

February 11, 1847, the lot on the corner of Lark and Washington avenue, running through to Spring street, was purchased for the purpose of erecting a church.

June 30, 1847, the Rector resigned, and was succeeded by the Rev. John Alden Spooner about the 1st of the following October, who remained only till the 15th of August, when he resigned.

From that time until May, 1849, the parish was without a clergymen—without a church—dependent for the room they occupied on the courtesy of those interested.

May 13, 1849, Rev. James R. Davenport began his labors as Rector of the parish. One year from that date the Building Committee entered into a contract for the erection of a church building, soon after commenced.

At the evening service on Sunday, September 9, 1850, the first confirmation service was held by Right Rev. W. R. Whittingham, Bishop of Maryland, twelve persons being confirmed. On the next day the corner-stone of the new church was laid by the same Bishop. Christmas Day the first service was held in the church, although the building was not quite completed. Its consecration was delayed till December 15, 1852.

September 24, 1857, the Rev. Mr. Davenport resigned, when Rev. Theodore M. Bishop, of the Diocese of Western New York, took charge of the parish in the following November.

After the resignation of Mr. Bishop, in July, 1861, the Vestry made arrangements with the Rev. Philander K. Cady to take temporary charge of the parish, which he did until November 26, 1862, when he was elected Rector of the parish.

April 30, 1865, the Rector severed his connection with the parish, and was succeeded in the following June by the Rev. Edwin B. Russell, of New York. Mr. Russell continued in charge of the parish until October 16, 1871, when he resigned, having accepted a call to Grace Church, Delhi, where he is still stationed.

He was succeeded by the Rev. J. Hutchings Brown, who became Rector of the parish Decem-

ber 10, 1871, and remained seventeen months, resigning May 10, 1873.

In June, 1873, the church edifice was removed from the corner of Lark and Washington avenue to the corner of Clinton avenue and Robin street. Rev. William A. Snively was elected Rector. The last service at the corner of Lark street and Washington avenue was held Sunday, June 15, 1873, by Rev. Mr. Snively. Advent Sunday the church was again opened for services.

The parish was now put in charge of Rev. T. A. Snively, Assistant Minister at St. Peter's, and at the same time the congregation of St. Peter's Mission were transferred to and identified with it.

Mr. Snively continued to conduct the services of the church whenever he could be spared from St. Peter's, until the resignation of his brother in April, 1874, when the whole care of St. Peter's parish was left to him, and Grace Church was again without a Rector until September 1, 1874, when the present Rector, Rev. David L. Schwartz, began his labors.

During the rectorship of the Rev. D. L. Schwartz, a rectory has been built, at a cost of more than $9,000. A large church debt has also been paid off.

EVANGELICAL.

First German Evangelical Lutheran Church.—This church, on Fourth avenue, corner Franklin street, was organized in 1854. William A. Frey, Pastor.

St. Paul's Evangelical Church, Western avenue, near Lexington. Rev. G. Fr. Stutz, Pastor. The congregation separated from the First Lutheran when services there were held in English. The former place of worship was on State street, now the Law School. Moved into the present church in 1872. Number of families, 158.

St. John's Evangelical Church is located on Central avenue. Rev. Ernest Hoffman is Pastor. It was organized in 1857; building erected in 1859, when the present Pastor was installed. Families, 130.

Trinity German Evangelical Lutheran Church is located at 58 Alexander street. Rev. Conrad Kuehn is Pastor.

Church of the Evangelical (German) Association was incorporated in 1847. First meeting-house on Grand street; afterwards Corner Clinton and Nucella streets; present church erected in 1869, on the south side of Elm street, between Grand and Philip streets. Pastors: John Wagner, 1851; Levi Jacobi, 1852–59; Augustus Spies, 1862; William Mintz, 1863–64; Henry Fisher, 1866–68; Charles Schoepfle, 1870–71; Albert Unholtz, 1872–74; J. Siegrist, 1875–77; M. Yauch, 1878–80; A. Schlenk, 1881–83; Jacob Eberling, 1883 to present time.

HEBREWS.

There are about 3,000 Hebrews in this city, most of them Germans, although a few of them are Bohemians, a few Poles, and a few French. With the exception of the limited number who worship at Beth El Jacob in Fulton street, they are mostly the Reformed Jews, that is, they conform in most things to the ideas of the present age, observing, however, the rite of circumcision, the day of atonement, and most of them are careful to eat no pork, nor any meat not killed in the Jewish method. As citizens they are very orderly, the appearance of one in the Police Court being an unusual sight. They care for their own poor, and among themselves are very sociable and domestic in their habits.

Anshe Emeth, South Pearl street, opposite Herkimer. Rev. Max Schlesinger, Pastor, who came to this country in 1864. This is the largest and handsomest Hebrew place of worship in the city. The society was organized in 1850, with Dr. Isaac M. Wise as Rabbi, and now embraces about 150 families. Services held here consist of prayers, reading of the law, music and sermon, the latter in English or German, the prayers and readings in Hebrew. A Sunday-school is held on Sunday.

Beth El, South Ferry street, corner of Franklin. Rev. Adolph Friedmann, Pastor. Partially organized in 1832, but did not take the name till 1838, when a building was procurred on Herkimer street. The society is, therefore, the oldest of the sect in this city. It was without a rabbi till 1854, when Sampson Falk officiated as such. In 1864 the South Ferry street Methodist Church was bought, dedicated January 20, 1865, and has since served them as a synagogue. They were considered as orthodox, till, under the ministration of Rev. Louis A. Son, they adopted the Minhag ritual of Rev. Dr. Wise.

Beth El Jacob.—The synagogue of the orthodox Jews, in Fulton street, above Madison avenue, Rev. —— Destillator, Pastor. This society is very small, but the traditions of the race are observed here more carefully than elsewhere. The women sit apart from the men, and each member, during the service, wears around his neck a woollen scarf called the Talitth.

LIBERAL.

The Albany Liberal Association was organized August 5, 1877. It now occupies the Hall, No. 69 North Pearl street. Sunday-school, under the direction of Mrs. Iliohan, at two o'clock, followed by any business matters relating to the association, and also the discussion of any appropriate subject that may be offered. The regular lectures and their criticism, if any, are held at half-past 7 o'clock, every Sunday evening, under the direction of the President.

The first meeting was held at the house of Thomas Dugan, attended by ten other men of liberal views. Shortly after a public meeting was held at Laventall Hall, and a Freethought Liberal Association organized with 11 members. John Lomax was elected President.

In the year 1829, a paper called the *Free Enquirer* was published by Miss Fanny Wright and Robert Dale Owen in New York City.

About this time it is understood that Abner Kneeland, of Boston, and Miss Fanny Wright gave lectures in Albany, and that their publications were read here. Among the leaders in the liberal movement at that time was Julius Rubens Ames, the painter. But little success followed the effort, as Mr. Owen went to the Western States and Miss Wright to Europe.

In 1840, Judge Thomas Hertill, of New York, an avowed Liberal, while here as a member of the Legislature, with Mr. John Prest, Mr. J. Austin, Mr. M. Brown, and several others, attempted an organization which failed to meet their expectations. Since this, no successful attempt at organization of an association was made before the one now existing. Among the prominent Liberals are many intelligent, well-known citizens. They hold stated meetings for discussion and for instruction on Sundays in some rented hall. Most of them belong to the class of Freethinkers called Agnostics

Its presidents, since Mr. Lomax, have been Judge E. P. Hulbert, Mr. Hennessy, Joseph McDonough, Adam Strever, William H. Williams, John McCabe.

LUTHERAN.

First Lutheran Church.—Lutherans are spoken of in Albany in 1644, although the precise date of their establishment is unknown. They received much opposition from the early Reformed Church. They were the second church organization in point of time in the city, and the oldest Lutheran congregation in America. With the exception of the First Lutheran Church, the Lutheran Churches in this city are German. The first edifice was built in 1668 or 1670, on the site of the present City Building, South Pearl street, and was paid for, the old record says, the first penny and the last. The first minister was Rev. Johannes Fabritius. The Episcopalians worshiped in this church part of the day in 1714, and in 1784–86 the two congregations had a minister in common. The society was incorporated in 1784, and in 1787, another church was built on the Pearl street lot in the center of the present street. In 1816, a third church, 40 x 60, was erected on the site of the present edifice, and cost $25,000; Philip Hooker, architect. The church owned real estate, bounded by Eagle, Lancaster, Hawk and State streets, upon which they erected houses. In 1843, Rev. Henry N. Pohlman, D.D., became Pastor, and in 1868 was followed by Rev. Samuel Sprecher. During his pastorate, in 1871, the present church edifice was erected. It is 69 x 126 feet, and cost $85,000, exclusive of the ground. In 1872 the Rev. Irving Magee, D.D., took charge and remained with success until September, 1882. The church was then without a Pastor until February 17, 1884, when the Rev. George W. Miller, from Plymouth, Ohio, took charge. In 1873 the parsonage was built, at a cost of about $10,000. During the earlier years no record of the members was kept. There have been, however, enrolled up to the present time 1,224 members; present number entitled to communion, 338.

METHODIST.

Some time in the years 1765–66, Captain Thomas Webb, of the British Army, was stationed in Albany in charge of the military post as Barrack-master. He had been converted in Bath, in England, joined the Methodists and labored as a lay preacher. He is said to have maintained family prayer, at which his neighbors were sometimes present, and also preached in the public streets. In February, 1767, he was in New York, and immediately entered upon evangelistic labors there and on Long Island and in New Jersey. That he never returned to Albany, we infer he felt the time was not yet favorable for Methodism here. Late in the autumn of 1788, Methodism came to Albany to stay; but for years was a very feeble plant.

The pioneer preacher in this work was Rev. Freeborn Garretson, a native of Maryland, a man of gentle birth, of some financial means, and until he emancipated them, a holder of slaves. He was one of the earliest Methodist preachers of American birth. It was now twenty-two years since the first Methodist sermon had been preached in America. This was in New York, and for reasons that we do not now consider, the work had spread mostly to the south from that city. Francis Asbury had joined those who were laboring in this work in 1771; and when the scattered societies of Methodists were organized into a church, in December 1784, he was elected Bishop. In the spring of 1788, Mr. Garretson came to New York, and with the other preachers entered into a work of revival that was spreading north through Westchester County.

Mr. Garretson was assigned to this district with a band of young men, whom he sent out to find fields of labor, himself passing over the whole territory once in every three months, and putting in his own labor where it seemed most needed.

To both the Bishop and Mr. Garretson, to make Albany a strong point, seemed eminently desirable He readily obtained the privilege of preaching in the City Hall. It is not strange that the resident clergy should look with disfavor upon this effort to introduce what they accounted another gospel, nor that the people generally sympathized with them. The dogmas of Calvinism had come with the first settlers from their Holland home, and the current theological literature and conversation were all cast in that mold. It was not until July of the next year (1789), that he succeeded in gathering any converts. On the 1st of July he writes: "Albany still appears to be a poor place for Methodism." He had preached in the City Hall. The next day, at an hour by sun, he met a few friends in a private house and joined them into a society under the Methodist discipline. In the evening he preached again in the City Hall.

The building of a House of Worship was accomplished in the next two years. It was built and is still standing on the southeast corner of North Pearl and Orange streets. As late as 1870 there was an old man in the city whose parents were interested in building the house, and

remembered the people cutting and hewing the timbers for the frame.

By a record in the office of the County Clerk, we learn the church was incorporated under a general Act of the Legislature in 1784, as the Method st Episcopal Church of the City of Albany. The following names appear as the first Board of Trustees, elected in June, 1792:

John Bloodgood, Abraham Ellison, Isaac Lawson, Elisha Johnson, William Fradenburgh, Nathaniel Ames, Calvin Chessman.

Still another record is worth preserving. After a new house was built on Division street, in 1812, the old house was for a time occupied by the Baptists, and finally, in 1822, sold to the Scotch Presbyterians.

The first preacher stationed in Albany, when it was taken from the circuit, was Joel Ketcham, a man of more than ordinary popular address. David Buck followed for one year. Then Cyrus Stebbins four years successively; William Phœbus, a man of culture, 1806–7; Truman Bishop, 1808; Daniel Notrander, 1809–10; Lewis Pease, 1811; Samuel Merwin 1812–13.

In 1813 a portion of the members wished to establish a Sabbath-school. But the older members thought it would be breaking the Sabbath. They compromised by getting tracts printed and circulating then among the people. A leading spirit in this was a Scotchman of the name of Balantine, a school teacher. E. & E. Hosford, a leading printing-house in the city, printed tracts for these zealous Methodists before the American Tract Society had an existence. They were mostly Wesley's Tracts.

But what these men failed to do, a woman accomplished. In 1816 a Methodist lady had a select school in the city for young misses, and added to her labors by establishing a Sabbath-school, the first in the city.

The following table shows the growth of the membership from 1797, when first reported separarately from the circuits:

	White.	Black.		White.	Black.
1799	40	..	1806	90	4
1800	40	..	1807	85	16
1801	46	8	1808	91	17
1802	57	6	1809	108	15
1803	66	5	1810	101	13
1804–5		..	1811	116	13

It was matter of great encouragement, after this long period of weakness, that in 1811 they appear to have turned the corner of one hundred, never again to fall below that number. This led to a new enterprise—seeking a more eligible situation for their house of worship. In February, 1812, they purchased two lots upon the south side of Division street, a few doors below South Pearl. When they built upon North Pearl street, one lot, with a front of a few inches over thirty feet, answered their purpose; now they buy two lots.

Mr. Upfold, who was not a Methodist—probably an Episcopalian—opened his house as the headquarters of their evangelistic labors. It was in his house—a school-room in which he and his wife taught school—that Mrs. Bocking, with their aid, instituted the first Sabbath-school in Albany. Here too, and by Mrs. Bocking, was inaugurated the first effort for the moral and intellectual elevation of the children and youth of African descent. These left Albany in the course of ten or fifteen years.

The church on Division street was opened for public worship in 1813.

Bishop Asbury held a session of the New York Conference in June, 1812. He preached, as recorded in his journal, in the old church, and made an address on the spot designated for the new church. In 1815 he held another conference here, and at the request of the Conference, he preached a funeral sermon on the death of Dr. Coke, who, on his way to establish a mission on the Island of Ceylon, died, and was buried in the Indian Ocean. An aged lady in this city, born in 1801, remembers this sermon, and adds that the church was appropriately draped for the occasion.

The membership in 1813 numbered 153 whites and 16 blacks. For the next twelve years it fluctuated between this and 215 whites, 25 blacks; but fell off over 50 the next year. It should be observed that in those years, and until 1847, probationers were numbered with those in full membership. Consequently, under the labors of an injudicious and sensational Pastor, the numbers were swelled, only to be reduced again when the excitement passed. After 1823 it never fell below 200.

The prejudice continued, Methodist preachers being regarded as intruders. Aside from viewing their doctrines as erroneous, they were mostly uneducated in the classics and what pertained to a liberal education. But there were those among them, men without a college training, whose solid acquirements made them the peers of any in the ministry of other churches. Dr. William Phoebus, Daniel Ostrander, and Samuel Merwin were men who would command the respect of any who formed their acquaintance. In 1822–25, Phineas Rice, a man of marked ability, and withal eccentric, was the Pastor.

An occurrence in 1821 is remembered with interest. The gifted Summerfield, of overwhelming popularity, came to the aid of the church in their financial troubles. He preached in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and raised a collection of $95.12; in the evening in St. Peter's Episcopal Church, and raised $88.

For the next twenty-five years, the country at large and the churches generally were passing through commotions, arising from various sources; and staid as has been the type of Albany Methodism, it could not escape partaking of the common excitement.

In 1828 the membership had reached the number of 372 whites and 25 blacks. Hitherto, as in almost all other churches, they had free sittings. In July, 1829, a notice appeared in the public papers that the Trustees of the Methodist Church would at such a time rent the seats in their House of Worship. This gave great dissatisfaction, and a very considerable minority at once withdrew, and rented a public hall on the corner of Pearl and

Columbia streets. They invited preaching from the adjacent Watervliet Circuit, and took their membership there for the time being. The colored members appear mostly to have gone to the African Methodists. The new congregation took about 150 whites.

In February they purchased a large building on the east side of Pearl street, not far from the place they were occupying. It had been used for a circus, and was readily fitted for its new use. At the ensuing session of the New York Conference, two churches in Albany—the First, and Garretson Station—were supplied with able Pastors.

In the month of August, in the ordinary morning service in the new church, a powerful work of revival began. It spread, not only to the other Methodist Church, but throughout the city, especially in the northern part. At the end of two years, the numbers were: for the First Church, 434 members; for the second, 445.

The absence of colored members is accounted for by this—that a few years previous, in 1822, a church for this class, the African M. E. Church, had been organized.

At the session of the conference in 1834 a third church was recognized — the Wesleyan Chapel. This, in its leading membership, was mainly a colony from Garretson Station. But it was located in the south part of the city, and would naturally draw from the First Church also. It embraced mostly the anti-slavery element in the churches.

In 1835, the members numbered respectively, for the First Church, 440; Garretson Station, 435; Wesleyan Church, 214. Another church enterprise now received the sanction of the conference as the West Station. This gave four churches, well arranged, to supply the city with this form of Christianity.

The Primitive Methodists had a small House of Worship on State street, above the Capitol. Getting into difficulty among themselves, they became demoralized and offered their house for sale. Some members of the Division street and Garretson Station Churches, believing a congregation could be sustained there with profit, secured the property. Rev. Lewis Pease was employed as a temporary supply. At the conference a Pastor was appointed who organized the church.

Among those who moved in this matter, named with special interest by survivors, are Thomas Coulson and wife, a lady of remarkable piety; Dr. L. B. Gregory; Edmund Lord; John Sager.

For a time the growth of this was gradual, but healthy. Under a Pastor of remarkable pulpit ability, in 1841 they found themselves straitened for room. It was now proposed to seek a more eligible site and build anew. They selected a corner of Washington and Swan streets, and proceeded at once to purchase and plan for building. With some parade the corner-stone was laid by Dr. Sprague, the leading Presbyterian Pastor of the city. But the Pastor was more efficient as a preacher, than wise in planning and executing as a financier. The consequence was they found themselves with a House of Worship incumbered with a debt for which there was absolutely no available provision. The upshot of this was that while the city was growing around them, an inviting field of labor, their embarrassments rendered them spiritually weak, and at the same time tended to deter others from joining them.

In 1839, just before the session of the conference, the Wesleyan Chapel was burned. The opposition to the anti-slavery element in that church, and the burden of a heavy debt, operated against their rebuilding, and the property was sold for the debt. But a preacher was appointed and they obtained the use of a house that had been used by the Universalists. This was sold in May, 1842, and the society disbanded on Sabbath, May 22d. But the very next Sabbath, May 27th, the Sabbath-school teachers gathered their school in a little room on John street, determined to hold the ground. Conference met June 1st, but no preacher was appointed. At that conference one of the ministers, Charles Devoe, a physician as well, retired from the ministry and removed to Albany and became their Pastor. They were incorporated as the Ferry Street M. E. Church, and proceeded at once to erect a church, which was dedicated in December following.

In the midst of the difficulties Thomas Schuyler connected himself with the church, and relieved it of financial embarrassments.

In 1843, the Division street Church found their House of Worship insufficient, and sought a more eligible situation upon Hudson street, between Philip and Grand. In 1843 they removed to this new edifice. It had an entrance from Plain street as well as from Hudson, and a commodious parsonage was erected by the side facing on that street. In the winter of 1865 extensive improvements were made, rearranging both the basement and the auditorium.

Financial embarrassments grew out of building and repairing that oppressed them for several years.

At the conference of 1846 it was provided to supply a second preacher for Garretson Station. The object was to make a considerable class on Arbor Hill the nucleus of another congregation. The next year it was connected with the West Station, and in 1848 it was made a separate charge. This gave five Methodist churches, very well distributed, to supply the city.

The fluctuations of the numbers of the members from year to year serve to some extent to indicate the spiritual condition of the church. The following table gives the numbers from 1829 to 1848.

1829	612	1839	928
1830	685	1840	1,069
1831	879	1841	1,074
1832	682	1842	1,072
1833	653	1843	2,136
1834	748	1844	1,632
1835	1,049	1845	1,482
1836	1,015	1846	1,274
1837	1,011	1847	1,261
1838	970	1848	1,141

The table begins with the two churches. The first Pastors left in 1831. The falling off of 200 in 1832 was mostly in the First Church.

In 1834–35 we see the effect of a stimulus given to the work by the two new churches. The decadence of numbers in 1839 may have been due to the efforts to drive out the Abolitionists. The increase that follows was due to the Millerite excitement, reaching its hight in 1843. The falling off of five hundred in the next year shows how utterly wanting in life was that work. This was mostly in the Garretson Station Church, and it is possible had much to do in shaping the subsequent history of that church.

Another period of twenty-five years brings us to 1873. Until 1849, in reporting the numbers of the membership, we made no distinction between the probationers and the members in full. From that date we report them separately, but for convenience they are added together in this paper. It is noteworthy that for twenty-five years, from 1823 to 1848, the increase was 926; for the like period from 1849 to 1873, only 810.

Perhaps the most notable movement of general interest in this period is this: The Garretson Station, which originated in a protest against renting seats, rebuilt their church edifice in a more fashionable style and adopted that mode of sittings.

Another event of general interest occurred in 1854; this was the organization of the Albany Methodist Sunday-school Union. The object was to secure more efficient work in this department of labor, and also to sustain Mission Sunday-schools in destitute portions of the city and vicinity.

In the course of a few years, mission schools were planted and worked with a good deal of success at these points: 1, The Bowery, on Central avenue; 2, West Albany, since school-house, near the railroad shops; 3, South Mission, Groesbeckville, on Benjamin street; 4, Bath; and 5, East Albany, both over the river. Beside these, another at the corner of Madison avenue and Lark street was merged into the Sunday-school of Trinity Church when that was established in 1867.

No. 1 was for years worked largely by members of the West Station, or Washington street Church, and was a feeder to that church. No. 2 became a Union School, and then passed into the hands of the Presbyterians, and finally developed a Presbyterian Church; No. 3 has continued to the present a Methodist Mission School; No. 4 gave rise to the Bath Methodist Episcopal Church; and No. 5 to a Congregational Church.

The Union, in building and keeping insured chapels for their work, and in repairs, became embarrassed with debts. Added to this, in 1868 it was deemed wise to employ a missionary.

In the winter of 1870, under the labors of a band of zealous laymen, a remarkable work of revival was carried on at the Central avenue Chapel. The missionary, under direction of the presiding Elder, proceeded to receive them on probation. With a number of members of the different churches who had become interested in the work, he formed them into classes. In this state of things, at the ensuing conference another missionary was appointed with a special charge over this congregation. Of some 123 of these converts, about forty graduated into full membership in the church. At the close of the first pastorate in 1873, there were ninety members with five probationers, and a showing of financial contributions that compares favorably with any church in the city. But before speaking further of this, we must bring up the history of the West Station, or Washington street Church.

We find this church in 1853 a mission. The debt growing out of the manner of their building was resting on them. The next year the Pastor raised for missions over thirty dollars, and still more the ensuing year. The next Pastor doubled the collection for missions his first year. The second, the church was self-supporting and the missionary collection $123; the church was lifted out of financial difficulty, and it has since continued to prosper. In 1866 they secured a property upon the corner of Lark and Lancaster streets, and in 1867 had erected the transept of a large and commodious church facing Lark street. The transept faces Lancaster street. This they occupied until able to erect the main building. That was dedicated in December, 1875. The transept furnishes a large room for prayer meetings and Sabbath-school, and smaller rooms for various purposes. A fine parsonage adjoins the transept.

In 1881, a union was effected between the two churches, Garretson street and Central avenue; their property placed under one Board of Trustees; and while worshiping for a time separately, arrangements were being made for erecting an edifice to bear the name of St. Luke's. The Sabbath-school rooms were occupied in 1883.

For ten years from 1855 a kind of epidemic prevailed—a sickly fancy for forming small and weak churches. Abortive efforts had a temporary existence which need no particular notice. At one conference eight pastors, to the care of as many nominally independent churches, were appointed; several times, six or seven. In 1858, the Broadway Mission appears in the annual minutes of the Conference appointments. A property was purchased upon the corner of Broadway and Lawrence street. The plan was to build facing Broadway with a transept facing Lawrence street. This part of the plan was carried out—the erection of the main building failed. The Arbor Hill Church had elements that did not adapt themselves to the work needed, and did not prosper. The city did not grow to the north, and in 1869 the Broadway Mission and the Arbor Hill Church were united under the name of Grace Church. A lot was obtained upon Ten Broeck street, between Lumber and Colonie streets, and a temporary structure of wood was erected. Here good work was done in the pulpit, in social meetings, and in the Sabbath-school for ten years. They had not intended to occupy it so long, but a debt was upon the property which prevented their carrying out their plans. Instead of a house in the center of a spacious plot, they found themselves obliged to be thankful for a house less showy upon the west corner of the plot, while most of the land was sold in lots for residences to meet their indebtedness. They have a fine parsonage next the church edifice.

After the erection of the Hudson street Church, two others by the Presbyterians and the Baptists were erected in the immediate vicinity. As time rolled on and business establishments crowded them, both the Methodists and Presbyterians began to think of a change of location. At length the latter decided to remove, and began the erection of a house at the northeast corner of the Park. To outsiders it was obvious now that the Methodists ought to continue in that vicinity. Their own building was seriously defective; at the same time the location was far better for business. Wisely the Methodists accepted the offer to purchase the Presbyterian's house, and offered their own for sale. The edifice is uncommonly well built; the auditorium large and commodious. A parsonage is erected beside the church.

The Ferry street Church relieved from its embarrassments, enjoyed a steady, healthy growth. In 1863 it was thought a change of location and a better House of Worship would conduce to greater usefulness. Accordingly, the present Ash Grove Church was erected upon the corner of Westerlo and Grand streets. It is beautifully situated, with a commodious parsonage beside it. The open space between the edifice and the corner of the streets has a very pleasant effect, adding to the beauty of the situation.

Table showing the numbers of members and probationers for thirty-seven years, from 1849 to 1885:

1849	1,055	1868	1,923
1850	896	1869	1,843
1851	915	1870	2,085
1852	1,171	1871	1,834
1853	1,095	1872	1,986
1854	1,112	1873	1,951
1855	1,513	1874	1,735
1856	1,408	1875	1,886
1857	1,464	1876	1,855
1858	1,456	1877	1,998
1859	1,574	1878	2,058
1860	1,692	1879	1,891
1861	1,857	1880	1,932
1862	1,702	1881	1,771
1863	1,538	1882	1,886
1864	1,605	1883	1,796
1865	1,530	1884	1,691
1866	1,708	1885	1,710
1867	1,708		

While the membership has not increased in the last twelve years, but really decreased, it will be very safe to say they have not depreciated in quality.

The Methodists have five churches, well distributed over the city. They have many debts that tax their financial ability and skill. But this may be a valuable discipline. They are liberal in the support of their Pastors, and are not unmindful of the calls of benevolence for the support of missions for the foreign field, and for the destitute in our own land.

PRESBYTERIAN.

The First Presbyterian Church.—The first ecclesiastical organization in Albany was the First Reformed (Dutch) Church. This church was largely maintained from the public revenues until the British occupation in 1664, and was slow to recognize the rights of other Christian denominations. The second church organization in the city was the Lutheran. The people of this belief at first were barely tolerated here. They were compelled to have their children baptized in the Dutch Church, and declare their belief in the doctrines of the Synod of Dort, contrary to their convictions. They were permitted to worship in their own houses, although denied the privilege of assembling in a public way. Some time within the period 1664–69, a church was erected. The third church society was that of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, founded, after several years of missionary work, in 1727. The fourth was Presbyterian, and was organized in 1762, although from June, 1760, there was preaching by supplies which had been sent by the Synod of New York and Philadelphia, to minister to the people of this faith, who from time to time had come in and taken up their residence here. The names of the supplies were the Revs. Hector Alison, Andrew Bay, William Tennant, Abraham Kettletas, ——Woodruff, John Smith, and Aaron Richards. A lot for a church edifice was purchased in 1762 or 1763, and the society was incorporated in 1763 by a deed from the city to the Trustees, being virtually an official incorporation by the city. It was first connected with the Dutchess County Presbytery, organized in October, 1762. In 1775, the church relation was transferred to the Presbytery of New York.

In 1793, the relative strength of all the churches in Albany was: Dutch, $\frac{4}{10}$; Presbyterian, $\frac{3}{10}$; Episcopalians, $\frac{2}{10}$; Lutherans, German Calvinists and Methodists combined, $\frac{1}{10}$.

Ministers: William Hanna, two years; Andrew Bay, 5 years, 1768–73; John McDonald, 10 years Pastor, November, 1785, to September, 1795; David S. Bogart, Pastor, January to August, 1797; Eliphalet Nott, 6 years Pastor, October, 1798–93; John B. Romeyn, D. D., 4 years Pastor, December 5, 1804–8; William Neill, D.D., 7 years Pastor, September, 1809–16; Arthur J. Stansbury, 4½ years Pastor, September, 1817, to February, 1821; Henry R. Weed, D.D., 7½ years Pastor, May, 1822, to November, 1829; John N. Campbell, D.D., 34 years Pastor, June, 1830, to March, 1864; James M. Ludlow, D.D., 3 years Pastor, January, 1865, to November, 1868; J. McClusky Blayney, D.D., 10¾ years Pastor, May, 1869, to February, 1880; Walter D. Nicholas, Pastor, September 5, 1880.

Church Edifices.—The first church edifice was erected in 1764, on a lot bounded on the north by Beaver street, on the south by Hudson street, on the east by William street, and on the west by Grand street. It was on a locality know as Gallows hill, reached by a stairway winding around the hill, and was a wooden structure with a tower and spire, the tower containing a bell. It was painted red, fronted the east, and cost somewhat over $7,000.

The second edifice was erected in 1795–96, and cost about $13,000. It was on South Pearl street; the site is now known as Beaver Block. It was sold to the Congregationalists in 1850, when the congregation removed to their third church edifice on the corner of Hudson avenue and Philip street.

This church was erected during the years 1849 and 1850, on a lot purchased in September, 1847. It was first opened for service March 10, 1850, and was a model church for the time of its erection, costing about $115,000. In 1856, a lecture-room was erected adjoining the church, which was also used for Sunday-school purposes. In the year 1884, this church was sold to the First Methodist Society for $25,000. The old bell and organs in the church and session-house were reserved from sale, and transferred to the new edifice.

The fourth church edifice was erected during the years 1883 and 1884, on the corner of State street, fronting Washington park. With a session-house attached, it cost the society about $110,000, and is a very fine specimen of architecture. The first service in this church was held on May 17, 1884.

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—On the third Monday in July, 1813, the subscribers to a new church edifice met and appointed Messrs. James Kane, John L. Winne, Joseph Russell, Nathaniel Davis and Roderick Sedgwick their Trustees, of whom Mr. Kane was made President and Mr. Russell, Treasurer. The work of building was immediately commenced and the house was opened for worship in September, 1815, on which occasion the Rev. Dr. William Neill (Pastor of the First Church) preached. In the same month Rev. John Chester was called to the pastoral office and installed on the following 8th of November, by the Presbytery of Albany. On the 3d of December the congregation elected Messrs. John L. Winne, John Boardman, Chester Bulkley and Uriah Marvin, their ruling elders. The first meeting of the session was held at No. 8 Water street, December 11, 1815, at the lodgings of the Pastor. On the first Sunday of February, 1816, the church was formally gathered, and the first annual report in the same month showed a membership of 45, of which 10 were admitted on examination and 35 on certificate from other churches, mostly from the First Presbyterian. The church rapidly increased, so that at the death of Dr. Chester, January 12, 1829, the membership was 365. A session-house of ample dimensions for prayer meetings, lectures and Sunday-schools is attached to the church.

Dr. John Chester was the eldest son of Colonel John Chester, of Wethersfield, Conn., and was born in August, 1785. He was graduated at Yale College, ordained at Cooperstown, N. Y., installed Pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Hudson, N. Y., in 1810, and of the Second Presbyterian Church of Albany, November 8, 1815.

Rev. Edward N. Kirk, D.D., preached for a short time as supply, but a radical sermon on temperance having given offense to some members of the church, he left and became Pastor of the Fourth Presbyterian Church, which was greatly prospered under his labors.

The second Pastor was the Rev. William Buell Sprague, D.D., who was installed in 1829, resigned in 1869, and died on Long Island, May 7, 1876, aged eighty years. He achieved a world-wide fame by his able and long ministry, and his great literary work, "The Annals of the American Pulpit," in nine large octavo volumes, and other writings.

The third Pastor was Anson Judd Upson, D.D., who was installed October 23, 1870, and resigned May 26, 1880. Before coming to this charge he had been Professor of Logic, Rhetoric and Elocution at Hamilton College. Upon his resignation he accepted a call to a professorship in the Theological Seminary in Auburn, N. Y.

The fourth and present Pastor is James H. Ecob, D.D., called from the Congregational Church in Augusta, Me., who was installed March 15, 1881.

THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—This congregation was organized in 1817 by a union of a number of the members of the First Presbyterian Church and of those of the Associate Reformed Church. The first meeting-house was on Montgomery street until 1844, when it was sold to the Bethel Society. The present church edifice stood on Clinton avenue and North Pearl street, was dedicated December 3, 1845. Pastors: Hooper Cumming, 1817–23; Joseph Hulbert, 1823–24; John Alburtiss, 1825–28; William H. Williams, 1828–30; William Lochead, 1831–33; William James, 1834–35; Ezra A. Huntington, 1837–55; Ebenezer Halley, 1855–75; Horace C. Stanton, 1877 to present time.

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH was incorporated December 1, 1828. The church on north side of Broadway was erected in 1829 and dedicated May 20, 1830. It was taken down in 1865, and the present edifice erected in 1866. Pastors: Edward N. Kirk, 1829–35; Edward D. Allen, 1838–42; Samuel W. Fisher, 1843–46; Benjamin N. Martin, 1848-49; H. Mandeville, 1850–54; Samuel T. Seelye, 1855–63; Henry Darling, 1864–81; Charles Wood, 1881–86.

FIFTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, organized in 1831. First meetings held in City Hall. Pastor, Alonzo Welton, 1832.

SIXTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—This church had its origin in a prayer meeting in December, 1855, in a small room in No. 276 Lumber street, now called Livingston avenue. In October of the following year a Sunday-school was organized. With the aid of individuals of the Fourth Presbyterian Church in the spring of 1868, Rev. John R. Young was employed as a missionary to form a church organization. He resigned, and Rev. Amos Hammond Dean began his labors in May, 1869. In November, 1869, steps were taken to enter into a formal church organization and erect a House of Worship. On December 8th the organization was completed, with 65 names upon the roll of membership. The first communion service was held December 12, 1869, and at a meeting of the congregation, February 25, 1870, the organization adopted the name of the Sixth Presbyterian Church of Albany. The church edifice on Second street was completed in the fall of 1871 and dedicated on November 16th of that year. Pastors: The Rev. Amos H. Dean was the first Pastor. He was installed May 5, 1870, and after a successful pastorate resigned in June, 1873, and has since been settled in churches in Joliet and Monmouth, Illinois.

The second Pastor, Rev. William Durant, was elected in October, 1873, and ordained and installed on the 9th of the following December. He resigned April 30, 1882, when the church had a membership of 464.

The third Pastor, now in charge, is the Rev. J. D. Countermine, who was installed December 20, 1882.

STATE STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH was organized in 1860. The present church edifice, on State street, was dedicated October 12, 1862. It is perpendicular Gothic in architecture, 111 by 69 feet. Pastors: Alexander S. Tombley, 1862–66; George C. Heckman, 1867–70; John James, 1872–76; John McC. Holmes, 1877 to present time. Church membership, about 800.

THE WEST END PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, corner of New York Central avenue and Third street, was dedicated in 1877. Pastors: Robert Ennis, 1878; Oliver Hemstreet, 1883.

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—The organization of this congregation may be dated October, 1800, although there is no record of any formal organization having taken place. It was at that time that regular services were begun. The society, as well as the Pastor, was nominally in connection with the Presbytery of Montreal.

The first Pastor was Rev. John McDonald, father of the late Mrs. Archibald McIntyre. He had formerly been Pastor of the first Presbyterian Church of this city. His pastorate continued from January, 1801, until March, 1819. He died in Albany, September 1, 1821.

In the year 1820 a change of ecclesiastical relation took place in the transfer of the congregation from the Presbytery of Montreal to the Associate Presbytery of Cambridge.

In this new connection, Rev. James Martin was the first Pastor, in which relation he continued from May, 1824, until July, 1842. He then removed from the city, having been appointed to a professorship in the Theological Seminary, Canonsburgh, Pa. He died June 15, 1846.

The next Pastor was Rev. R. J. Hammond. He was installed November, 1843, and resigned September, 1844.

The next Pastor was the Rev. Samuel F. Morrow. He was ordained and installed in July, 1846, and resigned in 1886.

The first church edifice stood on the corner of Chapel and Canal streets. It was a plain, but substantial, brick building, 60 by 50 feet, with a projection of fifteen feet for a vestibule. It was opened for public worship on the first Sabbath in January, 1802.

A new House of Worship was erected in 1860, and opened for public service on the first Sabbath of January, 1861. It is built of brick, of the Romanesque style of architecture, 81 by 58 feet. It fronts on Lancaster street, near Eagle.

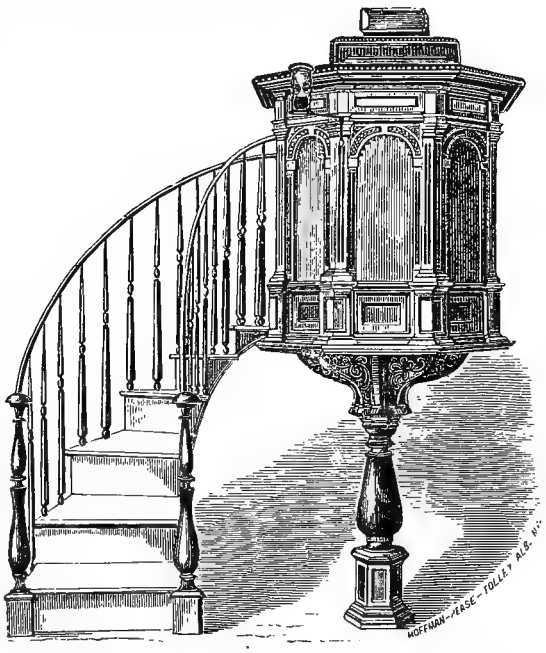
In May, 1858, by a union of two kindred branches of the Presbyterian family—the Associate and Associate Reformed Churches—a new denomination was formed, taking the name of the United Presbyterian Church of North America. And since that time the ecclesiastical name of this congregation came to be identical with the corporate name assumed in January, 1801, the United Presbyterian Congregation of Albany.

QUAKERS.

QUAKERS, or FRIENDS, have but one society in Albany. Their meeting-house, on Plain street, is a modest building, standing back from the street. It was erected in 1835; is 36 by 42 feet in dimensions, and will seat about four hundred persons. There are six families and twenty-two parts of families of Friends in the city. Meetings are held, with an average attendance of about forty. Samuel Cary, of Rhode Island, came to Albany County early in this century, and was largely influential in establishing the meetings of this sect here.

REFORMED.

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH.—The organization now worshiping in the First Reformed Church, corner of North Pearl and Orange streets, familiarly known as the two-steepled church, is one of the two oldest in America, the other being the Collegiate Reformed Church of New York.



Old Pulpit and Steps as used in the First Dutch Reformed Church for 150 years. It was sent over from Holland in 1656.

The first Pastor was Rev. Johannes Megapolensis, who was sent over by the Patroon, at his own expense, in 1642. The church was for some time sustained by the public revenue, and in 1686 one hundred and fifty acres of land were granted it. Children of the colony were not allowed to be baptized elsewhere. For more than one hundred and forty years (till 1782) services were conducted in Dutch. The first edifice was near Fort Orange, on what is now Steamboat square—Church street,

in that vicinity, receiving its name for proximity thereto. This building was 34 x 19, and cost $32. In 1656, a new edifice was erected at the intersection of what is now State street and Broadway. The dead were buried under this church, and as late as 1852–53 coffins were exhumed. In 1715 a new building was erected over this one, and stood for ninety-one years, when the site was sold to the city for $5,000, and the materials worked into the Second Church on Beaver street. The present edifice was dedicated in 1799, but its interior has been modified three times—in 1820, 1850, and 1860. It will seat 1,200. The organ, with 3,000 pipes, is the largest in the city, and cost $12,000. The bell, key D flat, weighs 3,656 pounds. The ministerial succession has been as follows: Johannes Megapolensis, 1642 to 1649; Gideon Schaets, 1652–74; Wm. Niewenhuysen, 1675; Godfriedus Dellius, 1683–99; Johannes Petrus Nucella, 1699–1702; Johannes Lydius, 1703–9; Gualterus DuBois, 1710; Petrus Van Driessen, 1712–39; Cornelius Van Schie, 1733–44; Theodorus Frelinghuysen, 1746–60; Eilardus Westerlo, 1760–90; John H. Livingston, 1776; John Bassett, 1787–1805; John B. Johnson, 1796–1802; John M. Bradford, 1805–20; William Linn, 1808; John De Witt, 1813–15; John Ludlow, 1823–33; Thomas E. Vermilye, 1835–39; Duncan Kennedy, 1841–55; Ebenezer P. Rogers, 1856–62; Rufus W. Clark, 1862–83; J. Wilbur Chapman, 1885.

SECOND REFORMED CHURCH.—Until 1816, this church, together with the First, constituted the one Collegiate Dutch Church of the City of Albany. At the time of division into two separate bodies, there were two Houses of Worship, the one in North Pearl street, occupied by the First Church, the other in Beaver street, which was sold and turned into a market, and replaced, in 1881, by the elegant edifice on Madison avenue, corner of Swan street. The Beaver street building was at first styled the South Church, but afterward the Middle Dutch Church, when an additional structure had been erected in Ferry street for a third organization. The Pastors in collegiate charge at the time of separation were Rev. Drs. John M. Bradford and John De Witt, of whom the latter became the first sole Pastor of the new, or second, congregation. The following has been the order of ministerial succession, viz.: John De Witt, D. D., 1816–23; Isaac N. Ferris, D. D., 1824–36; Isaac N. Wyckoff, D. D., 1836–65; Joachim Elmendorf, D. D., 1865–72; Dwight K. Bartlett, D. D., 1874–81; Wesley R. Davis, 1882.

THIRD REFORMED CHURCH.—The Third Reformed Church was organized December 19, 1834, mainly through the instrumentality of Rev. Isaac Ferris, D. D., Pastor of the Second Reformed Church, then worshiping in Beaver street. An edifice was immediately erected at the corner of Green and South Ferry streets, in which the congregation still worships, and which remains unchanged, with the exception of such repairs as have been made necessary by the ravages of fire. The first Pastor was the Rev. Edwin Holmes, the father of the present Pastor of the State street Presbyterian Church of Albany. Among its other Pastors have been Rev. William H. Campbell, D. D., LL. D., later Principal of the Albany Academy, and still later Professor in the Theological Seminary in New Brunswick, N. J., and President of Rutgers College. Rev. D. Evert Van Slyke, D. D. now of Syracuse, and Rev. Jeremiah Searle, now of Newburgh.

Amid the movements of other churches to the growing parts of the city, the Third Reformed Church has stood its ground, and is now one of the very few English-speaking Protestant Churches in the southern part of the city. It has seen many hardships and struggles in later years, and many changes in membership, owing to the surging away from it of the tide of population, and the influx of new comers. Still it maintains a successful existence. One hundred and fifty families are represented in its congregation. It has an enrollment of over two hundred members, and a Sunday-school with an attendance of two hundred and fifty scholars. Its contributions to religious and benevolent purposes outside of its own requirements are not inconsiderable. The list of its Pastors, with the dates of their ministry, is as follows:

Edwin Holmes, 1835–40; W. H. Miller, 1861–62; Andrew Yates, 1840–41; William Bailey, 1863–68; William H. Campbell, 1841–48; Jeremiah Searle, 1868–71; Rutgers Van Brunt, 1848–49; Evert Van Slyke, 1871–72; W. W. Holloway, 1849–53; D. K. Van Doren, 1873–75; Alexander Dickson, 1853–60; J. B. Campbell, 1876–83; Edwin F. See, 1883.

THE FOURTH REFORMED CHURCH (GERMAN) on Schuyler street, below South Pearl, was organized in 1855. The first Pastor was Rev. H. F. Schnellendrussler, who remained until 1864. In 1865, the present Pastor, Jacob F. Neef, was installed.

THE HOLLAND REFORMED CHURCH is located at 153 Jay street. Rev. H. K. Boer is Pastor.

SPIRITUALISTS.

The spritualists of the City of Albany have no formal organization, such as is found in most of the large cities of the United States, neither have they any public hall for holding their meetings.

Of late when, lecturers on spirit philosophy and phenomena have visited this city, arrangements have been made with the Liberals for the use of their hall.

Some years ago, during the War of the Rebellion, regular lectures were given each Sunday, in the old hall in Blount's Building, now the Globe Hotel, and Nettie Colburn, a trance speaker, occupied the platform for some time.

Without formulated creed or organized head, its converts are mainly those who are convinced by the evidence of their senses that man lives beyond the grave, and sometimes returns to the earth and holds sensible intercourse with mortals. Many may be found in all the organized churches, and in every class of society, who are convinced of the truths of modern spiritualism, and cherish its com-

forting doctrines, who are not outspoken in their belief.

UNITARIAN.

The Unitarians have no regular meeting-house in Albany. The First Unitarian Society was incorporated in 1842. Services were first held in the Capitol in 1830; in 1843 in Blunt's Building, corner of State and South Pearl streets; afterwards in Rechabite Hall, on State street. The society purchased the Methodist Church on Division street, but sold it in 1869. The following Unitarian Pastors have been stationed here at the periods indicated: W. H. Lord, 1844; Henry F. Harrington, 1845–47; Orville Dewey, 1849; George F. Simmons, 1853–55; A. D. Mayo, 1856–63; Charles G. Ames, 1865; H. C. Leonard, 1866–68.

UNIVERSALIST.

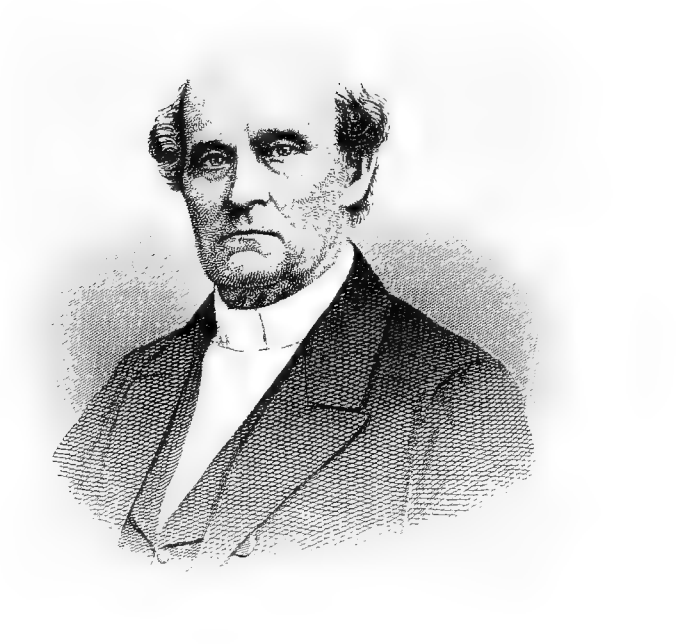
The First Universalist Society held meetings in Masonic Lodge-rooms on Washington street, in 1824. Erected a church on Herkimer street in 1829, and another church on Green street in 1833. At a later date owned the present Law School Building. Pastors: W. S. Balch, 1830; Isaac D. Williamson, 1830–37; Stephen R. Smith, 1837–42; S. B. Britton, 1842–43; L. B. Mason 1843–45; S. B. Britton, 1846–47; R. P. Amber, 1847–48; W. H. Waggoner, 1848–50; O. D. Miller, 1851; A. A. Thayer, 1852–54; J. E. Pomfret, 1858–59; DeForrest Porter, 1861; J. H. Hartwell and C. P. McCarty were acting Pastors still later. At present there is no regular pastor, no church edifice. Meetings are held occasionally in public halls.

REV. DR. HENRY NEWMAN POHLMAN

was born in Albany March 8, 1800, and died here, January 20, 1874. His ancestors were all German. His father, Mr. Daniel Pohlman, removed from Philadelphia in early life, married in Albany, and there lived with his wife, honored and respected, to an advanced age, both of them living and dying Christians and members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, into which their infant son was inducted by baptism. The boy grew up amidst the surroundings of a happy Christian home, confirming his baptismal vows early in life. The influence of his sister, Mrs. McClure, a devoted Christian woman, his own earnest desire to do good, with some peculiar circumstances connected with the Evangelical Lutheran Church at the time, induced him to devote his life to the gospel ministry. His Pastor, Rev. F. G. Mayer, had been one of the active agents in securing the property of the Hartwick Seminary, in 1816. The subject was one of much debate and no small excitement among the Lutherans of that day. The establishment of this institution was a great event in the infant church. The professor of the seminary was a frequent visitor at the Pohlman's. The conversations there heard induced Henry, whilst comparatively a lad, to place himself under the guidance of Rev. Dr. Hazelius, thus becoming the first student in the first Lutheran Theological Seminary in the United States; and to his *Alma Mater* he clung through life. The new institution, with its fine academical department and the great reputation of the professor, attracted to it many young men of respectability preparing for different professions. This had a happy influence over the intellectual growth of the young theological student, who held an honorable position among his fellows for general erudition, and always occupied the front rank as a debater and public speaker, a distinction which he maintained through life. He graduated in August, 1820, before reaching his majority. His license was not conferred until the following March. The services took place in St. Peter's Church, Rhinebeck, being conducted by Rev. Drs. Quitman and Wackerhagen. In the following May he was ordained in Christ Church, New York. When licensed, he had a call to two small churches, at Saddle River and Ramapo, N. J., whither he immediately proceeded. But a more important position soon presented itself. Within a year he took charge of the churches in Hunterdon County, N. J., over which he presided with great acceptance for twenty-one years. The pastorate was large, three churches many miles apart, isolated and much neglected, making many heavy demands on the young man's energies and robust health. He proved equal to the situation, and lived to see his labors productive of such religious development that each of these congregations was able to have its own pastor and to give him a more liberal support than was originally received from the united pastorate.

The great event of his ministerial life there was a remarkable revival of religion, which occurred in Germantown during the winter of 1839 and 1840. He had labored for years under much discouragement. The attendance at public worship was good, the Sabbath-school flourishing, and the moral tone of the community very high. No intoxicating liquor was sold in the place. It was a rare thing to see an approach to the desecration of the Sabbath. New Germantown was the model of a small, quiet, inland village. But there were few or no accessions to the membership of the church. In the hope of quickening the congregation, a series of week-evening meetings was introduced. The interest increased until it was necessary to hold meetings in the day-time, during the hours of which all places of business were closed. The number of converts grew to about 200, of whom 140 united with the Lutheran Church, which up to that time had had a membership of but eighty. That revival seems to have been the result of seed long and faithfully sown, suddenly blooming into a rich harvest. Dr. Pohlman's name still remains a household word in that community, and after the lapse of thirty years, in his annual visits, he was always welcomed as a father returning to encourage his spiritual children.

In 1843 he felt it to be his duty to leave the field in which he had been so useful, to take charge of the Evangelical Lutheran Ebenezer Church in



Henry N. Pohlman

his native city. He had then arrived at the full maturity of his powers, with large experience and vigorous health. The affairs of his new charge were not in a promising condition. The House of Worship was small, and many of the members who had once given the church strength had strayed off to other churches, whose pulpits were occupied by an array of talent surpassed by that of few cities in the land. The prospect was far from hopeful. Things improved, but with varying success; the most earnest efforts did not bring them up to the pastor's wishes or expectations. Having completed the labors of a quarter of a century, with the weight of advancing years pressing upon him, he retired from the pastoral office, but not to a life of inactivity. Preaching whenever an opportunity was presented, continually looking after the interests of the Synod, engaged more or less in all of the benevolent operations of his denomination, retaining his physical and mental activity to the end, it may be said that he died in the harness.

A complete history of Dr. Pohlman's career would cover that of the Lutheran Church in the United States for the last half-century. He was with it in its infant struggles, and lived to behold it in its wonderful development and increasing strength. It is too soon to write out the history of this period impartially. At the time of his admission to the ministry, the General Synod had just been formed, and the New York Ministerium, a party of the original convention, had already withdrawn. This led to the creation of two parties in the Ministerium, resulting in the formation of Hartwick Synod in 1830.

The Doctor, with a few other friends of the General Synod, though in almost a hopeless minority, decided to remain with the Ministerium and abide the issue. Kindness, conciliation and courtesy secured the confidence of the majority. Everything moved on harmoniously, until in 1836, when, upon some harmless conditions which were readily acceded to, the Ministerium renewed its connection with the General Synod. It should be remembered that the questions then agitating this portion of the church were very different from those which have since arisen, circling mainly around the danger resulting from concentrated ecclesiastical power. Individualism was the charm in those days, overlooking the grand results which might flow from co-operation. About that time, say 1835, the tide of German emigration began to set toward our shores. Settlements were springing up along our great thoroughfares of travel. The church was called upon to prepare for more active home missionary labor. The Doctor took a leading part in the work of organizing churches and aiding their pastors. Until recently he had assisted at the ordination of many of the German Pastors in the State, awakening in them a reverence which was almost filial. These efforts resulted in an entire change in the constituent elements of the Ministerium. At the commencement of these efforts, there was but one German Church in the body. At the end of thirty years nearly two-thirds of the members were Germans. It required great tact and mutual forbearance to secure the harmonious action of these elements. But it was effected, presenting the pleasant spectacle of such diverse materials working together for Christ, until the meeting of the General Synod at Fort Wayne. In the controversies which, since then, have agitated the church, he had, necessarily to take some part, but he was always found on the side of conciliation. He sympathized in the supposed grievances which led to a final disruption, but he was also firmly persuaded that they were to be remedied within, and not out of the General Synod. Regarding the Augsburg confession and Luther's smaller catechism as a sufficient basis for Church union, he clung to them with tenacity, whilst willing to allow a large liberty to brethren who might diverge from his interpretation on one side or the other. When the New York Ministerium decided in September, 1867, to withdraw from the General Synod, a painful choice was left him. How dearly he loved that venerable body; what lifelong associations were connected with it; how sweet the bonds which drew him to the brethren. It is a terrible crisis in a man's life when called to cut loose from all his antecedents, to separate from those with whom he has always acted. But conscience demanded the sacrifice. Though the whole of that heated discussion he occupied the President's chair, but so impartial, so dignified, that it would have been difficult to tell which side he would espouse. One and another of the friends of the General Synod rose, and amidst the deepest silence, asked their dismissions to form a new Synod. All but two had spoken, the President and his old associate, who had been ordained with him. The former then left the chair, with deep emotion, in a kind but forcible manner, reviewed the whole question, gave his reasons for performing the saddest duty of his life, and then asked permission to accompany the brethren who had preceded him. Dr. Miller immediately presented the same request. The scene was touchingly impressive. There were but few eyes not moistened with tears. All felt that the Synod had passed through a terrible reality. On the 3d of September, 1867, the New Synod was organized and the Doctor was elected the first President, a position which he held until transferred to the upper sanctuary. This change of relations did not diminish the kindly feelings of the brethren from whom he had separated, and one of his last ministerial acts was to reconsecrate the German Lutheran Church in Utica, in charge of Rev. A. Wetzell, and belonging to the Ministerium. Happy the man who, in periods of great excitement, is able so to deport himself, so to carry with him the evidence of stern integrity, as to secure the confidence and friendship of from whom he differs in opinion and action.

On the 7th of September, 1824, Dr. Pohlman was married to Miss Susan Cassedy, with whom he lived in the very happiest intercourse for thirty-nine years. A lady of gentle manners, fine intellect, high Christian culture and earnest piety, beloved by all who knew her, she was the meet companion of one whose aim in life was to draw others by the cords of love to the service of a loving Saviour. She

was the mother of five children, two of whom preceded their father to the better land. Her death occurred November, 1863.

Dr. Pohlman's death, though somewhat unexpected, was befitting his profession and his life. For several years he had lived with his daughter, Mrs. Patten, where, surrounded by his children, his books the society of congenial Christian friends, he might have anticipated a ripe old age, had not a latent affection of the heart exhibited symptoms of a dangerous character, to which he was not insensible. In closing the Synodical meeting at Red Hook, in October, 1873, his mind was burdened with thought that he would see his brethren no more in the flesh. In a farewell address, he touchingly expressed this conviction, though there was nothing in voice or manner to indicate that his end was so near. He preached several times afterward, and not until within a few weeks previous to his death were there indications of failing strength. On the day preceding he had a severe spasm in the region of the heart, which yielded to remedial agencies; but within the next twenty-four hours, quietly sitting in his accustomed place, his head drooped upon his breast and he passed away without a pang.

The funeral services took place in the church of which he had been pastor. Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Dr. Upson and Rev. Dr. Senderling, and addresses were made by Rev. Drs. Strobel and Magee, of the Lutheran, and Dr. Halley, of the Presbyterian Church. The character of the audience, the deep feeling manifested, the high tribute paid to his character as a man and Christian, bore witness to the universal respect in which he was held in his native city. His remains now lie beside those of his wife and daughter in the Albany Rural Cemetery.

The Doctor was a man of fine physique, commanding voice, chaste and impressive delivery. Few who have heard him in the pulpit will forget his dignified bearing, or lose the impression that he possessed not only great earnestness, but more than ordinary force of character. At all general church gatherings a prominent place was allotted to him, and his deliverances were heard with pleasure. He did not aspire to the reputation of an erudite scholar. The time when he entered public life, and an isolated country parish for twenty years, did not offer many of the literary advantages now enjoyed. Still he collected a large and valuable library, of which he was a diligent student. In all the enterprises of the nineteenth century he was well posted and took a stand at once high and judicious. He was well read on all subjects connected with his profession, and was a master of general English literature, an able rhetorician, a correct, graceful and forcible writer, and always ready and happy when called upon to make an impromptu address. As presiding officer of a deliberative body he had few equals. Prompt, decided, familiar with parliamentary rulings, he was always clear and courteous. All this, combined with the unbounded confidence reposed in his character, will make it appear not strange that he should have presided over the New York Ministerium for twenty-one years, and over the New York Synod from its organization to the time of his death, thus making him for twenty-seven years the presiding officer of the body with which he was connected. And it was but natural that he should have been chosen three times President of the General Synod, to every meeting of which, since 1836, he had been appointed delegate, failing in attendance but once. The merited title of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by Pennsylvania College in 1843. Outside of pastoral and synodical relations, he was by no means an inactive man. For many years he was a trustee of the State Idiot Asylum at Syracuse, one of the most interesting public charities, to which he devoted much time and care. Hartwick Seminary was one of his pets, a trustee of which he had been for thirty years. Believing that it had been the making of the Lutheran Church in this State, and that it gave promise of great future usefulness, he cherished an earnest desire for its perpetuation and enlargement.

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BETHLEHEM.

By JACOB S. MARKLE.

INTRODUCTION.

WITH regard to the sources of information from which this brief history has been obtained and prepared, it is proper to state that in collecting the material personal efforts brought the writer in communication with many who kindly gave information and valuable suggestions, for which grateful acknowledgment is due for the many favors bestowed and assistance freely rendered. To all who in any way contributed to the success of the work the writer tenders his thanks.

Much that would be of interest, of the past, is difficult to obtain, and many important facts and events cannot, at the present time, be satisfactorily presented, as records are few, and personal reminiscences are buried with those who have departed from the scenes. For additional information, "Werner's Civil List of New York," "Harper's Monthly," "Child's Directory of Albany County" and other authors have been consulted.

The author submits his incomplete work to the reader, with the assurance that its imperfections will be criticized with candor, and with the earnest hope that an interest may be awakened in the minds of others for the future preservation of historical records.

Albany, 1884.

HISTORY.

THE history of the Township of Bethlehem dates from the discovery of the river which bears the name of Hudson, who, in 1609, landed with his canoes on its bank, and found a large number of natives fishing; from this circumstance he called it the "fishing place," or "Fuyck." Toward night he and his party landed on an island off the bluffs of the Indian stream Tawasentha, or "place of many dead," where they camped for the night. In the morning the party were surprised to find themselves surrounded by a number of unwelcome visitors, whose friendly conduct soon allayed their fears, and the whites were induced to accompany them through the ford or creek by which they had gained the island, and for the first time put their feet upon the main land. Here they beheld new wonders, and strange scenes encompassed them on every side. Meeting with no hostility, the Dutch explorers, after holding a friendly conference and exchanging a few articles, returned in safety to the island. Their stay here was brief, and when Hudson departed with his little band he never saw the shores again of the noble river that bears his name.

Following this voyage of Hudson were a number of Dutch adventurers, who were induced by the favorable reports received to undertake a voyage and open a trade with these Indians. The most noted of these were Adrian Block, Hendrick Corstiaensen, Cornelius Jacobsen Mey and others in 1614.

Intelligence of the discoveries made by Block and his associates was sent to Holland, and measures were taken to secure for themselves the exclusive trade of the countries explored, which was granted them by an ordinance of March 27. "A special grant was made to" Gerret Witsen and others, whereby they were given exclusive privileges to navigate and trade within certain bounds for three years from January, 1619. Having obtained these exclusive privileges, under the name of "The United New Netherlands Company," they proceeded to make arrangements for the execution of their plans and took possession of an island a short distance below Albany City, and in 1614 they built a trading house 36 by 26 feet. This was called Fort Nassau. Around this they erected a stockade fifty feet square, and encircled it by a ditch eighteen feet wide; this was defended by two pieces of cannon and eleven stone guns, the whole garrisoned by twelve men and commanded by Jacob Jacobz Eilkins, or Elkins. In the spring of 1618 a freshet injured the Company's works on the island to such an extent that they were abandoned, and another fort built a short distance south on the bluffs* or mainland near the *Tawasentha.* From this circumstance the island received the name of *Castle Island;* it is now known as *Van Rensselaer Island.* Upon this isolated spot was the foundation of settlement by

* This bluff was called by the natives *Tawaesrunshea.*

these traders, who were only sojourners dependent for necessary supplies upon the arrival of the company's ships and their own exertions. Their experience on this island for the last two years of their sojourn was attended with many hardships and privations.

Weary must have been the watch of these lone traders as from day to day they paced along the shores of their little island and watched from the bluff for the first glimpse of the white sails that would bring them relief and tidings from the distant land of their birth.

Relief came in 1623 by the arrival of a few Dutch families, who were sent out by the "Privileged West India Company," with a view to colonization. These were most heartily welcomed by the few adventurers, and their homes about the island were soon after abandoned, as they joined forces to erect another fort in 1623, which they called "Fort Orange," and from which dates the first permanent settlement at Albany.

Up to the above date any settlements—if such they can be called—of these traders were made upon soil now within the territory of Bethlehem.

When the trading period gave way to the period of settlement, in order to secure the stability of their possessions in the new world, it was necessary that a formal government be established, based upon the privileges granted by the great "West India Company," which was chartered June, 1621, and under its charter in 1623 the first company sailed from Holland in the ship New Netherland, under the command of Captain Cornelius Jacobsen Mey. Several of these families, who were Walloons, came to Albany and made the first settlement. In 1629 this company issued a charter of "Privileges and Exemptions," which introduced the manorial system, with Patroons who had granted them feudal powers. They were anxious to have their lands settled, and offered, on favorable terms to emigrants, great inducements to those who would accept the conditions and locate upon their lands, with exemption from rent for a term of years.

In 1630 a number of Hollanders came to Albany, and among them Albert Andriessen Bradt, or Bratt, surnamed the Norman, who settled at the mouth of the *Tawasentha*, where was an ancient Mohawk village and burial place of their dead. Hence the Dutch came to call the stream the Norman's kill.* He had eight children; and tradition says that one of them was born on board the ship during a storm, and hence was called "Storm Van der See." After settling he leased the water privileges of the stream and erected mills.

He was succeeded by his son Albertsen, who paid $150 a year for the use of the water privilege, and he was succeeded by his brother Slingerlandt in 1677 as lessee of the farm which his father had occupied. He died June 7, 1686.

This family of Bradts were the pioneers in the settlement of lands west of Albany. After a few years of parental care, arriving to manhood, they left the humble abode on the Kills, with the determination to obtain homes of their own, and penetrated the forest until a suitable location was found. This was usually near a stream or under the shelter of the hills, where was generally found a spring or creek. These were the first considerations; then followed the preparation for the cabin, to shelter and protect from surrounding dangers. With sturdy blows from his ax trees were felled and shaped for the cabin, which, after much toil, served to protect him and his from the dangers of the wild beasts and afford a defense from the attacks of the treacherous Indians. Very few ventured, at first, far from the fort or their friends. For many years the frequent incursions of the Indians rendered it unsafe to dwell beyond ready assistance; and they were hostile to those they considered trespassers, which acted unfavorably to the settlement of the adjacent rich lands; but time brought a change, and this virgin soil, which contained the material for abundant returns and wealth, was gradually occupied by those who braved the savage tenants of the forest in the van of a new civilization. Hardships, privation and self-denial were the first fruits of their venture; the harvest was in the future to be reaped by their descendants and those who followed after.

From the year of these first emigrants until 1700 but little material progress was made in the outer settlement on the manor, and those who occupied lands were, in many instances, squatters. This makes it quite difficult to obtain, in detail, an accurate account of the early inhabitants; in many cases there is nothing to show the date when they took possession of the lands on which they built their log cabins, and but few facts can be given in regard to their family history.

The date at which many farms on the manor were first occupied cannot be definitely ascertained; as they were under the control of the patroon, no public record was made of leases or conveyances, and in many instances the occupant took posses-

*Warner's New York Civil List.

sion, and transfers were often made from one to another of possession only.

Mrs. Bonney, in her "Legacy of Historical Gleanings," says:

"It is time that the reminiscences of the pioneers were gathered together before the last of them shall have passed away, for one by one the landmarks are falling and the records of memory are fast being obliterated, leaving little enough to be gleaned at the present time. Many who could boast of a venerable aggregate of years, and were once cognizant of important services or historical events, have become tenants of the silent tomb, and their testimony is buried with them. Much valuable information relating to the old documents and early chronicles of Albany and its ancient families could only be obtained from 'those honored relics of the past,' and, with their decease, has inevitably perished much of important traditional and historical facts connected with the manorial chronicles."

Much that transpired in the early history of our settlement is already lost and forgotten in the quiet graves of the actors. Details drawn from tradition are not always reliable, and however carefully the writer may draw conclusions obtained from material at hand, or whatever study he may bestow upon detached records and personal information, his conclusions may not always be satisfactory to author or reader.

These apprehensions are now justified, and cause much trouble in collecting facts to substantiate the more important events connected with the early history and settlement of Bethlehem.

But the necessities of life create a desire in the human heart for the possession of the means that contribute to the present and future well-being, and happiness appeals as an incentive to that end. Man is thus stimulated to seek the channels which offer the greatest safety and favorable prospects of success. These were, probably, some of the considerations which governed the early settler in his choice when selecting the land upon the manor, and we find that one after another availed himself of the favorable terms offered, and they induced others to follow. These in time formed a community of distant neighbors, and the first settlements were located along the river; yet it is very difficult to ascertain the order or date at which these families took possession. Having no leases for the land, it is now almost impossible to recover the historical sequence of separate settlements. From 1650 to 1700 very slow progress was made, and few families were resolute enough to leave the settlement for the dangers and hardships of forest life. Yet at the commencement of 1700 we find located along the line of the river, and on the Normanskill, thirty or forty families, among them Hendrick, Garret and Jan Van Wiee, Bradts, Vanderzee, Wm. Van Allen, Ten Eycks, Slingerlands, Vroomans, Adam Winne, Philip Schuyler, Francis Winne.

From 1700 to 1750 several families were added, and from a map made at this time for the patroon the following names appear: Rensselaer Nicoll, Betty Van Ostrand, Janes Taylor, Gerret Van Der Bergh, Cooper, Wm. Van Bergen, Abram Slingerland, Philip Scuyler, Wouter Slingerland, Koenrad Louck, John Van Dusen, Adrian Bradt, Staats Seger, Jacob Louck, John Rosebooms, Gerret Van Allen, Hans Slingerland, Tunis Slingerland, Lawrence Wormer, Gerret Seger Jun, Jacob Coper, Jan, Storm and David Bradt, Dirk Vanderwilliger, Konradt Koen, Isaac, Omie and Christian La Grange, Tunis Hoogtaling.

After 1750 to 1800 the changes in the social condition and development of agriculture in the colonies were more favorable to emigrants, and now there is a class of mixed nationalities who settle among the Dutch, and in time coalesce by intermarriage, and thus strengthened the bond of sympathy and influence in the duties that surround them. We have now Irish, Scotch and English, with the Dutch. Among them were Hugh Waters, Archibald and William McCormick, Andrew Cunning, Nicholas See, Christian Bender, I. Bussing, Jacob Kimmey, Peter McHarg, John Soop, Patrick Callanan and Solomon Luke, and the families of Patterson, Ramsay, Becker, Haswell, Babcock, Wiltsie, Mosher and Aarnout.

Many of the families in New Scotland are included in the early settlement of Bethlehem, and it is difficult to separate the names, or detach them from Watervliet, as all the first settlements were originally made in Watervliet; yet care has been taken to follow the boundary lines in giving names. None of these townships were formed until 1788. After hostilities ceased, and peace secured, many of the above families came to this township, and from this time there was an inflow from adjoining counties, and a few families from New England. The people generally at this date are engaged in farming; manufactures have not been attempted; a mill for grinding grain into flour for family use is the only demand, and home-made or domestic manufactures supplied the necessities of their wants. These were days of economy and

simplicity in living and dressing. A brighter day seemed to dawn for the future, and hope stimulated the younger members of the family to greater energy and exertion, that they might add a few acres to the allotted portion. Social, religious, educational and political growth has opened a wider field for the operations of man, and the policy of a liberal and republican government was a sure precursor of more enlightened enterprise and public security, which was greatly to be desired by those who had long felt the burdens, of which they now were in a measure relieved. Prosperity was placed before him who would endure the necessary toil, and with manly courage in the battle of life try to win a place of honor in the affairs of public trust and home government. These grand triumphs were won by many of those whose names are recorded above, and their descendants have nobly honored the sires by their public service and advancement of those principles which exalt a people or a nation.

Gracefully flowing along the eastern shore line of Bethlehem is the noble Hudson, confined by rocky slopes which rise gradually to a height of 50 to 200 feet, forming curves that give lines of beauty to the water as it flows against the miniature cliffs; the harmless waves created by a passing boat dash against the shore or projecting rock, and as it glides on the river opens upon the vision of the beholder a picture of rare beauty.

From the plain above the eye beholds the wondrous works of man, and nature has painted exquisite views to adorn the scene; while the distant hills relieve the monotony and add refinement to the attractive features. Looking westward is a diversified country, and the eye with pleasure roves over rolling, cultivated lands. From every elevated situation, one may observe in many a quiet nook nestled in the shade, and along the river bank, fine villas, noble mansions and stately farm residences.

It is no marvel that the red man chose this front for his camping ground, council assembly and war-path, to meet his foe in the wilderness and battle for the victory.

On a sheltered spot, on the solid rock of the western cliff, just below the rapids, and a short distance from where the Tawasentha, or Normanskill, mingles its waters with the Hudson, once stood the mill of Albert Albertsen Bradt, erected about 1630. There are but few of the ancient landmarks that contain a history remaining. Time has made many changes, and modern progress cuts its way through granite and sand with equal force, for good or evil. Decay is the doom of man's best works; his material is perishable; and time eats his monuments to valor, and brings to the dust the temples of his faith.

The name "*Beth-le-hem*" is scriptural—meaning "House-of-bread"—is well chosen, and might have been suggested by the fertility of the soil, or possibly the early settlers wished to associate the name in this way with their former residence, or it might have been taken because of the necessity of giving some name to the town. There is also a neighborhood in the township by the name of *Jericho*, and one of the first churches organized was named the Jerusalem church, all of which shows the Bible is not an unknown book in this region.

Mrs. Grant, in her "Sketches of Manners and Scenery in America," says of the Huguenots and French Protestants who came with the Hollanders, that these conscientious exiles were persons allied in religion to the primitive settlers; that they were "driven from their native land by intolerant bigotry;" they were "deprived of many resources that were open to their fellow subjects, and forced to seek comfort in piety and concord for many privations;" * * * "they had suffered real and extreme hardships for conscience's sake from absolute tyranny and the most cruel intolerance;" "they rejoiced in the free exercise of a pure and rational religion, and in the protection of mild and equitable laws, as the first of human blessings." These, with "a great number of Protestants whom the fury of war and persecution on religious accounts had driven from the Palatinate," found a safe refuge here. These principles of religious freedom were kept alive in their hearts, until they could with their hands show their faith by their works in organizing societies and building churches.

The Township of Bethlehem was formed from Watervliet in 1793, and contained the whole of what is now New Scotland, and a part of Albany, which was attached in 1870. The township lies wholly within the Van Rensselaer Manor, adjoining Albany City on the north, extending along the river, with a shore line of ten miles, to Coeymans on the south and New Scotland on the west, including several islands.

The township contains 31,583 acres of improved land; the assessed value of real estate, $3,745,428, and assessed value of personal property for 1883 was $58,116; total, $3,803,544. The equalized valuation of real estate, $1,988,600; of personal, $58,116; total, $2,046,716. Total amount to

be collected, $27,835; rate per $100, $01.36; Collector, John F. Vroman. Population in 1865, 5,928; 1870, 6,950; 1875, 3,763; 1880, 3,752.

The surface consists of rolling upland, sand ridges, rocky knolls, and, near the river, a narrow plain, with steep bluffs from 50 to 150 feet in height, and elevations 200 to 400 feet. The declivities are broken by deep channels worn through the clay and slates. The deepest cuttings are made by the Normanskill, and "in passing through the series of newer sandstones and limestones and graywackes, it lays bare the succession of rocks, and in its progress it sinks its level quite through the graywackes and deeply into the sedimentary or graywacke slate. At lower points of its course the valley assumes a greater expansion, and the rocks stand in upright position. The action of the stream has been sufficient to reveal a formation of red sandstone, which apparently underlies the Helderberg series of graywackes and slates, and the upper series of fossiliferous limestone, and its superimposed porous and nearly horizontal new sandstone. The stream finally enters the Hudson just below Albany, near the ancient cemetery of Tawasentha. This curious natural mound, or hillock, is connected with the diluvial formation by a narrow rock or peninsula. It was a spot sacred to sepulture from the earliest time, and furnished then a natural cognomen for the stream. There is no object of higher antiquarian interest in the vicinity, and it is worthy of municipal care and preservation."* The principal streams are Normanskill, Coeymans Creek and Vlamanskill, which afford valuable water power, but only partially utilized. In the town are sulphur springs, several unimportant caves, and quarries of limestone, used for fences and building purposes, also as a flux for blast furnaces, and strata of yellow sand, used largely for foundry purposes.

The soil consists of sand and clay loam, intermixed with gravel and, occasionally, argillaceous shales. The soil of the islands is an alluvium, which is enriched by the deposit from frequent overflow of freshets. The variety of soil is well adapted for the cultivation of all cereals, hay, potatoes, and root crops generally, and many farmers are engaged in mixed husbandry, appropriating their best lands to the cultivation of garden vegetables, or truck farming.

The islands and alluvial lands are largely planted with potatoes and cabbages. Fruit culture is connected with general farming, and certain portions of every farm are planted with apple, plum, pear, cherry and peach trees. The small fruits, such as strawberries, raspberries and currents, and garden vegetables are largely cultivated. The nearness to the city, with good roads, affords a ready market for farm and dairy products; this has induced many farmers to engage in the production of milk, as a specialty, for the demands of the city. The most notable of the islands belonging to Bethlehem is "*Castle Island*,"* so named from the circumstance that a stockade fort was built upon it in 1614, as a protection to the Dutch traders with the Indians. The island was leased to Martin Gerritsen in 1668, and is sometimes called after his name. It is now known as *Van Rensselaer* Island, and upon it is erected the extensive works and buildings of the "*Albany City Iron Works*" and "*The Jagger Iron Works*," with the necessary docks, railroad tracks and storage facilities. The remaining portion is used for garden purposes.

The other islands are largely appropriated for the storage of ice, of which there are houses for 275,000 tons.

The principal streams afford considerable water power. Some smaller creeks furnish water power in time of freshets, and upon these are several sawmills, which operate during the temporary supply.

The trees in the small forests are white and yellow pine, several varieties of oak, hickory, maple, birch, ash and chestnut. Formerly red cedar was abundant, but now quite scarce. The timber lands of the town are rapidly diminishing. The domestic demand for lumber and fuel requires large quantities, and the farmer counts the income from the cultivated land equal to the purchase of coal and fencing material, for which wire is now largely substituted. A few years hence the forests will disappear, and only small groves will be allowed to cumber the ground. All rocky and waste places should be utilized by planting forest trees, natural to the soil and locality; these, in a few years, would add much to the value of the property.

The farmers of the town are generally progressive, and with practical intelligence adopt the system of rotation, using manures and fertilizers as a means of renovating the land and stimulating the soil to greater yield.

A few farmers give special attention to the improvement of stock, and several have fine herds, which receive additions from imported stock. Erastus Corning is a large breeder of Herefords and Jerseys; John S. Perry, of Guernseys; C. L. G. Blessing, of Friesland or Dutch cattle. Sheep husbandry receives very little attention; other

*Schoolcraft.

*See note on page 2.

interests of the farmer are carefully studied, and the general appearance of the farms denotes improvement and progression.

The minerals of the town are few and possess very little value.

The Indian history has but little of interest. They occupied territory surrounding Albany when the Dutch traders came, with whom a traffic in furs was established and treaties made that secured the friendship of the natives and advantage to the settlers, who located in the vicinity of (now) Kenwood, where they had a place for the burial of their dead, and, perhaps, a camping ground.

In the years that followed settlement and occupation of forests for agriculture and civilization, the Indian was disturbed in his possession as monarch. A new element entered his domain of wild forest life, which introduced changes in many of his customs, and taught him practices and arts that in time were used against the white settlers. The use of firearms and other modes of warfare enabled him to execute his savage designs with greater skill and certainty.

During the war of the Revolution, the Indians, who were under the control of the British and Tories, committed many acts of violence, and were a source of annoyance and terror. They had rendezvous in different parts of the town, where they met their allies in secret, and plotted hostile incursions against the neighbors.

Time works changes, and as civilization advanced, the Indian receded, and soon disappeared from the town of Bethlehem, making, in a degenerate condition, his final exit about forty years ago, and a few generations hence nothing will remain but the imperfect records of history.

Connected with the past may be mentioned the old Whitehall mansion, near the Delaware turnpike road, a part of which was built by Gen. Bradstreet, and during the Revolution is said to have been a resort for the Tories. It afterward came into the possession of C. Ten Eyck, and was occupied by the family until its destruction by fire in the spring of 1883.

Among other houses, yet in existence, erected before the Revolution by early settlers, is the Nicoll house, now in possession of Alex. R. Baker, built soon after 1720; the house of Peter Van Wie, 1732; the Abbey Hotel, a part of which was erected by a Van Rensselaer, and the old house of S. Baumes. Remains of others mark the place where deeds, long since forgotten, have been enacted in the early struggles for a home and the means of an honest livelihood.

The Cherry Hill Mansion and Mount Hope are landmarks that tell of the early settlers, the first being the residence of Solomon Van Rensselaer, and the latter now the property of Ezra P. Prentice.

Many saw-mills were in use in different parts of the township, which are now abandoned from the fact that the source of supply for logs is rapidly diminishing. A few others have taken their place, and the mills now in use are of a more substantial character, with improved machinery and modern fixtures.

VILLAGES.

Bethlehem Center P. O. (Babcock's Corners) is a small village, four miles south of Albany, on the "Albany and Bethlehem Turnpike Road." Among the first settlers were James Gibbons, Job Gardner, ——Greennay, ——Davis, Joshua Babcock.

There are 40 dwellings, 45 families, 190 inhabitants, 2 blacksmiths, 2 wheelwright shops, schoolhouse, church and hotel. Widow Van Buren, postmistress, and post-office kept at the toll-gate-house. Four cemeteries are located here.

South Bethlehem P. O. (Janes' Corners), nine miles from Albany, on the "Albany and Bethlehem plank road," and a station on the West Shore R. R., is pleasantly located. William Jones, James Callanan, Ambrose Wiltsie, Rimmey and Mosher were early settlers. Elishama Janes kept tavern.

The village has 30 dwellings, 33 families, 135 inhabitants, M. E. church, school-house, 2 stores, shoe shop, harness, blacksmith and wheelwright shop, barber's room and saloon. It has a band of 12 musicians, with O. S. Jolley as leader.

Here are located (in the town of Coeymans) the mills of Mr. Henry Callanan. These mills formerly belonged to Philip Kimmey, and were built about 1845 by Ira Jagger, millwright. Here also was located a tannery, about 1825, on the farm of Isaac and John Coffin, which for many years was operated by Robert Carhart, after which it passed into the possession of Cornelius Waggoner, and in 1832 Frederick Schaubb bought the property, and it was destroyed by fire in 1883. The post-office was established in 1874; John Sager is the present postmaster. A short distance from the village, on the farm of John Mosher, is a willow tree that measures 25 and 30 feet in circumference. Tamar Randall, afterward the wife of Henry Wiltsie, when a child, brought this willow twig from Pitchtona, and planted it by the roadside, a century ago, where it now stands, a living monument to her memory.

Slingerlands P. O.—This was formerly Normanskill P. O., and locally Red Hook. The post-office was established in 1852, with Wm. H. Slingerland as postmaster. The name was changed in 1870. Present postmaster, G. W. Slingerland. The village contains 44 dwellings, 50 families, 230 inhabitants; a commodious brick school-house and M. E. church, printing establishment, hotel, marble and monumental works, store, 2 blacksmith shops, wheelwright and paint shop, shoe shop, cigar manufactory, R. R. station, and several fine residences, include the buildings of the village. The name is derived from several families who reside here, descendants of John A Slingerland. The early settlers were Andrew Cunning, Nicholas Sigsbee, Hunderman. *Friendly Union Lodge*, No. 381, I. O. O. F. is located here. The village is pleasantly situated 7 miles from Albany, on the Albany and New Scotland plank road, and it is a station on Susquehanna R. R. Being near the city, it affords many conveniences to those who seek for rural pleasure and the quiet of home life. A physician and lawyer represent the professions.

Selkirk is a post-office established in 1883; Jacob J. Soop, postmaster. This post-office is located at the station of the same name, on the N. Y. & W. S. Railroad, in the southeastern part of the town, upon lands belonging to the Selkirks. The Selkirks are of Scotch origin, and here include two families whose buildings represent the commencement of the future village.

Cedar Hill P. O., eight miles below Albany on the river road, and three-fourths of a mile from the landing, is an old settled place, having been occupied by the Nicols, Winnes and Van Wies at an early date, followed by the Sills, Coopers and others. The locality derives its name from the circumstance that formerly red cedar was the common growth of trees upon the hills and waste lands. At the river is located the extensive ice-houses of English and Best. From Winne's dock are shipped hay, straw, apples and other farm products; this, also, is the landing for steamboats. Wm. Selkirk is the postmaster.

Becker's Corners P. O., 6 miles from Albany, on the Albany and South Bethlehem plank road, is a hamlet containing 6 houses, a tavern, and a fine building belonging to the Grangers. Albertus W. Becker, postmaster.

Adams Station P. O., on the old Delaware turnpike road, and a station on the A. and S. Railroad, is a village containing 85 dwellings, 90 families, 360 inhabitants, a Reformed church, M. E. church, school-house, 2 stores, tin shop, wheelwright and blacksmith shop, cigar manufactory, tavern. One physician and lawyer reside here.

Nathaniel Adams came here in 1836, and in 1838 erected a large hotel and made many improvements, which are lasting monuments to his industry. From him the name is derived. Early settlers here were Flaglers, Waters, Erwin, Bussing. The post-office was established in 1840; Nathaniel Adams, first postmaster; present postmaster, Wm. S. Murphy. The location is 4 miles from Albany, and its proximity to the city offers inducements that are rarely found. Easy of access by cars or private conveyance makes it a desirable place of residence for the business man who would seek retirement and the quiet of a country home.

Normansville, formerly Upper Hollow, is a hamlet 2 miles west of the city, located on both sides of the Normanskill, which has worn a deep channel through the clay to the slate strata, leaving high banks on either side. Here the stream flows over the slate bed with a gradual inclination, affording a water power which at different times has been utilized. When the Albany and Delaware turnpike was constructed, it passed across this ravine and over the creek, on a wood bridge, 100 or more feet long. This bridge was taken away by a freshet in 1868, and an iron one, of two spans, put in its place in 1869, by the town of Bethlehem, as the turnpike company had abandoned the road. At the west end of the bridge stands the old toll-gate house, built when the road was first constructed, and from which Peter Esmay gathered toll for half a century. His familiar face and happy, smiling greeting are remembered by many. The construction of the turnpike induced a spirit of enterprise, and Isaac Stiles opened a tavern for the accommodation of travelers on this road; soon after (about 1822) Stiles put up buildings for a saw-mill, which were followed by necessary machinery for carding wool, dyeing and dressing cloths. There was attached to these mills machinery for rasping and cutting dye-woods, which were used extensively at that time. Then the spinning wheel and loom were a household necessity; now the piano and organ have taken their place. These mills and property after a time passed into the possession of S. Congdon, who continued them as a saw-mill and dye-rasper for several years. Congdon sold to A. B. Sweet. Soon after the mills were carried away by a freshet, taking the bridge at the same time. Sweet rebuilt with brick and wood

attachments, and engaged in the manufacture of straw-board paper. The property now belongs to F. Hinckle, who for a short time engaged in the manufacture of starch from potatoes. Adjoining these mills is an ice-house of 3,000 tons capacity. The mills are now idle and located above the bridge, on the east bank of the creek. The water and necessary fall is obtained from a dam across the stream.

On the west side of the creek, below the bridge, a grist-mill was built by James McCormick, about the year 1820. Nathaniel Sawyer afterward owned this mill, to which was attached machinery for carding wool, dyeing and dressing cloth ; also a mill for rasping dye-woods and grinding plaster. This mill property passed to the possession of Henry Arnold, and was subsequently destroyed by fire.

They were rebuilt by Arnold and then sold to Redell ; the present owner is Heman Hardy, who converted them into a straw-paper mill, with a capacity, when in operation, of making two tons of wrapping-paper per day. Work in this mill is now abandoned. Steam and water power is used. The hamlet contains 17 dwellings, 22 families, 100 inhabitants. Arkles at one time kept tavern here. There were mills owned by Congdon above Peter V. W. Brooks.

Hurstville (Log Tavern), a hamlet two miles northwest from Albany, on the Albany and New Scotland plank road, was first settled by Urban Van Hart and William Gilbert. William Hurst located there in 1861, and from him the place derives its name. The first settler was a man by the name of Hagadorn, who kept the "*Log tavern ;*" from this circumstance the place was known as "*The Log Tavern.*" The Hurstville Hotel, kept by William Hurst's sons, the residence of John Brown, the mansion of Gilberts, and the tenement house opposite the hotel, make up the complement of dwellings.

Kenwood (*Lower Hollow*).— Just below the falls, and near where the Normanskill enters the Hudson River, is a hamlet which dates its settlement with that of Albany, first by the erection of a fort in 1618, and the settlement of Albert Andriesen Bradt, who built a mill here in 1630, which was in the family until 1678. In this vicinity the Indians had a "place for the many dead," called *Tawasentha,*" which is mentioned by the poet Longfellow in his "*Hiawatha,*" and claimed by H. R. Schoolcraft "as the curious natural mound, or hillock, as a sacred sepulchre from the earliest time, and also furnished them with a natural cognomen for the stream." For many years improvements were slow, and nothing of importance was done until after the close of the Revolution and peace brought encouragement for manufactures and other industries.

At this time the Van Rensselaers erected mills here, which were improvements upon former rude structures and imperfect machinery. These mills served for the times and circumstances, being patronized by the farmers for grinding their grain for flour, meal and feed, sawing lumber, carding wool, dyeing and dressing cloth, and contributing other necessary supplies for the people. Among the men who had charge, or operated these mills, were Godley, Merrifield, Stiles, Smith, Warmington, and others. Butterfield and Hagadorn were tavern-keepers. The Turnpike Road was incorporated in 1804, which opened a thoroughfare from the city leading south into the country ; this was of great advantage to the farmers, and stimulated business at the Lower Hollow. Mills were erected below the bridge, but these have disappeared.

The old house built by Robert Van Rensselaer, near the bridge, is still standing and occupied.

Many changes have taken place since 1840 ; the early industries are no longer demanded, and the property has passed into others' possession ; the business formerly done here has materially changed ; the extensive flouring-mills have disappeared, as also the knitting-mills, which, at one time in successful operation, were destroyed by fire, and in their place is a manufactory for felt-cloth and blankets. The past year a large frame building has been erected, south of the bridge, for a flouring-mill.

The property in this vicinity originally belonged to the Van Rensselaer family, of which Gen. Solomon Van Rensselaer was an honored member, and the *Cherry Hill* mansion was his residence. *Mount Hope*, a lovely and commanding elevation, was purchased by Ezra P. Prentice, and for many years the farm and surroundings were the pride of its owner; but its former attractions are giving place to the march of improvement, which has already changed much of its wonted beauty and rural picturesqueness.

Passing south is the school of the "Sacred Heart," a Catholic institution, where formerly was the residence of Joel Rathbone, and the owner of the Kenwood Mills and other property. The name "*Kenwood*" was given the romantic hamlet by Mr. Rathbone from some resemblance or connection with a similar place in Scotland.

The hamlet contains 16 dwellings, 36 families, and 150 inhabitants, a Baptist chapel, schoolhouse, store, and blacksmith shop. The *Albany* and *Bethelehem* turnpike passes through the place, and the *Albany Railway Co.* has a track for horse-cars which follow South Pearl street, of which this road is a continuation, to Kenwood Bridge.

CHURCHES.

EARLY RELIGIOUS CHARACTER AND PIETY OF THE VAUDOIS AND HUGUENOTS.—These early Christian martyrs were a peculiar people; their lives were passed in deeds of charity, in honest labors, and in unvarying self-respect. In every age their manners have been the same, fair and spotless; and their native refinement, their sincerity and devotion, were uttered in their plaintive hymns as heard from the grove's sylvan shade, where they could meet for worship in their rude way. The vices and the follies of the world that have wrecked thousands never invaded their homes, unless brought by people of loose morals. Soon after the dawn of Christianity their ancestors embraced the faith of St. Paul. The Scriptures became their only guide, and they never accepted the tenets of the Roman Catholic Church. When in the eleventh century Rome asserted her supremacy Vaudois missionaries traveled into Hungary, Bohemia, France, England and Scotland; they pointed to Rome as the Antichrist, and they taught, as they believed, the pure faith of the apostolic age. Now we see the results of these simple-minded, yet faithful, Vaudois. Germany and Bohemia were reformed by the teachings of Piedmont; Huss and Jerome did little more than proclaim the Vaudois faith; Luther and Calvin, Wycliffe and Knox were only the necessary offspring of the apostolic churches. Persecutions, massacres, martyrdoms and crusades followed for four centuries, which only added link to link in the chain of Christian civilization, and through this came the Reformation which convulsed Europe, destroying priestly despotism and planting liberty of conscience as the sovereign power of religious freedom. To the firm faith of these early martyrs, and their simple prayers, are the Protestants of this country indebted for much they enjoy of religious liberty. The "every day" of time gradually blots from the world's records events that were once realities, and many scenes of the present are only enactments of the past. Changes take place that are wrought out to wait the exigencies of surrounding circumstances to develop new forms of civilization.

At the close of the sixteenth century the Reformation seemed to have freed itself from bondage, and was ready for new conquests in the waste places of the New World. Holland, England, Scotland, Germany, France were now foremost among the reformers to establish freedom of worship. They saw that the church was the creation of the people, that it owed its existence to the human labors and divine gifts of men, and that the doctrine of passive obedience was not acceptable to its followers, and they resolved to find a land where they could establish a system of religion free from despotism; and with piety most fervid and courage undaunted, amidst hardships and privations, yet enthusiastic of success, they bade adieu to the scenes of contention, and on the virgin soil of America founded that system of religion and education which is the pride of our boasted civilization. Early in its history Bethlehem received the seeds of this stock, which were transplanted and spread over her fair domain with wonderful growth, and her many churches attest the truth that right principles and honest convictions of human progress will grow and become powerful as an element of moral greatness. Many of the first and early settlers were deeply imbued with a spirit of reverence for sacred things, and their hearts overflowed with thanksgiving for the early instruction they received from pious parents ere they departed for the heavenly country.

There are in this town eight churches, of the following denominations: two Reformed, three Methodist, one Presbyterian, one True Reformed Dutch, and one Methodist chapel. With their history and early struggles much that would be of interest has not been carefully recorded, and those who were active participants in the organization of the first churches have disappeared from the scenes of life, "but their works do follow them." The first settlers resided near the city, and thither they wended their way for instructions and social communion in sacred things. Their landed possessions were, in many instances, large; but these, with hard work, only gave them the necessaries of life, and however ready the heart, the purse failed to respond. Thus they were denied for a season the blessings which came afterward. The first church organization in Bethlehem took place about 1790.

First Reformed Protestant Dutch Church—now "First Reformed Church" of Bethlehem—was organized in 1793, and in 1794 Stephen Van Rensselaer gave the society 100 acres of land, known as the "Parsonage Farm." The church has been served by the following as successive pastors:

Christian Bork, Peter Verbagh, Ralph Westervelt, Samuel Kissam, Ralph Willis, John Simonson, Henry M. Voorhees, Wm. J. Skillman; Joseph P. Davis, present pastor.

The church reports 150 families, 229 members, sustains five Sabbath schools, with 340 scholars. The present church building is of wood, and will seat 800.

The Rev. Joseph P. Davis was ordained and installed pastor June 17, 1884. The following constitute the present consistory: Elders—John G. Vanderzee, Asa Bailey, Daniel P. Winne, David Mead. Deacons—Vedder Niver, Francis Selkirk, Louis Myers, Jr., David H. Vroman.

The Reformed Church at Adams Station was built in the year 1841. At that time many of the members of "Union Ref. Church," located at Unionville, living some distance from the church, proposed that a chapel should be erected at Adamsville.

For this purpose an acre of land was donated by Nathaniel Adams, in the center of the village, and a commodious chapel was erected and occupied as a preaching station in connection with the Union Church, which was then under the pastoral charge of the Rev. Simon V. E. Westfall. After Mr. Westfall departed for the West, in 1847, it was determined to secure an organization for a church at Adamsville. Forty-four members of the Union Church petitioned and represented their case, asking to be dismissed from said church for the purpose of a separate organization; also asking that a special meeting of the "Classis of Albany" be called to act on their application.

On the 10th of January, 1848, the Consistory of "Union Church" resolved to grant the request of the petitioners; to deed to the proper authorities the church property at Adamsville, also to appoint two commissioners to report their proceedings to classis and secure their assent in organizing the new society. On the 24th of January the commissioners of the church, Peter Palmateer and Leonard G. Ten Eyck, met with the commissioners of Classis, Rev. Duncan Kennedy and John Q. Wilson, in the City of Albany, and provided by classical action for the organization.

Elders Leonard G. Ten Eyck and Peter Hilton, Deacons Wm. H. Slingerland and Joen Van Allen, of Union Church, were constituted a distinct consistory for the new church, and on the 3d of February, 1848, they certified to the title by which the church and congregation should be known and designated, viz., the Second Reformed Dutch Church in the Town of Bethlehem, in the County of Albany; their action being duly recorded in the office of the County Clerk.

On the 27th of March, 1848, a call was extended to the Rev. John A. Lansing to become their pastor, which was accepted, and for twelve years he faithfully and successfully administered to this congregation in all things spiritual and temporal. In the spring of 1860 he resigned his charge. During his pastorate a fine parsonage was built on land adjoining the church, in 1851. The church building was enlarged, repaired and improved in 1859. He died full of honors in the year 1884.

On the 1st of October, 1860, the Rev. Jacob Lansing Pearse was called to the pastorate, and his labors still continue with the church.

In 1879 the church edifice was renovated and repaired, and the present year, 1884, the congregation is engaged building an addition to the church for the use of the Sabbath school and social meetings.

The present officers are: Elders—John McHarg, John L. Winne, Garret Van Allen, James Onderdonk. Deacons—Edwin Van Allen, Richard E. Becker, John Maher, George C. Adams. President of Consistory reports 90 families, 200 communicants, an average of 75 Sabbath school scholars. The school was organized in 1848, and continues regularly through the winter and summer. Total amount contributed for benevolent and church purposes, $1,300. The church and surroundings are very pleasant.

The First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem was organized November 3, 1835, by Rev. John H. Campbell, D.D., and Rev. Wm. P. Davis. It consisted of fifty-three members. The first pastor was Rev. Wm. P. Davis, who was ordained and installed December 1, 1835. The first house of worship was erected the same year at a cost of $1,800. It was enlarged and refitted in 1869 at a cost of $4,000. It will now seat 300. Connected with it is a commodious parsonage, and the society is prosperous. The church is located about one and a half miles west of Hurstville. The following is the order of pastors who have served this congregation:

Revs. William P. Davis, from 1835 to 1841; Joseph Rosekrans, from February, 1843 to 1849; G. M. Blodgett, as a supply, from 1846 to 1856; Benjamin H. Pitman (supply); J. J. Cameron, from 1857 to 1861; J. W. Edie, 1868 to 1870; David Heron, 1870 to 1880. Wm. E. Faulkner, the present pastor, graduated from Union College in 1873, and from Union Theological Seminary, New York,

in 1878; was ordained by the Albany Presbytery, at East Nassau, in 1879, and installed as pastor of this church, March, 1880.

The following were the first Elders: Jonathan E. Walley, John R. Bullock, Volkert V. Bullock. The present Elders are Horatio McHarg and James Buchanan. The pastor reports fifty families, ninety communicants, ninety-five Sabbath-school scholars and teachers. Contributions for all purposes, $900.

The Methodist Episcopal Church at Adams Station was organized as early as 1830, and a building was erected about 1833. Henry Williams, first preacher, followed by Rev. James Quinlan, Joshua Poor, Joel Squires and others. Among the first members were Holmes Hotaling, Daniel Clark, John Oliver and wife, Benjamin Holmes and wife, William Coughtry and wife, James Sigsbee, Miss Patterson, now widow Caley. In 1850 another building was erected and the location changed. This second church edifice was east of the school-house, and was taken down by a part of the congregation in 1871. This caused a division in the church organization, and the third or present M. E. church of Adamsville was erected in the year 1873. The first pastor was Peter B. Harrower, succeeded by J. A. Clark. The congregation numbers twenty-five families, fifty communicants, sixty Sabbath-school scholars; contributions for all purposes, $600. The building will seat 300. Present officers: Trustees—Henry B. Tuttle, William Flagler, John W. Cook, D. A. Clark, David Couse, John I. Pool, William Firman, Abram Van Wie, Jacob Hotaling. Present pastor, James H. Hall.

The Methodist Episcopal Church located at Slingerlands was originally the Society of Adamsville, but in 187– they divided and erected a church edifice at Slingerlands, thus forming two organizations. The building is of brick, 41 x 62 feet, with Sabbath-school and lecture-room, 24 x 42 feet; has a seating capacity for 350 persons and cost $9,000. Sheds are attached. The first officers of this Society were David Couse, John Wademan, Robert Frasier, Hezekiah Van Buren, David Winne, John Ostrander, William Simmons; Revs. D. B. McKenzie and Alfred Farr, pastors. The following are the present trustees: Albert Slingerland, D. C. Hammond, James Hutt, John Wademan, John Ostrander, Robert Frasier, J. M. Simmons; Rev. W. M. Brundage, pastor. The pastor reports ninety families, seventy-four members, one hundred Sabbath-school scholars; money contributed for all purposes $1,500.

Methodist Episcopal Church at South Bethlehem.—A short distance east of Becker's Corners, on the 20th day of November, 1823, was dedicated the first Methodist church in this town. It was a building 42 x 36 feet, located on lands of Betts Chatterton, and in 1824 the following trustees were elected: Robert D. Carhart, President; Isaac S. Wright, Treasurer; Joel Squires, Secretary; John Ten Eyck, Hugh Jolly, William Cooper, Joshua Poor. Bradley H. Glick and John C. Green were the first preachers. In 1845 this building was taken down and timber used in part for the construction of another church edifice located at South Bethlehem (Janes' Corners) and dedicated in February, 1846, as the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Bethlehem. The first trustees were Hugh Jolly, Jehoichim Spawn, Hercules Baddo, Charles Chapman; Cornelius Waggoner, Secretary and Treasurer. First pastors, Reuben H. Bloomer and Jason Wells. The present officers are James W. Jolly, Ambrose Wiltsie, Frederick Schaubb, Andrew Ten Eyck, Henry Friday, Alvah Tompkins, Hugh A. Mosher, John Mosher, Aaron Hakes. Present pastor, John W. Buskins, who reports fifty-six families, 115 members, ninety-seven Sabbath-school pupils and eleven teachers. Total amount of contributions, $1,100. The congregation owns a parsonage and sheds.

A free chapel for religious purposes was erected in 1877 on the premises of Stephen Baumes, near Cedar Hill. The furniture in part was the donation of Mr. Parsons. The Good Templars hold their meetings in this building.

In the year 1822 a number of churches, by reason of difference in doctrine and practice, seceded from the Reformed Dutch Church and organized themselves into the "Classis of Union," with the name or title of "True Reformed Dutch Church." About 1827 the True Reformed Dutch Church of Bethlehem was organized as a member of that classis, being subordinate to its ecclesiastic jurisdiction and discipline. The church edifice of this society is near Bethlehem Center and was built about 1854. The structure is of wood, pleasantly located, with sheds attached, easy of access from all points, and within four miles of the city. The first pastor was Henry Bellinger, who served the congregation faithfully for fifty years. He ceased from his earthly labors in 1877. The first officers of this church were Peter Kimmey, Storm Vanderzee, David Kimmey. The present officers are: Elders—H. B. Loucks, Daniel De Freest. Deacons—Joseph Relyea, William Baumes. The present pastor is Rev. N. A. Fish, who resides in Albany City.

The "Classis of Union" is composed of six churches, one in each of the following counties: Albany, Fulton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Rockland and Schoharie.

Baptist Mission Chapel, at Kenwood, was built in 1866 by William Sawyer, and by him conveyed to the Baptist Missionary Association, as an absolute free gift, to be used by the society forever as a place of worship and for Sabbath-school purposes. This is another of the many benefactions of this noble-hearted Christian.

Religious societies or church organizations outside of the city did not assume any prominence until 1790. About this time a few organizations were effected in different parts of the country. There was a cause for this sudden and simultaneous uprising of the religious people. One of the causes, if not the chief, was the introduction of revivals by Methodist preachers, who, inspired by the fervor, emotion and spirit of their work, became enthusiastic, and soon manifestations of more than ordinary interest followed.

The effect was to quicken the indifferent consciences of those who had become dull and torpid to renew their vows, and to rouse them from a lethargy of religious inactivity. The efforts and preaching of Bishop Asbury, Freeborn Garrison, John Crawford and others stimulated the pious people to greater exertions, and organizations were effected about 1790. The erection of church edifices followed, and a general revival was continued and carried forward by other denominations with success.

Churches and religious societies have multiplied; the work connected with their continuance requires untiring zeal, spiritual devotion and many sacrifices. Has the influence of religious teaching upon the general advancement of moral ideas been a success? If it has done no more than arouse a spirit of reform to live better lives, to be pure and temperate, truthful and charitable, it has made society more safe and humane, inspired a higher and nobler national life, and taught mankind the obligations of honesty and fidelity in the common struggle for a livelihood.

Education.—During the Colonial Government education received very little attention, and in the thinly settled neighborhoods, away from the city, was usually conducted in the family; in time, several families would unite and employ a teacher. As population increased, and prosperity brightened their future, a growing interest for the advancement of social and useful knowledge gave an impulse for a more liberal system of education, and schools were now organized through individual effort; but these met with more or less opposition until after hostilities ceased. It was not until the commencement of the present century that districts were arranged and schools organized by concentrating the children of neighborhoods, and the employment of qualified teachers by authority to instruct in the primary branches and impart some knowledge of numbers. This advance was the starting point for a better system and higher grade of conducting common schools, though the progress which followed even after the State assumed control of the schools was not entirely satisfactory.

For several years a routine system was adopted, the result of which was a slow development of the natural faculties of the pupils; but there came a demand for higher cultivation of those branches that were essential for business pursuits and a professional life.

At the present time public opinion is advancing in the interest of universal education, and the opinion is sustained by the liberality of the State and the intelligence of the people. Education which reveals the natural laws that concern the welfare and elevation of every individual is the basis of modern philosophy and the recognized system for the common schools.

It is certain that much progress has been made in the past few years by the enlightened efforts of educators, in the methods adopted, the course of studies pursued, the higher grade of text books, and the general appliances to aid in acquiring knowledge and in higher scientific research.

With continued exertion and a determination on the part of teachers to honor their profession, they may do much for their own recognition, as public benefactors, and receive what their services deserve from a grateful and liberal community. School trustees should know how to spend money as well as to economize, and the public are apt to be better served when the faithful teacher receives a just recompense.

In the early history of the schools, teaching, with many, was only a present means of support, and too often the certificate of qualification was given without regard to ability, tact, aptitude, knowledge or judgment, and the teacher who could enforce his orders and control to obedience by the rod or ferule was a man to be highly complimented as one well accomplished to educate the youth under his iron rule. But we have now discovered a better way. The wise trustee now employs a man or a woman in the school under his charge, who has the faculty of government, whose

rule is that of a higher intellect and a stronger will power, ruling without violence in its little kingdom.

If the teachers of this day are in advance of their predecessors, it is no more than should be expected from the special training schools and teacher classes established throughout the State by an enlightened public policy of our commonwealth.

Among some of the earlier teachers of Bethlehem were Wallace, McCracken, Harmannes Van Huysen, Goodhue, Talmage, Davis, Bennett, Smith, Nelson (an old soldier), Jacob K. Marshal, Colley, Hezekiah Burhans (author of a spelling book), Miss Hoyt, Mrs. Porter, Daniel Haynes.

There are fourteen school districts, with the same number of school-houses, in the township, employing during the year ending September 30, 1883, twenty different teachers.

The following table gives the statistics of each district:

No. District.	No. of Children of School Age.	No. Attending School.	Whole No. of Days' Attendance	Total Amount Used in District for all Purposes.	Total Paid Teachers.	Paid Teachers for Winter Term per Week.	Paid Teachers Summer Term per Week.	Assessed Valuation.
1	119	69	7,622	$602 37	$520 00	$12 50	$12 50	$163,000
2	93	68	5,241	573 70	502 50	10 00	10 00	152,335
3	118	82	7,152	580 68	517 00	18 00	18 00	161,100
4	58	41	3,809	397 80	357 00	8 50	8 50	113,250
5	45	40	3,385	434 49	454 49	8 00	8 00	115,700
6	67	36	3,139	490 17	437 02	8 00	7 00	102,385
7	124	75	5,685	435 30	353 25	9 00	7 00	146,190
8	38	26	2,238	322 34	290 00	7 50	7 00	81,225
9	79	81	7,963	1,720 33	680 85	19 75	19 75	181,789
10	139	97	10,515	861 42	729 90	18 00	18 00	139,800
11	81	41	3,515	438 09	281 00	7 00	7 00	128,040
12	76	43	3,975	656 44	480 00	10 00	10 00	332,850
13	77	36	4,195	435 25	320 00	8 00	8 00	140,350
14	84	34	2,598	357 55	310 40	8 00	8 00	128,400
	1,198	769	72,113	$8,395 93	$6,212 41			$3,086,444

One of the first school-houses, built of logs, was on the Nicolls farm, at Cedar Hill. In 1807, on the day Fulton went up the river in his steamboat, the scholars at this school witnessed the passage of the boat, and the event made a lasting impression upon their minds.

At that time this was the only school-house from the Coeymans line to Albany; there have been five districts organized from this one, and they are prosperous, with convenient and comfortable school-houses and pleasant surroundings. The school-houses of the township are all a great improvement upon the past; many are brick, the others are of wood. Some are arranged for two departments and employ two teachers.

Physicians.—At the close of the colonial government there were two American medical colleges—one in Philadelphia, the other in New York City. The operations of both were suspended during the Revolutionary War. The great majority of the physicians and surgeons in the colonies had obtained what education they possessed in commencing practice by having served as apprentices to medical practitioners, their duties embracing menial offices as well as study and the compounding of medicines. At the close of the war the two American colleges resumed operations; three others came into existence before the end of the eighteenth century, and the number of graduates from all these institutions at the beginning of the nineteenth century had not much exceeded two hundred. During the first half of the present century, medical colleges were multiplied rapidly and distributed among the States, and many established in small villages, which met the requirements of many whose pecuniary resources were limited. During the last quarter of a century there has been progressive improvement in collegiate and post-collegiate instructions by means of extensions of the terms of lectures, the institution of special courses, the systematic regulation of study with recitations, and the advantages of public and private hospitals, and the demonstrations in operative and clinical surgery.

The study, in a limited degree, of hygiene and the laws relating to sanitary science in our public schools is a step in advance, and there is reason to hope that much may be accomplished in this new direction, and for diffusing and encouraging as far as practicable this means of knowledge the co-operation of the public is essential; hence the importance of awakening general interest on the subject.

Previous to 1800 there were no physicians located in the township. When a doctor was wanted, Albany was near, and the services of one could soon be procured.

The following list contains the names of those who were practicing physicians in the township. Those marked with a * are dead. Among the first were: Doctors Hallenbeck,* S. Bailey,* Clark,* Delamater,* Day,* Dennick,* Frosser,* P. B. Noxen,* G. Spalding,* Harris,* L. G. Warren,* S. Dickson,* Thomas Lloyd,* D. Spingsteed.* Following these were: John Babcock,* R. Y. Bullock,* French,* J. Van Allen,* J. H. Fitch, John Bradley, Abram De Graff.

The present physicians located in the town are:

Charles E. Seger, at Callanan's; born in New Scotland; received his preliminary education at Ashland and Fort Edward; studied medicine with Drs. Mosher and Fordenbergh; graduated from Albany Medical College in 1863; practiced in Coeymans two years; West Stockbridge, Mass., two years; thence at Canaan Center and Canaan G. Corners, Albany, Adams Station, and settled at Calanan's, 1882.

Dr. James H. Gallup, at Adams Station; graduated from Albany Medical College, 1871; settled here 1881.

J. R. Davidson located at South Bethlehem in 1878. Union College in Sophomore and Junior class; pursued the study of medicine with Drs. S. O. Vanderpool and Sickles; graduated from Albany Medical College in 1869, and commenced the practice of medicine at Castleton, Rensselaer County.

D. C. Case graduated from Albany Medical College in 1870; studied medicine with Drs. P. S. Swart, of Schoharie, and Prof. Pomfret; practiced medicine at Stamford, Delaware County, and located at Slingerlands in 1877.

INCORPORATED SOCIETIES. — CEMETERIES.

The Bethlehem Mutual Insurance Association was organized under the laws of the State in 1854. The affairs of the Association are managed by a board of eight Directors, from which are elected a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, and Executive Committee. The first Directors of this Association were John Soop,* George F. Inbrie, Richard Kimmey,* Christopher Becker, Jeremiah Mead,* Samuel Van Allen, John Babcock, Leonard G. Ten Eyck.* The business of the Association is divided into four distinct classes, or risks, upon property insured.

The Secretary reports (December, 1883) as follows:

Whole amount of property now insured in this Association in First Class is	$904,700 00
In Second Class is	11,200 00
In Third Class is	4,050 00
In Fourth Class is	8,800 00
Total	$928,750 00

The present (1884) Directors and Officers are: President, Albertus W. Becker; Vice-President, John J. Mull; Secretary and Treasurer, G. F. Imbrie; David N. Mead, Isaac Van Allen, Rensselaer Lasher, George C. Adams, Jacob Hotaling.

Bethlehem Conscript Society, an association for protection against the depredations of horse thieves, was organized August, 1875. The object of this society is for the pursuit and recovery of horses and wagons when stolen from any member. The first officers were: A. W. Becker, Treasurer; William Kimmey, Vice-Treasurer; John J. Mull, Isaac Van Allen, John F. Shafer, Auditors. The present officers: A. W. Becker, President and Treasurer; William Kimmey, Vice-Treasurer; P. A. Miller, Secretary; John J. Mull and John S. Russell, Auditors.

Bethlehem Grange, No. 137, organized March, 1874. Incorporated in accordance with State and county laws. The lodge is located at Becker's Corners, where they own a lot of land, upon which is a two-story frame building, for lodge meetings, and the distribution of stores to members. It is valued at $2,000. The lodge numbers about 60 members. The first President was Jurian Winne. John S. Lasher now fills that office.

The Light of Bethlehem, No. 118, *Independent Order of Good Templars*, was instituted October 1, 1879, with twenty-two charter members. The lodge holds its meetings in the Baumes Chapel, at Cedar Hill. The following are the officers: J. S. Baumes, W. C. T.; J. G. Vandrezee, J. B. Baumes, Eugene Sutta, Mrs. John Baumes, Jacob S. Nicholson, Ed. McNary, Charles Shagnon, E. E. Westfall, R. Baumes, William Hughes, Miss E. G. Holmes, Mrs. F. G. Schemerhorn, Stephen Baumes, P. W. C. T. and L. D.

Friendly Union Lodge, No. 92, I. O. O. F., was instituted at New Scotland village in 1848, and in 1858 the lodge was abandoned and charter surrendered. The following, among others, were members: David White, Joseph J. Moak, Peter V. W. Brooks, Ebenezer E. Wands, John Craver, David Couse. The lodge was reorganized as No. 381, I. O. O. F., in 18—, and in 1883 was removed to Slingerlands, where they are now located and hold their meetings.

* Dead.

A Mason's Lodge was instituted at Babcock's Corners about 1820, and continued for several years, holding their meetings at first at the house of John Haswell, and then removing to the house of John Kilderhouse about 1824. The following persons were members: Henry B. Haswell, Abram Drummond, John W. Wands, John H. Burhans, Nathaniel Sawyer, Peter Esmay, John Haswell, John Kelderhouse, Joshua Babcock, John P. McHarg.

Star of Bethlehem Division, No. 305, Sons of Temperance, was organized at Adamsville, February 14, 1868; removed to Slingerlands, and in 1871 disbanded and surrendered their charter.

Bethlehem Cemetery Association, of the Town of Bethlehem, Albany Co., was organized November 3, 1865, pursuant to an act entitled "An act authorizing the incorporation of rural cemetery associations," being chapter 133 of the laws of 1847. At this meeting the following were elected trustees and officers: President, John Van Allen, M. D.;* Vice-President, Jacob Hotaling; Secretary, Rev. J. Lansing Pearse; Treasurer, John H. Booth; Superintendent, George C. Adams; Robert Frazier, Anell Crocker, George M. Bender, John M. Hotaling.

The grounds of the cemetery contain about thirty acres, and are located four miles west from the City of Albany and about half a mile east of the Second Reformed Church, and the same distance from Adamsville, the first station on the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad. This cemetery is laid out with taste and has much of the appearance of a park. The monuments are numerous, and are noticeable for their variety and beauty. Ornamental trees thickly shade the avenues, and flowering shrubs add much to the variety.

The present officers are: R. G. Wilks, President; Jacob Hotaling, Vice-President; Rev. J. L. Pearse, Secretary; John M. Hotaling, Treasurer; George C. Adams, Superintendent.

Elmwood Cemetery, near the First Reformed Church, and on the Bethlehem plank road, contains ten acres of land, regularly arranged, with many stately monuments and other attractions. The front is beautifully shaded with a row of fine elms, which add very much to the general appearance and surroundings. The association was organized September, 1861. The present officers and trustees are: Peter Niver, President; D. P. Winne, Secretary; Louis Myers, Treasurer; John Bullock, Robert Selkirk, Zachariah Ryker.

Mount Pleasant Cemetery is located at South Bethlehem, and was organized in connection with the M. E. Church, in the year 1863. The land was the gift of John Callanan, who was the first person buried in the grounds. The lot contains nine acres, and commands a fine view, has a gradual slope, convenient of access, and soil well adapted for the purpose. The surroundings are attractive, and improvements continually made, which add to the interest of the sacred place. The first officers were: Jehoichim Spawn, President; L. C. Tuttle, Treasurer; Frederick Schaubb, Secretary. The present trustees and officers are: James W. Jolly, President and Treasurer; Robert McDonald, Secretary; Hugh Mosher, Albert Tompkins, Andrew Ten Eyck, F. Schaubb, Henry Friday, Ambrose Wiltsie and Aaron Hicks.

"Cemetery of the Congregation Bethel" was organized in 1838, with the following directors and officers: President, Philip Aultman;* Myers Reiss,* Treasurer; N. Samson Schwartz,* Secretary. The present officers are: Simon Hessberg, President; Henry I. Hershberg, Treasurer; Sigmund Adler, Secretary. This cemetery is located on the west bank of the Hudson River, one mile south of the city, near the Abbey Hotel. The officers live in the city.

First German Evangelical Lutheran Church Cemetery is located at Bethlehem Center, and contains about five acres of land, and is tastefully laid out in plats, with walks and avenues. It was organized by the church society in 1874, with the following officers, who are elected for three years: Frederick Bilhaurser, President; David Spindler, Treasurer; Philip Pabst, Secretary. The present officers are: Ludwick Domke, President; Matthew Demgen, Treasurer; Philip Pabst, Secretary. All reside in Albany.

Calvary Cemetery, of the St. John's Catholic Church of Albany, is located on elevated ground at Bethlehem Center, and contains seventeen acres of land, beautifully situated and well adapted for the purpose. A part of the lot is laid out, and shrubbery with shade trees add much to its general ornamentation. It is under the supervision of the pastors and officers of the church.

The German Catholic Cemetery, connected with the Church of the Holy Cross, Rev. Joseph Ottenhues, pastor, Albany, is located near Bethel Center. This cemetery, like the others in this vicinity, is pleasantly situated, and the soil well adapted for the purpose.

*Dead.

The Evangelical Protestant Cemetery at Hurstville is connected with the "Evangelical Protestant Church," located in the City of Albany, on the corner of Alexander and Clinton streets. It was incorporated in 1853, and contains four acres.

The private burial grounds throughout the town are numerous, and while a few families take some interest in their preservation, they generally present the same neglected and forsaken appearance. The fate that awaits the future of these sacred places is sad to contemplate. They are overgrown with rank weeds and wild shrubbery, and in many instances they are cultivated or exposed to the depredations of cattle. The monuments bend over the remains of those that they commemorate, the headstones are often broken, and others buried under accumulations of mold. Alas! how soon are the dead forgotten, and their place of rest among the things of the past.

ROADS, BRIDGES, MANUFACTURES.

The roads of the township were originally narrow paths, and were undoubtedly Indian trails. The principal one extended along the west bank of the river, and thence followed the course of the Normanskill. Upon this line the early settlers located, and when necessary to visit Albany they went on foot, and if so fortunate as to be the owner of a horse, this was used to carry any articles for barter or sale, or for carrying the bag of wheat to the mill. In time these paths were widened, when rude wagons were used with broad wooden wheels, and the mother or daughter would ride the horse, or one of the oxen, and the husband walk to guide the team. As prosperity attended the settlers, the roadways were improved and became of much importance.

April 9, 1804, the "*Albany and Bethlehem Turnpike Road*" was incorporated, with a capital of $34,800. This road is a continuation of South Pearl street, passes through Kenwood and across the Normanskill, thence south down to and just below the Abbey Hotel, and also by an upper fork out to Babcock's Corners, or Bethlehem Center, in all about five miles. Has one toll-gate. Roadbed made of broken stone, and kept in excellent condition. Is one of the pleasantest and most picturesque drives out of the city. Edwin Safford, Secretary and Treasurer.

This old turnpike is connected at *Bethlehem Center* by the "*South Bethlehem Plank Road,*" which extends south through *Becker's Corners*, thence southwest to *South Bethlehem*, six miles. This road was incorporated, July, 1851, for thirty years, with a capital of $12,000. Preliminary meeting held March 8, 1857, at which Dr. Leonard G. Warren acted as chairman, and Richard Kinney secretary. April 12, 1851, the following directors were elected: John B. Vanderzee, Barent S. Winne, Philip Kimmey, James Schoonmaker, John A. Sickles; John Soop, Secretary and Treasurer. June 28, Dr. John Babcock was elected a director in place of Barent S. Winne, and John A. Sickles elected President.

February 28, 1881, charter renewed by Board of Supervisors for thirty years. The following are the present officers: Leonard W. Soop, President; P. A. Miller, Secretary and Treasurer; Peter R. Vanderzee, D. P. Winne, Albertus W. Becker, H. C. Vanderzee.

The use of plank has been abandoned on this road, and gravel and stone substituted.

The *Albany and Delaware Turnpike Company* was granted a charter, March 2, 1805, to build, grade and construct a road from Albany to Otego in Delaware County. This road commenced at the crossing of Lydius and Lark streets, and across the Town of Bethlehem, passing through the Upper Hollow, and thence to Adamsville and across the Town of New Scotland through Unionville and Clarksville; thence across the southeast corner of Berne and the northwest corner of Westerlo to Rensselaerville. The road-bed was macadamized on the sand and clay, but the hills were many and not properly graded. For many years the road was extensively traveled, but other roads and railroads coming in competition, it was abandoned in 1868. The capital stock was 6,000 shares of $25 each. The first directors were Samuel Lansing, Abraham Hun, Isaac Needer, of Albany City, Hollis More, Asa Starkweather, Hugh Orr and Stephen Judd.

The "*Albany, Rensselaerville and Schoharie Plank Road Company*" was granted a charter, March 25, 1850, to continue thirty years, with a capital of $100,000, at $25 per share. The road was graded and plank laid from Albany to New Salem, twelve miles; also from Bernville to Gallupville. This portion of the road was abandoned after a few years' use. From Salem to New Scotland no plank are now used, but from New Scotland to Albany the road is planked and in good condition. This road affords very pleasant drives. The original directors were: Franklin Frisbee, Lansing Pruyn, David H. Casey, Bradford R. Wood, Jacob Settle, John I. Slingerland, Joseph Hilton, Reuben Wyngar, Charles B. Gordon; Lansing Pruyn, President; David H. Carey, Treasurer; Charles M. Jenkins, Secretary.

The charter, with amendments, was renewed for thirty years, January 28, 1881. This road started from a point on Lydius street, thence northwest to Hurstville and southwest to Slingerslands, across the town of Bethlehem, thence west across the town of New Scotland, passing through the villages of New Scotland and New Salem.

Another company was organized and charter granted about 1854, to construct a plank road from Clarksville, passing across the southern foot of New Scotland to Feura-Bush, thence across the central part of Bethlehem to Bethlehem Center (or Babcock's Corners), at which place it intersected the "Albany and Bethlehem Turnpike Road."

The Albany and Susquehanna Railroad extends for five and one-half miles across the northern part of the township, commencing at the Kenwood bridge and passing up and over to Normanskill, through Adams Station and Slingerlands, thence into the town of New Scotland. This road was opened for travel in the summer of 1863. Assessed valuation, $40,000.

The *New York, West Shore* and *Buffalo* Railroad passes over a portion of Bethlehem by two tracks. The *Athens* and *Saratoga* road, which passes across the southwest corner and opened in 1865, is now the main line of the *West Shore* road; a branch track extends from Cocymans Junction along the river line to Albany. The two tracks of this road in the town measure about 16 miles. This road was opened in 1883. Assessed valuation, $80,000.

A short line of the *Albany Railway* extends from the city line to Normanskill bridge. Assessed for $400. American Telegraph Company assessed for $850. Western Union Telegraph Company for $600.

MANUFACTURES AND INDUSTRIES.

The most extensive manufacturing establishments of the township are located upon Van Rensselaer's Island. May 12, 1870, "*The Corning Iron Company*" was incorporated with the following trustees and officers: Ira Jagger, President; Albion Ransom, Vice-President and Treasurer; Charles E. Sackett, Supt.; Erastus Corning, Jr., A. P. Palmer, Charles B. Lansing, Charles Van Benthusen. Land was secured on the island; the works were erected at great cost of labor and material, and in September, 1871, the first iron was made.

The name of the company was changed by the order of the Court to the "*Jagger Iron Company,*" July 2, 1873. The company employed, when in operation, 140 to 150 men. 40,000 tons of ore were used yearly, obtained from Essex and Oneida counties, and from Connecticut; 30,000 tons coal and 20,000 tons of stone were consumed, and the product was 20,000 tons of iron annually from two stacks. The present trustees and officers are: James Hendrick, President; *William B. Scott, Vice-President; Ira Jagger, H. G. Burleigh, Benjamin Marsh, Lorenzo Hale, Silas Wetherbee. The works closed in 1883. Assessed for $90,000.

Adjoining the above, on the northern end of the island, are the extensive buildings and necessary works of the "*Albany City Iron Company,*" organized in 1878. Has two blast furnaces, with a capacity of 30,000 tons gross pig iron annually. The fuel used is anthracite coal and coke from Pennsylvania, of which 45,000 tons are required, and 50,000 tons of ore, obtained from northern and eastern New York, and from Spain. The iron is distributed through the Eastern States and New York. When in active operation, 160 men are employed; at present the works are closed. Assessed for $130,000.

J. C. Huyck & Co., at Kenwood, manufacture wool-felts for paper-makers; also plaid wool blankets. They employ from 50 to 60 operatives.

About forty years ago the business of furnishing molding sand to foundries, stove and hollow-ware manufacturers was commenced by Mr. Clow; soon afterward Harvey Wood engaged in the business and continued it for thirty years. The industry is now carried on by Whitehead Bros., who ship sand to all parts of the United States. About 500,000 tons are obtained from Bethlehem township and landed at Albany for transportation. The sand is obtained from a substratum, and varies from one to two feet in thickness.

A few stone quarries exist, and are utilized for building railroad bridges and other purposes.

SOLDIERS.—Governments are not stable; colonial authority in time became a burden; the grand principle of religious freedom and equality in government, which had been taught the early refugees of Europe, had only slept, waiting the great resurrection that was to be baptized in blood; this brought in conflict two classes, widely different and widely disagreeing, which were not safely fused until the Revolution came, with its struggles and trials of fire. Territory now included in the township of Bethlehem cannot boast of many patriotic deeds, nor enter upon her record the names of many of her citizens who were active participants in

*And Treasurer.

that bloody strife which gained our independence as a nation at the cost of many lives and personal sacrifices. Albany and vicinity seemed to be neutral ground, and did not call for more than home protection from the Tories and Indians. Hostilities, generally, were not such as to alarm the people, and the loyal were ever ready to protect their own, and assist their neighbors from the outrages and treachery of their enemies.

At several places the Tories had rendezvous, where they would meet with hostile Indians to plot some secret attack or midnight raid upon the neighbors. Conrad Soop was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and rendered honorable service for his country, as well as Conrad Friday, who joined the band of patriots. Cornelius Van Derzee, Jr., was a lieutenant in the army, and the family have a six-pound cannon ball that was fired into the Fort at Middleburg by the British. There were many loyal families during this war, which stood firm for the cause of independence, and with heart and hand gave what they could.

In the war of 1812 a fair quota was sent from this township, who served with credit to themselves, and others returned with honors won in the service. The following names have been given of those who went from this town; the list, perhaps, is not complete, as it is obtained from personal recollections, and not one of the persons here mentioned is living: Walter Van Derzee, Peter W. Ten Eyck, Jacobus Vroman, Garret Van Wie (captain), Peter Boice, James Bailey, Jacob Soop, John C. Jarvis, John Adams, James Wiltsie, Frederick Rowe, John Callanan, Simon Kilmer, William Patterson, John Hogan (captain), Joshua Babcock, Marcus Lasher, John Oathout, Alexander Frasier (drummer), Jacob Hilderbrant. Many more names should adorn this list, but no records are accessible, if they exist, from which to obtain the names of others.

In that memorable year—1861—when the quiet of our town seemed to be shaken by a terrible convulsion, and the rumbling shock spread over the length and breadth of our land, we all remember the thrill that awakened a spirit of patriotism when the call came, and how prompt was the response from the manhood and youth of this township to give their service in maintaining the liberties and integrity of the nation. Fidelity in the discharge of their duty was characteristic of the brave volunteers, and those who gave their lives in that fratricidal war we should remember with homage and grateful consideration for the hardships and sacrifices they endured, that the Union of States might be preserved, the Constitution sacredly upheld, and the freedom of all secured.

It is much to be regretted that the town officers, whose duty it was to make a "Complete Record, as required by Chapter 690 of the Laws of 1865, relating to Officers, Soldiers and Seamen comprising the quotas of the Troops furnished to the United States by this Township in the War of the Rebellion"—a copy of which should be in the office of the Town Clerk—have neglected to comply with the law, and thus the town is defrauded of a valuable historical record, which cannot, at this time, be compiled or collected with accuracy. It is from neglect of this kind that so much of value is lost to the historian and general reader; the present is soon lost in the future; personal recollections perish with the possessor, while records are available for all time.

The military spirit of the township is buried in the past; no organizations of this character exist. Formerly, the State militia and a uniformed company, the "*Bethlehem Grays*," and a company of cavalry, were the pride of the people, and the military drills and parades of this company were attended by every person who had leisure. The usual drill, on the first Monday in September, was a gala day, which terminated in a grand entertainment and ball at night.

The Grand Review, or General Training, was a day of anticipation and preparation by old and young for weeks before the great event took place. On this day—about the middle of September of each year—the military organizations of several towns forming a brigade met at a central location and were reviewed by the superior officers. It was a veritable holiday. All who could possibly attend seemed to enjoy the occasion with a freedom and independence now no longer permitted. Wagons, stands and booths were numerous and well suppled with eatables of many kinds; pumpkin pies and gingerbread in great abundance, loads of fruit, nuts, candies, and sweet cider were dispensed to the hungry and thirsty.

These were the days of "Auld Lang Syne!" In their place we have substituted the *camp*, with its glare and glitter, pomp and parade, only to be enjoyed by the few.

In 1807 William Haswell was appointed by Gov. Lewis a Lieutenant of Infantry, and in 1814 Gov. Tompkins promoted him to the office of Captain in the One Hundred and Fiftieth Regiment, under Col. John H. Burhans.

Civil List.—Names of persons who have served one or more terms in the office designated:

Senator, 1797.—Francis Nicoll.

Members of Assembly.—Francis Nicoll, David Burhans, John H. Burhans, Elishama Janes, John L. Winne, John D. Winne, Abram Brooks, John Haswell, William N. Sill, Richard Kimmey, John I. Slingerland, Cornelius Vanderzee, Robert Babcock, John Vanderzee, William Y. Snyder, John Sager, William H. Slingerland, Daniel P. Winne.

Member of Congress.—John I. Slingerland.

Surrogate.—Justus Haswell.

Sheriffs.—William P. Brayton, John Wemple.

County Clerks.—Conrad A. Ten Eyck, Henry B. Haswell, Robert Babcock, William E. Haswell.

Commissioners of School.—John G. Vanderzee, L. Carter Tuttle, John C. Nott, John F. Shafer, Alexander R. Baker.

Supervisors.—From 1818.—Moses De Long, David Burhans, Henry L. Mead, William N. Sill, Matthew Bullock, Gerrit Hogan, James Alexander, Leonard G. Ten Eyck. From 1832.—David Springsted, James B. Wands, Joshua F. Babcock, Abner Udell, Abram Van Derhyden, Francis I. Shafer, John McHarg, Jeremiah Mead, Elias Milbank, George F. Imbrie, John Patterson, John Wilkes, William Kimmey, Albertus W. Becker, George C. Adams, John Wemple, Peter D. Johnson, W. Chancey Hotaling, William L. Flagen, John L. Winne.

Justices of the Peace.—After 1833.—James Holiday, Conrad Baumes, Hiram Babcock, Abram Wood, Volkert V. Bullock, James Alexander, David Bussell, Richard Wood, John Soop, Henry H. Burhans, Levi Cornell, George A. Leggett, Hugh J. Alexander, Sanford Bennett, Henry J. Snyder, Stephen V. R. Slade, Peter H. Bradt, Jeremiah Wood, Stephen Baumes, William Hurst, L. C. Tuttle, Walter T. Hotaling, Andrew C. Wood, David Couse, Leonard W. Soop, David H. Van Cott.

Town Clerks.—From 1833.—Henry B. Haswell, David I. Burhans, John V. L. Burhans, Jacob Springsted, Alexander F. McGill, Hiram Babcock, Henry I. Creble, James W. Bender, John Birch, David P. Kimmey, Hiram Hotaling. David Couse, William Kimmey, David M. Niver, R. C. Main, J. G. Hotaling, John J. Bradt, Washington Groosbeck, Eli Bell, William Sible, John Simpson, George Brindle, Isaac Bulger, David L. Walley, Wendel Bender, E. M. Van Aukeu, Thomas J. Winne, Edwin Hotaling, Charles A. Niver, Henry V. Long.

The following members of the Nicoll family have held office, viz.: Richard Nicoll, Governor, 1664; William Nicoll, Register, 1683; Mathias Nicoll, Commissary of Judges, 1686; Richard Nicoll, Examiner in Chancery, 1740; Rensselaer Nicoll, Judge, 1762; Francis Nicoll, Dep. to Provincial Congress, 1775–76; Senator in 1797.

In the public and political affairs of the town there is a spirit of progress and reform that has been well sustained by those whose duty it was to advance the interests of the people; the educational facilities for a higher culture of the intellect and for scientific attainments have been improved. The various churches and societies encouraging moral reform have exercised a controlling influence for good in the community, and this influence is increasing. The leading questions that affect the happiness and prosperity, temporal and spiritual, of the people are discussed by many with freedom, and the community enjoy that prosperity which comes to honest industry and personal integrity, directed by intelligence and carried on from year to year with persevering zeal.

Jason V. Haswell—Lives west of Bethlehem Center on part of old homestead. Is grandson of Capt. Wm. Haswell, of New York militia during the war of 1812, and son of Samuel J. Haswell, deceased, who was born on old homestead in 1826, and died in 1874, and was a most exemplary and worthy citizen.

Jacob J. Soop—Settled at Selkirk in 1849, at which time he purchased from John L. Sill part of the Col. Francis Nicoll grant, one of the oldest titles on record in the county. The West Shore Railroad crosses this farm.

Rensselaer Lasher.—Is a farmer and resident of Mount Pleasant. The farm has been in the Lasher family for 50 years, contains 135 acres, and is one of the best in the county, situated four and one-half miles from city limits.

A. W. Becker

ALBERTUS W. BECKER.

Albertus Becker, a native of Holland, was one of three landowners and heads of families who lived along the old road from the Onesquethau Creek to the river; he was married to Helen Van Derzee. Their son Walter was the great-grandfather of Albertus W. Becker. He married Anna De Ridder, of Schuylerville, Washington County, and had several children, one of whom was Albertus W. Becker, 1st, grandfather of his namesake mentioned above. He was born in 1772, and married Polly Van Der Heyden in 1800. He died about 1815, leaving a widow and two sons and three daughters. The second son was Walter Becker, who was born in 1806, married Maria Van Derzee, daughter of Cornelius Van Derzee, December 21, 1831, and died March 11, 1864. His widow and three children survived him, and one child had died previously.

Albertus W. Becker, the eldest child of Walter and Maria (Van Derzee) Becker, was born December 12, 1834. He was educated in the district schools of his native town, and at the West Poultney Troy Conference Academy of West Poultney, Vt. Leaving the institution just named at the age of seventeen, he took charge of his father's farm,-the latter being in ill health, and at his father's death he inherited the old homestead at Becker's Corners, where he has since resided in the house built by his grandfather in 1800. In 1862 he was elected supervisor of the town of Bethlehem. At this time the civil war had begun, and important duties devolved upon the incumbent of the office of supervisor in every town in the State. At a meeting of the citizens of the town, held at Bethlehem Center, to provide for the enlistment of a sufficient number of volunteers to fill the quota required from the town, Mr. Becker and Gen. Leonard G. Ten Eyck were appointed a committee to secure the men desired. They established their rendezvous in what is now the south part of the City of Albany, and were successful in securing the requisite number of recruits—about forty—in about thirty days, most of them enlisting under Capt. David Burhans and forming a part of the Forty-third Regiment, N. Y. S. Vols. During the winter of 1862-3, with Peter R. Van Derzee and Justus Haswell, he visited the Forty-fourth Regiment at Hall's Hill, Virginia. In 1871 Mr. Becker was again elected supervisor and re-elected for three succeeding terms, serving continuously from 1871 to 1874 inclusive. A Republican, and an interested observer of public affairs, Mr. Becker has never been a politician in the sense in which the word is commonly applied. He has not been a seeker

CORNELIUS V. BAKER.

after office, and such trusts as have been imposed in him have been filled with credit both to himself and his fellow citizens. The prosperity of the town and of its general interests has always been a subject of moment with him, and he has long been identified with some of Bethlehem's most prominent business enterprises. For about fifteen years he was president of the South Bethlehem Plank Road Company, in which he has been a stockholder since the opening of the road, and a director about twenty years. Soon after the organization of the Bethlehem Mutual Insurance Association, he became connected with it, and about ten years ago became its president and one of its directors, and has held those positions continuously to the present time. Upon the organization of the Bethlehem Conscript Society, an association for protection against the depredations of horse-thieves, in 1875, Mr. Becker, who had been instrumental in forming the society, was chosen its treasurer and acting president, and has since held that position.

November 17, 1858, Mr. Becker married Miss Anna Haswell, daughter of Joseph Haswell, of Bethlehem, a descendant of one of the early settlers of the town. They have one son and two daughters. Though not a member of any religious body, Mr. Becker has contributed liberally to the support of the First Reformed Church of Bethlehem.

CORNELIUS V. BAKER.

Cornelius V. Baker is one of the most prominent public men of the town of Bethlehem, descending on his father's side from an old English family who settled, in the person of his great-grandfather, Joab Baker, in Roxbury, Conn. His grandfather, also named Joab, settled in Coeymans, in 1791, and married Hannah Ashmerd, whose father was one of the pioneer settlers of Albany.

They had seven children, of whom the eldest was John Baker, the father of the subject of this sketch. He married Margaret Vroman, and for many years lived a retired life in North Adams, Mass. He died in 1882, at the advanced age of 86, at the residence of his son, Cornelius V. Baker, with whom he made his home during the waning years of his life. He was a man of rare intelligence and sterling worth. His wife, Margaret, died in 1823, leaving three small children.

Cornelius Vroman Baker, their only son, born in 1819, was then four years of age, and was reared on the old homestead in Coeymans.

AMBROSE WILTSIE, Jr.

He early displayed a taste for agricultural pursuits and business, and devoted himself with rare perseverance to the accumulation of landed property. In 1846 he married Caroline Lasher and settled on part of the Sill farm, which he leased for a term of years, purchasing before the expiration of the same 120 acres of the tract. The present homestead was afterward added, and subsequently additions have been made until the tract, known as Grand View Farm, comprises 450 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have had eight children, four of whom are living; three sons—Alexander R., Charles N. and Edward E., a daughter, Abbie S., all of whom have enjoyed liberal educational advantages.

In connection with his farming operations, Mr. Baker was for several years extensively engaged in lumbering and rafting pile timber to New York. He was also connected for a number of years with the forwarding and commission business from Albany, Cedar Hills and Coeymans to New York. In 1872 he was nominated for Member of Assembly by the Liberal Republicans of his District, and met with the fate of the party, since which time he has led the life of a gentleman farmer, and devoted himself wholly to agricultural pursuits, bringing his farm to such a high state of cultivation that "Grand View" now ranks as the largest, most productive and valuable farm in Albany County. It is situated on the west bank of the Hudson, opposite Castleton, eight miles south from Albany, consisting of rolling upland, sloping gently to extensive fields of rich alluvial bottom lands, extending over a mile along the river.

Mr. Baker is a self-made man, and in his business enterprises has been remarkably successful. He is noted for clear judgment and accurate conclusions, and many young and middle-aged men are indebted to his advice or help for their advancement in life. As a public man, he has filled a large measure of usefulness, being foremost in all enterprises for the common good. As a neighbor, he has always been ready to lend a helping hand. The good that such men do lives after them.

AMBROSE WILTSIE, Jr.

The first of the name of Wiltsie in Bethlehem was William Wiltsie, from Dutchess County, who, in 1795, came into the town and located on a tract of land embracing the farm now owned by Ambrose Wiltsie, Jr., which he purchased from Stephen Van Rensselaer, buying the possession from Nicholas See, who had previously taken up the land and made some improvements on it. He died in 1797, and the property passed into the possession of his children, one of whom, and the youngest son, was Ambrose Wiltsie, Sr., who was born in 1787, and was about nine years of age when his father took up his residence in the town. Ambrose Wiltsie became a substantial farmer and

a respected citizen of the town. He married Magdalene Miller, a native of Connecticut, who with her father's family moved into Coeymans from Dutchess County in 1795, the same year in which William Wiltsie became a resident of Albany County, and died in 1856. His wife bore him eight sons, of whom seven grew to manhood, and two daughters, and died in September, 1879, aged ninety-four years.

Ambrose Wiltsie, Jr., was born in the same house in which he now lives, April 3, 1828, and is the youngest of the eight sons of Ambrose and Magdalene (Miller) Wiltsie, of whom only two others are living. He was reared on the farm, where his services were required while he was yet quite young. Until he began the regular life of a farmer boy, he attended the public school several terms, summer and winter; after that he attended only in the winter, until he attained his majority. He then became a student in Cazenovia Seminary, at Cazenovia, New York, where he remained during most of two years. He returned to Bethlehem, and, upon the death of his father in 1856, came into possession of the old Wiltsie homestead, which he had worked on shares since he was nineteen in partnership with his brothers. On January 15, 1862, he married Hannah Elizabeth Witbeck, a daughter of Jasper Witbeck, of Coeymans, who died in the following September. November 20, 1873, he married Mrs. Catherine M. Slack, the widow of Frederick Slack, and daughter of Jacob Kimmey, of North Bethlehem.

While at Cazenovia Seminary, Mr. Wiltsie obtained a knowledge of surveying. In connection with his farming, he did much surveying until January, 1882, since which time he has been incapacitated for such service. Following in the footsteps of his father, who had long manufactured cider, Mr. Wiltsie continued to manufacture it, increasing the business from year to year until, during the past twenty years, it has been quite extensive. About the time mentioned, he added the manufacture of vinegar, in which he has since been largely engaged.

On the 25th of January, 1882, while out in the woods, on his farm, overseeing and aiding some hired men, who were cutting down trees for logs. Mr. Wiltsie, standing in a stooping posture, was struck in the small of the back by a falling limb. The blow broke his back, and, as is supposed, cut off the spinal cord. Since that time the lower part of his body has been paralyzed, and he has been unable to move about except in a wheeled chair or other conveyance. His case is a very peculiar one in many of its features and has attracted the attention of many eminent physicians and surgeons, the wonder being that he survived the accident. Aside from the disability described, he is in a perfectly healthy condition, and has a reasonable expectation of living an average lifetime at least; and notwithstanding the disadvantage at which he is placed, he constantly and ably manages all of his business affairs.

Mr. Wiltsie's grandfather on his mother's side, John Miller, was born in Alsace, Germany, and during the Revolutionary War fought for the American cause, under the Marquis de Lafayette, whom he accompanied to the New World on his memorable mission of freedom. Soon after the close of the Revolution, he settled in Connecticut, and there married Zabrina Bradford. Later he removed to Dutchess County, whence he soon removed to Coeymans.

Jurian Winne

JURIAN WINNE.

JURIAN WINNE, a prominent citizen and agriculturist of Bethlehem, Albany County, was born in that place, March, 1816. In descent, personal habits and character he belongs to the sturdy, frugal and industrious early settlers of Albany County. For two hundred years or more the Winne family, from father to son, have turned over the soil of the old homestead with characteristic thriftiness, wearing it better instead of wearing it worse. The farm is situated in the town of Bethlehem, about eight miles from Albany, on the Plains of Jericho, two miles south of Jerusalem. Here, among cows and calves and choice sheep, with Indian and Revolutionary traditions for a heritage, and the rough discipline of the farm for high school, Jurian passed his boyhood. He attended the common school of his native place until he was fifteen years of age, and by close application gained more than an average education for that time. His start in life was a part of the maternal acres leased him on condition of furnishing half the seed, paying half the taxes, doing all the work, and receiving one-half the returns when converted into cash. This training in economy, laboriousness, business forethought and the application of common sense to studying the conditions of agricultural success, laid the foundation of the scientific farmer, who, later in life, astonished while he taught his neighbors the value and efficacy of virtue, intelligence and knowledge in a pursuit which seems to be the last to profit by human experiment and experience. At the age of twenty-one he married Mary A., daughter of Christian Houck, a prominent hotel-keeper, widely known throughout the country. Mrs. Winne is a lady of rare graces of mind and heart, and enters warmly into all the plans of her husband, taking a deep interest in all movements where his sympathies lead him, while at the same time she dispenses a generous hospitality at their lovely country home, no caller there being permitted to depart without sharing in their noble-hearted courtesy. Mr. Winne's memory is rich in reminiscences of his early ancestors, their privations and hardships and fights with the Indians and Tories of Revolutionary times. His great-grandfather, Francis Winne, was one of the pioneer families from Holland who settled Albany county, and purchased and settled the land now owned by the subject of this sketch. An oil painting of him, executed when he was only eighteen years of age (over one hundred and

John L. Wynne

sixty years ago), is now in Mr. Winne's possession, and is pronounced by critics to be a masterpiece of art. Mr. Palmer, the sculptor, says it is one of the best pictures he has ever seen in all his travels.

Mr. Winne's mother was Susan Hogan, daughter of Jurian Hogan of Revolutionary fame, who was so well esteemed by the Liberal party that he was commissioned a Colonel, while the Tory party evinced their appreciation of his importance by offering a reward for his scalp. The Hogan farm of 300 acres joined the Winne farm, and the homestead is still in possession of the family. Mr. Winne has taken an active interest in everything pertaining to the advancement of agriculture. He was one of the four organizers of the Albany County Agricultural Society, and was for two years vice-president of the State Agricultural Association. Sheep-raising and winter-feeding is the specialty in which he excels. Among his Leicester sheep he exhibited one that weighed 290 pounds at eighteen months old. Another had wool twenty-four inches long at two and a half years. His address on winter-feeding before the Agricultural Society of the State of New York attracted the most favorable attention, and 5,000 copies were printed and distributed throughout the State. Being thoroughly alive to every movement in the interest of farmers and the encouragement of honesty in the administration of public affairs, Mr. Winne was the first to organize a grange in his vicinity, and acted as treasurer of the State organization. Through his efforts the incorporation of the grange was effected, and he originated the measure which was subsequently enacted by the Legislature, whereby the New York City and Brooklyn ordinances for baling hay, and which operated disastrously upon farmers, were done away with. In this movement Mr. Winne, aided by only one other gentleman, was opposed by six New York and Brooklyn lawyers, who appeared before Governor Tilden to contest the passage of the bill into a law. Governor Tilden, however, signed Mr. Winne's bill, and thereby afforded great relief to the farmers. For this Mr. Winne became a firm friend and adherent of the Governor, and during the presidential campaign of 1876 labored zealously for his election, canvassing, with his team and buggy, five counties to accomplish that end. Mr. Winne is also a great admirer of the late Peter Cooper, for whom, during the latter years of his life, he entertained a sincere friendship, and was a welcome guest at the house of the venerable philanthropist whenever he visited New York. He was one of the first to aid in the organization of the Greenback party, and was nominated by that party for State Treasurer in 1879. Although realizing that there was no chance for his election, he entered the contest with a hearty will, and canvassed Albany County, speaking almost every evening for a week. Mr. Winne's vote, under the circumstances, was respectable and flattering, being about one hundred in excess of that of any other candidate on his ticket in his district. Mr. Winne's liberality is proverbial. His deeds of practical, substantial charity are beyond enumeration or specific mention, because he is one of those rare men who "let not the left hand know what the right hand doeth." The indigent and unfortunate have been the recipients of his bounties unexpectedly, and have been made to rejoice in the midst of their mourning. He is a man who appreciates worth of character in the circles of poverty as highly as in those of the affluent, and his society is sought as freely by the latter as by the former. Mr. Winne is a gentleman of sterling integrity. He is a strict constructionist as regards financial trusts, and as such commands the respect and confidence of his party and his fellow men generally. Possessing one of the most productive farms in Albany County, with every improvement in machinery, and with a scientific knowledge of his calling, strengthened by long experience and observation, he is a conspicuous and worthy representative of the great farming interests of the State.

JOHN L. WINNE.

This gentleman is one of the best known and most popular citizens of the town of Bethlehem. He ranks as a leading farmer and is recognized as one of the progressive, self-made men of the town. Born in Berne, a member of an old and respected family of that town, he received the rudiments of an education in the common schools, and began active life as a farmer lad. When he began farming on his own account it was on a rented farm, and in company with another young man, their united means being necessary to stock and work the place. He has lived successively in the towns of Berne, Knox, New Scotland and Bethlehem, and, commanding the respect of all with whom he has associated, his advancement has been sure, if not so rapid as that of many less conscientious and more speculative men. His farm, near Adamsville, is one of the neatest and most productive in the town, presenting evidences of care and industrious cultivation. He has long been happily married, and around him are a family of bright and interesting children, one of whom, a son, bids fair to rise to prominent rank in the town. Politically, Mr. Winne is a stanch Republican, and has been such since attaining his majority. He is not a politician or a seeker for office; but, in recognition of his integrity and ability, he has been three times successively (in 1883, 1884 and 1885) elected to the responsible office of Supervisor of Bethlehem, the last time against strong, wealthy and influential opposition both in the town and county. His administration of the trust thus reposed in him has done him great credit and won the approbation of his fellow citizens. Mr. Winne's success in life is but the just reward of industrious endeavor and an inherent desire to render unto all men that which is honestly their due. Such men are a credit to the age in which they live, and perform their part in making the world better for those who come after them, for it is the small duties of life well done that make up the sum total of all earthly progress.

We take pleasure in making mention of the following gentlemen, who, by their guaranteed support, aided in the publication of this valuable work: Francis Baker, Francis Selkirk, P. Van Wie, G. P. Noyes, C. V. Niver, Ambrose Wiltsie, Jacob J. Soop, P. H. Van Derzee, Wm. Kimmey, A. W. Becker, J. Lansing Pearse, D. P. Winne, Jurian Winne, John Wemple, L. W. Soop, John M. Staats, John J. Mull, Garrett Van Allen, John L. Winne, D. Van Allen, W. T. Hotaling, Jno. H. Schoonmaker, Albert Westervelt, O. S. Haswell, Rensselaer Lasher, David N. Mead, Peter McCormick, Jas. Schoonmaker, Geo. M. Bender, Jno. M. Houghtaling, James Patterson, H. V. H. Onderdonk, John McHarg, George Lasher, C. A. Niver, C. V. Baker.

Rev. LANSING PEARSE has been for twenty-nine years engaged in the work of the ministry, twenty-five years of which time he has been located at Adamsville, Albany County, New York.

J. W. MATTICE is a resident of Slingerland and has been practicing law since 1847.

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BERNE.

By Rev. ROBERT DOIG, M. A.

I.—ITS GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION.

BERNE is located on the Helderberg Mountains. It is the central town resting upon this ridge, and from its position may be regarded as the backbone of the Helderbergs.

Helder is the name of a fort in Holland, signifying strength or firmness; hence the character of the town; the firmness, stability and heroic nature of its early inhabitants.

Some say that the mountains were called "Hellebergs," Helle meaning light or clear, from the clear and far-off prospect given from them to the early German settlers.

Berne is also the central western town of the county, and was a part of the Manor of Rensselaerwyck. It was formed from Rensselaerville on March 17, 1795, and Knox was detached from it in the year 1822.

The town is bounded on the north by Knox, on the east by New Scotland, on the south by Rensselaerville and Westerlo, and on the west by Schoharie County.

Its area originally was 64,447 acres; its present area is 38,942 acres.

II.—ITS NATURAL FEATURES.

Along the northern part of the town is a ridge rising abruptly from the bed of the Foxenkill. This ridge, being divided by nature, takes the names of Grippy (origin unknown), Irish Hill, from the Scotch-Irish settlers who first located there, and the Uhai (high garden), from a spot upon its summit cultivated by the Indians, and which may still be pointed out. The altitude of these distinct spurs is said to be about two hundred feet, and the town itself from nine to twelve hundred feet above tide-water.

These mountains belong to the Silurian division, but here and there Devonian rocks are found. More than a dozen distinct species of fossils or petrifactions and minerals are found among these hills, such as the fine and coarse grit sandstone, hone-slate, with some sulphates of iron, magnesia, alumina, snowy gypsum, calcareous spar, etc.

In front of the house of Mr. Williams, on the right hand side of the road, in the Village of Knox (according to an early geological report of Prof. Eaton), is the best locality for ammonites, pectinites, turbinites and terebratulites.

As our history overlaps the town of Knox before its organization, we may mention the Berne cavern as containing encrinites, favosites and anthocepholites.

Along the bed of the Foxenkill may be found corallinites.

The south and west parts of the town are hilly. The hills are separated by rocky ravines, through which flow small streams of water. One such ravine, termed the "Gulf," is a natural curiosity. It affords a passage way for a single wagon, along which the tops of the mountains rise many hundreds of feet.

The principal streams of the town are the Foxenkill and the Switzkill. The Foxenkill rises in the northeastern part of the town, in Thompson's Lake, and flows in a southwesterly direction, partly underground, toward Warner's Lake, and then in the same course through Berne, West Berne, and so on to the Schoharie Creek. Its fall during the entire length is several hundreds of feet, so that it is impetuous and rapid.

The Switzkill rises in Rensselaerville and flows almost northward, emptying into the Foxenkill at what is termed the "Old Water."

These streams are of sufficient importance to the town in furnishing the power necessary to drive the extensive saw and grist-mills, which have been erected over them, from the earliest times to the present.

The soil along the banks of these streams is very fertile, and affords excellent pasture. On the hillsides and mountain tops the soil is to a great extent valuable for all kinds of grain and farm produce; in many places, however, it is very light and is used only for pasture for sheep.

In an early agricultural report, the soils on the following farms are especially noted: Gideon Taber's, Andrew Brown's, Nathaniel Gallup's, Almerin Hubbell's and Wheeler Denison's. What has always been known as the Beaverdam is a valley which was divided between upper and lower, extending from Warner's Mills at East Berne to Post's Mills at West Berne. The dam proper was at a point on the creek near the residence of Peter Schell, and was of such a character as to give the name to the Dutch church which was then near by, and also to the villages along the valley line.

Warner's Lake, situated one mile north of the village of East Berne, is a small body of water covering an area of one hundred acres. It took its name from Johannes and Christopher Warner, who settled on its banks before the organization of the town, and whose descendants still continue to occupy the land around it. It takes its rise in a spring on the farm of Christopher Warner and is also fed from Thompson's Lake. The water is very clear and stocked with different kinds of fish. On the east side is a beautiful growth of young trees, which has been extensively patronized by picnic and camping parties.

Thompson's Lake, named from John and William Thompson, lies in the northeast part of the town, and is partly in the town of Knox. It has an area of one hundred and ten acres.

A rocky ledge on the southern boundary is covered with a growth of trees and is used as a camping and picnic ground.

This lake has recently attracted to it many boarders from Albany and other places. Ten years ago there was but a single dilapidated structure on its western shore, which could neither be sold nor rented.

William J. Hart was the first to see and take hold of the project of keeping boarders, and has now a large house on a spot which commands a view of the entire lake, and is called the Lake View House. The success of the enterprise was such that there are now three boarding-houses well filled during the summer.

This geological formation generally contains mineral springs. Within the limits of the town there are several powder or sulphur springs.

Two of these are upon the land of Jacob Hochstrasser, are named in an early geological report as of considerable importance, and give name and character to the large boarding-house erected near them in 1880. Their capacity is daily five hundred and three hundred gallons.

Upon the farm of Thomas J. Wood is another spring of the same character, and there is still another upon the farm of John Miner Deitz, in the valley of the Switzkill.

On the land of Alfred Hungerford, at Reidsville, is a spring impregnated with carbonate of iron and a little sulphuretted hydrogen. Its water is as clear as crystal, while its character is strongly marked. It is worthy of inspection as being the only one of this nature known to exist in the town.

III.—ITS EARLY SETTLEMENT.

There were but about eight families who originally settled this town. These were the Weidmans, Zehs, Balls, Deitzes, Knieskems, Shultes, Basslers and Hochstrassers. Jacob Weidman was one of the pioneer settlers and is supposed to have been the leader of the party. He came from the city of Berne, Switzerland, with his wife and four sons, and located in the town as early as 1750.

He is acknowledged as having had the honor of giving the name to the town, which may have been accorded him from his priority of settlement, or his extensive ownership of land, or the particular influence which he exerted upon his neighbors.

The route taken by the party was along the line of an Indian foot-path leading in the direction of Schoharie. An Indian familiar with the country was chosen as their guide.

Their furniture, provisions, tools, etc., were carried upon their backs. Foot-sore and weary, and camping here and there along the way, they at length reached a spot, now the site of the village of Knox.

While encamped here a dispute arose, the cause of which is supposed to be as to who should be the recognized leader. But, be that as it may, the quarrel was of such importance as to give to the spot the name of "Fechtberg," or fighting hill.

An earlier historian, in mentioning this fact, states that the dispute was settled, and that the party kept on their course to Schoharie.

The writer, however, believes that this dispute caused such a division in the party as to separate it, the one part going to Schoharie, and the other remaining in the town of Berne. This is confirmed by certain dates found upon the rough head-stones in the Pine Grove Cemetery at Berne, which has ever since been recognized as a burial plot. The date upon one of these is 1700, another 1720, and still another bears the date of 1728.

Nor does this militate against the common opinion that the town was settled from Schoharie, since parts of the same families were afterward induced to return.

Jacob Weidman took up the land on the banks of the Foxenkill, on the site of the village of Berne, a tract covering many hundreds of acres, and reaching in width from the village of Berne to the road running northward, near the boarding-house of Jacob Hochstrasser.

He had been by occupation a miller in his native city of Berne, in Switzerland. He located himself at a point on the Foxenkill where he thought a mill could be best planted, and here established, as soon as circumstances permitted, the first grist-mill and saw-mill in the town. These mills were known as early as 1787 as Weidman's Mills.

The mill property itself consisted of thirty acres of land. It was leased in 1790 to Jacob Weidman for sixteen years, at a rental of £7. At the expiration of this term it was again leased for ten years, at a rental of £30.

Jacob Weidman was also one of the founders of the Reformed Church in the town, having brought with him from the heart of Switzerland the exalted faith of his fathers. His name appears on the records as an elder as early as 1763.

Frederick Bassler, another of the pioneer settlers, came from Basle, Switzerland, about the year 1750. He was among the Palatinates who sought to escape religious oppression in Germany and to obtain religious freedom in a new country. The family were highly influential, and gave name and character to the land from whence they came. These traits he brought with him and handed them down to his descendants.

The Deitzes became component parts of the town in its beginnings, and settled for the most part the valley of the Switzkill.

Hendrick Ball, the head of that family line, took up the farm now occupied by Stephen Ball.

Hendrick Knieskem occupied the land now owned by Jacob Knieskem.

The Zeh family, for the most part, settled the land along the Foxenkill from what is known as the Boarding-house to the village of East Berne.

Matthias Shultes, the head of all the Shultes throughout this section, took up over four hundred acres of land along the northeast side of the West Mountain, sloping gradually to the road that passes the farms of John and Allen Shultes.

Jacob Hochstrasser, as one of the pioneer settlers, exerted a no small influence in the early history of the organization of the town. He was a man of intellect and possessed great executive ability. He was one of the committee to petition the Legislature to set off the town from that of Rensselaerville and the chairman of the committee to draft the town laws.

When the town was organized he was its first supervisor and first justice of the peace. He owned a large tract of land where the White Sulphur Spring House now stands. He was a fit representative of the manly elements of that early society.

In 1790 three Scotch-Irish families came into the town from New Scotland and settled a large tract of land upon the Irish Hill. These were the Hays, Youngs and Currans.

Soon after this came the Filkins and Congers, the former locating on what is known as Filkins' Hill, the latter occupying the land in and around Reidsville.

Other influences than these came into the town to settle and strengthen it.

New England sent a number of representative families. Among these were the Gallups, Whipples, Crarys, Browns and Williams.

Samuel Gallup and his son came from Groton, Conn., in 1786, and bought a large farm in the neighborhood of the Whipple cemetery, now in the town of Knox.

His son Nathaniel became one of the strongest forces in the town. For fourteen years he was town clerk, and wielded a skillful pen. The records show that he was a man of no ordinary ability. He was also a justice of the peace for at least nineteen years. His numerous descendants own and occupy many farms in the neighborhood of East Berne.

Malachi Whipple, another representative man, came from Stonington, Conn., to this town about the year 1793, and bought what has ever since been known as the Whipple farm.

This farm in 1820 took the premium as the model farm in Albany County. This premium was

two solid silver pitchers and five silver cups, which are still in the possession of the family. He afterward received premiums on sheep, on wool and on cloth. In 1825 he removed to the village of Berne; bought the grist-mill property, and built the present mill. The valuable property of E. V. Filkins, the widow Fairlees, and that of the widow Davis, were included in this purchase.

He also, with William H. Ball and Lyman Dwight, built a carding and fulling mill. In his day he was recognized as a leader, and chosen to those positions which required special wisdom and prudence in their management.

Miner Walden, another worthy citizen of the town, came from Vermont in 1797. He established the first carding machine where wool and cloth were carded and dressed. In connection with this business he also carried on a store, and did an extensive trade.

He was a man who left a marked influence upon the town, which is felt even to this day far beyond the circle of his descendants. For many years he was a justice of the peace, and occupied the then prominent position of chorister in the Reformed Church.

Another worthy citizen who figured prominently in the early history of this town was Moses Patten, of an honored New England family. He came from Londonderry, New Hampshire, in 1820. He had previously graduated from Union College, and had studied law.

From the first, certain qualifications were recognized which made him a leader where the qualities of leadership were of supreme importance.

He served as town clerk, justice of the peace, commissioner and inspector of common schools, and also as supervisor, and filled these positions with honor to himself and with great credit to the town.

For many years he was engaged in the mercantile business in the village of Berne. The character of the firm was such, that it monopolized a great portion of the trade throughout the town.

On receiving the appointment of Surrogate of the County, Mr. Patten removed to the City of Albany, where, after a useful and busy life, he died in 1867.

His brother James, elsewhere mentioned, and a younger brother, Samuel, were important factors in the development of the town.

Besides the influences just mentioned in connection with the settlement and growth of the town, it might be well to give a single sample of the native-born talent.

One of the most influential men, and a native of the town, was Jacob Settle. He was what may be termed a "full man."

His judgment was clear on all matters of business, and this was coupled with great firmness and conscientiousness. He was the arbiter chosen in many a contest, and his decision was regarded as final.

From 1812 to 1864 he was engaged in the mercantile business, and by industry and prudence he built up a trade that was second to none in the town.

He represented the town in the Assembly, in the Board of Supervisors, and served as justice of the peace and as town clerk.

He was also for thirty-five years postmaster, for several years a commissioner and inspector of common schools.

He was appointed by Gov. De Witt Clinton, May 7, 1818, Cornet of the Fifth Regiment of Cavalry of the State of New York, and in 1821 was commissioned its Captain. Again, in 1824, he was appointed Major of the 31st Regiment of Cavalry, and in 1825 was raised to the position of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Through his instrumentality a plank road was run from Schohaire, through the town, to connect with one running to Albany. This road ran parallel with the Foxenkill, and was of vast importance in grading and shortening the old Beaverdam road.

In 1833, through the failure of the ax factory of Daniel Simmons, Mr. Settle was seriously involved and besieged by anxious creditors. In this emergency he was assisted to his feet by Mr. Thomas W. Olcott, of Albany, and also by the firm in New York with which he did business.

At the end of a few years he was able, not only to meet his indebtedness, but to accumulate a handsome property.

In church and state he was a power, and his death was sincerely mourned by all.

EARLY BUILDINGS.

These were log structures. Isaac Wilsey, the oldest native resident of the town, born in 1796, describes the house in which he was born as built of peeled elm logs. The roof consisted of long poles, overlaid with elm bark tied down to them. There was but one room below and a loft above. The floors were made of heavy pine timber, eighteen inches wide, and the door was a double one, with a latch-string upon the outside. The building

was used, some time after it was vacated, as a shop, in which home-spun cloth was made.

He remembers to have seen many of these buildings in his early days, similarly constructed.

These houses, however, were soon replaced by others more modern in style. The house in which Thomas J. Wood, the Supervisor of the town, lives has upon its corner stone the initials P. F. and the date 1795.

The house on the farm of Frederick Zeh and the house of Nathaniel Gallup were built about 1795.

The house of the widow Fairlee, in the village of Berne, was built for a tavern in 1809. It was used as a recruiting station during the war of 1812.

The dwelling of Petrus Weidman, the miller, one of the oldest known residences in the town, was upon the site of the house of the widow of Edward Settle.

The largest and most complete house stood upon the site of Jacob P. Warner's dwelling. It was built about the year 1800 by Petrus Weidman. It had great halls, double doors and ten fire-places. There were five rooms in the cellar, which was occupied by the negro slaves.

EARLY STORES.

In the early history of the town there were but few stores, and these were located on the main roads. There were no centers of trade in villages.

The staple articles for sale were rum, molasses and tobacco. What are now called dry goods were then home-spun. There was no muslin, nor calico, nor fancy articles needed, and no tea and coffee were drank.

Sugar was all made from the sap of the hard maple, which was very abundant. The manufacture of this sugar was a distinct business, in which every family was engaged, whether they owned property or not. Buckets and troughs were made from the butts of large trees.

The store of Johannes Fisher was the first one known to have been established in the town. It was in the same building now owned and occupied by Thomas J Wood. The first wagon known was used by the proprietor of this store, in which to transport his goods from Albany. It was two-wheeled.

Stephen Willes (known as Major Willes), from Connecticut, established a store in the town as early as 1800. He is described as a large, portly man, and very shrewd in the management of his business. He located on the site of Hiram Warner's residence, a mile from what is now the village of East Berne, and built a large New England house, with a large chimney in the center and three fire-places.

His business increased so rapidly that he soon built a store on the opposite side of the road.

Besides the store, and on the left hand side of the bridge, was a potash factory, and on the right hand side a tannery. On the north side of the creek he established a whisky still and a saddle and harness and boot and shoe manufactory. He exchanged for ashes, for bark for tanning purposes and for rye, the goods which he constantly kept on hand and which the necessities of the people demanded.

In 1825 he established a second store in the village of East Berne, in order to ward off opposition in trade on the part of Albert and Benjamin Gallup.

He was one of the town builders, and occupied many posts of usefulness within the gift of the people, such as Member of Assembly, Supervisor, etc. Dr. Almerin Hubbell, son-in law to Peter Weidman, went into the business of store-keeping in 1803, on the site of the residence of Mrs. Edward Settle.

In 1811 Miner Walden, from Vermont, began life as a store-keeper in the basement of the house owned and occupied by E. V. Filkins, Esq.

Johan Jost Deitz, known as Col. Deitz, kept store on the site of Peter Bassler's residence in 1812. In 1816 he took as partner Jacob Settle. Their business was extensive. Fourteen barrels of potash sold by them this year in New York netted them six hundred and sixteen dollars and ninety-eight cents.

MILLS AND FACTORIES.

The earliest mill established was that of Jacob Weidman in 1750. It was located about fifteen or twenty feet from the site of the grist-mill of Francis Becker. A saw-mill built by Jacob Weidman was also erected near the same spot.

Soon after this another mill was built back of the school-house, at East Berne, by Johannes and Christopher Warner. This mill must have been built as early as 1765, since the Warners were among the pioneer settlers of the town.

About the year 1790 Jacob Post established a mill near the site of the village of West Berne. The grist was, in early times, carried to the mill in a bag, thrown over the back of a horse, behind the rider. Asa Culvard, or Culver, about the same time, erected a clothing mill in what is now South

Berne. Several mills for the carding of wool and manufacture of cloth were established; notable among these were the mills of Miner Walden and William H. Ball.

These mills all became centers for the villages which afterward sprang up around them. Here dwellings were planted and stores and shops erected.

The mills at the present time are: Francis Becker's mill, built by Malachi Whipple in 1832. It contains three run of stone and all the necessary appliances.

It has a Herkley wheel of forty-two horse-power, and a thirty-two feet fall of water. Twenty-seven thousand bushels of grain is the yearly average of business done.

MOSES A. M. GALLUP'S MILL.

This is the most complete mill in the county outside of the city of Albany. If space would permit, a description of this mill might be noted.

The present mill was planned and erected in 1858 by Clark, Decker & Gardner.

Luman Lobdell was then the proprietor, and he spared neither labor nor money to make it in every way complete.

The building is five stories high, has four run of fine French burr stones, and an overshot wheel twenty-two feet in diameter.

Every bag of grain can be carried to any floor in the building by the power and emptied to any stone, thus relieving the person of all lifting. The supply of water is constant.

The mill property consists of ninety-three acres, which, together with the buildings upon it, is valued at from sixteen to eighteen thousand dollars. The annual amount of grain passing through this mill is thirty thousand bushels.

Mr. Gallup has also a saw-mill which cuts annually fifteen thousand feet of timber, and he is about to introduce into it a machine by which five thousand shingles can be made in a single day.

JACOB MINER HOCHSTRASSER'S MILL.

This building has a history identical with that of the town. It was the first carding machine; a factory for making shoe pegs; afterward the place where axes were ground, polished and painted; a manufactory for all kinds of furniture; and for a time it was the Methodist meeting house.

As a grist-mill it has been run for three years. It has a twenty-five horse steam power, which, together with the water, makes forty horse-power. It has two run of stone, and grinds annually twenty thousand bushels of grain, which is a yearly business of one thousand dollars.

ELIAS ZEH'S MILL, SOUTH BERNE.

This mill was built in the year 1855, and again rebuilt by its present proprietor in 1884.

It rests upon the site of the clothing mill of Asa Culvard built in 1790. It is run by water supplied from a pond, and grinds yearly twenty thousand bushels of grain. The mill property consists of one hundred acres of land.

WATSON CHESEBRO'S SAW-MILL.

This building was first used as a foundry by Henry Engle. It was afterward fitted up as a tannery. John Rossiter, Jacob D. Settle and Oscar Tyler carried on this business in it for a number of years. It was also a place for the manufacture of furniture of various kinds.

As a saw-mill it has cut three hundred thousand feet of timber in a single year. The amount of business now done yearly is estimated at one thousand dollars.

AX FACTORY OF DANIEL SIMMONS.

This was the most extensive business ever conducted in this town. It was the first ax factory in the United States, and perhaps in the world, in which axes were made from cast steel.

Daniel Simmons came to Berne from the town of Bethlehem about the year 1821 as a journeyman blacksmith, and began business in the shop of Henry Engle, midway between the Lutheran Church and the house of John D. White.

Having previously learned the art of ax-making from his uncle, who had become moderately well off in the business, he continued to hammer out, on his anvil, a few axes a day during hours of leisure otherwise unemployed.

The superiority of the Simmons ax over the rough German and English axes then in use was at once recognized. It consisted in the welding process, which was effected with the aid of borax. All other implements were found useless, and on the introduction of these were thrown aside.

The demand for these axes became so great, owing to the extensive forests and uncleared land, that Simmons, feeling his fortune secured, determined to embark in the business on a larger scale.

Being a young man of commanding presence and pleasing address, he won the confidence of such representative men as Jacob Settle, Malachi Whipple, Col. Jacob Weidman, Moses Patten,

Johan Jost Deitz and William Schell, who furnished the capital for the enterprise.

The first building (or two buildings connected together) was erected in 1825, on the north side of the creek, and directly in the rear of the house of John Stiner. Here a trip-hammer was introduced, which resounded through the valley, giving it the appearance of intense activity. In this building the iron was forged, the axes shaped, and the greater number of the men employed.

A second building extended across the stream, and was known as the tempering shop.

The third building, now the lower grist-mill, was where the axes were ground, polished and painted. It contained several grindstones, run by water power, some of them being from twelve to eighteen inches in thickness, six feet in diameter and weighing over a ton.

A fourth building, one hundred feet long, was erected near the northeast corner of Stephen Ball's woods in 1830. The material used in its construction, it is said, came out of the old Dutch Reformed Church, taken down in that year.

This building contained a trip-hammer, several forges and a number of grindstones.

Here the bursting of a grindstone killed a workman and did other damage.

These buildings contained twenty-one forges, employed two hundred men, and turned out about six hundred axes and other edged tools daily.

The forges were run for a long time by charcoal, this being the cheapest and most easily obtained fuel. Thus the making of coal to meet the demand opened up a new channel of profit to the inhabitants.

More than one-half of the people were engaged in the making of charcoal, and these smoking furnaces were most conspicuous among the hills of the town.

The tops of trees and the knotty timber, out of which nothing else could be made, were thus utilized. Here was an open market, where the highest prices were paid for charcoal, grain and all kinds of produce.

At the height of his business, Simmons bought the Fischer farm and moved upon it, with his brothers Baltus and Jonas. When out of coal or iron, or when the water power ceased, he employed his numerous hands in clearing up the lands, burning brush, etc.

He also built the large house, now E. M. Shultes', as a tavern and boarding-house, and placed over it his father-in-law, Francis Osterhout.

He was supposed at one time to be doing the largest business of any man in the County of Albany. He kept half a dozen teams constantly on the road, drawing iron, steel, coal and grindstones.

He found a market for his axes and edged tools in Canada, Ohio and Pennsylvania, and employed S. H. Doty, as his agent, carrying samples and soliciting orders. The Simmons ax afterward found a market in Asia and Africa, and in fact there is hardly a forest in the world that has not felt its impress.

The long distance from Albany, and the expense of transporting material from that city, over heavy roads, so told upon the firm, that it failed in 1833. An assignment was made to Moses Patten, one of the creditors, who, for the benefit of the others, continued the business for a short time thereafter.

Daniel Simmons took shelter under the bankrupt law, moved to Cohoes, and in 1834 established there the ax factory of Weed, Becker & Co.

He died in that city in 1861, after having amassed a large property.

The failure of the firm caused greater commotion in this rural hamlet than did the starting of it. Many of the best men were swallowed up by it, and left almost without a dollar.

Still time has shown that it was not destitute of all result. Many of the buildings, now remaining, stand as memorials to the enterprise, and it is well worthy of remark that upon this swelling tide the Reformed Church was lifted to its present site.

The merchants of the place reaped harvests during its existence, howsoever much some may have lost. The store of Coates & Smith was then established to supply the demand, and the failure of this factory removed the necessity, and the store was abandoned.

The old office, together with the polishing shop, are the only remaining buildings that reveal the "parting glory of man." The office is now a part of the barn of Watson Chesebro.

The public school was now for the first time drawn into the village from the outside, and arrangements were made for the erection of an academy.

CHEESE FACTORIES.

The first factory of this kind in the town was built in the spring of 1878, one-fourth of a mile from the village of Berne, on the farm of Thomas J. Wood.

The idea was originated and the plan made by James W. Hart, who for fourteen years was engaged

in the business near Oneida Lake, Madison County. His wisdom has been confirmed by time, and the factory has become successful and profitable.

The building is 72 x 26 feet, and has two floors. The lower floor contains a five-horse-power boiler, by the means of which the milk in the vats is heated. The factory has a capacity for the milk of four hundred cows, but at present receives the supply of only two hundred and fourteen.

Four hundred and ninety-five pounds of cheese have been made in a single day. The boxes in which the cheeses are packed are made here by Mr. Hart; the material ready to set up is bought at Little Falls, N. Y. The south side of this building is used as a dwelling.

A second factory was erected at East Berne in 1884, for the manufacture of cheese and butter, and is now under the supervision of Mr. Hart. The building is the same as its predecessor in size.

This factory has in it a steam boiler, one vat and an engine of four-horse-power. The power is intended for the churning of the milk.

There is also a machine for separating the cream from the milk as it is brought in, the skim milk being made at once into cheese.

The cream stands in a vat for twenty-four hours, is brought to the proper temperature by cooling or heating, and is then churned. Mr. Hart has been connected with this enterprise in the town for seven years, and during this time has enjoyed the confidence and respect of his patrons.

Under his wise and careful management the business has been annually increasing.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

The history of the public school system in this town must necessarily be incomplete for want of materials.

The earliest buildings were plain log structures, of nearly equal dimensions. One standing near the site of the old Lutheran Church had a flat roof. Another is described by the oldest native resident of the town who attended the school as being built of unpeeled hemlock logs, with a slanting roof made of bark. It was twenty feet square, and had in it three windows of four lights each. The door was swung upon wooden hinges and was fastened by means of a wooden lock. There was no playground.

School Commissioners were appointed as early as 1796, according to law. They had the entire management of everything relating to the interests of schools until 1813, when a new office was created, called Inspectors. Six persons were chosen to this office, whose duty was simply to inspect the schools and examine teachers.

In the year 1812 the assessors were appointed as School Commissioners, to divide the town into regular school districts. This was accordingly done, and the records show that in 1813 there were twenty-one districts, which in the year following were increased to thirty.

The instruction given in this early period was not of a very high order, and complaints were frequently entered against the incompetency of teachers.

In 1812 the following resolution was passed: "Resolved, That there shall be five hundred dollars raised in the town of Berne for the use of common schools in said town, to be appropriated to regular men's schools that will bear the inspection of a school committee."

Alterations were made in the school districts from time to time, and new ones were formed as necessity demanded. Numerous appeals from individuals asking to be transferred from one district to another were heard by the School Commissioners, and invariably granted.

Each district maintained a library of its own, and an annual report was made in regard to the number of books, their titles, and an annual sum was contributed toward replenishing these libraries. These have now fallen into disuse, and the money is used for general school purposes.

In 1813 but three hundred dollars were appropriated to common schools, and this sum was divided between twenty-one districts. In 1816 there were thirty districts, with 1,710 children of school age. The amount of money expended during this year was four hundred and seventy-four dollars and twenty-four cents, which is less than sixteen dollars to each district for the year.

The record covers both the towns of Knox and Berne until 1822, when the division was made which marked the interests as separate.

The following schedule, taken from the records, will show the condition of the schools within the time covered:

Date.	No. of Children.	School Money.	Library Money.
1825	997	$334 25	.....
1835	1,302	430 61	.....
1843	1,148	677 40	$169 35
1855	1,397	1,436 36	61 10
1868	978	2,084 29	35 43
1873	941	2,241 72	33 98
1878	969	2,431 90	32 20
1884	831	1,942 10	25 76

It will be seen by the above schedule that an advance has not been made in this department in proportion to the increase of wealth.

The condition of the public schools, the incompetency of the teachers, and the consequent low grade of scholarship, have driven many to seek an education elsewhere, and induced the opening of private schools.

The first academy was organized in the town in 1833, when there was a great influx of inhabitants, owing to the establishment of an ax factory at Berneville some time previous. Although the timber was bought and placed upon the ground site, the enterprise was abandoned through the failure of the ax works.

In 1882 a select school was organized, with the following Board of Trustees: E. V. Filkins, Esq., President; Thomas J. Wood, George H. Reinhart, Charles E. Deitz, Peter S. Ball and Edwin M. Shultes.

A room was fitted up and furnished over the store of Theodore Settle.

This school is still in successful operation, under Elmer G. Story, a graduate of Cornell University, as principal.

CHURCHES.

The churches are named in their order, beginning with the oldest.

REFORM CHURCH OF BEAVERDAM.

This church was organized in the year 1763, under the ministry of Rev. Johannes Schuyler, who was then regularly settled over the Reformed (Dutch) Church of Schoharie, known as the Stone Fort. The congregation was composed of Holland, Swiss and German settlers, the former, however, predominating.

The first consistory were: Elders—Adam Deitz, Jacob Ball, Jacob Weidman and Caspar Stiner. Deacons—Johannes Deitz, Caspar Stiner, Hendrick Ball and Roedolph Casman.

The first church was a small log building, erected about the year 1765, on what is now known as the Pine Grove Cemetery. Here, during the trying times of the Revolution, the early settlers worshiped the God of their fathers. Through constant peril of the Tories and Indians, they went to service on the Sabbath, each carrying a loaded musket and ammunition. These were stacked behind the door, which was strongly guarded by sentinels.

This building remained standing until the year 1786, when it was taken down and replaced by a frame structure, dedicated September 17, 1786. This building had a hip roof and unplaned and unpainted boards twelve inches wide. Within, it was ceiled with wide knotty pine timber, and had galleries on three sides. The worshipers, it is said, whiled away the long service in counting the knots in the timber. The building was warmed by a single stove placed in front of the pulpit. This stove is still in use in the West Berne church. This edifice remained standing until 1830, when it was taken down, and the material divided between the two churches now forming the congregations of Berne and Beaverdam.

Previous to the organization the settlers worshiped in Schoharie, going there on foot or riding on horseback, twenty in line, and armed. They followed an Indian foot-path, which ran along the borders of the Foxenkill, a distance of ten miles.

Among the stories related is one in reference to the intense habit of smoking. It is said that it was customary for the members, men and women, to smoke in the church, both before and after service, and that at times the clouds of smoke were so dense that persons sitting on the opposite side could be distinguished with difficulty.

The church was strictly missionary ground until the year 1812. For thirteen years, or from 1766 to 1799, it received the services of Rev. Johannes Schuyler. From this time until 1785 the service was maintained through missionary effort, when Rev. George W. Schneyder, the acting minister of the church in Schoharie, assumed charge and maintained his connection unbroken until 1790.

For several years after this the records show that service was performed, and that infant baptism, the distinctive mark of the early church, was not neglected.

In 1797 Christian Bork, a Hessian drummer, born in Prussia, educated under Dr. Livingston, and a man of great originality and force, assumed the charge, in connection with his regular fields of labor at Lawyersville and Sharon, and afterward at Schodack.

The character of the man and the style of his preaching, which was thoroughly scriptural, left its impress upon the minds of the congregation, and was frequently remarked on in after years by the children. During his ministry three persons were disciplined for partaking of the Lord's Supper with the Methodists, while others were suspended for drunkenness, profanity, and for absenting themselves from the house of God. The ministry of Mr. Bork practically closes the strictly missionary period of the church.

The language up to this time spoken was the German, and the preaching was in German.

The Weidmans, Balls, Deitzs, Schultes and Fischers had a marked influence upon the growth and prosperity of this church up to this time.

After this period, and until 1821, was what might be termed the semi-missionary period of the church's life. Isaac Labagh and others engaged in missionary work here until 1811, when a call was made, for the first time, upon Rev. David De Voe, in union with the church of Middleburgh. He retained the oversight of the congregation until 1816, and was succeeded by the missionaries, Isaac Labagh, Winslow Paige and Isaac A. Van Hook.

In 1821 a call was accepted by Rev. Cornelius Bogardus. He was the first minister called who lived within the bounds of the congregation, and during his ministry of four years a solid foundation was laid for the future. A Sabbath school was then started for the first time, and the matter of discipline, long neglected, was rigorously enforced. Many were suspended and some excommunicated for drunkenness and immorality.

The consistory were appointed as watchmen throughout the congregation, in tracing evil reports to their origin and arresting them. One member was questioned as to pleasure riding on the Sabbath, and as to whether he attended a ball and had dancing in his house.

The church farm during this period was greatly improved, and a committee was appointed to erect a suitable building upon it for a parsonage. Rev. Mr. Bogardus was dismissed, June 27, 1825.

Rev. Robert J. Blair, sent by the Domestic Missionary Board, then served the church for three months.

A call made to Rev. J. H. Van Wagenen, June 30, 1826, was accepted, and he was ordained and installed on August 29 of the same year.

A new parsonage and also a barn were erected for the accommodation of the pastor, and fifty to one hundred apple and other trees were planted on the church farm.

The relation between him and this church was dissolved, June 30, 1831, and he went to the important churches of Niskayuna and Amity.

His ministry was very fruitful in results, the principal object secured being the erection of the two churches, which still stand as the memorials of his untiring zeal.

These he intended in time should become separate and independent, a result which has not as yet been accomplished.

His successor was the Rev. Abm. H. Myers, who was installed in the new church of Berneville, November 30, 1831.

The opening of his ministry was inaugurated by a four days' meeting, held successively in the two churches of which he was the pastor.

At this period a resolution was passed, disposing of the old German Bible, used from the earliest history of the organization, and with the proceeds purchasing an English Bible and Psalm Book for the Western Church, now the church of West Berne.

At this time there were seven Sabbath schools in operation, two tract societies, a female missionary society, and a temperance society numbering four hundred members. Joseph Knieskem (received into the church during this ministry), Joseph P. Bradley and Jacob I. Warner were preparing under the dominie for Rutgers College, and with a view of entering the ministry; Benjamin Bassler was in the Theological Seminary and Elihu Doty in Rutgers College. The bell in the steeple of the Berne church was purchased at this time.

The two churches were now separated under the following consistories: Berne—Elders—Jacob Settle, Frederick Bassler, Jr., John H. Ball and John Bell. Deacons—Peter Ball, Thomas J. Hayes, Gerardus G. Merselis and Christian P. Zeh. Beaverdam — Elders — Jacob Knieskem, Peter Schoomaker, Jacob Salsberg and Christian J. Haverly. Deacons—John I. Bogardus, Johan Jost Haverly, Matthias M. Schultes and Peter Morenus. These consistories were to hold the farm in common.

Rev. Mr. Myers closed his ministry in October, 1835, and went to the more important church of Belleville, New Jersey.

The Rev. R. D. Van Kleek succeeded to this field in 1836. The consistory of the Beaverdam Church being unwilling to unite in the call, the first year was spent between first and second Berne. At the end of this year Beaverdam made overtures to unite in the call, which were accepted, and the pastoral relation between these churches and Rev. Mr. Van Kleek was unbroken until August, 1843. His ministry was, indeed, a stormy one, and much time was consumed in the settlement of church trials, and in disposing of immoral and ungodly offenders against the order and peace of the society.

The church records reveal the ability and promptness of the man, who was a thorough ecclesiastical lawyer. Cases of drunkenness, profanity, fornication, Sabbath breaking and neglect of church ordinances were adjudicated, and the offenders dealt with according to the constitution and laws of the society.

He was succeeded by Rev. William Demarest, who entered upon his duties in the spring of 1846. Under his ministry the churches and parsonage were repaired and painted, and a bell was secured for the West Berne Church. His ministry closed January 1, 1850.

After him came Rev. Edwin Vedder, who commenced his labors April 1, 1851, and closed them April 1, 1855. The only thing of importance within this period was the constructing of a plank road through the church farm.

The Rev. John C. Van Liew was afterward called, on a salary of six hundred dollars, house and lot and firewood, together with an annual vacation of three Sabbaths. He entered upon his official work, October 1, 1856, and was installed in the church of Beaverdam on the fourth Tuesday of that month and year. On January 1, 1857, the parsonage in Berneville was purchased, Berne paying twelve hundred dollars and Beaverdam three hundred dollars of the sum total. The original purchasers were regarded as owners and stockholders of the property, to receive their proportionate shares in case it was afterward sold.

In the spring of 1859 the lot lying west and north of the school-house was sold for two hundred and fifty dollars, which was applied toward liquidating the debt on the balance of the property.

The relation between the Rev. Mr. Van Liew and these churches terminated in May, 1860.

In the fall of the year 1860 Rev. Edward Miller assumed charge. He was ordained and installed in the church of Berne, September 18, 1860. His ministry extended over a period of eleven years and six months, during which time the churches grew and prospered.

The church of Beaverdam was repaired at a cost of over a thousand dollars, and there was placed in the hands of its consistory certain legacies from Jacob Salsberg and Isaac H. Watson, for the maintenance and support of the gospel.

In the year 1865 a powerful revival of religion was experienced in the church of Berne, which added over sixty members to its membership.

The relation between the Rev. Mr. Miller and these churches was sundered in the spring of 1872.

The present pastor, Rev. Robert Doig, accepted a call to these churches in September, 1872, and entered upon his duties November 1 of the same year. The ordination and installation were held in the Berne church, December 9, 1872.

Within the period of his ministry one hundred and ninety persons have been received into church fellowship; fourteen thousand four hundred and nine dollars and ninety-two cents have been expended for congregational purposes, and one thousand nine hundred and fifty-nine dollars and seventy-five cents for benevolence.

The churches own a parsonage, and also a farm of one hundred and forty acres.

Within the period of their existence the following persons have gone forth from these churches: Revs. Paul Weidman, Benjamin Bassler, Elihu Doty, Joseph Knieskem, Thomas L. Shafer and James E. Graham.

Hon. Joseph P. Bradley, one of the associate justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, and Jacob I. Warner, Esq., have gone out from us.

The membership of these united churches is at present two hundred and fifty. The officers are: Berne—Elders—Elias Bassler, Jacob Miner Hochstrasser, Thomas J. Wood and Esli Whipple. Deacons—Paul Weidman, Jacob Hilton, Lester Luckey and William M. Reinhart. Beaverdam, Elders—John F. Allen, James S. Hays, Zadok B. Schoonmaker and John C. Kniskern. Deacons—George A. Scrafford, Jacob P. Bradt, Adam Westfall and John W. Adams.

LUTHERAN CHURCH.

This church was organized about the year 1790. A church building was erected soon after on a farm situated midway between the villages of Berne and East Berne, and deeded to the congregation by Stephen Van Rensselaer, the patroon, in 1797.

It was a plain frame structure, 40 x 50 feet in size, consisting of unplaned and unpainted pine siding, and with galleries on three sides. The original trustees of the church property were Christian Zeh, Frederick Wormer and Christian Zandt.

The congregation comprised families of German descent, who had emigrated from the Fatherland, carrying with them the seeds of the reformation and the memory of Martin Luther.

The language written and spoken was principally the German, and the records were kept in this language, and the preaching delivered in it until the year 1802, when it was superseded by the English.

The early history of the church was purely missionary. There was no settled pastor over the field, and the exercise of pastoral care was broken by intervals of inaction.

The communion seasons, however, were uniformly observed, and the ordinance of infant baptism strictly adhered to.

The first missionary pastor over this church was the Rev. August Frederick Meier, President of the German Lutheran Ministerium in North America. He appears to have exercised the duties of his office here in connection with other fields of labor until the year 1804.

In the year 1806 the Rev. August Wackerhagen took the oversight of this field in connection with the churches of Schoharie and Cobleskill, of which he was the regular pastor. It is seen from the records that only about one-third of his time was spent here, and that his relation with the church was maintained to 1813.

For a period of three years thereafter Rev. H. Moeller acted as the missionary pastor.

At the close of this period the Rev. L. Merkel assumed charge, devoting one-third of his time to preaching and the exercise of pastoral care.

He maintained his connection with the church until 1827, preaching at Middleburgh, Schoharie, Cobleskill and Berne.

His ministry was faithful and effective, and under it the church grew in strength and usefulness.

In the year 1828 this church and the church in Guilderland were united, and a call was extended to the Rev. Adam Crounse, a young man fresh from the theological department of Hartwick Seminary. He accepted the call and at once entered upon his work. His ministry embraced a period of nineteen years, and was the most fruitful of any in the history of the congregation.

Under his faithful administration the present substantial brick edifice was constructed and dedicated to the Triune God, May 13, 1836.

At the time of dedication the following were trustees and officers of the church: Trustees—Peter Sand, Christopher Engle and Johannes Shafer. Elders—John Rossiter, James Leggett and Frederick Joslin. Deacons—Christopher Warner, Alexander Crounse, Henry Zeh and Peter C. Sand.

This church edifice will long preserve the memorial of the man who had so long and so well served the congregation; a man not gifted in the learning of the schools, but sincerely earnest, pious and loveable as a minister of God.

After the long and eventful pastorate above mentioned, which continued until 1836, Rev. S. Curtis was called and sustained his relations with the church for a period of nearly four years.

The prominent feature of his ministry was the securing of the parsonage house and lot now owned by the congregation.

In the spring of 1850 the Rev. Lambert Swackhammer was regularly called to take the spiritual oversight of the church. During the period of five years in which he was pastor there were several revivals of religion, and one hundred and sixty-one persons were received into church fellowship.

On the 1st of June, 1856, the Rev. A. P. Ludden assumed the pastoral care of this church, and exercised the duties of his office for a period of eleven years.

During his ministry the congregation was greatly developed by faithful pastoral work and the earnest preaching of the word. The membership was increased by the addition to it of two hundred and forty-seven persons, many of whom are now living to testify to the zeal and earnestness of this man of God.

The spirit of liberality was also greatly promoted, and such other work done as to secure the permanence and independence of this organization.

On November 1, 1867, the Rev. James Lefler was called. For over seven years he labored with great fidelity and earnestness.

He was a man of marked ability and clearness of expression, and fearless in the enunciation of the truth.

During his ministry a separate church edifice was erected in East Berne, and dedicated to the service of God, August 28, 1872. The wisdom and foresight of this man of God are being more and more realized, in the planting of this church on the outskirts of the congregation, to meet the growing demand of the people for church privileges.

The trustees of this church (named St. Johns) are Jacob Osterhout, Christopher Warner and Sanford Hilton.

In December, 1876, a call was made upon the Rev. J. R. Shofner, which was accepted.

His ministry was inaugurated by a series of religious services, continued for several weeks and resulting in the addition of nearly one hundred to the working forces of the church.

Aside from this, a spirit of benevolence was largely awakened by him, and extensive and much-needed improvements were made, both to the church and parsonage. His ministry lasted for six years.

The present pastor, Rev. Chauncey Diefendorf, entered upon his labors as pastor of this church in September, 1883.

Within this period he has succeeded in clearing off a burdensome debt and in harmonizing discordant elements in the congregation.

Two churches have grown out of this church, viz., St. Johns, at East Berne, and the Lutheran Church of Gallupville.

Two ministers have gone out from it, viz., Revs. Levi Schell and Augustus Shultes.

The church owns a substantial parsonage, and has no indebtedness.

The following are the trustees and officers: Trustees—David Ball and Peter Schoonmaker. Elders—Alexander Crounse, William Zeh, Jacob M. Allen and Charles E. Deitz. Deacons—Isaac Hungerford, Egbert S. Wright, Uriah G. Davis and Nicholas P. Sheldon. The membership is about two hundred.

SECOND REFORMED CHURCH OF BERNE.

This church was organized March 15, 1826, at the house of Daniel Secor, by a committee appointed by the Classis of Albany, of which the Rev. Robert J. Blair was chairman.

The meeting was conducted in due form, a sermon being preached from Mark i, 14, 15.

Twenty-three members were received by certificate from the Reformed Church of New Salem, after which the following officers were ordained: Elders—Jacobus Van Deusen and John F. Shafer. Deacons—Cornelius Secor and Peter B. Winne. Two children were also baptized.

The early history of the church was strictly a missionary one. The record mentions the names of Revs. Robt. J. Blair, Thomas Haliday, Abram Fort and Peter Stryker, men of marked character and influence in those early days. The first minister regularly called was the Rev. Jacob R. Van Arsdale, who served the church with acceptance for a year and a half.

In the year 1838 the church was supplied by the Rev. Hart E. Waring, and under his ministry forty-one were received into fellowship, among them Jacob West, now a prominent minister of the gospel.

At a meeting held at the house of William Sigsbee, in the town of New Scotland, a resolution was passed by the joint consistories, uniting together the churches of second Berne and Onisquethaw.

The churches thus combined accepted for two years the services of the Rev. Staats Van Santvoord.

At the close of the year 1841 this connection was broken and a union made with the Presbyterian Church of Knox.

A joint call was made upon the Rev. Joseph Knieskern, who served them with great acceptance for a period of four years.

From 1845 to 1868 the church depended upon services rendered by ministers in neighboring congregations, and by way of supply. Among these were Revs. George G. Sill, Jasper Middlemas, Staats Van Santvoord and James G. Cordell.

In 1868 a call was accepted by Rev. William H. Ballagh, who was duly installed September 3 of that year.

Rev. Mr. Ballagh remained here for nine years, and left behind him the marks of a faithful and effective ministry.

He was succeeded by the Rev. George M. D. Slocum, who remained five years.

Under his ministry there were several revivals of religion, which greatly quickened the life of the church.

The church is locally known by the name of the Secor Church, from not only having been organized in the house of Daniel Secor, but from the number of people of that name within its bounds.

The church has sent forth into the ministry Rev. Jacob West, D.D., now Secretary of the Board of Domestic Missions of the Reformed Church.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH BERNE.

This church was organized about the year 1812, as the result of conversions made in the camp-meetings held in Wright's Grove.

Rev. Mr. Stead was the first minister, and supplied this church in connection with the one at Rensselaerville. It was at that time the only church in that section, and had a large membership.

The first church edifice stood a little south of Zeh's grist-mill, and was used until 1870, when a new building was erected on the present site. The present membership is twenty-two. The church owns no parsonage and has service but once in two weeks.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, REIDSVILLE.

This organization was effected in the year 1830 by the Rev. Rosman Kelly.

At that time James Anderson was the class leader and the principal promoter of the church's interests. The present church edifice was erected in the year 1841. It is supplied at present, from Rensselaerville, by the Rev. Mr. Morgan.

The membership is eighteen, and the property is estimated at twenty-two hundred dollars.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, BERNEVILLE.

This church was organized July 11, 1845, and the present edifice was erected soon after. At the election of trustees, on the above date, the Rev. C. C. Gilbert presided, and the following persons were chosen to this office: Thomas Miller, Datus E.

Tyler, Oscar Tyler, George Possing, Franklin Smith and Abram Ball.

H. K. Willard, M. D., and Abram Ball were for many years the most active promoters of the church, and acted alternately as president and secretary of the society until 1862.

After this period Henry Fairlee served for many years as class leader, president and sexton, and only laid off his armor at death.

Since then the society has been maintained through the persistent and unwearied efforts of George E. Shultes, its class leader.

This church, until 1881, was dependent upon Knox for its supply, but since then has been independent. The present membership is about twenty-four, and the value of the property is fifteen hundred dollars.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

This church is located at Reidsville. The organization was effected December 26, 1821, through the labors of Elders Levi Hathaway and John P. Teats, and consisted of fifteen members.

In 1823 there was a revival of religion under Elders Daniel Call and Benjamin Howard, and forty-nine added to the roll.

Soon after this, however, disaffection arose in the congregation, and as there was no pastor to unite them and no stated service, some renounced their obligations, while others united with other churches.

The few that remained faithful succeeded in maintaining the organization. In 1828 Elder Stephen Hitchcock was called and supplied them occasionally until 1832, when a revival occurred, which resulted in the addition to the church of thirty-seven.

The present church edifice was erected in 1833, and dedicated in the month of November, when a sermon was preached by Elder Hathaway.

On August 31, 1834, service was held for the first time in the new church, the occasion being the ordination and installation of Elder Lewis Taylor. He remained but a short time, and was succeeded by Elder Stephen Hitchcock, who served the church until 1838.

After eighteen months of service by Elder Amasa Stanton, a call was made upon Elder James Conkling, Jr., whose work was cut short by his death, on April 7, 1841.

Under his ministry, there was a revival of much interest and power, which resulted in an addition of sixty-four to the membership of the church. On May 1, 1841, a call was made upon Elder Richard Mosier, who labored with great fidelity for a period of five years.

In the first year of his ministry the following was adopted: "Resolved, That upon examination of the former records of the church, we find a manifest discrepancy, and deem it necessary to form a new church record, containing the important items of the history of the church, and also the names of all the members in good and regular standing, who are following peace and holiness with all men, and who are willing to renounce all human creeds and party names; and we do hereby renounce them, and receive the name of Christian as our only name, and the Holy Scriptures as our only written rule of faith and practice; and we do hereby renew our covenant with God and our brethren to forget the things that are behind and live in love and peace, that the God of peace may be with us." To this confession one hundred and fifty-six members subscribed their names.

In May, 1846, Elder Jedediah Parker accepted a call, and the relation was sustained until February 24, 1850.

For two years thereafter this church was served successively by Elders Philip Couchman and Calvin Southwick.

In April, 1856, Elder David P. Warner assumed the pastoral charge, and labored with great fidelity and earnestness for a period of seventeen years.

Under his administration the work of the church was greatly promoted. He was the trusted friend and counselor of the poor and suffering, and the generation that grew up under his teachings reverenced and loved him as a father.

He was recalled in 1881, and retired after a service of two more years.

The following have served as pastors since then: Elders Leonard Thorne, 1873–1876; R. Fenton, 1876–1877; D. M. Tuller, 1877–1879; Nelson Putnam, 1879–1880; Henry Crampton, 1880–1881; and J. Austin Mace, 1883–1885.

The officers are: Deacons John Weidman, John Castle and Jacob H. Moak. The present membership is eighty-six, and the value of the property fifteen hundred dollars.

SECOND CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

This organization was formed September 13, 1836, through the labors of Elder A. L. Taylor.

Meetings were first held in the school-houses, but the present church edifice was erected soon after the organization was effected and was dedicated October 15, 1836.

The church is located in the extreme southwestern part of the town, in what is known as Hunters-land, and affords the only church privileges for miles around. The growth of the enterprise has been gradual, the present membership reaching one hundred and forty.

The following have served the church as pastors: Elders L. A. Taylor, Stephen Hitchcock, A. J. Stanton, James Conklin, R. Moshier, J. Packard, George Strevell, Joel Gallup, H. Brown, L. Coffin, A. Damon, Philip Couchman, R. B. Eldridge and D. M. Tuller.

The present pastor, Elder D. P. Warner, is now serving the church for the second time. His entire ministry here covers a period of nine years, which is the longest in the history of the church. The deacons at present are George Turner and Elijah Crippen. Men prominently connected with its past history are Leonard Alverson, Aaron Decker, Isaac Denison, Daniel Tallman and Jonathan Tallman. The church has a parsonage, and the entire property is valued at five thousand dollars.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH, SOUTH BERNE.

This church was organized in the Friends' meeting house, a little east of the village, on February 16, 1854, with twenty-four members, and while under the ministry of Elder Calvin Southwick.

After the resignation of Mr. Southwick, the church was supplied for six months by Elder Joel Gallup.

In the year 1855 the old store north of the present building, owned by James Cornell, was purchased by four members of the church.

Service was held in this building until the erection of the present church edifice in 1864.

Elder D. P. Warner was chosen pastor in the spring of 1856, and was ordained and installed on August 24 of the same year.

He served the church with acceptance for a period of thirteen years. Under his ministry the society enjoyed an unusual degree of prosperity. Seventy persons were added to its communion, and the present church edifice was built.

After an absence of ten years he was recalled, and served as pastor for three years.

The church has also had the following pastors: Elders Philip Couchman, 1869–1873; L. Moore, 1873–1874; R. B. Eldridge, 1874–1875; D. M. Tuller, 1875–1878, and J. Austin Mace, 1883–1885. Henry Moak, Andrew Onderdonk and Albert Miller have acted as trustees for several years. The present membership is eighty-two, and the property is valued at three thousand dollars. Within the past few years the church has been weakened through the loss of many of its influential members.

INDIAN HISTORY.

In the early settlement of the country there were many Tories who were professedly subjects of the British Government. These joined with them the Indians, who were the original owners of the soil, against the struggling patriots.

Stockades were established at different points in the town as a means of defense. These were invariably resorted to at night, when men, women and children left their homes, to seek shelter and to combine their forces against the surprise of the enemy.

One of these stockades was erected near the house of Petrus Weidman, now in the village of Berne, and owned and occupied by Jacob P. Warner. Another stood upon the farm now owned by Adam I. Deitz in the valley of the Switzkill.

This town lays claim to a fact unique in the history of the county, viz., that of the massacre of the Deitz family in 1780, when the entire ridge formed part of the West District, of which the Hudson River was the separating line.

The massacre occurred on what is now the farm of James S. Hays, at a spot near his barn, which may still be pointed out. The apple tree to which the victims were tied has long since succumbed to the ravages of time, but a shoot from this tree was in existence until a few years ago, when it was taken down in a state of decay.

The Beaverdam, now the village of Berne, is mentioned as being then an old, settled place. The grist-mill of Jacob Weidman seems then to have been the only mill to which the inhabitants resorted, and was about five miles from the scene of this massacre.

Johannes Deitz was an old man, and an ardent patriot in the cause of independence. His family consisted of himself and wife, his son and his son's wife, together with four young children, and a lad by the name of John Brice.

The Brice family, living at Rensselaerville, sent their younger son Robert to the Beaverdam with a grist. With him were several other lads bound on the same errand. They reached the place, obtained their grist, but as it was toward evening all the lads, except young Brice, determined to spend the night with the miller.

The farm of Johannes Deitz lay midway between this mill and his own home, so he proposed to stop

at this half-way house and enjoy the society of his elder brother.

It was nearly dusk; the sun had already set behind the rugged hills, when he reached the gate which opened into the lane leading to the home of Mr. Deitz.

Suddenly an Indian sprang up from a covert of logs near the roadside, seized the bridle and led the frightened youth directly toward the house.

In passing the barn, the beginning of the dreadful scene flashed upon his mind, as he beheld the prostrate form of the elder Deitz weltering in his blood.

But this was not all. Between the barn and the house, which were on a direct line with each other, were the mutilated bodies of the wife and son's wife, four lovely children and a servant girl.

The Indians, to the number of fifteen, were busily engaged in the work of plundering the house of its provision and clothing.

They had made prisoners of Captain William Deitz, the son of the elder Deitz, and also of John Brice, who were tied to the apple tree near by.

Having finished their work of blood, they set fire to the house and barn, and then started with their horses, baggage and prisoners along a well-known path leading in the direction of what is now Rensselaerville.

They encamped during the first night of their journey within a mile of the Brice mansion, where the parents of the two young lads were at that moment slumbering, unconscious of the terrible fate that had befallen their sons.

On the morning of the second day they continued their march toward Potters Hollow and Oak Hill; thence toward Middleburgh, Breakabeen, Harpersfield, and so on through the valley of the Susquehanna, till they reached their destination in Canada.

The party were frequently surprised along the way, news having reached the garrison at Schoharie of the bloody murder and robbery. The Indian routes and foot-paths being well known, scouting parties were sent out in all directions to overtake and capture them if possible.

At a point near Middleburgh, in an old field, in which there was a dilapidated and deserted house, they were so hotly pursued as to be compelled to abandon their horses and plunder. Here several of the Indians were wounded by the firing of the scouting party.

The prisoners, however, were carried off through the cover of night, which had fallen upon the scene.

Along the route they were forced to live upon roots and berries and the wild game which could be taken on the way. At times the party was greatly straitened for food, and at one point the killing of a deer providentially saved them from starvation.

Their sufferings were beyond description. At the Indian villages through which they passed they were compelled to run the gauntlet. Capt. Deitz endured the severest mental agony. Besides the sufferings of the gauntlet, he was doomed to look upon the scalps of his honored parents, and those of his wife and children.

The fatigue of the journey, the constant burden of his losses and the wrongs which he suffered so told upon his naturally strong constitution that he gradually pined away, and died heart-broken, while in confinement at Niagara.

The two Brice boys returned home after an absence of three years, and the younger of the two, advanced in life, died at New Scotland, not many years ago.

The bodies of the massacred family were buried in one grave, on the eastern side of the line wall of the Pine Grove Cemetery, and on a line with the site of the old Log Church.

Lieut. Johan Jost Deitz, a relative of the family, was sent from the lower fort for this purpose.

Until within a few years there were the remains of an Indian oven, built of limestone, not far from the scene of the massacre above described.

Among the Indian curiosities is a wampum bag in the possession of William Miner Ball. This bag has come down through generations.

ANTI-RENT.

This town is included in the manor of Rensselaerwyck, and has consequently been under the control of Stephen Van Rensselaer, the patroon.

The Van Rensselaers obtained a grant of land from the Dutch Government in 1641, to encourage them in the founding of a colony of citizens from Holland. This grant was confirmed by the English in 1685, and again in 1784. The grant included twenty-four miles square, on either side of the Hudson River. A map of the west part of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, covering this town, and in possession of Walter S. Church, the present proprietor, was made by William Cockburn in 1787. This map divides the town into distinct plots of one hundred and sixty acres, more or less.

Deeds were given as early as 1790 to all who desired to settle the lands, subject to certain condi-

tions. These conditions were that, on every one hundred and sixty-six acres, the settler should pay an annual rent of eighteen bushels of wheat, four fat fowl and one day's service, or their equivalent.

The patroon built a large manor house in the City of Albany, and proceeded to bring colonists from Holland, offering them great inducements to locate on his lands.

Being a man of wealth and very benevolent, he allowed his tenants to fall into arrears, until, at last, they considered the manorial claim a dead letter.

Many believed that the Van Rensselaers had never obtained a title to the land from the Indians, and the legal fraternity confirmed their opinion, and urged them to litigate the question.

Discontent arose at a very early period, but the crisis came when the old patroon died, in 1837.

The anxiety as to the position which his successor should take was such that a committee were appointed to wait upon him. They obtained no satisfaction.

Weary with the burden which they had so long borne, and believing it to be contrary to the spirit of our free institutions, they began to devise means of escape.

Associations, known as anti-rent associations, were accordingly formed to resist the payment of rent. Meetings were held in all the villages and in many of the school-houses outside of them. Inflammatory speeches were made by certain leaders, and there was much rioting and intoxication.

These meetings led to the formation of a secret organization, and solemn pledges were made to protect the tenants by armed resistance. The members of this fraternity appeared in bright calico dresses, and with their faces masked or painted to resemble Indians on the war-path.

The leaders assumed the names of well-known Indian chiefs and led their forces with the familiar cries of savage warfare. That portion of the community who frowned upon such proceedings was threatened and insulted.

The sheriff and a *posse* of men sent out to serve papers were mobbed and driven back, and Christopher Batterman, a high sheriff, was tarred and feathered on the West Mountain.

Gov. Seward was then at the head of affairs in New York. He sent two representatives, Messrs. Sackett and Maxwell, to inquire into the difficulties and find out what terms could be agreed upon; but the anti-renters would accept no terms.

He afterward appeared on the scene in person, but to no purpose.

The troops were finally ordered out. They ascended the Helderbergs, with arms and a cannon, and remained for several days.

The great meeting was held on December 10, 1844, on the land then occupied by Silas Wright and Joshua R. Davis. A great sale of land had been advertised for that day, and the sheriff and his *posse* were expected to enforce the sale.

Two hundred armed men on horseback met in opposition. Dr. Bouton, called Big Thunder, and one Thompson, Little Thunder, were the leaders. The party were arrayed in bright calico dresses, were masked, and carried spears, tomahawks, muskets and various weapons. They waited all day for the sheriff, but he failed to appear. He had heard that there were great bands of armed men ready to do anything to maintain their claims.

Soon after this the legislature passed a law imposing penalties upon persons appearing armed and in disguise.

Other meetings, however, were held, but they were smaller and less demonstrative. This war lasted seven or eight years, and ceased only through the change of the property to other hands.

The anti-rent feeling finally culminated in political action, when, in 1846, John Young was made Governor over Silas Wright.

Those found guilty of misdemeanors and imprisoned during this war were liberated by him.

The marks of this struggle may yet be seen in the framework of those buildings where the shock of battle was felt, notably the house of Peter Ball, who was long known as the champion of the anti-rent movement.

He was the leader in litigating the question, and was brave, conscientious and prayerful. Many a time he was dispossessed, but as often reinstated by his valiant cohorts, until at last, weary with age, he was forced to leave the scene of conflict.

With him lived a colored servant, named Susan, who, on the approach of the enemy, summoned the anti-renters from far and near by blowing on a conch shell.

The sufferings endured by these people it would be impossible to describe. Many and many a soul conscious of the right have been turned from their homes, and some of them have died broken-hearted.

Where the blame lies it is not the province of this paper to say. That it was detrimental to the growth and development of this town every candid mind will concede.

For years valuable time was spent amid excitement and revelry; money was wasted, and a habit of indolence and a lack of thrift were engendered.

Churches, schools and business enterprises have felt the blighting curse of feudal tenure, and are rejoicing that the reign of terror is well-nigh over.

ROLL OF HONOR, WAR OF REBELLION.

James Knox Alverson, John Amasa Alverson, Henry A. Ball, Jerome Ball, John Harrison Ball, Lucius E. Ball, Madison M. Ball, Seneca S. Ball, Albert Bell, Edmund Bell, Elias Bell, John Michael Bell, William Henry Bell, William M. Blade, Charles E. Bogardus, Peter Bogardus, William H. Bogardus, Peter G. Bouck, Addison Bouton, Theodore Bradley, Lewis Brate, Jacob H. Burbanks, John Henry Canull, William Harrison Canull, Charles F. Cary, Thomas Conden, Madison Cook, Leonard Cornell, George W. Crary, John Cummings, George M. Davis, David DeVoe, John W. Duell, Robt. Dunbar Engle, Thomas L. Farqueher, Aaron Flansburgh, Adam Flansburgh, Alfred Flansburgh, Simon Flansburgh, Seth Merritt Flint, John R. Frink, David Grathen, Albert Gifford, George Delos Gifford, James H. Hammond, Jacob Haverly, Azor T. Hays, Charles Hochstrasser, Jacob S. Irons, Allen Jones, Alonzo D. Jones, James E. Jones, Harrison Kniskem, Lyman Knieskem, Alonzo G. Ludden, John Lyon, Timothy McCarty, Peter McIntosh, Michael Maher, Jr., Edward Mattice, Nelson Mattice, Orville Merrihew, Addison B. Miller, Andrew Nelson, George Nelson, Holmes K. Nelson, John S. Newbury, Joseph C. Northrop, Joseph P. Northrop, Cyrus P. Ostrum, James Phillips, George E. Post, Henry Post, William A. Post, Emory Reinhart, Jackson K. Reinhart, Paul Reinhart, Peleg Reinhart, John M. Salsburg, Charles Schermerhorn, Elias N. Shafer, Allen Shultes, DeWitt C. Shultes, John B. Shultes, William A. Shultes, George A. Simons, Michael Smith, Samuel Smith, William Spawn, Philip A. Stalker, William H. Stalker, Chauncey Stiner, Daniel Henry Stiner, John A. Stiner, Harrison Stringham, James Taylor, John Taylor, John Taylor, Daniel Van Deusen, William H. Van Deusen, Francis Wagoner, Moses S. Wagoner, Abram D. Warner, George H. Warner, Henry Warner, Peter William Warner, William Warner, George M. Watson, William Wellington, Allen West, John West, Adam Westfall, William White, William Wilcox, Adam Miner Wilday, Hiram Wilday, John Wilday, Jr., Abram T. Willsey, Stephen Holmes Willsey, Joel Wilson, Peter Winne, Henry Drum Wood, Hiram D. Wood, James E. Wood, Jesse D. Wood, Alonzo D. Wright, Carpenter N. Wright, Charles Wellington Wright, Nathaniel Wright, Samuel S. Wright, Silas W. Wright, Norton Zeh.

SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWN.—Jacob Hochstrasser, 1795, 1799; Amos Jones, 1796; Johan Jost Deitz, 1797, 1798, 1801–1807, 1812, 1813, 1818; Benjamin Fowler, 1800; Abel Hinckley, 1808, 1809; Joshua Gallup, 1810, 1811; Malachi Whipple, 1814–1817, 1821, 1831, 1832; Gideon Taber, 1819, 1820; Jesse Wood, 1822, 1823; Stephen Willes, 1824; James D. Gardner, 1825, 1826, 1835; Chester Willes, 1827; Henry H. Lawson, 1828, 1830; Albert Gallup, 1829; Daniel Simmons, 1833; Lawrence Van Deusen, 1834; Moses Patten, 1836–1838; John Warner, 1839; Jacob Settle, 1840, 1841; Henry I. Devoe, 1842, 1843, 1860, 1861; Oscar Tyler, 1844, 1845; Samuel H. Davis, 1846, 1847, 1856, 1857; John I. Bogardus, 1848; Daniel G. Fisher, 1849; Henry A. Van Wie, 1850, 1851; Jackson King, 1852, 1853; Silas Wright, 1854, 1855; Z. A. Dyer, 1858, 1859; David Conger, 1862, 1864, 1866; William D. Strevell, 1863; David S. Dyer, 1865; Adam J. Warner, 1867; James A. Reamer, 1868; Alfred Hungerford, 1869, 1870; William Zeh, 1871–1873; George H. Reinhart, 1874, 1875; Frederick W. Conger, 1877–1881; Thomas J. Wood, 1876, 1882–1885.

Personal and Real Estate, $1,189,939. Town Audit, $1,494.28. Town census, 1825, 3,509; 1835, 3,956; 1845, 3,665; 1855, 3,206; 1865, 2,851; 1880, 2,616.

POSTMASTERS.—Berne, Charles E. Deitz, daily; West Berne, Peter H. Clow, daily; East Berne, Adam J. Warner, daily; South Berne, George Northrop, three times per week; Reidsville, George Lawson, daily.

VILLAGES.

The mills in the town became centers for the villages. These, together with the early stores, have been mentioned under their proper heads.

BERNE.

This village is situated on the Weidman Mill property, and is the oldest, largest and most important center in the town. It has a population of two hundred and fifty inhabitants. Its growth has been gradual, and the course of time has been marked by many changes. The place was known

as Beaverdam for a few years after the organization of the town.

In 1817 Henry Engle started a tavern west of the residence of Esli Whipple. This tavern bore upon its sign "Corporation Inn," and became a popular place of resort. The place therefrom, by common usage, obtained the name of Corporation. Locally this name is preferred to its proper name, Berne, which was given it on the establishment of the post-office here in 1825.

The mercantile and other business interests give the village its strength, and may be briefly mentioned.

Theodore Settle's store, established in 1817 by Jacob Settle, is the oldest in the place, and has been handed down from father to son.

Charles E. Deitz's store, established by Moses Patten in 1828, and conducted for many years under the firm name of Moses & James Patten, came into the hands of its present owner in 1859.

E. M. Shultes's store was built for a hotel by Daniel Simmons in 1824. After a succession of owners it came into possession of the present proprietor in 1859, who has since conducted it in the interests of the dry goods and grocery business.

Rhinehart & Hochstrasser's.—This store was built by Oscar Tyler as a grocery in 1840. Samuel H. Davis succeeded him in the business and continued it until his death in 1874. After a short time the property was leased to the present proprietors, who conduct a first-class general country store.

William Ball's.—This store is erected on the site of a fur hat factory, conducted by Conrad Truax. It was established in 1849 as a tailoring shop, and soon after joined with it the mercantile business.

Rhinehart & Shultes's.—This store was erected in 1872 for a liquor saloon by Joseph Wilsey. N. H. Dayton and Edwin Wilsey were successively conductors of the grocery trade here. The present proprietors bought the property, and in 1878 commenced the sale of boots and shoes, ready-made clothing and clocks and watches.

Millard F. Hallenbeck's.—This establishment was built by Daniel Wright in 1838 in the interest of furniture and undertaking. Isaac Hallenbeck continued the business here from 1852 to 1872, when it passed into the hands of his son.

Blacksmiths.—Uriah G. Davis, from 1865–1885; Sylvanus Weidman, 1882–1885; Anthony Carey, 1885.

Stoves and Tinware.—John Hochstrasser, 1865–1885.

Saddlery and Harness.—Esli Whipple & Son, 1840–1885.

There are two hotels, conducted respectively by Ira Witter and Myron Lee.

Combined annual business of stores, seventy-five thousand dollars.

Lawyers.—E. V. Filkins, 1851–1855; John D. White, 1881–1885.

Physicians.—Isaac S. Becker, 1857-1885; Wallace E. Deitz, 1883–1885.

Postmaster.—Charles E. Deitz.

WEST BERNE.

This village is located on the Lower Beaverdam, near the site of Post's Mill. It has a population of one hundred and twenty-five inhabitants.

The place was known as Mechanicsville, between 1830 and 1834, owing to the number of mechanics living there. It has now the local name of Peoria, which was given it by Paul Settle, the miller, who owned property in the city of Peoria, Ill. The oldest dwelling in the place is that of John D. Haverly, built by William Shultes about 1800. Levi Ewings manufactured felt hats on the site of the furniture store of Charles Blade in 1850. The grocery store of William Posson was established by Peter Settle in 1824, and that of Hiram Woolford by Paul I. Cannaday in 1854.

Their combined business amounts to twelve thousand dollars annually.

There are two churches.

Two taverns are kept by Joseph Lee and James P. Miller, respectively.

Blacksmiths.—David Nasholds, 1850–1885; Ira Mattice, 1860–1885.

Postmaster.—P. H. Clow.

EAST BERNE.

This village, situated on the Upper Beaverdam, has a population of seventy. It was known as Werner's Mills when the town was organized, and took its present name from the establishment of the post-office there in 1825. It is known locally as "Philley," a name given it by Elnathan Stafford, who kept a small tavern in the neighborhood in 1820, and purchased his liquors in Philadelphia.

Nathaniel, Albert and Benjamin Gallup started in the mercantile business here in 1825; and Stephen Willes, who had long controlled the trade in that part of the town, started also a store on the opposite side of the street.

Albert Gallup bought out Willes soon after, and continued the business under the firm name of

Seabury & Gallup until 1842, when it passed into the hands of Adam J. Warner, its present owner.

The firm of Nathaniel & Benjamin Gallup, after some changes, came into the possession of Z. A. Dyer in 1857.

His son-in-law, Frank Strewell, assumed charge of the business in 1871. A hotel, in connection with the store, is conducted by James B. Dyer.

The combined businsss done annually by these stores is sixteen thousand dollars.

Asa F. Coburn has carried on blacksmithing in the village for many years.

Z. A. Dyer began to practice law here in 1836, and was regularly admitted to the Bar, December 5, 1854.

A Masonic lodge was started in the village in 1868, with fifteen members. It now numbers seventy-five, and meets on the first and third Saturdays of each month.

SOUTH BERNE.

This village is located in the southern part of the town, and on the site of the mill property of Asa Culver. It has a population of sixty.

Previous to 1825 the place held the name of Centerville, from its being equi-distant from three of the larger villages. It is now locally known as Mud Hollow (Mud Hole), from the swampy nature of the soil south of the village.

In 1817 John P. Snyder entered into the grocery business here, and Daniel Lounsberry assumed the occupation of a tanner and currier.

In the year 1822 Alexander McKinley, a wagon-maker, opened a tavern. He kept a trained bear and moose, and life-sized wax figures of noted criminals, which he exhibited from place to place.

Zebulon Holdridge in 1825 carried on blacksmithing, and Ebenzer Denison a general grocery store and ashery.

Henry H. Lawson went into the mercantile business here in 1828, and James Babcock in 1829.

Moses Barber and James Parrish built a carding and clothing mill in 1830, and manufactured satinet. There are at present two churches here, two blacksmiths' shops, a grist-mill and saw-mill and two stores.

The store of Northrop & Ball was built in 1866 by Joseph Deitz as a wheelwright and paint shop, and that of J. Swarthout in 1835.

Their combined yearly business is ten thousand dollars.

LAWYER.—James Lawson.

POSTMASTER.—George Northrop.

REIDSVILLE.

This village was named from Alexander Reid (known as Sandy Reid), who settled here in 1828, and established the first public house. He was also the first postmaster of the place.

Frederick Ward and James Anderson started in the mercantile business here about this time. The firm afterward became Ward & Conger.

The Congers became the owners of much property in and about the village, and held prominent places in local politics.

The village was an important center during the anti-rent struggles, and this cause was championed by Hubbard Gallup and David and Hugh Conger.

The village has two churches, one blacksmith shop, a tavern and two stores.

The main store, kept by Alfred R. Hungerford, does an annual business of three thousand dollars.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Edward V. Filkins was born in Berne, N. Y., March 7, 1821, and has long been identified with the most important interests of the town. He was elected Superintendent of Common Schools in 1852, and served with acceptance until 1856.

He is now President of the Board of Trustees of the Select School, and was, in fact, the originator of it. He was married, October 22, 1856, to Emma E. Shafer. Three children are the issue of this union—Thomas R., Carrie E. and May S.

Mr. Filkins is by profession a lawyer. He has an office in the village of Berne, a very complete law library, and is a reader and thinker. P. O., Berne, N. Y.

Jonathan Turner is the seventh child of a family of eight children of George and Dorothy Turner.

He was born in the County of Cheshire, Town of Tetherington, England, in 1823.

His parents and an uncle John came with him to this country in the above year. They settled upon the farm owned and occupied by himself and brother, and where his parents lived and died.

In 1856 he married Cyntha J., daughter of Thomas and Laura Sisson. Two daughters, Mary and Ellen, are the results of this union.

John P. Shultes, son of Adam I. and Ann Eliza McIntosh, was born in Berne, October 4, 1829. For eight years previous to 1860 he was engaged in the lumber business at St. Paul, Minn.

The farm which he owns and occupies is the one on which his parents spent their lives.

Peter S. Ball is the son of Stephen Ball and Christina Sant, and was born in Berne, September 30, 1837.

He is a lineal descendant of the pioneer settler, Hendrick Ball, and has always engaged in agricultural pursuits.

He was married to Sarah Sand, December 18, 1861, and they have three children—Eugene, Stephen and Belle.

Arthur E. Tuck, M. D., was born in Woburn, Mass., October 3, 1853.

He was married to Sarah M. Taylor, January 2, 1884, and one child, Arthur E., is the issue of this union.

He has been a practicing physician in Berne for two years, and is now located at Cobleskill, N. Y.

Moses A. M. Gallup, the son of Luke Gallup and Jemima Slade, was born in the town of Westerlo in 1831. He is the proprietor of the extensive grist-mill in the village of East Berne. He was married to Susanna Slade, daughter of Edward Slade and Maria Crawford, in 1851. They have had one child, Miles W., who died in 1863, at the age of ten years.

He has been an agent for a drug house, and has traveled through New York and through most of the New England States. He moved from the town of Pittstown, Rensselaer County, N. Y., in 1870, and bought the Samuel H. Gallup farm, which had been in the family for upward of eighty years.

Jacob Hochstrasser, the son of Jacob Hochstrasser and Margaret West, was born in Berne, N. Y., in 1832. He married Maria Hilton, January 12, 1854. They have one child, Frank, born on April 15, 1865.

Mr. Hochstrasser is the proprietor of the White Sulphur Spring House, one mile from the village of Berne. By personal supervision and attention to business he has made it a great success. *Post-office, Berne, N. Y.*

PROFESSIONAL MEN BORN IN THE TOWN.—*Clergymen*—Revs. Paul Weidman, Elihu Doty, Jacob West, D.D., Thomas L. Shafer, David Devoe, Reformed; Henry Wright, Cyrus Bolster, Howard Durfy, Eri Baker, Methodist; John Crosby and John Smith, Baptist. *Physicians*—Robert Leggett, Holmes Rosekrans, Ira Zeh, Joel Crocker, Samuel Wright, Felix Weidman, Isaac R. Finch, Menzo Mattice, M. L. Filkins, W. L. Filkins, Elmer Bradley, Abel Hochstrasser, John Bradley, Adam Clark, Horace K. Willard, David St. John, Wallace E. Deitz. *Attorneys and Counselors*—Hon. Joseph P. Bradley, LL.D., Associate Justice Supreme Court of the United States; Jacob I. Werner, Ralph Brewster, William H. Engle, Albert C. Baker, Menzo Baker, Robert C. Martin, Charles D. Bradley, Theodore Bradley, Henry D. Rosekrans, Gilbert V. Z. Shafer, O. S. Long, O. M. Hungerford, Z. A. Dyer, E. V. Filkins, Lawrence Van Deusen, John D. White, Jason Strevell, Zardis Lawrence, Ira Shafer, Jacob M. Settle, Edward Leggett, George M. Clark, Smith O'Brien and John Hannay.

Indenture of Elihu Doty, afterward missionary and author of several works in the Chinese colloquial:

This Indenture, made the 18th day of February, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, WITNESSETH: That Elihu Doty, son of Stephen H. Doty, of Berne, County of Albany, aged fourteen years, four months and twenty-eight days, by and with the consent of the said Stephen H. Doty, his father, has of his own free and voluntary will placed and bound himself apprentice to Jacob Settle, Jr., of Berne, County of Albany, and State of New York, Merchant, to learn the art, trade, mystery or occupation of a Merchant, which he, the said Jacob Settle, Jr., now useth; and with him as an apprentice to dwell, continue to serve from the day of the date hereof unto the full end and term of six years, seven months and two days. The said apprentice his said Master well and faithfully shall serve, his secrets keep, his lawful commands readily obey; hurt to his said Master he shall not do, nor wilfully suffer it to be done by others, but of the same to the utmost of his power shall forthwith give notice to his said Master.

The goods of his Master he shall not embezzle or waste, nor them lend to any without his consent. At cards, at dice or any other unlawful games he shall not play; taverns or ale-houses he shall not frequent; fornication he shall not commit; matrimony he shall not contract; from the service of his said Master he shall not at any time depart, or absent himself, without his said Master's leave; but in all things as a good and faithful apprentice shall and will demean and behave himself toward his said Master, and all his, during the said term; and the said Master shall instruct his said apprentice in the trade, mystery or occupation of a Merchant, which he useth, with all things thereunto belonging; shall and will teach, instruct, or cause to be well and sufficiently taught and instructed, after the best way and manner he can. And shall and will find and allow unto his said apprentice meat and drink, washing, lodging and apparel, both linen and woolen, and all other necessaries fit and convenient for such an apprentice, during the time aforesaid; and also pay the said apprentice Fifty Dollars and a suit of clothes at the expiration of his apprenticeship.

In witness whereof the said parties have hereunto set their hand and seals the day and year first above written.

STEPHEN H. DOTY. [L. S.]
ELIHU DOTY. [L. S.]
JACOB SETTLE, JR. [L. S.]

Attest,
JACOB D. SETTLE.

James Patten

JAMES PATTEN.

JAMES PATTEN was born in Londonderry, New Hampshire, on November 23, 1795. His parents were among the oldest and best known families of that section. His father's name was Samuel, and his mother's Mary Crombie.

He was the second of six children, all of them possessed of marked individuality and intelligence. The sons all rose to eminence in their careers, occupying posts of usefulness and honor.

James Patten was early sent to school, and having finished the preparatory course in his native village, entered Bowdoin College, Maine, in the year 1819. In 1823 he graduated with honor, and was admitted to the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

He chose the profession of law, and after studying for a time at Rensselaerville, was admitted to the Bar.

He came to Berne in the year 1829, where his brother Moses had preceded him five years. Since that time he has been a permanent resident of this village.

In 1853, July 21, he was united in marriage to Mary L. Russell, of New Boston, New Hampshire, a woman of superior worth and intelligence. One child has been the issue of this marriage, Mary L., who was married, October 12, 1880, to R. R. Trotter, M. D., a practicing physician in the city of Yonkers, N. Y. They have one child, James Patten Trotter, born December 19, 1881.

Mr. Patten has, during all the years of his residence here, been highly esteemed by his fellow citizens for his urbanity, courteousness, public spirit and generosity. He has been identified with the local interests of the town and has contributed largely of his means and influence toward improvements that have been made within its limits. He was chosen to the office of Justice of the Peace in the years 1829 and 1830, discharging the duties imposed upon him with singular fidelity, prudence and skill. Men throughout the town reposed great confidence in his judgment, and sought his counsel in some of the most important matters connected with their interests. Having graduated from college, he so interested himself in the educational interests of the town that he was elected in the years 1831 and 1833 as one of the Commissioners of Common Schools in and for the town, and was chosen for Inspector of Schools in the years 1838 and 1839.

As a business man Mr. Patten is well and widely known. Finding the mercantile business more congenial than the law, Mr. Patten entered into partnership with his brother in the year 1830. The firm did an extensive business for many years under the firm name of Moses & James Patten, and was widely known for honesty, integrity and

Thos. J. Wood

fair dealing. The senior member, having been elected to the office of Surrogate of the County, retired, leaving the entire control to the junior member. Under his management the business continued for many years successful and prosperous, until in 1857 he transferred the property to Isaac Deitz and Hiram Wilsey.

After his retirement from the excitement of mercantile life, Mr. Patten gave his sole attention to the management of a farm owned by him in the valley of the Switzkill, and to other home interests.

As a Christian he has for more than a quarter of a century been identified with the Reformed Church of Berne. During all this time he has been a wise, consistent and faithful adherent to the cause of religion within her bounds. By his means and influence he has helped to strengthen and sustain the ordinances of the gospel.

For a number of years he was successively elected to the office of an elder, until the infirmities of age compelled him to decline the honor. In every department of life, therefore, he has well and faithfully discharged his duty. In the community his character has been a tower of strength, and his example will long remain as an inspiration to those who have long known him. Now on the borders of his 89th year, the oldest man in the town, sound in mind and ready in conversation, may he live many years more to bless, magnify and honor the relation he bears to his family and his kindred.

THOMAS J. WOOD.

Col. Jesse Wood was the first one of the family and name who settled in the vicinity of the village of Berne. He came from Long Island about the beginning of the present century and located in the eastern part of the town of Berne, where he became a prominent and influential citizen. He entered the United States service at the outbreak of the war of 1812–14, and soon rose to the rank of Colonel. At the close of the war he returned to his home in Berne, and resumed farming. He was Supervisor of Berne in 1822 and 1823, and represented his district as member of Assembly in 1833. In 1837 he disposed of his property in the eastern part of Berne, and purchased a large farm near the village of Berne, then called "Corporation," where he lived until his death, July 23, 1853, aged 83 years, 9 months and 1 day. His wife was Rene Warner, who was born October 10, 1770, and died May 8, 1852. They were married October 9, 1791. Col. Jesse

Wood, who was the great uncle of Mr. Thomas J. Wood, of Berne, adopted John M. Wood, his nephew and Thomas J. Wood's father, in boyhood, and reared him in all respects as he would have reared a son, had one been given him, for he was childless. John M. Wood was born October 24, 1811, and married Orpha Denison, January 24, 1832. They had three sons and a daughter, of whom three are living—Thomas J., Eugene and Elizabeth S., now Mrs. Daniel Marselis. Jesse D., the youngest of the family, enlisted in the 177th Regiment, New York State Volunteers, early in the late Rebellion, and died at Port Hudson. Mrs. Wood was born August 31, 1807, and died April 18, 1874. Her father, Ebenezer Denison, was one of the first settlers in the eastern part of Berne. John M. Wood was a farmer until his retirement from active business, and since that time has been a member of the family of his daughter, Mrs. Marselis. He early identified himself with the New York State militia, became very popular on account of his connection therewith, and rapidly rose to high rank. After filling several subordinate offices, he was commissioned Major and was promoted to be Lieutenant-Colonel July 10, 1837, and Brigadier-General June 10, 1840.

Thomas J. Wood, the eldest son of Gen. John M. Wood, was born in the eastern part of Berne, on the farm now known as "the Morgan Allen place," November 30, 1835. He was reared on the farm, and attended common and select schools in Berne, later attending for a time the Honesdale Academy, at Honesdale, Pa. December 24, 1857, he married Libenia Whipple, daughter of Allen Whipple, of Berne. On her mother's side she was descended from Jacob Weidman, the first settler where the village of Berne now is. The Whipples were also early settlers in the same locality and later owners of the mill originally built by Jacob Weidman. Mr. and Mrs. Wood have six children—four sons and two daughters. While still a mere youth, Mr. Wood inherited a portion of the Col. Wood farm, at Berne, and by a purchase of the interests of other heirs subsequently became possessed of the entire property, aggregating 477 acres. Some years ago he sold about 130 acres, retaining the balance of the original tract, except a few small lots which had been sold by Col. Wood. He has always been interested in the affairs of the town, and has been a liberal supporter, according to his means, of its leading interests. In 1876 he represented the town in the Albany County Board of Supervisors. He was again elected in 1882, and re-elected in 1883 and 1884, twice without opposition and always by good majorities. A Republican politically, he is not in the usual acceptation of the term a politician, though his interest in the success of his party is deep and abiding. With his family he is connected with the Dutch Reformed Church of Berne, of which he is one of the elders, and toward the support of which he is a generous contributor.

JOSEPH and JONATHAN TURNER are residents of Berne, Albany County, and farmers by occupation. Their father and mother, George and Dorathy Turner, came to this country from England in 1832; also their uncle, John Turner, came with them. Their father brought eight children and left one in England, and settled on the farm where they now reside.

EDWARD V. FILKINS was born in Berne, March 7, 1821; married Emma E. Shafer, October 22, 1856; is a lawyer by profession. Berne post-office.

ARTHUR E. TUCK, born at Woburn, Mass., October 3, 1853; married Sarah M. Taylor, January 2, 1884; physician. Berne post-office.

PETER S. HALL, born at Berne, September 30, 1837; married Sarah Sand, December 18, 1861; farmer. Berne post-office.

HISTORY OF COEYMANS TOWNSHIP.

By J. S. MARKLE.

COEYMANS.

IN the following pages, which are presented to the reader as a brief history of Coeymans, to form a part of the History of the County of Albany, imperfections may occur, which the author hopes will not detract from the general correctness or truthfulness of the work.

Many events or data connected with some of the important records and traditions have been difficult of proof, while others have been predicated upon verbal authority or personal investigation. The want of a proper interest in the affairs of the township is attended with an irreparable loss to the written history of any community.

For the valuable aid rendered, and the many kindnesses received from friends in collecting material for these pages, the writer returns his sincere thanks.

ALBANY, N. Y., 1884.

Coeymans was named from the patentee, Barent Pieterse Coeymans. It is the southeast corner township, with Bethlehem and New Scotland on the north, the Hudson River on the east, Greene County on the south, and Westerlo on the west, and includes Barren Island and half of Shad Island, and was formed from Watervliet, March 18, 1791, being the second township taken from Watervliet, and in the formation of Westerlo a part of Coeymans was taken off. The township contains 32,570 acres.

The surface consists of an upland 200 to 400 feet above the river, broken by ridges and hills that rise 100 to 400 feet higher, and several breadths of flats, giving a diversified character to its physical structure and its geological formations, with a variety of scenery, and qualities of soil adapted for general farming and special pursuits. The soil is varied in its productiveness; that of the flats, containing some alluvial deposit, with sand and clay, is rich in plant food. The narrow borders upon the streams are clayey, while the ridges and uplands are sometimes intermixed with gravel, slate and clay loam, having a subsoil that is retentive and generally productive. The conditions of the soil and climatic surroundings are quite favorable for the growth of the usual farm productions, as well as fruit. Wheat, rye, oats, corn, buckwheat and hay are principal crops, with potatoes and a few other vegetables. The orchards are numerous, with the usual variety of mixed trees, and the fruit is of superior quality.

The rock of the township is mostly a stratum of marble or limestone, which extends three to four miles from the river, and is quarried for building purposes and lime, also broken for macadamizing roads. Some blue-stone exists, and a quarry was formerly worked at Mossy Hill; but the supply of marketable stone has been exhausted, and the quarry is abandoned. The hills belong to the Helderbergs, which are a continuation of the Catskills. Vincent, Gidney, Stanton and Blodgett are among the highest elevations, none of which exceed 700 feet.

The principal streams are the Coeymans Creek, which enters from Bethlehem, crossing the northeast corner of the township, emptying into the Hudson at Coeymans Landing. The Hannakrois* enters from Westerlo, midway of the north and south line, flows in a southeast direction through Indian Fields, Stephensville and Coyemans Hollow, furnishing these places with water-power for the several mills, and enters Greene County near Achquetuck, then curves and re-enters the township in the extreme southeast corner, emptying into the Hudson a short distance below Coeymans Landing. These streams flow through narrow valleys, bordered by steep hillsides fifty feet and over in perpendicular height, with gorges cut through the shales and slates to a rocky bed over which the waters flow, and in times of freshets they become furious torrents. They receive from the north and south several small streams as tributaries. At Coeymans Village the Coeymans Creek descends in the aggregate by two falls seventy-five feet, giving remarkable water-power facilities, which

*The derivation of the name "Haanakrois" is of doubtful origin, some claiming it as Indian, others of Dutch, signifying "crowing cock," from "*Haan*," a cock or rooster, and "*kraai*," to crow. There is a legend that during a freshet in the creek a barn was carried down the stream, and perched upon an open upper door stood a cock, crowing. Holland: "Haane-kraai."

have been formerly utilized to a limited extent. Lawson's Lake is a small sheet of water in the northwest part of the town, on the line of New Scotland, the outlet of which flows into the *Onesquethau*. A peculiarity of some of the streams in the northern and western part is their disappearance into sink-holes, and flowing for some distance into subterranean passages, coming to the surface many rods from where they disappeared. It is not strange that caves exist where this peculiar condition of rock formation is found. The caves or underground passages are of limited extent. There are a few mineral springs, the waters of which are impregnated with sulphate of magnesia. No minerals of value or importance are found in the township.

Some fossil remains have been discovered, but the geology is of minor importance, the deep cuttings of the streams and limestone formations being of greatest interest. Many tons of molding sand are obtained from a sub-stratum, and shipped to different States by John Whitehead & Brother, who control the business.

The business of the town is transacted at the following places: Coeymans Landing, Coeymans Junction, Coeymans Hollow, Stephensville and Indian Fields. The name on the different deeds, and as originally spelled by the family, is various. Koeymans, Koymans and Koeyemans are some of them, while it would seem the Holland was Kojiemans.

The original settler was Barent Pieterse Koeymans, who came from Utrecht in the year 1636, and immediately on his arrival entered the service of the first Patroon, Killian Van Rensselaer, as miller, at a salary of thirty guilders a year. Three brothers accompanied him, David, Jacob and Arent. Barent worked in the Patroon's grist-mill until 1645, when he took charge of the saw-mills which were on the Patroon's creek in the northern part of the city, in company with Jan Gerritsen, receiving each 150 guilders a year and three stivers a cut for every plank they sawed. He remained in this employment until 1647. Previous to 1650 he lived south of the Patroon's creek, and in 1665 took a nineteen years' lease of a farm of "maize land" at twenty-four guilders a year, and in 1657 secured a lease of the Patroon's mills for three years, at the expiration of which, in 1660, he leased the mills on the Norman's Kill for thirteen years. At the time this lease expired, in 1673, he purchased from the Indians a large tract of land, twelve or fifteen miles south of Albany. This tract offered great advantages in its water privileges for milling purposes, and it was here that Cryn Cornelissen and Hans Jansen erected saw-mills on the creek, north of Coeymans, which emptied into the Hudson above Baeren or Barren Island, as early as 1651. Koeymans obtained of Gov. Lovelace a patent to the land acquired from the Indians, which consisted of eight or ten miles on the river and extending twelve miles to the west. This tract fell within the bounds of Rensselaerwyck, and after a litigation that continued over thirty years, Koeymans purchased the Patroon's claim, in 1706, agreeing to pay a quit-rent of nine shillings a year. After Koeymans had purchased this tract, 1674, dates the settlement of the township; and now the forest is noisy with the ringing strokes of the sturdy pioneer as he fells the monarchs of the forest, making ready for his habitation, and introducing the early rudiments of civilization. In the year 1714 he obtained from Queen Anne a patent of this tract, confirming the whole to him and his heirs forever.

The description of the property patented is very indefinite and quite curious; a short extract is given. The cession was from "a certain creek or kill lying and being on the west side of Hudson's River to the north of a place by the Indians called Kax-hax-ki, stretching in length to the highest place where Jacob Flodden did used to roll down timber, named by the natives Scen-tha-tin, to the island belonging to John Byers, and into the woods as far as the Indian Sachem's right goes."

The records of the patent continue as follows: "Yielding and paying therefor, yearly and every year, unto the same Killian Van Rensselaer, his heirs and assigns, the yearly rent or sum of nine shillings, current money of New York, at upon the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, in lieu of all other rents, dues, duties and services, for or in respect of premises or any part or parcel therefore, as by the said indenture relation to them being had may more fully and at large appear."

"On the 16th April, 1672, Volkert Janes conveys all his rights and ownership to Barent Pieterse (Coeymans) in the island named *Schutters*, lying below Beeren Island, and included in Coeymans' patent, dated August 14, 1671."—From Munsell's "Albany County Records."

In the struggle for existence, amid the contending conflicts of life, labor must be elevated and honored if the conditions of prosperity and normal developments are taken as factors in human progress. The demands of the times and the tendency of civilization called for the improvements that increased the wants of humanity, and it became

necessary that man in his needs should labor. The incentive to the beginner is bread; this obtained, he may direct his efforts into other channels, be they domestic or social, intellectual or material.

As the wants of the new settlers were few, and their means limited, they lived in primitive simplicity, practicing self-denial, and cultivating industrious and frugal habits that became to them in after years the foundation and growth to prosperity, and the development in wealth from agricultural pursuits. The most successful are those who lead and introduce progressive methods, who are ever ready to meet the demands, and labor to supply the local and general call for staple products that give the largest returns for the least labor. As diversities of industries are introduced, and competition distributed, the greater will be the diffusion of wealth, and this naturally will offer new sources for energy and enterprise to those possessing industry and zeal. To obtain these advantages, they went to work in earnest for the full development of the resources that were so lavishly and temptingly distributed around them. This was the great incentive of the men who took the burden in their youth, that they might reap in manhood some of the fruits of toil, and in their declining years rest upon the shocks, fully ripe, which were garnered from mother earth by the sweat of their brows, amid hardships, self-denial, and often when want stared them as a hungry wolf. These early settlers were denied many of the comforts and conveniences of life; their whole system of living was one attended at every step with difficulties, and their supplies were obtained by the severest labor. Clothing was manufactured from home material, prepared by rude implements; food was supplied from rude means; flour or meal were necessities that required a long journey on foot or horseback to reach the mill through the dense forest, and over roads or narrow trails that were almost impassable. But these struggles were in time overcome, and, as the lands were taken and improved by incoming settlers, many of the difficulties were removed, and these sturdy pioneers were gladdened in their hearts and homes by bounties that came as "blessings in disguise" to cheer and to comfort.

Much that would be of interest to the public connected with the history of the Keoymans family is beyond recall. Records of value have been lost, and private papers destroyed or from age are illegible. Some public records and documents are yet available from which to obtain a few leading events and personal history.

Only a few years after Albany was permanently settled, and some settlements were made upon Van Rensselaer's patent, Holland sent another band of her enterprising and thrifty men to take advantage of the offers extended to any who would venture upon this new scene of action, filled with resources of unbounded wealth, free to all who were willing to sacrifice personal comfort and meet the privations of uncivilized surroundings for a future independence. Among these was *Barent Pieterse Koeymans*, who came to Albany in 1636, where he resided for a score or more of years, engaged first in the employ of the Patroon, and then boldly assuming to act upon his own judgment in an enterprise that brought a measure of success. This filled him with enthusiasm for greater ventures, and, in 1673, he made his purchase of the Indians, taking possession the following year; and this became his future home and residence after making many necessary improvements.

Koeymans married a daughter of Andries De Vos, and five children were born to them—Andries, Samuel, Peter, Arriantje and Jannetje. Andries was born in Albany and married a daughter of Dr. Samuel Staats; he took up his residence in New Jersey, where some of his descendants and name are to be found. Samuel was also born in Albany, August 3, 1670, and married Catrina Van Schaaick; they had no children; he lived for many years at the Koeymans stone house, which still stands on the north of the creek. Arriantje was born in Albany, October 19, 1672; she had her home with her brother Samuel, and remained single until fifty-one years old, when she married David Verplank, who was at the time twenty-eight years old; no children were born to them. Arriantje died April 4, 1743, willing her property mostly to her own father's family; but David inherited her portion. David Verplank did not remain a widower, as he took for his second wife Miss Brouwer, and for his third he married Catrina Boom, in 1752. They had four children — David, Johannes, Arriantje and Isaac D. Peter, born at Albany, married Elizabeth Graveret, or Greveraad, and had two children—Menjae, who married Andreas Whiteck, and Elizabeth, who married Jacobus Van Allen. His first wife died, and Peter married for his second wife Charlotta Amelia Dawyer, November 1, 1719; this union was blessed with three daughters—Garritje, marrying John Barclay; Ann Margaret, marrying Andries Ten Eyck, and Charlotte Amelia, who married John Jonas Bronk.

Peter Koeymans lived in the stone house or castle in the village up to the time of his death, which oc-

curred April 30, 1736–1744, and was buried on Baeren Island. He had a family of five daughters, all of whom married; many of their descendants are still living and own lands on the original patent, but none of the name are now residents of the township. Mrs. Charlotta Houghtaling was a daughter of John Jonas Bronk, who is perhaps the nearest relative of the family now living. The name of Koeymans became extinct in this locality by the death of Peter. Barent, the father, is supposed to have been buried on land now in the possession of Peter Whitbeck; this belief is founded upon the fact that in a partition deed a part of the land is reserved for burial purposes. No remains of the grave are to be seen, as the land has been utilized by the plow as too valuable for sacred purposes.

The early settlement of the township, as also Coeymans Landing, is closely connected with the founder and subsequent members of his family; anything relating to them has a direct bearing on its written history. Here Barent Pieterse Koeymans commenced his career, in colonial times, when it required some courage as well as shrewdness to locate in the midst of a vast wilderness, having for inhabitants a race of cruel savages, and the woods howling with the death cries of ferocious beasts, the only protection his rude log cabin, and perhaps a trusty Holland gun—six feet in length—with such assistance as his family might render. It seems evident, Koeymans did not take into consideration the founding of a great city at this place, for the rocky banks and steep hillsides were not favorable for easy extension; yet these to him were of great value as affording many advantages and facilities in the erection of mills for grinding grain and sawing lumber, for which there was an increasing demand, and from which he expected to realize a small fortune. Although the forest furnished unlimited supplies of timber for building purposes, yet the first buildings erected by him were built of common graywacke or flat field stone.

The oldest house, the old Koeymans Castle, disappeared in 1833. It stood on the site of the building now occupied by the family of the late Josiah Sherman. The first and original mills have long since been demolished, and were located some distance from the present mill, which is of recent date.

In early times the creek north of the village upon which the mills were built was called *Oneske-thau*, and the level land extending west of the village *Ach-que-tuck*.. The creek has two falls, and the water courses over a rocky bottom, making a descent of 75 feet before it empties into a small bay leading into the Hudson. At the base of this water-fall, on the north side of the creek, is a mill, which is now idle, and a building known as the Old Store House, built of field stones, finished with brick in the gables, which has been erected more than a hundred years. In the village are two other similar buildings standing, which were built about the same time.

Arriantje did not own property north of the creek. The old stone house and all the property is now owned by the Ten Eyck family, and came to them by Peter Keoymans. The following is taken from the *Albany Evening Journal:* "The old Koeymans mansion or castle stood on the corner of Westerlo and First streets. The walls were thick, and were pierced at intervals with port-holes. The gables were carried up with brick brought from Holland. The building faced the Hudson, and was erected by Barent Pieterse Koeymans soon after he purchased his land from the Indians. The last family who occupied the main building was that of Jeremiah Cooper, while the family of Charles Penton lived in the wing. The old plate and pictures which were used in this ancient mansion more than a century and a half ago remain in part in possession of descendants. One of the oil paintings which adorned the walls, a portrait of Ariaantje Koeymans, Barent's daughter, is now in the house of Charlotte Houghtaling. The face of the subject is nearly obliterated, while one hand, doubled, is plainly preserved. The daughter, it is said, helped to build the old stone house, which still stands north of the Coeymans Creek, by carrying the stone and material for the walls. Mrs. Houghtaling also has a faded picture of the property taken probably 150 or 200 years ago. It shows the stone house, a saw-mill back of where the grist-mill now stands, a plaster mill to the north over an artificial rock-cut, which served as a water-way, in an altogether different direction from the present stream. There was another saw-mill on the crown of the rocks, and another grist-mill on the opposite side of the creek, which stood until 1830. Old deeds speak of a saw-mill at the falls, but nothing else can be ascertained about the structure."

Coeymans Landing (Coeymans P. O) retains in a marked degree much of its ancient conservative Dutch sentiment, and the spirit of modern progress has been dormant these two hundred years, only to be awakened by the present generation of active brain power, which in a great measure controls the destinies of to-day. Any purpose or intention

of individuals to engage in enterprises or venture upon worthy public or private pursuits, that would have contributed in some measure to the growth and prosperity of the place, has been indifferently encouraged, and for this reason other locations were sought for, which received the benefit.

The progress of the past has been very slow, the business of the place is in the hands of the few, and these are limited to the wants and demands of the surrounding country.

The village is pleasantly located on the west bank of the Hudson, twelve miles south of Albany, and is built upon the sloping and rocky hill-side, giving to it an elevation which enhances the surrounding landscape and adds variety to the beautiful scenery. The streets, which are quite irregular, are mostly unpaved, and the houses are set without any regard to order, while many are built from original designs, independent of architectural rules, and ignoring the ornamental for the useful. There are some fine dwellings and mansions which are ornaments to the village. The western part, which is the newest, is more regular and attractive; the antiquated appearance which is so striking near the river is not observable here. It is in this locality, upon a large inclosed square, with beautiful surroundings, that Mr. Acton Civil several years ago erected a massive building of iron and stone for an academy. The building is substantial, and the architecture is beautiful in design and imposing in appearance. Two years ago the boarding-house to be connected with the school was built. These buildings, which have never been used, are in the west part of the village, commanding a fine view of the adjacent country, and near the railroad station. The docks at the landing are quite extensive and used for general purposes of shipping by steamboats, barges, canal-boats and other river craft; it is a general landing for steamboats to receive and let off passengers. Many tons of coal are received here, while farm produce of every kind is shipped in great quantities. Mr. Henry Slingerland, who is one of the most enterprising shippers, kindly furnished the following as his business for 1883: eighty-two excursions, 109 trips of barges, carrying 171,007 bales of hay and straw, 52,706 bushels of rye, besides buckwheat flour, apples and mixed merchandise.

Here are located the *Cedar Point Mills*, a large frame building, supplied with ample water-power from Coeymans Creek, and furnished with machinery for manufacturing flour and meal and grinding plaster. Formerly mills were in operation above the present one, and connected with them were mills for carding and grinding plaster; but these are of the past, having disappeared forty years ago. They were built by Conrad Ten Eyck, and John Aldridge and Whiteman were millers. The present mills have been owned by Israel Lawton, Briggs & Colvin, A. Willis, and are now owned by the heirs of N. H. Johnson. At present these mills are idle. Among the forgotten industries of Coeymans was the manufacture of hats by Mr. Cartwright. In passing along the thoroughfares of the village, the attentive observer will note the moral standing of the people by the three churches, Reformed, Methodist and Roman Catholic; the intelligence is represented by a school-house and a weekly newspaper; the wants and needs are supplied from two grocery and provision stores, one general and mixed merchandise, one shoe store, one drug and fancy store, tin and hardware, paint shops, two blacksmith and one wheelwright shop, two broom factories, the needed millinery and dressing parlors, one general undertaker, four hotels, barber shops, coal dealers and general shipping merchants. The professions are represented by four lawyers, two physicians and one dentist.

The general business interests of the village are conducted by the following persons: Attorneys and Counselors at Law—S. Springsted, J. M. Harris, Charles Thompson, and C. M. Barlow, notary public. Physicians and Surgeons—F. G. Mosher and N. H. Johnson. Dentist—C. C. Willis. Powell & Johnson, drugs, medicines, paints, oil and glass. William B. Hull & Co, dry goods, groceries, provisions and general merchandise. W. H. Keller, dealer in groceries and provisions. Baumes & Brother, groceries and provisions, crockery and glassware. Alfred A. Sherman, fancy goods, notions and stationery. J. B. Holmes, tin, copper, zinc and sheet iron. W. W. Snyder, boots and shoes. A. Vandyck, harness and saddlery of all kinds. Alonzo Southard, general funeral director. L. E. Gould and Charles Zeigler, meat markets, fish and oysters. Henry Slingerland, general forwarding, freight and commission merchant. J. N. Briggs, dealer in coal and ice, and lessor of Barren Island. *Coeymans Herald*, S. H. & E. J. Sherman, editors and proprietors.

Hotels.—Hotaling's Hotel, Richard S. Hotaling, proprietor; *Union Hotel*, Samuel Gedney, proprietor; *Whitbeck House*, Verplank Whitbeck, proprietor; *Niles House*, Gilbert Cronk, proprietor.

The post-office has been established many years. Levi Blaisdell and Nathan Stephens were

early postmasters. The present postmaster is William B. Hull, who has held the office since 1853; he is also an early resident.

Among the first settlers were the Koeymans family and those with whom they married, Andreas and Lendert Witbeck, the Ten Eycks, Van Allens, Verplanks, Bronks, Barclays, Hotalings and Van Daalston. These were followed by Waldrons, Huycks, James Teft, who kept a tavern, and McMichael, who kept a store; Oliver Lauton, John Fanning, Palmer Utter, Joseph Hazelton, Levi Blaisdell, and others who have been succeeded by their descendants and later residents. The village numbers at present about 900 inhabitants.

A new era has dawned over the past, and an epoch in the history of this old settlement will transfer the business of the future from the immediate scenes of the Dutch historic landmark. The construction and operation of the West Shore Railroad have produced changes already, that are to be followed by improvements and enterprises of a general character.

Formidable barriers of physical structure no longer baffle the skill of the civil engineer, when he is assured of the means to break through obstructions or override the traditions of successive generations. Skill and capital overcome mountains of opposition, as well as level public opinion, to the general necessities of a common interest. Progress marks human sentiment, and internal improvements are bound and girdled by a network of steel. The skill and ingenuity of man subject the elements to his uses, control as a plaything the subtle fluid, electricity, and encircle the globe with wires of thought, and illumine the darkness of night by its incandescent light, soon to be followed by greater wonders.

The completion of the *New York, West Shore* and *Buffalo Railroad* in 1883, through the town, gives Coeymans more commercial importance and marks an era in the business interest of trade, as well as concentrates at the place of transfer the products and commodities of a wide region of country, that will give an impetus to future investment, and open other important sources for material prosperity, thus laying the foundation for other industries connected with the development of the surrounding vicinity. These are considerations which connot be controlled by mere external influences, and the forward movement must continue so long as the resources of the country are being developed, and the demands of trade find a ready market for agricultural supplies, domestic manufactures and mineral products.

For two hundred years, a few men of enterprise have controlled the business interests of the place. Slow progress consequently has been made, yet a steady growth of the village has been quietly going on, which gives assurance of prosperity and concentration of wealth.

Coeymans Junction.—The construction of this new line of railroad necessitated at this point a divergence to Albany; therefore a junction with the main line was made a mile west of Coeymans, at a location promising superior facilities and advantages for the convenience of transfer and the erection of necessary buildings connected with the road. Here is a fine level tract of land, specially adapted for building purposes, and already is seen the sharp forethought of the enterprising capitalist and the investments of men with limited means. Besides the station, freight and engine houses belonging to the railroad, Peter Pulver has erected three dwellings and a building for hotel and restaurant purposes, near the passenger station, which were the first buildings (1883) and the nucleus to the future village. Two other dwellings followed, and these have been increased the present year, 1884, by two frame buildings and a large double three-story brick, for store and hotel, near the railroad and fronting on the stone road. This fine brick edifice was built by Peter Putman, a former resident of the township, but now of New York. At the present time, ten houses west of the railroad compose the little settlement. A short distance west of this point, at the corner of the road near Schoonmaker & Brothers' store, a tavern was kept more than a hundred years ago; this was the main road leading to Buffalo, and it is said Jerome Bonaparte, in his travels, stopped here for dinner. Early settlers here, Ambrose Wiltsie, Job Baker, and widow Lodeman, who kept tavern.

Ache-que-tuck, P. O. (local, Peacock's Corners), was established as a post-office in 1879, with Willis Nodine as postmaster, who continues to serve. This place is west of the railroad station about two miles. Here is a hotel kept by D. Baumis, a store, blacksmith and wheelwright shop and toll-gate. Early tavern keepers here were Baldwin and Nicholas Huyck. From this point up to the eastern extremity of Coeymans Hollow, extending north, is a tract of very superior farming land, which by old deeds is described as *Hagh-a-tuck*, the true Indian name; and here we find the Witbecks, Ten Eycks, Van Derzees, Verplanks, Shears, Wiltsies, Schoonmakers and other descendants of the first settlers. Here also stands the old *stone house* of the Ten Eycks, which was built many years before the

Revolution; it is not occupied, and will soon be one of the forgotten monuments of the past. Other houses of interest are the brick dwellings of Verplanks and Witbecks, built many years ago. In this vicinity, in former years, were grist and saw-mills, tannery and flax mills, the property of Isaac D. Verplank; these mills were on the Haanakrois.

Coeymans Hollow, P. O., extending for a distance of two miles or more, in the valley of the Haanakrois, is located upon either side of the creek. The village of Coeymans Hollow dates its settlement only a few years later than the possession of the patent by Koeymans and his family. The valley possesses remarkable water-power privileges, which may have been a consideration with the first settlers in choosing this locality, and the heavy-timbered forest, with its valuable growth of trees, may have been another inducement, as well as the fertility of the soil, after the land became cleared.

Mills were accordingly erected at an early date by Verplank and others interested in the settlement of this locality; vestiges of these mills remain at several places along the creek. Other mills for different purposes have been erected and operated for a time, or until the special purpose for which they were intended was fulfilled, or the conditions of the surroundings rendered them of no further use, and then abandoned. Carding mills and tanneries were quite numerous; it was then customary for the women to spin and weave the necessary clothing, blankets, spreads and sheets, and the household linen. As the cheaper fabrics of cotton were brought into use, these gradually superseded those of home-made manufacture, and the carding mills have almost wholly disappeared. So with the making of leather; once the shoemaker and harness-maker had a small tannery in which they manufactured their own leather, and also did the tanning for the farmers of the neighborhood, and then worked it into boots and shoes.

Now that bark necessary for this purpose has become scarce, science has introduced new methods and machinery which require combined capital.

On the premises of Harvey Shear, many years ago, Francis DeLong, a man by the name of Sherman, and Garret Witbeck manufactured hats. Here in the Hollow, grist, saw and clothing mills were owned and operated by John Blodgett and Mr. Leslie. At the upper end of the village, Verplank had a grist and saw-mill, which, during a freshet, were carried down the stream; remains of the dam and race-way are there yet, and are utilized by Andrew Carey for driving machinery for turning spokes, hubs and other work; he also has a mechanic and blacksmith shop. During 1861 and 1862 several flax mills were erected at convenient points on the creek, which, in a few years, were abandoned. There are at present no mills or manufactures in operation in the village. In traversing the length of the street, which is the public road, there are upon either side about fifty dwellings, with two hundred inhabitants. The business is conducted through the usual stores and shops, containing mixed merchandise; there are three stores, one hotel, one school-house and Methodist church, shoe store and shop, meat market, three blacksmith and wheelwright shops, one physician. The post-office was established about 1840, with John B. Shear, P. M. The present postmaster is Electus Shear. Among the early settlers were Verplanks, Witbecks, John Blodgett, Josiah Hinckley, Gerrit Witbeck, Jonas Shear, Jedediah Davis, John Colvin.

Stephensville (Alcove P. O.) is a small hamlet situated in the bend or elbow of the Haanakrois Creek, in the southwestern part of the town, and is almost a continuation of Coeymans Hollow. It derives its name from Archibald Stephens, who formerly operated mills here. The post-office and name were established in 1881. Stanley Green, postmaster.

Here, near the stone road, eight miles from Coeymans Landing, are located the *Valley Paper Mills*, and saw-mill of Amos D. Briggs. About 1844 Ephraim Andrews erected mills here on a small scale for the purpose of cloth-dressing and carding wool. In 1848 John E. Andrews enlarged and converted them, with the necessary improvements and machinery for the manufacture of straw wrapping paper.

In 1854 W. S. Briggs and Andrews made additions, repairs and improvements by the introduction of steam and many other appliances of recent invention. In 1871 W. S. Briggs & Sons (Newton S., Ralph B. and Amos D.) commenced a partnership, which continued three years, when the property and business were transferred to Amos D. Briggs, the present proprietor, who operates and conducts the business. During the year 1883 extensive improvements, with increased capacity, at a great outlay, were made. The works contain one steam engine and two turbine water-wheels, the steam engine of 125 horse-power and the water-wheels of 150 horse-power. The capacity of the mill is five tons of straw daily, from which three and one-half to three and three-fourth tons of straw wrapping paper are made. About twenty-

five men are employed for ten months during the year. The paper is carted to Coeymans for shipment, and coal brought by the return trip. That these works have been a financial success is proven by the fact that the former operators have retired with a competency.

Three-fourths of a mile south of these mills are the post-office and residence of W. S. Briggs, Esq., who owns the grist-mill and other valuable property. Casparus Ackerman was an early settler, coming here in 1790; soon after, he erected the first mills, which in time passed into the possession of Archibald Stephens, and now owned by W. S. Briggs. The present mill is a massive stone structure, with three run of stone. The hamlet has ten or twelve dwellings, with a store, wagon and blacksmith shops, and besides the mill two other stone buildings, a building formerly a flax mill, Union Church, and one physician represents the profession. Just above the valley mills, on the stone road, is a saw-mill, the property of Jefferson Powell; and a short distance up this small stream, in the ravine, and east of the toll-gate, is the tannery built by Daniel Tompkins seventy years ago. They were sold to a man by the name of Caswell; then to John Huyck & Son, the present owners, who continue the business.

Indian Fields (P. O.) is a hamlet nine miles from Coeymans, in the west part of the town, containing a Baptist church, hotel, three stores, one harness shop, three blacksmiths, one general wood-work, two foundries, carding mill, saw-mill, harness shop, drug store and one physician, eighteen dwellings and eighty inhabitants. The business of the place is conducted by J. O. Stiles, proprietor of hotel and store; Huyck & Dorman, post-office and general merchandise; Anthony Davis, merchandise; Christian Scharbauer, manufacturer of harness; Caleb Snyder and Norris & Brother, proprietors of foundries; F. A. W. Rivets, physician, with drug store; J. J. Huyck, postmaster.

Here are located the foundry and carding mill of Caleb Snyder. It was here, in the early settlement of this vicinity, that Isaac Verplank built a saw-mill, and afterward carding and cloth-dressing mills were operated. In after years Houck & Trenchard operated a woolen cloth manufactory and saw-mill. Subsequently Huyck & Norris reconstructed the works into a foundry, after which they were sold to Caleb Snyder, who does general foundry work, making plow, cultivator and land-roller castings. The machinery is operated with steam and water power.

Henry and Isaac Norris, located on the public road, own and conduct a foundry and wood-shop for the manufacture of plows, cultivators, land-rollers and fitting machinery for mills, etc.

Among the early settlers were John and Thomas Witbeck, W. Searles, George Lamoreaux, Jedidiah Davis, Daniel Green, Daniel Wickham, Robins, Gideon Schofiel, Josiah Hinckley, Huycks, Tompkins and others.

This village is located in the valley of the Haanakrois, which has tributaries from the north, and surrounded by fair agricultural lands, which was an inducement to the settlers for occupying this region. The farmers have their farms under good tillage, and are generally prosperous.

ANDREW H. WITBECK.

Andrew H. Witbeck is known as one of the most influential and highly esteemed citizens of the town of Coeymans. His family has for generations been among the foremost of the old families of Albany County. His father, John W. Witbeck, was born, April 10, 1773, at Manhattan Hook, a little valley in the northern part of Coeymans, about four miles from where Mr. Witbeck now lives. On the 20th of May, 1795, in company with his father (Mr. Witbeck's grandfather), he purchased the farm, now the homestead of Andrew H. Witbeck. At about the age of twenty-one he married a Miss Palmateer, who bore him one son, who is now living. After her death he married Hannah Callanan, who was born November 19, 1781. By this marriage there were eight children, four sons and four daughters, five of whom are living. Of these Andrew H. Witbeck is the youngest. He was born in the house in which he has since lived, November 12, 1824. He was reared on the farm and obtained his education in the neighboring common school. February 5, 1851, he married Lydia E. Powell, who was born at Medway, Greene County, N. Y., January 5, 1826. Their family consists of one son and three daughters, named as follows: Hannah Esther, John W., Sarah E. and Jennie. Mr. Witbeck has been a life-long farmer, and, as such, ranks among the leading agriculturists of Albany County. He is a man of considerable business experience and of undoubted good judgment in all important affairs, and his aid has often been invoked in the settlement of questions in dispute in his locality, and the settlement of several valuable estates has been intrusted to him, with firm reliance upon his discrimination and integrity. Though never mingling actively in politics, and steadfastly refusing to accept offices at the hands of his fellow townsmen, he is an adherent of the Democratic party, and takes a deep and liberal interest in all questions of public moment, upon which he is fully informed and has pronounced opinions. Though not a member of any religious organization, he has ever been a most cheerful and ample supporter of the means of worship in his vicinity, and is an attendant, with his family, upon the services of the Dutch

Reformed Church, for he clings to the faith of his forefathers, who were Hollanders, and who were among those hardy pioneers who implanted the banner of this denomination upon the soil of Albany County when it was largely an unsettled wilderness. The cause of education has also found a firm friend in Mr. Witbeck, whose influence has not been slight in elevating the standard of public instruction in his portion of the town of Coeymans. All other worthy local objects have his encouragement and financial aid.

Keefer's Corners (P. O.) was named in honor of Balthus Keefer, who settled here in 1791. It is located two miles north of Indian Fields, in the northwest part of the town, and has a Methodist Church, school-house, and formerly a store, hotel, a wheelwright and blacksmith shop, and a few houses. This was a remote part of the town and was slow of settlement, only two other families having located here previous to Mr. Keefer. Roads were followed by marked trees, and civilization, with its improvements, was centered at other points. Among those who settled here were Daniel Traver, Jacob Schermerhorn, Dampa Mead, Stephen Hanes, George Lamoreaux, Lanson, Hogan and others.

The post-office was established in 1842, Peter Keefer first postmaster, and continues to serve in that capacity. He is a son of Balthus, and was born where he resides.

We append the names of a few others who were early settlers in different parts of the town. The first were almost exclusively Dutch or Hollanders, who came before the Revolution; those who came after hostilities ceased were mostly of English descent, many of them coming from the New England States or adjoining counties. These brought with them the doctrines peculiar to their several forms of faith and modes of worship, as well as ideas relating to social and moral questions, which were rapidly diffused and entered into the spirit of conscientious freedom, and were soon manifest in the elevated and enlarged Christian views that were followed by a unity of purpose and religious co-operation. This sentiment, so early introduced, has not been without a moral effect upon the prosperous growth of the churches, upon the social relations, and its educational progress. Many of the men whose names are recorded here have (with others) occupied in the affairs of the town and in the church positions of trust, honor and responsibility. Among them were the Vroomans, Waldrons, Hotalings, Wagoners, Vanderpools, Gedneys, Schoonmakers, Wiltsies, Powells, Jolleys, Coonleys, Briggs, Carharts, Nodines, Springsteds, Hulls and Fredenburghs.

Since the organization of Coeymans into a township, in 1791, the following citizens have served one or more terms in the offices designated: The first town meeting (of which there is any record) was held April, 1811, and the first supervisor, John T. Van Dalston, was elected in 1817. Previous to this the office was one of appointment by the Governor, as well as Justices of the Peace, who were first elected in 1827. The following have been supervisors: John T. Van Dalston, Archibald Stephens, John N. Huyck, Israel Shear, Abram Verplank, Andrew Witbeck, Henry Niles, Cornelius Van Derzee, Jonas Shear, Garret Witbeck, John Mead, Elwell Blodgett, John Van Derzee, Nathaniel Niles, Willet Searls, John B. Shear, David A. Witbeck, Peter Keefer, Nelson Schermerhorn, James H. Powell, John A. Hunt, Estes H. Strevell, Lansing Shear.

Justices of the Peace, appointed—John T. Van Dalson, Henry Gage, Archibald Stephens, John Van Dalssen, David Springsted, Jr., Jacob C. Ten Eyck, John Gibbons, Robert Copeland, Barrent Mull, Nathan Niles, Samuel Blodgett.

From 1827 the following were elected: Alexander Copeland, Peter Van Antwerp, Samuel Blodgett, Garret Witbeck, Joshua Collins, John Van Antwerp, Henry Halstead, Dwight Bachelor, John Mead, Cornelius Van Derzee, John Van Derzee, William S. Briggs, Peter Keefer, Elijah D. R. Converse, Wolsey Blodgett, Ira Gregory, John T. Witbeck, Conrad T. E. Huyck, Anson Green, James Emery, Willet Searls, Samuel F. Powell, Isaac L. Davis, Frank Huyck, John A. Hunt, Jacob B. Holmes, Edgar Powell.

Town Clerks.—John Beekman, Isaac D. Verplank, John N. Huyck, Abram Verplank, Andrew Witbeck, Jonas Shear, Israel Lisk, Henry Niles, Cornelius Van Derzee, Robert Keefer, Elwell Blodgett, William N. Briggs, John Van Derzee, Alfred D. Tompkins, John L. Witbeck, Edwin D. Shear, John Ham, John S. Powell, Leonard Carhart, Joslin Nodine, John M. Witbeck, Gilbert C. Vincent, Israel Shear, Alfred A. Sherman, Hugh H. Mosher, George H. Johnson, Lansing Shear, Isaac T. Davis, John A. Loucks, Samuel Lasher, Abram Lawton.

Benjamin Stanton, delegate to Constitutional Convention of 1846. *Members of Assembly*—Israel Shear, Tobias T. E. Waldron, Jonas Shear, Cornelius Vanderzee, Isaac Whitbeck, Willis Searles, John Vanderzee.

School Commissioners—John B. Shear, Leonard Carhart, William E. Whitbeck, Samuel F. Powell.

	Real.	Personal.	Total.
Assessed valuation for 1865	$1,017,475	$202,273	$1,219,748
" " " 1883	1,004,945	82,750	1,087,695
Equalized " " 1883	2,200,132	82,750	2,282,882
Assessed " " 1884	2,026,770	333,005	2 339,775
Equalized " " "	2,251,228	333,005	2,584,289

The *latitude* and *longitude* of the following *stations* in Coeymans are taken from the "Report of New York State Survey for the year 1882:"

	Latitude.	Longitude.
Barren Island pine	42° 27′ 51.53″,	73° 47′ 09.41″
Brigg's Monument Cemetery	42° 28′ 00.20″	73° 47′ 43″
Cupola of Civil Academy	42° 28′ 21.81″	73° 47′ 56″
Shad Island	42° 30′ 52.16″	73° 46′ 23″
Coeymans dock flag-pole	42° 28′ 23″	73° 47′ 24″
Boha Hook light	42° 28′ 49″	73° 47′ 20″
Blodget	42° 30′ 35″	73° 53′ 46″
Mull's school-house	42° 30′ 24″	73° 47′ 17″

Churches.—What has been said of the early settlers in other townships will apply with equal force to those who followed Koeymans and located upon his patent. They were largely of the Dutch, and possessed courage and devotion, though they held with tenacity to the traditions of their fathers.

It is evident that for many years the Dutch and Huguenot element prevailed, and that the religious ministrations of those early days were by visits and supplies, as they had no settled ministers until after the hostilities ceased, or about 1790. At this time many changes had taken place; the country was at peace, prosperity smiled upon the land of freedom, a home was offered and obtained upon easy terms, freedom of worship was established and all united to partake of the blessings that flow from Christian civilization and national independence.

This brought from other States and adjoining counties descendants and followers of the Puritans and Covenanters, intermixed with the aggressive Methodists, who inspired into the lethargic souls of the Dutch a degree of life and zeal that awoke and kindled into spiritual activity a reformation that wrought increased benefits to the christian churches and blessings to the people. Schools were multiplied and general intelligence rapidly advanced under the fostering influence of progressive ideas and liberal patriotism.

The current teachings of the early preachers were not marked with theological disquisitions or learned sermons, yet the vital and most essential doctrines of that period were proclaimed with vigor and efficacy to the mind and heart. The practical effects of such teaching were its power of converting men from the sentiment of unbelief or a false religion, then being introduced from abroad, and establishing an orthodox faith of revealed religion. It would be unjust to measure the influence of these pious and consecrated men by the success or failure of their individual theories, yet it is possible that the services of these men—contented with charity contributions or small salaries, on which they almost starved—exerted no small influence in elevating the standard of morals and intelligence in the community in which they labored.

When their work ceased, they were succeded by men who trod the same paths, with more liberal rewards and without the poverty which was the earthly lot of these self-sacrificing missionaries.

There are seven churches in the township, of the following denominations: three Methodist, one Reformed, one Baptist, one Union or Christian, and one Roman Catholic.

The first Methodist organization in the town occurred in the year 1788 or 1789 by the Rev. John Crawford, with a class of 12 members, during the time Rev. Freeborn Garretson was presiding elder. The first church edifice was built of stone in 1791–92, and was located two and a half miles west of the village, and is claimed to have been the first Methodist church west of the Hudson River. This church and congregation for many years was made up of members from Bethlehem, Coeymans, with some from New Baltimore and adjoining towns; as it was the only Methodist church in this locality, its ecclesiastical jurisdiction extended for many miles, and among the noted preachers whose words have been heard in this pioneer church, none is held in greater reverence than that of Bishop Asbury. The first trustees were James Waldron, Lewis Civil, Wilhollamas Row, Jacob Springsted, Isaac C. Huyck, Ephraim Holbrook, Peter Hogan, Nathan Williams, James Selkirk. Levi Blaisdell was the first clerk, and Lewis Civil sexton. Some of the early members were Hugh Jolly, Samuel Jolly, John Ten Eyck and wife, Levi Blaisdell and wife, Hugh Crumb, James Selkirk, Dr. Clement and Jacob Springsted.

A change of location becoming necessary to accommodate the increase in membership, other organizations from this parent society were effected, and churches established in other places, exerting a wider influence and extending its branches for the promotion and spiritual education of the people.

The *Methodist Episcopal Church* at *Coeymans Landing* is founded upon the organization of the old stone church; the present edifice, on Church street, was erected in 1835–36, and dedicated by the Rev. Benjamin Griffin. The building is of

brick, 40 x 50, with a lecture room of wood, 26 x 40 feet. A fine parsonage belongs to the society for the use of the pastor. The church will seat 400 persons, and is valued at $15,000. The pastor reports 100 families, 150 communicants, 95 Sunday school scholars, and whole amount of contributions $1,150. Present trustees—A. E. Willis, Peter Seabridge, J. J. Colvin, A. J. Wolfe, John Halenbeck, John McElroy, Abram Teals. Rev. R. H. Kelley, pastor.

Methodist Episcopal Church, Coeymans Hollow, is an old organization, having being established as early as 1794, when Bishop Asbury preached in a barn in the rear of the present church, and a society was formed with the following as members: John Blodgett and wife, William Green and wife, Elizabeth Wickham, Charlotte Garitt and Mr. Gedney. These earnest and devoted members had their meetings first in barns, then in private and school-houses until 1832, when they entered the present church. Jolley and Carley were preachers. The present trustees are Egbert C. Osterhout, N. H. Palmer, Stephen Lawson, Martin Merrit, David Green. Rev. William S. Wyman, pastor, who reports 200 families, 170 members, 135 Sabbath school pupils, 14 teachers; contributions for all purposes, $1,125. The church edifice is wood, and will seat 400 persons. Has parsonage and sheds attached to the rear of church; property valued at $4,000.

Methodist Episcopal Church at *Keefer's Corners* was organized from the Manhattan Hook Society, located at Copeland Hill. James Laird and Ebenezer Osborn were early circuit preachers. The old church building was taken down and the material used in the construction of the present house in 1845. It is built upon ground donated by Francis Osterhout. Peter Keefer, George C. Lamoreaux and Philip R. Witbeck, trustees; John W. Morrison, pastor.

First Baptist Church of *Indian Fields* was organized in 1872. First trustees were Marcus R. Griffin, Albert Powell, Joslin Nodine, Franklin Tompkins, Jared Griffin, Judson Lamoreaux and Jasper Witbeck, Jr. The present trustees are Henry Norris, Amon Craw and George Lamoreaux; no regular pastor.

St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, located on Church street, Coeymans Landing, is a modern structure; the society was organized in 1852 by Francis Hurley. Connected with the church is a fine cemetery, containing four to five acres. The society and cemetery are under the pastoral charge of Father Thomas Walsh, who has the care of the churches of Coxsackie, Athens and Coeymans.

The Reformed (Protestant Dutch) *Church of Coeymans* was organized March 5, 1793, and the first church edifice was erected in 1797, on the "Square," nearly a mile west of Coeymans Landing. Rev. Jacob Sickles was the first pastor, and he served this church and congregation from 1797 to 1801. He was succeeded by Peter Overbagh, 1805–6; Ralph Westervelt, 1808–16; Samuel Kissam, 1818–29; Staats Van Santvoord, 1829–30; Abram Fort, 1830–31; Thomas A. Amerman, 1831–32; Thomas Edwards, 1834; James Murphy, 1842–43; Samuel Kissam, 1843–45; James A. H. Cornell, 1845–48; Philip Peltz, 1848–51; William P. Davies, 1852–55; Hugh B. Gardiner, 1856–60; Isaac Collier, 1860–66; Louis H. Bahler, 1867–69; Elias Mead, 1870–72; James A. H. Cornell, 1873–80; Horace P. Craig, 1883. The old church was taken down several years ago, and some of the material used in the construction of the new church edifice located on Church street, in the village of Coeymans. This building is of brick. The following are the present officers: *Elders*—William B. Hull, C. H. Van Derzee, J. J. Lasher, B. T. E. Bronk. *Deacons*—Solomon Coonley, John A. Vanderzee, William Springsted, F. Vrooman.

The church reports 100 families, 169 members, 133 Sunday school scholars; contributions for all purposes, $1,663.

Cemeteries.—There are two incorporated cemeteries in the town. The *Grove Cemetery* at Coeymans contains two acres, and was founded by Acton Civil. It was incorporated in 1848; J. B. Holmes, president; A. J. Wolfe, vice-president; A. S. Vanderzee, secretary; W. H. Keller, treasurer.

Indian Fields Cemetery was incorporated, January, 1872, with the following trustees and officers: William S. Cole, president; Andrew H. Witbeck, vice-president; Joslin Nodine, treasurer; John N. Verplank, secretary; Judson Lamoreaux, Abram Witbeck, William J. Lamoreaux, as per M. Witbeck, George C. Lamoreaux. The present trustees and officers are: William S. Cole, president; Judson Lamoreaux, vice-president; Andrew Witbeck, treasurer; George C. Lamoreaux, secretary; John Verplank, Francis Nodine, Jasper M. Witbeck, W. J. Lamoreaux, William Witbeck. The above contains five acres of inclosed land, very favorably located.

The Workingmen's Protective Union, Coeymans, incorporated in 1880. The particular business

and object of the society are to provide funds, from contributions of its members, when they are sick or disabled, and to bury them when dead, and aid the surviving families of deceased members.

Secretary reports, December 26, 1882: Total amount of money collected during the year, $1,554; total membership, 300; amount deposited in bank, $2,055. The following constitute the present officers: President, Jacob B. Holmes; Vice-President, F. S. Willis; Secretary, W. B. Holmes; Treasurer, Theodore Robb. Trustees—James Lasher, Patrick McNarama, Frank Beak. Executive Board—Dr. F. G. Mosher, A. J. Wolfe, J. N. Briggs.

Coeymans Mutual Insurance Company was organized and incorporated under the laws of the State, August 16, 1859. Secretary's twenty-fourth annual report, for January 8, 1884, gives as number of policies at last report, and in force at present time, 300; amount of risks at last report, $532,950; at present date, $547,575; amount of bonds subject to assessment, $11,243.

Board of Directors for 1884—Francis Nodine, president; Edwin Wiltsie, vice-president; W. S. Briggs, secretary and treasurer. Executive Committee—Jefferson Powell, Marcus Lindsey, Uriah Montross, Novatus Palmer, E. C. Osterhout, Jasper M. Witbeck; W. S. Briggs, secretary.

There is in the town an incorporated highway, divided into three sections. The said road commences at the village of Coeymans and extends west through Coeymans Hollow, Indian Fields; thence into Westerlo, passing through Dormansville and Chesterville to the old Delaware Turnpike, a distance of eighteen miles.

The first division, a distance of eight miles, was incorporated in 1850 as *The Coeymans and Western Plank Road Company* for thirty years. In 1860 it was changed from a plank to a stone road. The roadbed now is laid with broken stone. The charter was renewed in 1880 for thirty years. Levi Blaisdell, president; William B. Hull, secretary; Stephen H. Niles, treasurer, are the present officers.

Cole and Witbeck have charge of the middle division, and Henry Slingerland of the western.

The New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad have in the town eighteen miles of track, roadbed, round-house, station, machine shop and freight house, which are assessed at $165,000. Western Union Telegraph Company is assessed $600. Knickerbocker Ice Company is assessed $30,000.

Coeymans Hollow Lodge, No. 957, I. O. G. T., was organized, December 12, 1878, by W. W. Gunnison, with fifty-seven charter members. The first officers were: E. C. Osterhout, W. C. T.; Ida Shear, W. V. T.; W. E. Stanton, L. D.; Lindsey, W. M.; Rev. J. P. Burger, W. Chap. The lodge now numbers forty-seven members, with the following officers: Andrew Wilsey, W. C. T.; Anna L. Whitbeck, W. V. T.; Lindsey Green, L. D.; L. F. Lisk, W. M.; Thomas Wolfe, W. Chap.

Physicians.—Among the physicians who formerly practiced in the township were Drs. Ely, Jessie Smith, Spaulding, Hand, Van Alstyne, Van Allen, Herrick, Holmes, Blodget, Clement.

Dr. *Benjamin B. Fredenburgh* came to Coeymans in 1826, and continued in active practice until the present year. Andrew Huyck located at Coeymans Hollow forty-six years ago (1838). He read medicine with Dr. P. B. Noxon, and attended lectures at Vermont Academy. Wesley Blaisdel and Andrew Van Antwerp have practiced in the town.

F. C. Mosher graduated from Albany Medical College in 1848, and located at Coeymans Landing, where he continues in active practice.

H. N. Johnson graduated from Albany Medical College in 1881, is located in Coeymans Landing, and is engaged in the drug business.

C. C. Willis attended a course of lectures in the *Philadelphia Dental College* in 1874 and 1875. Is now practicing dentistry at Coeymans.

G. E. Elmendorf, now located at *Alcove*, was born in Ulster County, and graduated from Albany Medical College in class of 1875, and the following year came to Alcove, or Stephensville.

F. A. W. Rivets, born in Montreal, Canada, graduated from *Eclectic Medical College* of New York in 1875; located at Bloomingdale, then at Ausable Forks, and came to Indian Fields in 1880.

Schools.—There are no academies, high schools or graded private schools in the town.

In 1858 the *Coeymans Academy* was established by Fletcher Blaisdel, Theophilus Civil and Peter Seabridge. The first teachers were Misses C. B. and Emma Brace; afterward it passed under the control of Thomas McKee. The enterprise proving unsuccessful, it was abandoned. Some of the early teachers were Hinckley, Jefferson, Levi Fisher. There are in the township fourteen school districts, in which are employed the same number of teachers, for terms varying from eighteen to twenty weeks. In 1869 there were 1,017 children of school age; the number attending school, 710; average attendance, 325. Whole amount expended for school purposes, $4,738.

No. of District.	No. of Children, School Age	No. Attending School.	Total Valuation of District.	Amount Expended for all Purposes.	Amount Paid Teachers.	Wages Paid, Winter Term.	Wages Paid for Summer Term.
1....	167	141	$771,200	$1,030 70	$864 00	$19 50	$19 50
2....	58	34	100,430	404 00	355 00	10 25	7 50
3....	50	32	53,210	325 90	301 80	8 00	7 50
4....	61	43	97,375	323 61	298 92	7 50	7 00
5....	33	29	43,600	306 23	285 00	8 00	7 00
6....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	....	....
7....	102	74	67,134	541 12	499 66	10 50	10 00
8....	16	16	.....	.....	.....	....	....
9....	46	37	63,925	205 00	184 00	6 00	4 00
10....	67	60	43,250	310 97	237 70	7 50	6 00
11....	27	15	27,650	176 00	161 00	6 00	5 50
12....	7	4	.....	.....	.....	....	....
13....	29	19	31,300	269 07	245 70	6 00	5 25
14....	104	57	93,360	444 32	373 82	10 00	9 00
15....	46	37	77,075	466 27	406 00	12 00	10 00
16....	57	46	137,700	359 15	324 00	10 00	10 00
17....	29	22	25,175	136 25	125 00	5 00	3 75
Totals...	901	666	$1,032,384	$5,300 86	$4,461 60		

Soldiers.—The record of soldiers who served in the War for Liberty, from this township, is not very extensive or clearly ascertained; yet a few who were residents of what is now Coeymans rendered aid and service in the cause that obtained for them freedom and independence. Many of those who came to Coeymans in later years were soldiers who had served in other States or counties. The war of 1812 was well represented by volunteers or drafted men from this town. Among those who answered the call and gave their services were Joseph Hazelton, John Clark, Daniel C. Tompkins, Stewart Bull, Andrew Witbeck, Abram Verplank, Barrent Mull, Lieut. Daniel Carhart, Peter W. Ten Eyck, Daniel Green, William Sherman, Capt. John Carr, William H. Gage, Harmanes Sickles, John McNary, Elias Becker and Isaac Holmes.

During the War of the Rebellion Coeymans claims to have furnished her quota of gallant volunteers, who served the country faithfully and with honor. From some unexplained cause, the officers of the town whose duty it was to collect a complete record of these men have negiected to comply with a law of 1865, as contained in Chapter 690. At this time, a perfect record in accordance with the requirements of that law will be almost impossible to obtain.

There are no military organizations in the town. The old military system that once prevailed has long since been abandoned, and no special interest seems to interest the young men in military honors.

The history of the Indians furnishes little of any reliability or more than ordinary tradition, which cannot always be taken as trustworthy, and current report, which is of doubtful authority. A small number of Indians belonging to the Oneida tribe lived in the town after the Revolution, and removed to some other more favorable locality. They returned in 1812, after which they became wandering mendicants through the county, and finally disappeared from the scenes and hunting grounds of their ancestors.

After 1785 Albany served as a distributing office for the adjoining town, and mail matter was delivered by post-riders, who met at certain points to interchange letters and papers, and when the business was insufficient to pay the postmen, voluntary subscriptions were made by those who were interested in their continuance. Special fees were collected for the delivery of newspapers. Changes were very slow, and post-riders continued to deliver mail matter through the towns for several years after coaches were employed in more important places. Several men remember in their boyhood mails being delivered in this way, and it was not until after 1820 that the more convenient and safe mode was adopted of stage-coaches. Now the mails for Coeymans are delivered daily; those on the line of railroad or steamboat communication receive the mails twice or thrice daily, while the more distant offices are served daily, thus giving ready and prompt communication with business interests and the news of the world.

The Coeymans Gazette was established in 1863 by Gilbert C. Vincent, who continued its publication until the fall of 1864, when he sold it to Willard Pond. Soon after it passed into the hands of Henry Bronk, and subsequently to McKee &

Springsted. In December, 1869, Mr. Springsted sold his interest to his partner, Thomas McKee, who continued its publication until 1871. In 1871 Miller & Sherman established the "*Coeymans Herald,*" a weekly paper; Sherman sold his interest to Miller; then Miller sold to S. H. & E. J. Sherman, the present editors and proprietors.

The miscellaneous industries of the township are included in the storage of ice, which amounts to 175,000 tons; a brick-yard owned by Mr. Rouker, in which 2,500,000 brick are made. Whitehead & Brother ship from Coeymans 100,000 tons of molding sand. Robb & Carroll, manufacturers of straw wrapping paper; mills located on Haanakrois Creek, half mile south of Coeymans; were established in 1832, and when in operation manufacture two and a half tons paper daily.

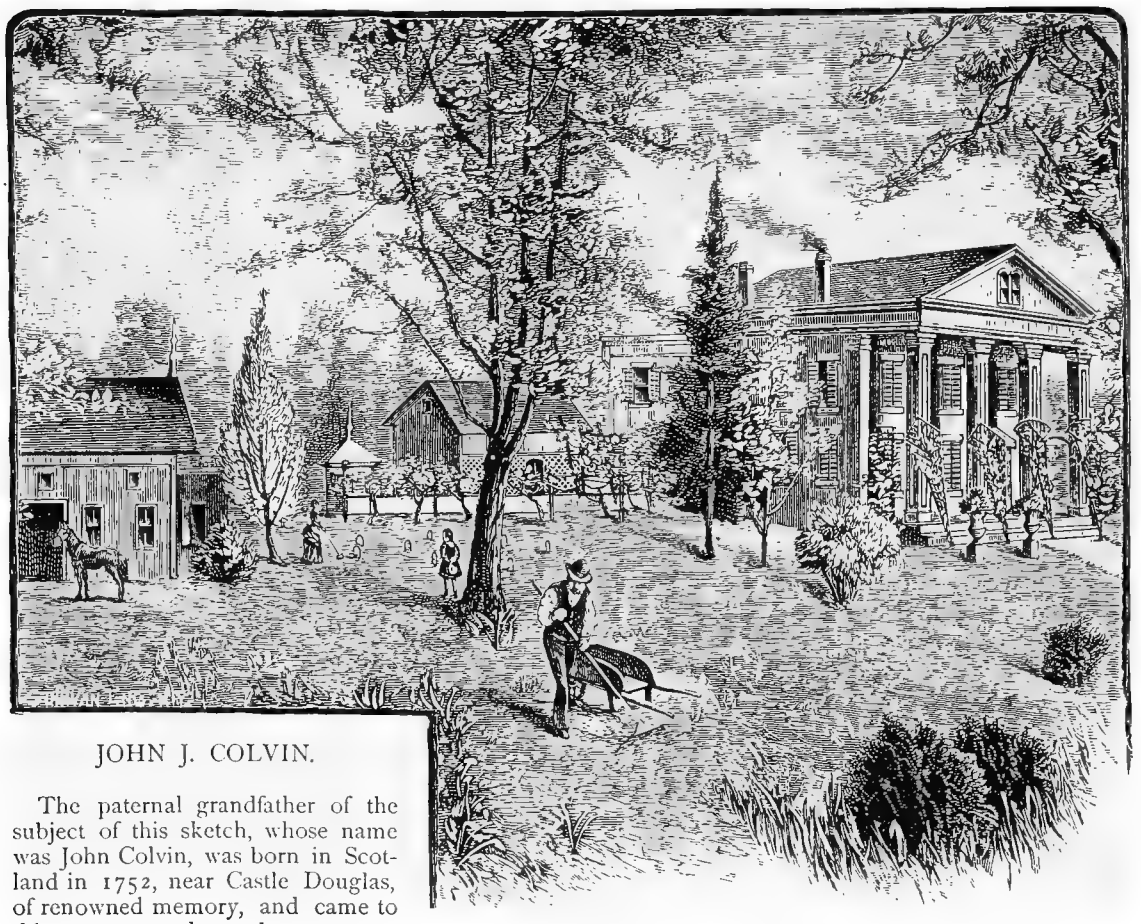
Several quarries of limestone are operated, the material being used for building purposes, bridges, culverts and road-bed. For several years a quarry at *Mossy Hill* furnished large quantities of bluestone; the supply has been exhausted and the quarry is now abandoned.

Mr. Henry Callanan, near South Bethlehem, in the town of Coeymans, on the line of the West Shore Railroad, operates an extensive quarry of limestone. The material is used for building foundations, bridges, culverts and railroad ballast. Has an engine of sixty horse-power, which is connected with a Gates Stone Crusher, and also furnishes the necessary motive power for operating the quarry. Many thousand yards of stone were furnished the West Shore Railroad in its construction.

About 1845 Philip Kimmey, built at South Bethlehem, in the town of Coeymans, on the *Sprayt* Creek, a grist and saw-mill. The mill work, machinery and fitting were done by Ira Yagger, millwright.

These mills now belong to Henry Callanan, and in 1870 were extended and improved by additions of machinery. They now consist of a grist-mill for flouring and custom work, a saw, planing and cider mill, all operated by a water-wheel and steam engine of thirty-five horse-power.

Lot Van Dusen, or, as sometimes called, *Lot Wands,* claims to have been born near Lenox, Massachusetts, in the year 1773, and when eleven years old his mother brought him to Albany, and there met Bishop Wands, to whom he was bound by indenture until twenty-one years old. He remained with Bishop Wands, according to contract, after which he became his own master, working among the farmers in the neighborhood, and in time accumulated enough money to *buy a wife.* She was a slave, with a small child, the property of Jacob and Jehoicam Veeder, from whom he purchased Deyaun Van Guysling for one hundred dollars, and the child for twelve dollars, thus commencing housekeeping with a small family about 1798, first in the Burnside house; then bought a small house in what is now New Scotland village, where he lived a number of years; then moved to Bethlehem and lived on the Ambrose Wiltsie farm; from there to John Bullock's (now Mosher's), and at present living in the town of Coeymans, near South Bethlehem, on premises included in Callanan's farm, for which he has a deed during his life time. Lot has been married three times; is the father of several children. The eldest, Betsey, is living and is now past 80 years. He lives with his son Harrison. His bodily infirmities, with the weight of years, render him quite helpless, although with the aid of crutch and cane he moves about for his own convenience. He retains in a remarkable degree his mental faculties, and relates with much spirit many occurrences of his early days. If his record is correct, he is in his 112th year, and a hundred years ago, when he came to Albany, neither the town of Watervliet nor Bethlehem was organized.



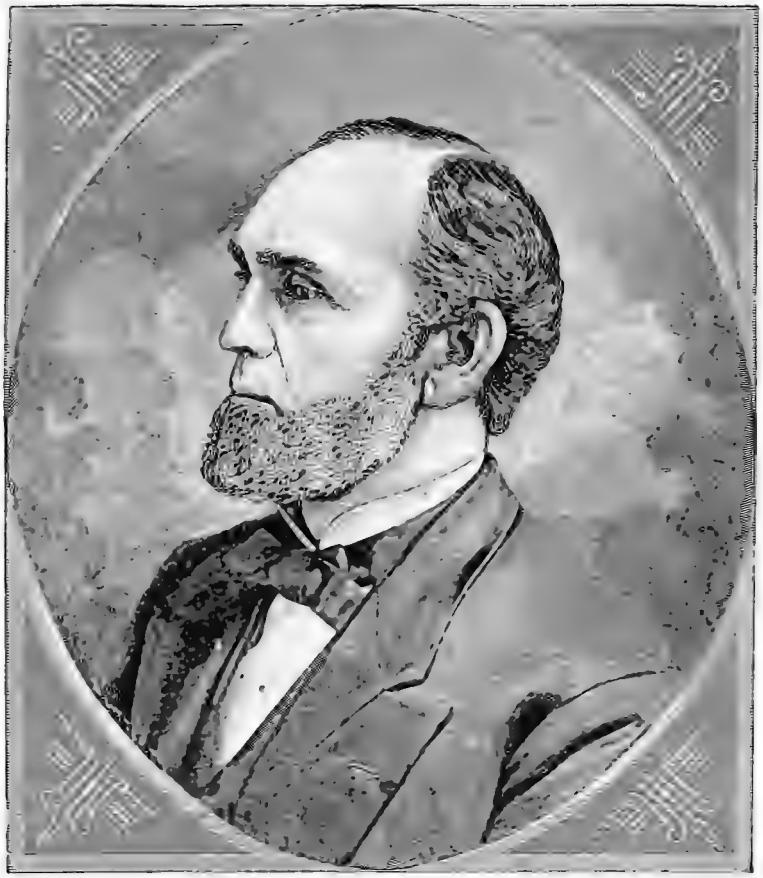
RESIDENCE OF J. J. COLVIN, Esq., TOWN OF COEYMANS.

JOHN J. COLVIN.

The paternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, whose name was John Colvin, was born in Scotland in 1752, near Castle Douglas, of renowned memory, and came to this country when about twenty years of age, and settled at Nine Partners, Dutchess County, where he lived until his marriage with Sarah Fuller, of Connecticut, a lineal descendant of one of the Fullers who landed from the "Mayflower" at Plymouth Rock in 1620. This grandfather, soon after his marriage, removed to a farm of some three hundred acres in the town of Coeymans, three miles west of Coeymans village, or landing. Here, carrying on farming, and blacksmithing as well, for he was a blacksmith by trade, he lived until January, 1814, when he died. He was a large-sized man, of great physical and mental strength, of high character and integrity, and eminent for his piety. He was a Member of the Assembly of the State in 1811, being elected by the county on the same ticket with Stephen Van Rensselaer, Abraham Van Vechten and Abel French. He had several sons and daughters. The fourth son was John, who was the father of John J. Colvin, a brief sketch of whose life is subjoined.

John J. Colvin was born at the old Colvin homestead, in Coeymans, February 10, 1815. He has been identified with the business interests of Coeymans for more than fifty years. The death of his father when he was but three years old, and other circumstances, afforded him but little opportunity for education. But, self-asserting and self-sustaining, and disliking a farmer's life, he thought, when seventeen years of age, that he would learn the boot and shoe making business, and to this he became an apprentice with Levi Hunt, at Coeymans Hollow.

During this apprenticeship, which continued three years, and two years subsequent employment with Mr. Hunt, he managed to save five hundred dollars. This accomplished, and concluding that boot and shoe making was not his vocation, and having by study and application made himself somewhat familiar with the general rudiments of education, including arithmetic and casting and keeping accounts, he determined to engage in some undertaking more suitable to his tastes and more stirring and active in its character. This he found in the business of buying and shipping flagging stone from Coeymans to New York, in company with Noble H. Johnson, then a clerk for Hubbel & Keith, at Coeymans, who were engaged in that business, and who also kept a grocery store there. Johnson & Colvin bought the interest of Hubbel & Keith in the stone business and the grocery, and continued to be copartners in the trade for ten years, during which they made con-



John F. Cohin

siderable money, and Mr. Colvin laid the foundation of his fortune.

In 1844 Johnson & Colvin, having sold their store property and given up their stone business, concluded to embark in the forwarding business from Coeymans to New York, and they formed a new copartnership, taking in Henry Niles as a third partner. The freighting business at this time was done with sailing vessels. The business increased so rapidly that they soon were obliged to add a vessel of large size, which was built for them at the shipyard in Coxsackie. The vessel was called the "Oregon," and was the largest sloop of the kind ever built for use on the upper Hudson. Mr. Colvin was the captain of this vessel, and transacted the business for the firm on the river and in the City of New York. But it was evident at last that the time for freighting for sailing vessels was past, and, as the risk and labor were great, Mr. Colvin sold his interest in the business and retired. He then commenced buying real property at different points in Coeymans, which he disposed of in building lots, always adding to the very respectable fortune which he had accumulated. During his life Mr. Colvin has owned and disposed of large amounts of real estate not only in Coeymans but in Albany and other parts of the State, and in Illinois, and he is yet owner of much property of this kind.

In 1849 he was again solicited to take a third interest, in connection with Lawton & Willis, in the freighting business, the freight being then carried by barges and steamboat, and, on Mr. Johnson's consenting to take an interest in the concern, Mr. Colvin became a partner therein. This new firm continued for four years, and, on the withdrawal of Mr. Johnson, who formed a connection with Mr. Schoonmaker, of Albany, in the same business, Mr. Colvin withdrew also, and, not wishing to be further interested in the freighting business himself, he consented to take charge as captain of the barges, and act as salesman in New York for the firm of Johnson & Schoonmaker, and was so employed for some years.

Having by prudence and foresight accumulated a handsome fortune, he sold the McMichael residence, in which the family had lived for over twenty years, and purchased the homestead, with its extensive grounds, in the village of Coeymans, of the estate of the late Dr. Blaisdell, which he has greatly added to and improved. Here he has lived ever since. Overlooking the Hudson River and Barren Island, it is one of the most desirable residences in the town.

In 1838 Mr. Colvin married Catharine Lawton, a most estimable and worthy lady. The fruit of the marriage has been six children, three only of whom survive—one son and two daughters. William H. Colvin, the son, is a successful wholesale merchant in Chicago, being the largest dealer in coffee west of New York City.

Mr. Colvin united with the Methodist Episcopal church, at Coeymans, in 1847, of which, and as one of the trustees, he has since been a consistent member and liberal supporter.

In politics, Mr. Colvin in early manhood united with the old Whig party. His sympathies were with the Southern bondsmen, and upon the formation of the Republican party he connected himself with it, and has ever since been an active worker and liberal giver toward the support of its principles and measures. During the war he was one of the most active supporters of the Union cause in Albany County, rendering able service in raising men and money for the prosecution of the war. When the town of Coeymans was called upon to raise $10,000 he volunteered to advance the amount, which was afterward acknowledged, audited and paid by the town authorities. He also acted as treasurer of an organization which was formed in the town to aid sick and disabled soldiers on the field and in the hospitals.

Mr. Colvin is a cousin-german to ex-Senator Andrew J. Colvin, of Albany, whose father was James Colvin, the eldest born of the family. Personally he is a man of powerful physical frame, six feet in height, of strongly marked features, and natural mental characteristics of a high order, which to some degree account for the success he has met with in life. His career has been such as carries with it food for profitable thought to all who are struggling at the bottom of fortune's ladder; and, reading its printed record, such ones should take hope for the future, remembering that nothing is impossible to those who strive bravely and long and render unto every man his honest due. Cradled in poverty, poorly equipped educationally to battle with the world, yet Mr. Colvin began the fight with manful determination and waged it with an indomitable pluck that brought its rich rewards. While he builded surely, he builded slowly, with integrity as the foundation of his structure, always taking care to win and keep unsullied a good name, which was worth more to him than any amount of capital would have been without it. Truly, in pursuing the beaten path of commerce, he has left behind him

> "Footprints that perhaps another—
> Some forlorn and shipwrecked brother—
> Seeing, shall take heart again."

We take pleasure in making mention of the following citizens who, by their guaranteed support, have helped to insure the publication of this valuable work: Archie Cullen, H. G. Blodgett, Cor. Van Derzee, And. J. Ten Eyck, D. M. Niver, J. D. Verplanck, Harvey Shear, W. J. Cox, C. A. Shear, J. J. Huyck, Geo. C. Lamoreaux, And. H. Whitbeck, Wm. S. Cole, Wm. J. Lamoreaux, Judson Lamoreaux, H. Slingerland, Peter Keefer, H. H. Van Derzee, Jas. P. Powell, J. H. Powell, E. H. Scofield, Geo. Bamuis, Ira K. Martin, Jeremiah Robinson, E. P. Bedell, S. E. Davis, Capt. Saml. Gedney, B. T. E. Bronk, E. F. Matthews, J W. Jolly, Jno. B. Lawton, Stephen Tompkins, William Nodine, Jas. W. Wiltsie, Elmer V. Shear, Chauncy Care, Van Shear, Lansing Shear, G. C. Wilson, N. H. Palmer, Jno. N. Briggs, V. P. Whitbeck, Edgar Powell, D. Whitbeck, Jacob Vrooman, William Keller, Theo.

Robb, Chas. Robb, Nelson Carroll, Henry Waldron, James Lasher, Frank Holstead, Mrs. J. V. A. Whitbeck, J. J. Colvin, A. J. Wolf, W. B. Holmes, Mrs. C. B. Cirill, C. R. Hitchcock, A. D. Tompkins, M. R. Griffin, Levi Blaisdell.

PETER KEEFER is a resident of Keefer's Corners since 1843, which place was first settled in 1792, by Baltus Keefer, at which time it was a dense wilderness. Mr. Keefer is engaged in farming and is postmaster at Keefer's Corners.

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GUILDERLAND.

SITUATION AND BOUNDARIES.

GUILDERLAND lies on the northern border of Albany County, a little west of the center. It is bounded on the north by Schenectady County, on the east by the city of Albany, on the south by Bethlehem and New Scotland, and on the west by Knox.

DESCRIPTIVE.

The area of Guilderland comprises about 33,000 acres, about 28,000 of which is improved. Its population in 1880 was 3,459. The town is longest from its southeast to its northwest extremity, measuring about fifteen miles, and the distance from its southwest to its northeast corner is about eight miles. The surface is very uneven. In the west part, the Helderbergs rise to a height of 800 feet above the general level of the valleys. The central part is undulating, and the eastern part is occupied by numerous sand ridges. The principal streams are the Norman's Kill and its branches, Bozen Kill, Black Creek, Wildehause Kill and Hunger Kill. The lower course of Norman's Kill in this town is through a narrow ravine with steep and clayey banks. The soil is light and sandy in the east, and a gravelly loam mixed with clay in the west. On the William McGowan farm is a mineral spring which has attracted some attention. The town has good railway, express and telegraphic facilities.

SETTLEMENT.

In all noticeable characteristics, the inhabitants of Guilderland much resemble those of the parent town, Watervliet; frankness, geniality and genuine hospitality being their most distinguishing traits, as they have been of the early Dutch settlers and their descendants everywhere. The town was formerly included within the patroon's patent, and all the farmers were under obligation to pay tithes of wheat, chickens and wood. This system, in time, produced discontent, which rose to the absolute point of resistance in 1840, producing the "Anti-rent war." So great a dissatisfaction existed, that the patroon at last decided to abandon a system of lease, and sell the land in fee simple for a moderate price. Since that time the march of improvement has been rapid. Fifty years ago there were but few painted houses, and dwellings were usually one-story structures, with back stoops, the "front" door (paradoxical as it may appear) being at the rear of the house. But these contained an abundance of life's substantial things, with all the sours and sweets to give relish, with overflowing hospitality. They have given place to convenient and sightly buildings, of varied architecture, ornamented and painted in modern style.

The first settlements in the town were made in the eighteenth century. Absence of records prevents the presentation of a circumstantial account of this interesting period. Brief mention may be made of some of the earlier families, however. Among them were the Crounses, the Van Wormers, the Seversons, Van Aernams, the Opplys, the Frederickses, the Van Pattens, the Groats, the Livingstons, the Winnes, the Beckers, the Ogsburys, the Truaxes, the Van Alstines, the Van Valkenburgs, the Hendersons, the Harts, the Barckleys, the Hiltons and Fryers. While some of the above names will be recognized as those of present residents of the town, some of them are no longer known within its limits.

During the Revolutionary War, a portion of the inhabitants adhered to the British, and the feuds which grew up between families and neighborhoods continued for a long time. The news of Burgoyne's surrender was celebrated by the Whigs by burning a hollow chestnut tree on an elevation, a barrel of tar having previously been poured into the cavity in its trunk. It is not thought that any important event, connected directly with the struggle for independence, took place within the boundaries of the town, but that it was a period during

which feeling ran high, and that the greatest solicitude was felt by all classes, may be easily believed. A half-forgotten tradition, that certain residents of the town, as now bounded, participated in some scenes of violence elsewhere, has been related, but it is so shadowy and uncertain that its repetition here would seem to be out of place. The old Dutch farmers were a peaceable people, and it is not to be presumed that any of them trampled needlessly on the rights of any of their neighbors. At the close of the Revolution, the population of that part of Watervliet, which was nearly twenty years later set off to form Guilderland, was small and scattered over considerable territory, mostly along the streams which have their course through the town. The Dutch derivation of the name of the new town is apparent. It was originally spelled *Guilderlandt.*

Following is "a list of the persons residing in the town of Guilderland, in the County of Albany, who were by law qualified and of sufficient ability and understanding to serve as jurors," as certified by the Supervisor, Town Clerk and Assessors in 1803. Those not otherwise designated were farmers. The names are spelled as upon the record:

Job Earls, Abraham Bartlett, Abraham Van Wie, Simeon Relyea, Levy Relyea, Isaac W. Fryer, David Relyea, Jr., George Brown, Peter Veeder, Christian Truax, Jr. (innkeeper), Lawrence Van Kleeck, Abraham Turk, John Banker, John Joice, James M. La Grange, John Van Schaick, Jonas Smith, Petrus Van Patten, Abraham Kelder, Jelles Truax, Albert Van Huesen, Abraham Spoor, Andrew Murray, Ezra Spalding, Frederick Mynderse, Robert Dollar, James Irwin, Reuben Earls, Peter La Grange, John Devoe, David Bogardus (carpenter), Jacob C. Truax, John Beebe, William Davis, Peter Wurmer, John Fryer, Aaron Wurmer, Isaac A. Wurmer, Amos Goodfellow, Michael Van Schaick, Peter McDougal, Christopher Batterman (innkeeper), Peter Becker, Henry Shaver, Nicholson Severson, John Shoudy (blacksmith), George Van Arnum, Henry Van Arnum, Frederick Crounce, Conrad Crounce, John Crounce, Martin Blessing, Matthias Hallenbeck, Nicholas Winne, John Mann, Garret Long (carpenter), Nicholas V. Mynderse (merchant), Henry Jacobson, Peter I. Livingston, Michael S. Frederick, Matthias Frederick, Jacob Relyea, John Bloemendall, Jacob La Grange, Samuel Covenhoven, Peter Van Aucken, Cornelius Van Valkenburgh, Barent Van Waggoner, David Ogsbury, Henry Apple, Peter Traber, Charles Traber, Henry Shoudy, Volkert Jacobson, Adam A. Vrooman, Nicholas A. Sixby, Thomas Beebe, John Weaver, Jr., Philip Schell, Henry Van Schoonhoven, John N. Clute, James Platto, Jacob N. Clute, Evert Van Arnum, George Scrapper, Andrew Spaarbeck, William Snyder, James Ray, Charles Shaver, Martin Spearbeck, Isaac J. Van Arnum, Jacob Sitterly, Benjamin Wilbore, David Wilbore, James Shaw, Robert Grey, John Douglas, Simeon Lanehart, Henry Lanehart, Thomas Van Arnum, John Jacob Van Arnum, John Lanehart, Obediah Cooper, Jacob M. De Forest, Garret O. Lansing, John M. Van Der Pool, Henry Van Auken, Levy Van Auken, John Howard, Adam Hilton, George Severson, John Hilton, Daniel Wolford, Henry I. Schoonmaker, Henry Van Beuren, Charles H. Huner, Peter N. Van Patten (merchant), Michael Barclay, James McKee, Nicholas Beyer (innkeeper), William Hilton (carpenter), Philip Fetterly, John Whetsell, Benjamin Walker, Thomas Beaver, Vincent Springer, Benjamin Howe, Benjamin Howe, Jr., John F. Quackenbush, Abraham P. Truax, John Ramsay, Frederick Ramsay, Philip Ramsay, Richard Ward, Christian Caley, Jr., Bartholomew Sharp, John Sharp, John Waggoner, John Vine, Nathan Fitch, Thomas Mezeck, John Schell, William Von Arnum, Isaac Hallenbeck, Jacob Totten, John Ward, Silas Hotan, Peter Relyea, George Van Nest and Stephen Pankburn.

A similar list, compiled in 1824, included the following names:

George Batterman, Jonathan Brown, Simon Brodt, Thomas T. Beebe, Abijah Beebe, William S. Beebe, Martin Blessing, Adam Blessing, Peter Bloomindall, Adam Bloomindall, Abram Bartlett, Jr., John Beebe, Jacob Bensen, Jonathan Becker, Thomas W. Beebe, James Cassidy, Henry Cram, Philip Crounse, Jr., Nicholas Crounse, Conrad Crounse, John Crounse, Jacob N. Clute, John N. Clute, William Clute, Christian Caly, Abraham Cass, John Chase, Wilhelmus Devoe, Henry Frederick, Matthias M. Frederick, John I. Fryer, Jacob Fryer, William Fisher, Henry R. Furbeck, Abraham Fryer, Cornelius Goodfellow, Simon Grote, Jellis Gray, Peter Hilton, Jr., Gershom Hungerford, Isaac Hallenbeck, Jacob Hallenbeck, David Hart, James Hilton, Robert H. Howard, William Humphrey, James Houghton, Henry Jacobson, Jonathan Johnson, Frederick Kunholtz, Christopher Keenholtz, Jacob I. La Grange, Aaron Livingston, James M. La Grange, Peter I. Livingston, Peter Livingston, John I. Livingston, Andrew La Grange, Peter D. La Grange, Simeon Lanehart, Michael Lanehart, John F. Mynderse, John McKown, Jonathan Mynderse, Myndert Mynderse, John Mann, Cornelius Mann, John Merrick, Thomas Ostrander, John D. Ogsbury, David Ogsbury, Jr., Peter Ogsbury, Andrew Ostrander, Barent Ostrander, Samuel Ostrander, Christian Ostrander, Stephen Pangburn, William Pangburn, Jr., David Pratt, Isaac Quackenbush, John F. Quackenbush, Jacob Quackenbush, Myndert Relyea, Jacob D. Relyea, David Relyea, David L. Relyea, Levi Relyea, Giles Riggles, David P. Relyea, Adam Relyea, Peter D. Relyea, John Shoudy, Martin I. Siver, Jonas Smith, Jacob Spoor, Joseph Spoor, William Spoor, John Shoudy, Jr., Nicholas Severson, Frederick Severson, George Severson, Adam Scrafford, Henry C. Shover, Christian Scrafford, Jacob Sitterley, Peter Shaver, John Sharp, Tunis Slingerland, Andrew Sharp, John H.

Shaver, Jacob Schell, Abram Sitterly, Nicholas Snyder, Charles Scrafford, Charles Traber, F. Van Valkenburgh, Albert Van Husen, John Van Husen, John Van Valkenburgh, Volkert Veeder, Simeon Veeder, Myndert Veeder, Nicholas P. Van Patten, Thomas Van Aernam, George Van Aernam, Henry Van Valkenburgh, Nicholas Van Valkenburgh, Nicholas A. Van Patten, Henry Van Aernam, John I. Van Patten, Simon Van Auken, John Van Waggoner, Richard Van Cleeck, Gershom Van Valkenburgh, Henry I. Vine, Aaron A. Van Wormer, Jeremiah Van Auken, Jacob Van Auken, Abraham Vanderpool, Cornelius Wormer, Peter Wormer, Noah S. Wood, John Weitzel, Cornelius H. Waldron, Peter Walker, Jesse White, Peter Waggoner, John Westfall, John Ward, John W. Ward, Andrew I. Ward, Richard Walker, Jacob Weaver, John I. Weaver, Andrew Wilkins, James Wormer, Frederick Waggoner.

In common with others of their time, some of the wealthier of the early residents of Guilderland were owners of slaves. Of course, no one held a large number, and the system was totally unlike that which obtained in the South. It is said that the Dutch farmers profited but lightly from their human property in the long run, and were glad enough to give the negroes their freedom when public sentiment favored such a measure. It was not until some years of the present century had passed that this mild slavery ceased to exist. No record of its operations prior to the organization of the town is to be found, but some extracts from the town book entered during the period immediately succeeding the erection of Guilderland are given as possessing a curious interest at this time:

I do hereby certify that my negro wench slave named *Susan* was, on the twelfth day of March, 1803, delivered of a black female child, and that the same is named *Gin*, and that the same is my property; and I do hereby further give notice that I shall abandon the same agreeable to the act in that case made and provided. Dated this 28th day of May, 1803. PETER VEEDER.

CERTIFICATE OF FREDERICK CROUNCE.

I do hereby give notice that my negro wench slave named *Dianna* was, on the 20th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1802, delivered of a black male child named *Simon*, and that I shall abandon the said child agreeable to the act in that case made and provided. Dated this 28th day of April, 1803. FREDERICK CROUNCE.

I do hereby give notice that my negro wench *Gin* was, on the 21st January, 1803, delivered of a male black child named Yeat, and that I do hereby also abandon the said child agreeable to the act in that case made and provided. November 19, 1803. JOHN HOWARD.

COUNTY OF ALBANY, ss.:

These may certify that I, *John Van Rensselaer*, of the Town of Water Vleit, in the County of Albany, have a female negro child, born the 31st of January last, named *Jude*, of a negro wench slave named *Rose*, which said *Rose* is my property, and I hereby request that an entry may be made agreeable to law; and that I hereby give notice that I abandon the child agreeable to the statute in such case made and provided.

Water Vleit, July 14th, 1802.

The above is a copy taken from the records.

BENJAMIN WINNE, *Clerk.*

Water Vleit, Oct. 23d, 1803.

4th April, 1803, town divided.

COUNTY OF ALBANY, ss.:

These may certify that I, Henry Apple, of the Town of Water Vleit and County aforesaid, farmer, have a male negro child, born the twenty-sixth day of June, one thousand eight hundred, named *Jan*, of a negro slave *Maria*, which said Maria is my property, and hereby request that an entry may be made that I abandon the same agreeable to the statute in such case made and provided.

Water Vleit, 21st May, 1801.

his
HENRY x APPLE.
Mark.

COUNTY OF ALBANY, ss.:

These may certify that I, Henry Apple, of the town of Water Vleit and County of Albany, farmer, have a female negro child, born the seventh day of October, one thousand eight hundred and one, named *Gin*, of a negro slave named Maria, which said Maria is my Property; and I hereby request an entry may be made that I abandon the same agreeable to the statute in such case made and provided.

Water Vleit, June 24, 1802.

his
HENRY x APPLE.
Mark.

The above are copies taken from the records of the town of Water Vleit, 20th January, 1804.

BENJAMIN WINNE, *Clerk.*

COUNTY OF ALBANY, ss.:

These may certify that I, Henry Apple, of the town of Guilderland and County of Albany, farmer, have a male negro child, born the 9th December, 1802, named Joe, of a negro slave named Maria, which said Maria is my Property, and I hereby request that an entry may be made that I abandon the same agreeable to the statute in this case made and provided.

Guilderland, 5th September, 1803.

his
HENRY x APPLE.
Mark.

COUNTY OF ALBANY, ss.:

These may certify that I, James M. La Grange, of the town of Guilderland and County aforesaid, farmer, have a male negro child, born the 29th September, 1803, named Jock, of a negro slave named *Pheobe*, which said *Pheobe* is my prop-

erty; and I do hereby request that an entry may be made that I abandon the same agreeable to the act in such case made and provided. Dated this 19th March, 1804. JAMES M. LA GRANGE.

Among the prominent citizens of the town at this time are the following, several others being represented by portraits and biographical sketches:

NAME.	BIRTHPLACE.	DATE OF BIRTH.	TO WHOM MARRIED.	DATE OF MARRIAGE.	OCCUPATION.	POST-OFFICE.
J. P. Ogsbury	Guilderland	Nov. 7, 1818	Margaret Van Valkenburg.	Feb. 28, 1839	Farmer	Knowersville.
Peter J. Ogsbury	Guilderland.	Jan. 2, 1842		January, 1868	Farmer.	Knowersville.
Abram A. Tygert	Guilderland	June 18, 1858	Maggie Fryer	June 8, 1881	Farmer	Knowersville.
Andrew A. Scrafford	Guilderland	May 22, 1841	Sophia Becker	Oct. 1, 1873	Farmer	Knowersville.
Wesley Schoolcraft	Guilderland	Nov. 3, 1853	Margaret M. Lainhart.	Sept. 25, 1874	Farmer	Knowersville.
Henry C. Hilton	Guilderland	May 14, 1865			Farmer	Knowersville.
G. Tygert	Guilderland	Oct. 5, 1825	Catharine Fuller	Oct. 15, 1846	Farmer and coal dealer	Fuller's Station.
Abram Buzzee	Guilderland	1812	Almira Melius	Jan. 22, 1837	Farmer	Knowersville.
Louise M. Kaley		Oct. 30, 1850	Henry Kaley	Mar. 1, 1871	Hotel	Dunsville.
Mrs. John Gardner	Guilderland	Mar. 10, 1820	John Gardner	Mar. 12, 1863	Farmer	Knowersville.
Addison Van Auken	Guilderland	Feb. 17, 1853	Laura Crounse	July 12, 1876	Farmer	Guilderland.
J. H. Pangburn	Guilderland	Aug. 29, 1851	Mary N. Mynderse	Dec. 12, 1852	Merchant	Knowersville.
Wm. D. Strevell	Guilderland	Aug. 1, 1831	Sarah M. De Voe	Jan. 12, 1861	Dep. Surrogate.	Knowersville.
James A. Crounse	Guilderland	May 25, 1826	W. No. 1, Mary L. Relyea. Christianna Livingston.	Mar. 3, 1881 Nov. 28, 1850	Farmer	Guilderland.
Frederick Van Wie	Guilderland	Aug. 16, 1818	Elizabeth Woodworth	April 12, 1853	Farmer	Guilderland.
George Clute	Guilderland	Mar. 12, 1853	Mary Blessing	Jan. 19, 1875	Farmer	Guilderland.
Henry Witherwax	Guilderland	Oct. 31, 1838	Nancy M. Quackenbush	Aug. 31, 1860	Farmer	Guilderland.
Andrew M. La Grange	Guilderland	Sept. 9, 1839	Louisa A. Livingston	Dec. 18, 1862	Farmer and dealer in imported stock	Guilderland.
Abram Coss	Guilderland	June 29, 1841	Louisa Fairlee	Feb. 10, 1875	Farmer	Fuller's Station.
Daniel Van Husen	Guilderland	July 24, 1837	Elizabeth Van Schoik	Febru'y, 1859	Farmer	Fuller's Station.
John Quackenbush	Guilderland	Jan. 22, 1827	Margrate J. Jewett	Jan. 6, 1849	Farmer	Sloan's.
F. V. McKown	Guilderland	April 7, 1820	Jane Mosher	July 10, 1848	Farmer	Sloan's.
Willard Defreest	Guilderland	July, 1851	Fanny Boomhower	Dec. 30, 1874	Farmer	Sloan's.
John Cramme	Guilderland	Feb. 26, 1808	Elizabeth Winnie	Aug. 26, 1832	Farmer	Sloan's.
J. Christian Hein	Wurtemberg, Germany	Feb. 22, 1828	Mary Scheller	Nov. 23, 1851	Wagon man'f'r.	Sloan's.
Charles H. Hein	Guilderland	Sept. 4, 1859			Blacksmith	Sloan's.
Henry E. Drumm	Oneatta, Otsego Co., N.Y.	Dec. 7, 1848	Mary A. Potter	Jan. 7, 1872	Carpenter	Sloan's.
Thomas Holmes	Staffordshire, England	Nov. 21, 1816	Harriet Coley	April 28, 1842	Farmer	23 Dove street, Albany.
Wm. McKown	Guilderland	July 13, 1842	Catharine L. McMillen	Oct. 14, 1863	Retired farmer.	Sloan's.
James Crounse	Knowersville	1851	Dgr. of Rev. A. P. Ludden.	July 21, 1880		Knowersville.
J. H. Heck		Dec. 8, 1827	Miss E. Pearson	June 8, 1852	Reverend	Knowersville.
A. P. Ludden	Brunswick, N. Y.	July 11, 1816	Caroline Grove, of Morristown, Frederick Co. Va.	May 18, 1845	Reverend	Knowersville.
Jacob A. Crounse	Knowersville	July 23, 1829	Julia A. Hilton	Jan. 29, 1856	Farmer	Knowersville.
J. C. Chism	Schenectady	Jan. 18, 1882			Insurance agent.	Knowersville.
D. F. Van Aken	Guilderland	Sept. 28, 1833	Abigail Lansing	Nov. 12, 1861	M. D.	Guilderland Center.
Conrad H. Crounse	Guilderland	April 18, 1850			Farmer	Guilderland.
James A. Hilton	Guilderland	Aug. 16, 1828			Farmer	Guilderland.
Jacob A. Scrafford	Schenectady	Nov. 1, 1844	Rebecca M. Sitterly	Dec., 1872	Farmer	Guilderland.
Adam S Westfall	Guilderland	Aug. 28, 1834	Helen M. Clapper	Jan. 17, 1865	Farmer	Guilderland.
Dewit C. Thomas	Guilderland	Jan. 7, 1839	Phebe H. Burdick	1840	Farmer	Guilderland.
Jacob Hallenbeck	Guilderland	Jan. 8, 1836	Margaret Van Acerman	Sept. 30, 1859	Farmer	Guilderland.
John L. Mynders	Guilderland	July 25, 1846	Elizabeth C. Wingate	1879	Farmer	Guilderland.
S. H. Lainhart	Guilderland	April 21, 1841	Mary M. Frederick	Sept. 23, 1864	Earmer	Guilderland.
Willard G. Davis	Guilderland	Mar. 1, 1814	Mary Ann Tygert	Mar. 3, 1846	Farmer	Guilderland.

ORGANIZATION.

Following is a copy of the record of the legal erection of the town of Guilderland:

"LAWS of NEW YORK, 26th SESSION; GEORGE CLINTON, ESQ., GOVERNOR. Chapter XIX. Contents:

"1. Town of Guilderlandt erected from part of the town of Watervliet.

"2. Residue of Watervliet to remain a separate town.

"3. Supervisors and Overseers of the Poor, their duty.

"AN ACT *for dividing the Town of Watervliet, in the County of Albany.*

"BE it enacted by the people of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, that from and after the fourth day of April next, all that part of the town of Watervliet, in the County of Albany, within the following bounds, to wit: Bounded on the west by the town of Bern, northwest by Princetown, northerly by the City of Schenectady, and north by the south bounds of the City of Albany, be, and hereby is, erected into a separate town by the name of Guilderlandt, and the first town meeting shall be held at the dwelling house of Henry Apple, in said town.

"*And be it further enacted,* That all the remaining part of the town of Watervliet shall be and remain a separate town, by the name of Watervliet, and the first town meeting in the said town of Watervliet shall be held at the dwelling house of William Kain, in said town.

"And be it further enacted, That as soon as may be after the first Tuesday of April next, the Overseers of the Poor and the Supervisors of said towns shall, after due notice being given for that purpose, by the Supervisors of said towns, meet together and apportion the money and poor belonging to the said town of Watervliet previous to the division thereof, agreeably to the last State tax list; and that forever thereafter each of the said towns shall support and maintain its own poor.

"STATE OF NEW YORK.
"*In Assembly, February* 16th, 1803.
"This bill having been read the third time—
"*Resolved*, That the bill do pass.
"*By order of the Assembly,*
"THOMAS STERM, *Speaker.*

"STATE OF NEW YORK.
"*In Senate, February* 24th, 1803.
"This bill having been read the third time—
"*Resolved*, That the bill do pass.
"*By order of the Senate,*
"JER. VAN RENSSELAER, *President.*

"IN COUNCIL OF REVISION.
"February the 26th, 1803.
"*Resolved*, That it does not appear improper to the Council that this bill should become a law of this State.
"GEORGE CLINTON."

The original boundaries of this town have been somewhat altered by municipal changes both in Albany and Schenectady counties. A portion of the City of Albany was annexed in 1870, and has since formed Guilderland's entire western boundary.

FROM THE RECORDS, 1803.

In accordance with the provisions of the Act of the Legislature erecting the town, the first town meeting in Guilderlandt was held at the house of Henry Apple, on Tuesday, April 5, 1803, at which the following regulations were adopted:

1st. *Resolved*, That it shall not be lawful for hogs to run at large beyond the inclosure of the owner.

2d. *Resolved*, That stallions of the age of two years and upward shall not be suffered to go at large beyond the inclosure of the owner under a penalty of five dollars.

3d. *Resolved*, That a bounty of thirty dollars shall be paid by this town to any person killing a wolf running wild within said town.

4th. *Resolved*, That the compensation to fence viewers shall be at the rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents for every day that they, or either of them, shall be actually acting in that capacity.

5th. *Resolved*, That the next town meeting shall be held at the house of Henry Apple, in said town.

6th. *Resolved*, That at the next town meeting the inhabitants shall vote by ballot.

At the same time and place the following town officers were chosen:

Supervisor, Nicholas V. Mynderse; Town Clerk, Peter C. Veeder; Assessors, Isaac Van Aernam, Abraham Veeder and Peter Relyea; Commissioners of Highways, David Ogbury, Frederick Crounce and Charles Shaver; Overseers of the Poor, Jacob Van Aernam, Simeon Relyea; Collector, Henry Ostrander; Constables, Frederick Seger, Asa Hutchinson, Peter Tarpenning and Jasper Hilton; Poundmaster, Volkert Jacobson; Fenceviewers, Nicholas Van Patten, Asa Hutchinson, Peter Traber and Robert Grey; Overseers of Highways, Jacob La Grange, Peter La Grange, Thomas Mesick, Nicholas Van Patten, John Groat, Peter Traber, Amos Goodfellow, James M. La Grange, Isaac Van Aernam, Benjamin Wilbore, James Platt, John Murray, Walter Vrooman, Adam Hilton, Matthias Hallenbeck, Peter Bowman, George Brown, Abraham Veeder and Ezra Spalding.

Below will be found further extracts from the Records during the first year of Guilderland's existence as a township:

The following number of votes were given for the following persons for Senators in the Town of Guilderland, in the County of Albany, at an election held in said town, commencing on the twenty-sixth day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and three, and closing on the twenty-eighth day of the same month in the same year:

John Tayler	72	Stephen Lusk	46
John Woodworth	67	Moses Vail	47
Simon Veeder	67	Daniel Paris	47
Edward Savage	67	Ebenezer Clark	47
Thomas Treadwell	67	William Bailey	44

N. V. MYNDERSE,
ABRAHAM VEEDER,
ISAAC VAN AERNAM,
PETER RELYEA,
PETER C. VEEDER,
} *Inspectors.*

The following number of votes were given for the following persons for Members of Assembly for the County of Albany in the Town of Guilderland in said county, at an election held in said town, commencing on the twenty-sixth day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and three, and closing on the twenty-eighth day of the same month, in the same year:

James Emmott	66	Peter Gansevoort, Jr.	96
M. Schermerhorn	66	Henry Quackenbush	97
John Beekman, Jr.	66	Nathan Dayton	96
John Jost Dietz	66	John Jackson Jr	94
Peter S. Schuyler	66	Nathaniel Gallup	96
Moses Smith	66	Isaac D. Ver Plank	97
Nathan Stanton	1	Nathan Gallup	1
John Jackson	3	Peter Gansevoort	1

N. V. MYNDERSE,
ABRAHAM VEEDER,
ISAAC VAN AERNAM,
PETER RELYEA,
PETER C. VEEDER,
} *Inspectors.*

At a meeting of the Commissioners of Excise for the Town of Guilderland, in the County of Albany, at the house of Henry Apple, in said town, on the third day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and three, *Resolved*, That licenses and permits for retailing strong and spirituous liquors be granted to the following persons at the following rates of excise:

Christopher Batterman, on the Schoharie road, $6.50.
John Weaver, on the State road, $7.50.
Philip Schell, on the State road, $7.
George Severson, on the Schoharie road, $7.50.
Nicholas Beyer, on the Schoharie road, $5.50.
John Danker, on the Schoharie road, $6.
Peter Bowman, on the State road, $5.50.

Frederick Seger, on the Schoharie road, $5.
Peter Traber, on the road to Schenectady, $5.
Jeremiah Van Rensselaer (permit).
Nicholas V. Mynderse (permit).
Isaac Vrooman, on the Schoharie road, $5.
Simeon Relyea (permit).
John F. Quackenbush, on the State road, $5.
Jacob Totten, on the State road, $5.
Henry Apple, on the Schoharie road, $9.
Frederick Friedendall, on the Schoharie road, $6.
James D. La Grange, on the Schoharie road, $6.50.
Abraham P. Truax, on the State road, $6.

Present: Nicholas Mynderse, Supervisor.

VOLKERT VEEDER,
PETER C. VEEDER,
JAMES HENDERSON,
LAWRENCE SCHOOLCRAFT,
} *Justices of the Peace.*

At a subsequent meeting of a Board of Commissioners of Excise, "licenses and permits to retail strong and spirituous liquors" were granted to the following persons:

Peter Van Patten, on the Schoharie road (permit).
Wait Barrett, on the State road, $5.
Benjamin Horne, on the State road, $5.50.
Frederick Ramsay, on the State road, $6.
Ezra Spalding, on the Normanskill road, $5.
Christian Truax, on the Schoharie road, $5.
Gerrit G. Van Zandt, on the New Turnpike road, $5.

"At a meeting of the Commissioners of Excise licenses and permits were granted to the following persons, to wit: To John Schoolcraft and George Chism, tavern licenses at five dollars each, and a permit to John Sloan at five dollars—all which was paid into the hands of Nicholas V. Mynderse."

The following notices of "astrays" may not be without interest:

"Broke into the enclosure of the subscriber, on the 8th day of August, instant, a sorel mare, with four white feet and a broad white stripe on her forehead; her foretop cropt. Dated this 10th August, 1803.

"JOHN F. QUACKENBUSH."

"Broke into my enclosure, in the latter part of August last, a red cow, with some brindle below her ears, some white on her belly and bag, and about six or seven years old. September 15th, 1803.

"PETER TRABER."

"Broke into the enclosure of the subscriber, the first day of September last, a yearling heifer, marked with a piece cut off the left ear and a slit in the right ear; brown, with a white stripe over its back; white head and hind feet. December 5th, 1803.

"CHARLES SHAVER."

"Broke into the enclosure of the subscriber, a black cow, with a piece cut off both her ears; a white face, with black round both eyes, and large horns. December 17th, 1803.

"STEPHEN PANKBURN."

"Came into the pasture of the subscriber, the latter end of October last, two red steers; the one has a white face, the other not; they are two years and a half old. Dated the 20th January, 1804.

"JOHN JOYCE."

"Came into the enclosure of the subscriber, some time in the first part of January, instant, three stray sheep, one of which had a piece cut off both ears, and the other two had no particular mark whatsoever. Dated 29th January, 1804.

"PETER BOWMAN."

The following marks for the identification of stray live stock were recorded:

"Mark of the cattle, sheep and hogs of Adam A. Vrooman, recorded the 28th day of May, 1803, to wit: a half moon cut out of the back side of the right ear and a small piece cut off the left ear.

"These may certify that the subscriber do use the following marks upon my creatures, to wit: cattle and hogs, a hole cut in left ear; and my sheep, a piece cut off both ears. Dated this 27th day of January, 1804.

"EVERT VAN ARNUM."

"I do hereby certify that the following is the mark I use on my cattle, sheep and hogs, to wit: an half moon cut out of the front side of each ear. January 27th, 1804.

"THOMAS VAN ARNUM."

"I do hereby certify that I use the following as a mark of my cattle, sheep and hogs, to wit: a piece cut off the left ear, and a piece in the shape of the letter V cut out of the right ear. Dated 10th February, 1804.

"HENRY VAN ARNUM."

March 24, 1884, it was "resolved by the Commissioners of Highways of the town of Guilderland that the town be divided in the following road districts:

No. 1. To commence on the western line of the town, the Schoharie road, and thence down said road to where the road leading from the northern part of the town of Berne comes into the said Schoharie road.

No. 2. To commence on the east line of the town of Berne, and thence down the road leading from that part of the town of Berne called the New Township to the Schoharie road, and thence down said road to the house of Michael Barcklay.

No. 3. To commence at the house of Michael Barcklay, and thence down the Schoharie road so as to include the bridge across the Black Creek on said road.

No. 4. To commence on the east end of the bridge across the Black Creek on the Schoharie road, and thence down said road to the store of Nicholas V. Mynderse, and from the road leading from the Schoharie road to Jacob Van Patten's to the Paint Creek.

No. 5. To commence at the Paint Creek, and from thence to continue to the corporation line of the City of Albany.

No. 6. To commence at the hay scales in Hamilton, and from thence on the road leading to Valkert Veeder's, and so on to the corporation line.

No. 7. To commence at the Norman's Kill, at Andries Truax's, and from thence to Jonas Smith's, and thence on the road leading to Abraham Veeder's mills to the Bethlehem line, including one-quarter of the bridge at said mills.

No. 8. Beginning at the Schoharie road, and from thence on the road leading to Gerrit Seger's to the Bethlehem line, including one-quarter of the bridge at Abm. Veeder's mills.

No. 9. To include one-quarter of the bridge at Abm. Veeder's mills, and from thence to the Wolf Hill.

No. 10. To commence at the Wolf Hill, and from thence to the corporation line of the city of Albany.

No. 11. To commence at the Bethlehem line, and from thence on the road leading to Amos Goodfellow's to Matthias S. Frederick's; also, to include one-quarter of the bridge at Abm. Veeder's mills.

No. 12. To commence at the gate of David Ogsbury, and from thence on the road leading to William Davis's to the Bethlehem line, and also to include the road leading from near Peter La Grange's to the Salem road, nigh where David Mann formerly resided.

No. 13. Beginning at Matthias Frederick's, and from thence to the Schoharie road at the store of Nicholas V. Mynderse, and from thence down that road to the road leading to Jacob Van Patten's, including the road leading to the bridge at Ten Broeck's mills.

No. 14. To commence at the swing gate of Charles Shaver, and thence down the Settlerbergh road to George Waggoner's.

No. 15. To commence on the Settlerbergh road at the gate of Jacob M. De Forest, and from thence to the Berne road at Van Auken's.

No. 16. To commence at George Scrapper's, and from thence to the western turnpike.

No. 17. To commence at the Princetown line, and from thence to the house of John Waggoner, and to assist in making a new bridge at Becker's if it should at any time be wanted.

No. 18. From the house of John Waggoner to the Schoharie road, near the Reformed Dutch Church.

No. 19. To commence at the Manor line in the western part of the town, and thence down the State road to the house of Philip Schell, revoking only one-half the bridge at Abm. P. Truax's.

No. 20. To commence at Philip Schell's, and from thence down the State road to the corporation line, including one-half the bridge at Abm. P. Truax's.

No. 21. To commence on the State road nigh Benjamin Home's, and from thence on the road leading by Gilbert Van Zundt's to the Settlerbergh road at Peter Becker's.

No. 22. To commence on the corporation line, and from thence on the road leading by Peter Traber's to the south end of the bridge at Ten Broeck's mills.

CIVIL LIST.

The names of those who were elected to town offices at Guilderland's first annual town meeting, in 1803, have been given. Following will be found the names of the more prominent town officers since that date, as copied, *literatim*, from the records in charge of the Town Clerk:

1804.—Supervisor, James Henderson; Town Clerk, Peter Van Patten, Jr.; Assessors, Isaac Van Aernam, Peter Livingston, Abraham Veeder; Collector, Henry Jacobson; Constables, Lodewyck Fetherley, Gilbert Beebe, Frederick Seger, Asa Hutchinson.

1805.—Supervisor, James Henderson; Town Clerk, Cornelius Severson; Assessors, Abraham Veeder, Isaac I. Van Aernam, Peter Livingston; Collector, Henry Ostrander; Constables, Lodewyck Fetherley, Robert Bever, Lawrence L. Van Kleek, Jacob Ramsey, Anthony Robison.

1806.—Supervisor, Peter Van Patten; Town Clerk, Cornelius Severson; Assessors, Conrad Crounse, Henry Shaver, Abraham Veeder; Collector, Thomas W. Beebe; Constables, Jacob Ramsey, James Conant, Nehemiah Howe; Commissioners of Highways, David Ogsbury, Nicholas Severson, Charles Shaver.

1807.—Supervisor, Peter Van Patten; Town Clerk, William Waggoner; Assessors, Henry Shaver, Conrad Crounse, Peter Livingston; Collector, Jacob Freydendall; Constables, Jacob Freydendall, Nehemiah Howe.

1808.—Supervisor, Peter Van Patten; Town Clerk, William Waggoner; Assessors, Conrad Crounse, Henry Shaver, Peter Veeder; Collector, Jacob Freydendall; Constables, Jacob Freydendall, Abraham J. Clute, John Vandenberg, Wait Barrett, Jacob Ramsey.

1809.—Supervisor, Robert Gray; Town Clerk, William Waggoner; Assessors, Henry Shaver, Conrad Crounse, Peter Veeder; Collector, Jacob Freydendall; Constables, Jacob Freydendall, Wait Barrett, John Schell.

1810.—Supervisor, David Bogardus; Town Clerk, Cornelius H. Waldron; Assessors, John V. Veeder, Henry Shaver, Conrad Crounse; Collector, Matthias M. Frederick; Constables, Jacob Freydendall, Wait Barrett, Matthias M. Frederick, Hiram Gage.

1811.—Supervisor, David Bogardus; Town Clerk, Cornelius H. Waldron; Assessors, Henry Shaver, Conrad Crounse, James M. La Grange; Collector, Jacob Freydendall; Constables, Jacob Freydendall, Roswell Brown, Abijah Rube, Henry I. Vine.

1812.—Supervisor, Aaron Grote; Town Clerk, Andrew Ostrander; Assessors, Conrad Crounse, James M. La Grange, Aaron A. Van Wormer; Collector, Henry I. Vine; Constables, Henry I. Vine, Roswell Brown, Elias La Grange.

1813.—Supervisor, William McKown; Town Clerk, Andrew Ostrander; Assessors, Conrad Crounse, John Schoolcraft, Cornelius H. Waldron;

Collector, Henry I. Vine; Constables, Henry I. Vine, Roswell Brown, Welcome Withford; Commissioners of Schools, John Schoolcraft, Samuel R. Campbell, John Weaver, Jr.

1814.—Supervisor, William McKown; Town Clerk, Andrew Ostrander; Assessors, John Schoolcraft, Cornelius H. Waldron, James M. La Grange; Collector, John I. Devoe; Constables, Frederick Freydendall, Roswell Brown, Henry I. Vine, John I. Devoe; Commissioners of Schools, John D. Ogsbury, John I. Weaver, Andrew Ostrander.

1815.—Supervisor, William McKown; Town Clerk, Andrew Ostrander; Assessors, Francis Van Valkenburgh, Cornelius H. Waldron, Simon Relyea; Collector, Philip Fetherly, Jr.; Constables, Philip Fetherly, Jr., Daniel Butterfield, Henry I. Vine, Isaac June; Commissioners of Schools, Samuel R. Campbell, Andrew Ostrander, John D. Ogsbury.

1816.—Supervisor, William McKown; Town Clerk, Andrew Ostrander; Assessors, David Bogardus, Henry Shaver, Francis Van Valkenburgh; Collector, Philip Fetherly, Jr.; Constables, Philip Fetherly, Jr., Michael Waggoner, Frederick Freydendall; Commissioners of Schools, George Van Aernam, Cornelius H. Waldron, James M. La Grange.

1817.—Supervisor, William McKown; Town Clerk, John D. Ogsbury; Assessors, Francis Van Valkenburgh, Henry Shaver, Andrew Ostrander; Collector, Philip Fetherly, Jr.; Constables, Philip Fetherly, Jr., John R. Williams, Henry I. Vine, Roswell Brown; Commissioners of Schools, Cornelius H. Waldron, Conrad Crounce, John I. Weaver.

1818.—Supervisor, William McKown; Town Clerk, John D. Ogsbury; Assessors, Francis Van Valkenburgh, Henry Shaver, Andrew Ostrander; Collector, Aaron Livingston; Constables, Christian P. La Grange, Henry I. Vine, Robert I. Vine, Roswell Brown; Commissioners of Schools, Conrad Crounse, George Batterman, John E. Winne.

1819.—Supervisor, William McKown; Town Clerk, John D. Ogsbury; Assessors, John Schoolcraft, Andrew Ostrander, Henry Shaver; Collector, Abram Vanderpool; Constables, John R. Williams, Henry I. Vine, Wait Barrett, Abijah Beebe; Commissioners of Schools, Conrad Crounse, Aaron Livingston, John A. Winne.

1820.—Supervisor, William McKown; Town Clerk, John D. Ogsbury; Assessors, Henry Shaver, Andrew Ostrander, John Schoolcraft; Collector, Henry I. Vine; Constables, Henry I. Vine, Abijah Beebe, John R. Williams, Joshua Beebe; Commissioners of Schools, John E. Winne, Conrad Crounse, Aaron Livingston.

1821.—Supervisor, William McKown; Town Clerk, John D. Ogsbury; Assessors, Henry Shaver, John Schoolcraft, Andrew Ostrander; Collector, Richard Walker; Constables, John R. Williams, Henry I. Vine, Elias J. La Grange, Jacob A. Jacobson; Commissioners of Schools, John E. Winne, Conrad Crounse, Aaron Livingston.

1822.—Supervisor, William McKown; Town Clerk, John D. Ogsbury, Assessors, Simon Veeder, Andrew Ostrander, Cornelius H. Waldron; Collector, John Shoudy, Jr.; Constables, John R. Williams, Henry I. Vine, Elias Truax, Abijah Beebe, John Shoudy, Jr.; Commissioners of Schools, George Batterman, Conrad Crounse, Peter G. Sharp.

1823.—Supervisor, William McKown; Town Clerk, John D. Ogsbury; Assessors, Andrew Ostrander, Simon Veeder, John E. Winne; Collector, Peter Shaver; Constables, John R. Williams, Henry A. Ostrander, Abijah Beebe, Elias Truax; Commissioners of Schools, George Batterman, Conrad Crounse, Peter G. Sharp.

1824.—Supervisor, William McKown; Town Clerk, John D. Ogsbury; Assessors, Henry Shaver, Andrew Ostrander, Simon Veeder; Collector, Henry A. Ostrander; Constables, Henry A. Ostrander, Elias Truax, John R. Williams, Abijah Beebe; Commissioners of Schools, Abram Vanderpool, George Batterman, John Schoolcraft.

1825.—Supervisor, George Batterman; Town Clerk, John D. Ogsbury; Assessors, Henry Shaver, Andrew Ostrander, Simon Veeder; Collector, John R. Williams; Constables, John R. Williams, Abijah Beebe, Hezekiah Sharp, Henry A. Ostrander; Commissioners of Schools, John Schoolcraft, David Pratt, John McKown.

1826.—Supervisor, George Batterman; Town Clerk, John D. Ogsbury; Assessors, Andrew Ostrander, Simon Veeder, Abram Vanderpool; Collector, Peter Ogsbury; Constables, Abijah Beebe, John R. Williams, Henry A. Ostrander, Hezekiah Sharp; Commissioners of Schools, John Schoolcraft, Jesse White, Charles Harrington.

1827.—Supervisor, George Batterman; Town Clerk, John Schoolcraft; Assessors, Andrew Ostrander, Simon Veeder, Abraham Vanderpool; Collector, Elias La Grange; Constables, John R. Williams, Henry A. Ostrander, Hezekiah Sharp, Abijah Beebe; Commissioners of Schools, John Schoolcraft, Jesse White, Christopher Batterman.

1828.—Supervisor, George Batterman; Town Clerk, John Schoolcraft; Assessors, Andrew Ostrander, Simon Veeder, Abraham Vanderpool; Collector, Peter Siver; Constables, Hezekiah Sharp, John R. Williams, Abijah Beebe, Henry A. Ostrander; Commissioners of Schools, Christopher Batterman, Frederick Keenholtz, Charles Harrington.

1829.—Supervisor, George Batterman; Town Clerk, John Schoolcraft; Assessors, Abraham Vanderpool, Simon Veeder, Conrad Crounse; Collector, John R. Williams; Constables, Abijah Beebe, Hezekiah Sharp, Henry A. Ostrander, John R. Williams; Commissioners of Schools, William W. Moore, Christopher Batterman, Frederick Keenholtz.

1830.—Supervisor, George Batterman; Town Clerk, John Schoolcraft; Justice of the Peace, Andrew Ostrander; Assessors, Abraham Vanderpool, Aaron Livingston, Simon Veeder; Collector, John Mann; Constables, Hezekiah Sharp, John R. Williams, Henry A. Ostrander, Abijah Beebe; Commissioners of Schools, Christopher Batterman, Frederick Keenholtz, David Pratt.

1831.—Supervisor, Aaron Livingston; Town Clerk, Charles Harrington; Justice of the Peace, William S. Beebe; Assessors, Simon Veeder, Abraham Vanderpool, John D. Ogsbury; Collector, Martin N. Vrooman; Constables, Henry A. Ostrander, Hezekiah Sharp, John R. Williams, Thomas Helme; Commissioners of Schools, Frederick Keenholtz, Christopher Batterman, David Pratt.

1832.—Supervisor, Aaron Livingston; Town Clerk, Charles Harrington; Justice of the Peace, John D. Ogsbury; Assessors, Simon Veeder, Frederick Keenholtz, Peter Ogsbury; Collector, Peter Siver; Constables, Hezekiah Sharp, Henry A. Ostrander, George T. Brown, Elias I. La Grange; Commissioners of Schools, Frederick Keenholtz, David Pratt, Christopher Batterman.

1833.—Supervisor, Christopher Batterman; Town Clerk, Charles Harrington; Justices of the Peace, John F. Quackenbush, John R. Williams; Assessors, Simon Veeder, George Severson, Peter Ogsbury; Collector, Peter Siver; Constables, Thomas Helme, Peter Siver, Elias I. La Grange, John Beyer; Commissioners of Schools, Abraham Vanderpool, Frederick Keenholtz, John McKown.

1834.—Supervisor, Christopher Batterman; Town Clerk, Peter C. Crounse; Justice of the Peace, John R. Williams; Assessors, Simon Veeder, Peter Ogsbury, Tunis Hallenbeck; Collector, Henry A. Ostrander; Constables, Henry A. Ostrander, J. Beyer, Peter Siver, Thomas Helme; Commissioner of Schools, James S. Low, David Pratt, Jonathan H. Case.

1835.—Supervisor, Christopher Batterman; Town Clerk, Peter C. Crounse; Justices of the Peace, Thomas Helme, Henry A. Ostrander; Assessors, Simon Veeder, Peter Ogsbury, Tunis Hallenbeck; Collector, Henry Livingston; Constables, John Beyer, Peter Siver, Abner Wood, Chauncey Kelly; Commissioners of Common Schools, Abram Vanderpool, Frederick Knowlton, John McKown.

1836.—Supervisor, Christopher Batterman; Town Clerk, Peter C. Crounse; Justices of the Peace, John D. Ogsbury, Henry A. Ostrander; Assessors, Simon Veeder, Peter Ogsbury, Tunis Hallenbeck; Collector, William Beyer; Constables, Peter Siver, John Beyer, Abner Wood, Jeremiah Kelly; Commissioners of Schools, John McKown, Frederick Keenholtz, Abram Vanderpool.

1837.—Supervisor, Christopher Batterman; Town Clerk, Peter C. Crounse; Justice of the Peace, John F. Quackenbush; Assessors, Simon Veeder, Peter Ogsbury, Tunis Hallenbeck; Collector, Andrew Wilkins; Constables, Peter Siver, John Beyer, Jacob Waggoner, Aaron Waldron; Commissioners of Schools, John McKown, Abram Vanderpool, Frederick Keenholtz.

1838.—Supervisor, Christopher Batterman; Town Clerk, Peter C. Crounse; Justice of the Peace, Thomas Helme; Assessors, Simon Veeder, Abraham Crounse, Peter Ogsbury; Collector, John Barkhuff; Constables, Peter Siver, John Beyer, Aaron Waldron, Simon Grote; Commissioners of Schools, Jacob Crounse, Philip Livingston, John McKown.

1839.—Supervisor, Christopher Batterman; Town Clerk, Peter C. Crounse; Justice of the Peace, Henry A. Ostrander; Assessors, Simon Veeder, Peter Ogsbury, Abraham Crounse; Collector, William C. Hilton; Constables, John Mesick, Abner Wood, John I. Clark, Peter Siver; Commissioners of Schools, Joel B. Nott, David Pratt, James S. Lowe.

1840.—Supervisor, Henry Sloan; Town Clerk, Peter C. Crounse; Justice of the Peace, Christopher Crounse; Assessors, Simon Veeder, Peter Ogsbury, Abram Crounse; Collector, Aaron Hilton; Constables, Aaron Hilton, John Mesick, John I. Clark, Henry Youngs; Commissioners of Schools, James S. Low, David Pratt, Joel B. Nott.

1841.—Supervisor, Henry Sloan; Town Clerk, Henry A. Ward; Justice of the Peace, Hezekiah Sharp; Assessors, Simon Veeder, Mark Sitterly, Garrett A. Ostrander; Collector, Frederick Blessing; Constables, Isaac C. Frederick, Peter Siver, James A. McKown, John Mesick; Commissioners of Schools, James S. Lowe, David Pratt, Marshall M. Bingham.

1842.—Supervisor, Peter Shaver; Town Clerk, Israel Walker; Justices of the Peace, Thomas Helme, Robert Hall; Assessors, Simon Veeder, Garrett A. Ostrander, Mark Sitterley; Collector, John P. Ogsbury; Constables, James A. McKown, Peter Siver, Henry Youngs, Aaron Hilton; Commissioners of Schools, John McKown, James Hallenbeck, Alexander Van Valkenburgh.

1843.—Supervisor, Peter Shaver; Town Clerk, Israel Walker; Justice of the Peace, John C. Crounse; Assessors, Simon Veeder, Garrett A. Ostrander, Alexander Van Valkenburgh; Collector, George A. Severson; Constables, George A. Severson, James A. McKown, Henry Young, Jacob Sitterley; Commissioners of Schools, William M. Crounse, Mark Sitterly, James Hallenbeck.

1844.—Supervisor, Peter Shaver; Town Clerk, Israel Walker; Justice of the Peace, Henry A. Ostrander; Assessors, Marshall M. Bingham, Jacob I. Fryer, Alanson Van Auken; Collector, John Hart; Constables, Michael Wormer, James A. McKown, Nicholas Severson, Henry Young; Superintendent of Schools, Jacob Crounse.

1845.—Supervisor, Peter Shaver; Town Clerk, Israel Walker; Justice of the Peace, James A. McKown; Assessors, Marshall M. Bingham, Nicholas A. Severson, Peter Beebe; Collector, Jacob C. Vrooman; Constables, John Dantz, Nicholas Severson, Aaron Waldron, William Lanehart; Superintendent of Schools, Jacob Crounse.

1846.—Supervisor, John Fuller; Town Clerk, Nicholas A. Severson; Justice of the Peace, Jacob C. Crounse; Assessors, Peter Beebe, Daniel Ralyea, George Severson; Collector, George Mesick; Constables, Aaron Waldron, John L. Dantz, Benjamin Stafford, John Blair; Superintendent of Schools, Jonathan Johnson.

1847.—Supervisor, John Fuller; Town Clerk, Nicholas A. Severson; Justice of the Peace, Henry A. Ostrander; Assessor, John Van Husen; Collector, George Keenholtz; Constables, William Dover, Aaron Waldron, Benjamin Stafford, Robert

R. Hall; Superintendent of Schools, Andrew Wilson.

1848.—Supervisor, Jacob I. Fryer; Town Clerk, Nicholas A. Severson; Justice of the Peace, George Keenholtz; Assessor, Peter Beebe; Collector, Abner Wood; Constables, William Devoe, Aaron Hilton, Cornelius Mann, Robert R. Hall; Superintendent of Schools, Andrew Wilson.

1849.—Supervisor, Jacob I. Fryer; Town Clerk, W. Vine; Justice of the Peace, James A. McKown; Assessor, George Severson; Collector, Henry Vanderpool; Constables, Cornelius Mann, Jacob Earls, Peter P. Winne, Peter Clark; Superintendent of Schools, Andrew Wilson.

1850.—Supervisor, Elijah Spawn; Town Clerk, W. Vine; Justice of the Peace, John C. Chism; Assessor, John B. Veeder; Collector, Thomas Van Aernam, Jr.; Constables, De Witt C. Jackson, Cornelius Mann, Alexander Livingston, John Waldron; Superintendent of Schools, Andrew Wilson.

1851.—Supervisor, Elijah Spawn; Town Clerk, Jacob DeGraff; Justice of the Peace, Abraham Mynderse; Assessor, Peter Beebe; Collector, John Smith; Constables, De Witt C. Jackson, Alexander Livingston, Cornelius Mann, Malachi Whipple, Peter Quackenbush.

1852.—Supervisor, W. Vine; Town Clerk, Jacob DeGraff; Justice of the Peace, Nicholas A. Severson; Assessor, George Severson; Collector, John Smith; Constables, De Witt C. Jackson, John Stafford, Peter Quackenbush, John Palmester, Christopher White; Superintendent of Schools, Marshall M. Bingham.

1853.—Supervisor, W. Vine; Town Clerk, Jacob DeGraff; Justice of the Peace, James A. McKown; Assessor, Martin J. Blessing; Collector, David Ogsbury; Constables, De Witt C. Jackson, Cornelius Mann, Alexander McDonald, John W. Pangeborn.

1854.—Supervisor, George Y. Johnson; Town Clerk, Abraham V. Mynderse; Justice of the Peace, John C. Chism; Assessor, John L. Vanderpool; Collector, Frederick M. Freydendall; Constables, Peter Quackenbush, John Stafford, Cornelius Mann, Henry Sism, Jeremiah Lasher; Superintendent of Schools, John P. Veeder.

1855.—Supervisor, George Y. Johnson; Town Clerk, Abraham V. Mynderse; Justice of the Peace, Peter Veeder; Assessor, Philip Ogsbury; Collector, John W. Waggoner; Constables, John Vrooman, John Palmester, Cornelius Mann, Alexander McDonald, Philip Schermerhorn.

1856.—Supervisor, George Y. Johnson; Town Clerk, Abraham V. Mynderse; Justice of the Peace, John Stafford; Assessor, John P. Ogsbury; Collector, Joseph Shook; Constables, Alexander McDonald, Philip Schermerhorn, John Smith, John H. Ogsbury.

1857.—Supervisor, Henry Hilton; Town Clerk, Isaac Pearl; Justice of the Peace, Christopher White; Assessor, Jacob Scrafford; Collector, Aaron Groat; Constables, Jacob A. La Grange, Granville Bell, Malachi Whipple, Gilbert Keenholtz, Myndert Veeder.

1858.—Supervisor, Henry Hilton; Town Clerk, Isaac Pearl; Justice of the Peace, John C. Chism; Assessor, Henry A. Ostrander; Collector, James R. Steers; Constables, Jacob A. La Grange, Gilbert Keenhlotz, Benjamin Stafford, Malachi Whipple, John W. Pangburn.

1859.—Supervisor, Henry Hilton; Town Clerk, John P. Hotaling; Justice of the Peace, Peter Veeder; Assessor, Jacob Van Waggoner; Collector, John B. La Grange; Constables, Frederick Blessing, James R. Steers, Jacob A. La Grange, Michael Wormer, Malachi Whipple.

1860.—Supervisor, Leonard Wilkins; Town Clerk, John P. Hotaling; Justice of the Peace, Jacob Crounse; Assessor, John Waldron; Collector, James Ogsbury; Constables, James R. Steers, Jacob A. La Grange, Frederick Blessing, Michael Wormer, Cornelius Mann.

1861.—Supervisor, Stephen V. Frederick; Town Clerk, John P. Hotaling; Justice of the Peace, Christopher White; Assessor, Abram Crounse; Collector, Abram J. Van Wormer; Constables, Daniel H. Osterhout, John B. La Grange, Thomas Shell, Malachi Whipple, William M. Lanehart.

1862.—Supervisor, Stephen V. Frederick; Town Clerk, John P. Hotaling; Justice of the Peace, Perry Mead; Assessor, W. Vine; Collector, Frederick J. Sitterly; Constables, David H. White, Malachi Whipple, John Smith, John B. La Grange, Peter Quackenbush.

1863.—Supervisor, Stephen V. Frederick; Town Clerk, John P. Hotaling; Justices of the Peace, Marshall M. Bingham; Assessor, William L. Van Auken; Collector, Frederick Keenholtz; Constables, Peter Coon, James Kelly, Michael S. Lanehart, John B. La Grange, Peter Quackenbush.

1864.—Supervisor, Stephen V. Frederick; Town Clerk, John P. Hotaling; Justice of the Peace, Peter J. Severson; Assessor, Abraham Van Auken; Collector, E. Buzzee; Constables, Alexander Lanehart, John B. La Grange, Malachi Whipple, Thomas Schell, Adam Crounse.

1865.—Supervisor, Stephen V. Frederick; Town Clerk, John P. Hotaling; Justice of the Peace, Tunis Vandenburgh; Assessor, W. Vine; Collector, George N. Severson; Constables, John B. La Grange, David H. White, Malachi Whipple, John W. Sharp, Thomas Schell.

1866.—Supervisor, Stephen V. Frederick; Town Clerk, John P. Hotaling; Justice of the Peace, Perry Mead; Assessor, Israel Walker; Collector, Peter J. Severson; Constables, John B. La Grange, Malachi Whipple, George W. Sigsbee, Francis Scott, William Hallenbeck.

1867.—Supervisor, Hiram Griggs; Town Clerk, John P. Hotaling; Justice of the Peace, Loring W. Osborn; Assessor, Abraham Van Auken; Collector, Frederick P. Crounse; Constables, Alexander Reinhart, John P. La Grange, Malachi Whipple, George W. Sigsbee, Francis Scott.

1868.—Supervisor, Hiram Griggs; Town Clerk, George B. Sloan; Justice of the Peace, Jacob A. La Grange; Assessor, W. Vine; Collector, James Kelly; Constables, Alexander Reinhart, William

R. Gray, Alonzo Crounse, Francis Scott, George W. Sigsbee.

1869.—Supervisor, Hiram Griggs ; Town Clerk, George B. Sloan ; Justice of the Peace, George W. Kelderhouse ; Assessor, Israel Walker ; Collector, Henry Ogsbury ; Constables, Abram Smith, Joseph E. Roe, James E. Siver, Alonzo Crounse, Peter Waggoner.

1870.—Supervisor, Hiram Griggs ; Town Clerk, George B. Sloan ; Justice of the Peace, Perry Mead ; Assessor, Abraham Van Auken; Collector, Christian Bloomingdale ; Constables, Joseph E. Roe, Alonzo Crounse, James E. Siver, Peter Waggoner, Hiram Carpenter.

1871.—Supervisor, Hiram Griggs; Town Clerk, George B. Sloan ; Justice of the Peace, Jacob H. Ogsbury ; Assessor, W. Vine ; Collector, James R. Main ; Constables, Joseph E. Roe, John Beebe, John B. La Grange, James E. Siver, George Pike.

1872.—Supervisor, Hiram Griggs; Town Clerk, George B. Sloan ; Justice of the Peace, Jacob H. La Grange ; Assessor, Israel Walker ; Collector, James Durfee ; Constables, Joseph E. Roe, John B. La Grange, James E. Siver, Alonzo Crounse, George Pike.

1873.—Supervisor, Hiram Griggs; Town Clerk, George B. Sloan ; Justice of the Peace, George W. Kelterhouse ; Assessor, Abraham Van Auken ; Collector, Peter Ogsbury ; Constables, Joseph E. Roe, James Cameron, John B. La Grange, Alonzo Crounse, George Pike.

1874.—Supervisor, Hiram Griggs ; Town Clerk, Peter H. Pearl ; Justice of the Peace, Peter Walker; Assessor, S. D. Grant ; Collector, Robert Magill ; Constables, Joseph E. Roe, James Cameron, John B. La Grange, Alonzo Crounse, William L. Waggoner.

1875.—Supervisor, Hiram Griggs; Town Clerk, Peter H. Pearl ; Justice of the Peace, Abram Hilton ; Assessor, Israel Walker ; Collector, John B. La Grange ; Constables, Joseph E. Roe, James Cameron, James Durfee, Philip Pettinger, William Waggoner.

1876.—Supervisor, Hiram Griggs ; Town Clerk, Peter H. Pearl ; Justice of the Peace, Jacob A. La Grange ; Assessor, Abraham Van Auken ; Collector, Peter Waggoner ; Constables, Joseph E. Roe, James Cameron, Jesse A. Mulford, Henry Shover, Jr., James Durfee.

1877.—Supervisor, John C. Grant; Town Clerk, William J. Capron; Justice of the Peace, James R. Main ; Assessor, James Helm ; Collector, Ira J. Weaver ; Constables, Joseph E. Roe, H. Strevel, James Durfee, John B. La Grange, Henry Shaver, Jr.

1878.—Supervisor, John C. Grant; Town Clerk, John Mann ; Justice of the Peace, Peter Walker ; Assessor, Israel Walker ; Collector, C. Wormer ; Constables, Joseph E. Roe, John B. La Grange, E. Buzzee, James Durfee, James Cameron.

1879.—Supervisor, John C. Grant; Town Clerk, John Mann ; Justice of the Peace, Jacob H. Ogsbury; Assessor, John H. Severson ; Collector, James Sharp ; Constables, Joseph E. Roe, James Cameron, John B. La Grange, E. Buzzee, James Durfee.

1880.—Supervisor, John C. Grant; Town Clerk, James I. Wright ; Justice of the Peace, William H. Van Benscotten ; Assessor, James Helm ; Collector, Hiram Fredendall ; Constables, Henry Shaver, Jr., Joseph E. Roe, John Winne, James Durfee, John Stafford.

1881.—Supervisor, Aaron Fuller ; Town Clerk, James I. Wright ; Justice of the Peace, William J. Capron ; Assessor, David Relyea ; Collector, Harvey Vosburgh ; Constables, Joseph E. Roe, Hiram Carpenter, James Durfee, Henry Shaver, Jr., John Stafford.

1882.—Supervisor, Aaron Fuller; Town Clerk, James J. Wright ; Justice of the Peace, Peter Walker ; Assessor, James H. Hilton ; Collector, Myron J. Fowler ; Constables, Joseph E. Roe, Hiram Carpenter, Frederick Brust, George Pike, Chatfield Stafford.

1883.—Supervisor, Aaron Fuller ; Town Clerk, John Mann ; Justice of the Peace, Jacob Ogsbury; Assessor, John H. Hewitt ; Collector, David Vandenburgh ; Constables, Joseph E. Roe, Hadley Reinhart, James Durfee, John L. Hein, Melvin Van Auken.

1884.—Supervisor, Aaron Fuller; Town Clerk, Charles F. Foster; Justice of the Peace, William H. Van Benscotten; Assessor, Peter Vanderpool; Collector, Wilbur Whipple; Constables, Joseph E. Roe, Hadley Reinhart, Peter H. Siver, E. Buzzee, Richard Prout.

EDUCATIONAL.

The earliest schools in Guilderland were of the same crude description as the pioneer schools elsewhere in this section of the State. They were taught in private houses or in other convenient places, by ministers of the Gospel and by traveling schoolmasters, almost exclusively in the language of the Fatherland. Later, after association with English speaking people and acquaintance with prevailing customs had foreshadowed the necessities of the future, English teachers were secured and English text-books were employed. The early school-houses were primitive affairs, built by subscription or by gatherings of men for that purpose. Such united efforts were called "bees."

The first school officers chosen in the town at an annual town meeting were elected in 1813. They were John Schoolcraft, Samuel R. Campbell and John Weaver, Jr., Commissioners of Schools; and Andrew Ostrander, Henry Heath and Cornelius M. Watson, Inspectors of Schools. Most of the school officers subsequently elected in the town, under different laws, and known by different official titles, are mentioned in the civil list. Among the early public schoolmasters were Joseph Bell, John Rawle, Abijah Beebe, William

Gardner, Hubert Pratt, Henry Switcher, and others whose names are forgotten. The following record of the original division of Guilderland into school districts appears in the town books:

"At a meeting of the Commissioners of Schools for the town of Guilderland, in the County of Albany, held at the house of Zoal Morgan on Wednesday, the 21st day of April, 1813, for the purpose of dividing said town into school districts, the Commissioners do hereby certify that they have divided said town into eight school districts, bounded and distinguished as follows, to wit:

"School District No. 1 begins at the Manor line on the north side of the Bozen Kill, and runs thence along said Manor line easterly to the south boundary of the first Great Western Turnpike road; thence down said road to the west boundary of the farm of John Lanehart; from thence southerly to the said Bozen Kill, including the farm of Henry Lanehart; thence westerly along said kill to the place of beginning.

"School District No. 2 begins at the west boundary of the farm of John Lanehart, on the south side of the turnpike road aforesaid, and runs from thence southerly to the west boundary of the farms of John M. Vanderpool and Simon Lanehart to the Bozen Kill, as it winds and turns to the bridge across the said kill at Becker's Mills; from thence along the road from said bridge northerly to the turnpike road; thence up the turnpike road to the stone bridge across the Norman's Kill; thence up the Norman's Kill as it winds and turns (including the house and lot of Cornelius H. Watson) to the Manor line; thence along the Manor line southwesterly to the turnpike road; thence down the said road to the place of beginning.

"School District No. 3 begins at the bridge aforesaid, and runs thence along the east boundary of School District No. 2 (including the houses of Jacob Quackenbush and Abraham B. Truax) to the Manor line; then down the Manor line to the east boundary of the farm of Jacob Totten; from thence northerly to the house in possession of Russell Case (including said house); from thence with a straight course to the Norman's Kill about twenty rods below the house of Samuel R. Campbell; thence up the said kill as it winds and turns to the place of beginning.

"School District No. 4 begins at the Norman's Kill about twenty rods below the house of Samuel R. Campbell, and runs thence down said kill as it winds and turns to the line of the town of Bethlehem (including the farm of Silas Horton); from thence along the Manor line and corporation line to the northeast boundary of the farm of Jacob Totten; from thence along the east boundary of District No. 2 to the place of beginning.

"School District No. 5 begins about twenty rods below the house of Samuel R. Campbell at the Norman's Kill, and runs thence down said kill as it winds and turns to the Bethlehem line; from thence up said line to the west boundary of the farm of John Blessing; from thence northerly to the northwest corner of the farm of John Van Patten (including the house and lot of Henry Vine); from thence to the northwest boundary of the farm of Jonas Smith; from thence along the east boundary of the farms of John Walker and Frederick Freydendall to the place of beginning.

"School District No. 6 begins about twenty rods below the house of Samuel R. Campbell on the south side of the Norman's Kill, and runs thence up said kill as it winds and turns to the bridge at Becker's Mills; from thence up the Black Creek to the bridge at the saw-mill near the house of William W. Munsell (including John Weitzel's and Philip Fetherly's farms); thence southerly to the farm of James Henderson (including said Henderson and Martin Blessing); from thence to the farm of John Van Patten (including Peter Relyea); from thence along School District No. 5 to the place of beginning.

"School District No. 7 begins at the bridge near the Widow Apple's, and runs from thence southerly to the southeast corner of the farm of Martin Blessing (excluding said Blessing); from thence westerly with a straight line to the south boundary line of the farm of John Livingston (including Jacob Van Aernam's, William Van Aernam's and Isaac Hallenbeck's); from thence along the town line northwesterly to the Bozen Kill; thence down the said kill to the bridge at Becker's Mills; from thence on the west side of said kill to the place of beginning (excepting and excluding John Weitzel and Philip Fetterly.)

"School District No. 8 begins at the southwest corner of the farm of John Livingston, and runs thence along the town line southerly to the town line of Bethlehem; from thence easterly along the Bethlehem line to the road near William Davis'; from thence to the land of James Henderson (including Peter Van Auken and Cornelius Wormer); from thence to the place of beginning (including Philip Crounse, the families of the Fredericks and Frederick Crounse)."

The school districts, as now organized, number fifteen. The number of children of the school age in the town is 1,059. From eighteen to twenty-one teachers are employed. There are seven school libraries, containing about 700 volumes. The value of the school property is about $15,000. The school-houses are kept in good repair, and the educational advantages of Guilderland compare more than favorably with these of other similar towns.

VILLAGES.

SLOAN'S.

This pleasant village, in the eastern part of the town, is known also as Guilderland. This is the locality of the old glass works referred to elsewhere, and was first known as "Glass House." In 1796 the ground was laid out in streets and lots, under the name of Hamilton (so called in honor of Alexander Hamilton), and it was proposed to

establish there a manufacturing town. To encourage this project the owners of the glass works and their employees were exempted from taxation for five years under authority of special legislation; but the hopes of its founders were doomed to disappointment, as the works were discontinued in 1815.

Still, its size and proximity to Albany considered, this village has at times been quite enterprising and the seat of considerable business. The Batterman family have been prominent here. John Batterman was a resolute, energetic manufacturer and repairer of carriages, wagons and farming utensils. Christopher Batterman, calm, considerate and of great decision of character, engaged in mercantile business, which he conducted with marked ability. He was chosen general of the militia and sheriff of the County of Albany, offices which he filled creditably to himself and satisfactorily to his fellow citizens. George Batterman was a man of extraordinary mental and physical power, gifted with fine business ability. He kept the hotel (since Sloan's), often entertaining as many as fifty guests night after night, and managed two large farms, a flouring mill and a satinet factory. In these varied fields of activity, he was often seen on his horse before sunrise and riding rapidly from place to place throughout the day. But having overtaxed his powers, he received a paralytic stroke and died, leaving an ample fortune. Henry Sloan, having married his daughter, came into possession of the hotel and the lands surrounding it. The old hostelry was soon afterward destroyed by fire. Mr. Sloan immediately built the present commodious road-house known by his name, which he managed with such success that it came to be known as "the model hotel for fifty miles around," and to be patronized by first-class customers. Under his charge and that of George B. Sloan, it has long been a favorite resort for pleasure parties from Albany and elsewhere, and it has not infrequently been visited by the Governor of the State of New York and his associates, members of the Legislature and distinguished men tarrying for a time in Albany.

The list of the business and professional men of Sloan's embraces the following names: George B. Sloan, proprietor of Sloan's hotel; Frank J. Spur and William J. Capron, merchants; Abram De Graff, M. D., a well-known and very successful physician and surgeon; John M. Batterman, proprietor of a flourishing flouring mill; Newbury & Chapmon, proprietors of a foundry and machine shop; De Graff & Pearl, blacksmiths; and the pastors of the churches at this place, histories of which are given elsewhere.

GUILDERLAND CENTER.

Another enterprising village is Guilderland Center, on Black Creek, known formerly by the name of "Bang-all." We are told that it was so called from the influence of rum, horse racing and rough manners, once too prevalent there. Under the reforming influence of Christianity, it has become a model village, but by old people it is yet often referred to as "Bang-all," though the locality and its post-office have long been properly named Guilderland Center. The Athens and Schenectady Railroad (now a branch of the West Shore line) has given an impetus to the business of the place, which now presents a street nearly a mile long, bordered by fine and comfortable residences and shops and stores, all presenting a thrifty, well-kept appearance, among which a church and a school-house are pleasantly conspicuous.

John P. Bloomingdale and other enterprising residents have done much to advance the growth and prosperity of this village, which practically includes French's Mills, the seat of Abel French's early manufacturing enterprise, and contains a population of at least 450. It has one church and a good school, and its leading business, manufacturing and professional interests are represented as follows: E. Spawn & Son, proprietors of French's Mills, and manufacturers of flour and feed, and proprietors of a woolen factory located at the point called in honor of the first establishment named; Mann & Witherwax, dealers in hay, straw and country produce; John Witherwax, dealer in coal and iron hay bands; A. V. Mynderse, manufacturer of and wholesale and retail delear in cider and vinegar, and dealer in plaster and phosphate; Michael H. Frederick, manufacturer of cider and vinegar; P. Pittinger, general merchant and postmaster, and dealer in agricultural implements; William D. Frederick, proprietor of the Central Hotel; J. Delong, blacksmith and carriage ironer; Charles Sutphin, wagon maker; Eli S. Mann, carriage painter; George Squire, M. D.; William A. Young, manufacturer of and dealer in boots and shoes; Peter N. Martin, proprietor of meat market; F. Tygert, general merchant; John Robinson, hotel keeper; George W. Livingstone, harness maker; Charles Brust, carriage manufacturer; Erastus Goodfellow, carriage painter; Philip Ogsbury, carpenter; Hugh Livingston, tailor; A. J. Tygert, manufacturer of sash, blinds and doors, and proprietor of planing mill; H. Salisbury,

Aaron Fuller

manufacturer of spring beds; A. F. Dietz, proprietor of bottling establishment; Jacob H. Ogsbury, Justice of the Peace, and Rev. J. S. Harkey, pastor of the Lutheran Church.

DUNNSVILLE.

Dunnsville is a post-office and hamlet in the northern part of the town, containing a population of about 100. It was named in honor of Christopher Dunn, the original owner of the land thereabout. It contains two hotels and two blacksmith shops. One of the public houses is kept by Samuel Robinson, the other by J. Jost. The blacksmiths are J. Jost and Frederick Brust. Near Dunnsville, lives W. G. Davis, M. D., who has a large practice.

FULLER'S STATION.

This thriving hamlet grew up largely as the result of the personal endeavor of Hon. Aaron Fuller, in honor of whose father it was named. It was through his efforts that a station on the West Shore line was established here, and his extensive business is one of the most prominent local interests. The place contains a public house and store, kept by Sandford S. Ford; the store of S. Van Allen; the hay press and produce commission business of Hon. Aaron Fuller; the hay press of Tygert & Martin, dealers in produce, and a population of about sixty. In this part of the town is the State Road Methodist Episcopal Church.

HON. AARON FULLER.

Aaron Fuller was born in Guilderland, August 21, 1832. His father was Hon. John Fuller, who was universally known as Major John Fuller, on account of his rank in the old State militia. He was elected to the Legislature in 1846, and was for two years supervisor of Guilderland (1846-47), was a man of influence in the town and county, and died in February, 1882, aged nearly eighty-one years. Mr. Fuller's mother was Harriet Moak, who was born in 1804, and died in her fifty-ninth year. Both his parents were natives of New Scotland.

Mr. Fuller received a thorough rudimentary education in the public schools, and in 1849 entered the Schoharie Academy, where he was a student a year and a half. It had been his intention to prepare for college there, but his health failing, he was obliged to return to farm life, to which he had been reared. February 27, 1863, he married Miss Ada Fitch, of New Scotland, who died seven months afterward.

Mr. Fuller relinquished farming about fifteen years since, and engaged in the produce trade at Fuller's. This station is on a portion of Major Fuller's old homestead, and it was in his honor that it was so named, upon the opening of the West Shore Railroad, the station on the Athens branch of the New York Central Railroad, and the post-office, having been called Fuller's Station for some years before. It has been chiefly through Mr. Fuller's influence that most of the improvements in connection with the railway interests at Fuller's have been made.

Mr. Fuller was reared in the Democratic faith politically and has never seen reason to depart therefrom. In public affairs, both local and national, he has always taken a deep and intelligent interest. In the spring of 1881, he was elected to the office of supervisor of Guilderland by a majority of 110, with a political majority against him of about 220, which, more clearly than anything else could have done, demonstrated his personal popularity in the town; and he has been three times re-elected. That this popularity extends much further than the town limits will become apparent, when it is stated that Mr. Fuller was, in 1881, elected to the Legislature by a majority of 200 in his assembly district, overcoming a Republican electoral majority of 1,800. For private reasons, he declined a renomination. So satisfactory had been Mr. Fuller's official career, that in the fall of 1882 he was urged strongly to stand as the Democratic candidate for Sheriff of Albany County.

Following in the religious faith of his parents, Mr. Fuller is a member of the Reformed Church of Guilderland, with which they and their entire family were long connected.

GUILDERLAND STATION

Is a hamlet of about 100 population, and is of comparatively recent growth. The principal business is carried on by Hallenbeck & Bloomingdale, dealers in cut hay; Isaac Reamer, dealer in hay and straw; F. Van Liew, Jr., general merchant, and George Lauer, blacksmith.

M'KOWNSVILLE

Is a settlement in the southern part of the town; is so known in honor of the McKown family, who early settled here, and in successive generations have figured prominently in town affairs. It contains a small hotel and a population of about 50. Its most widely known resident is Thomas Helme, M. D., who has passed most of his professional life here.

KNOWERSVILLE.

The largest and most important business center within the town limits is Knowersville, on the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company's Railroad. Here the most striking improvements in the town have been made, for the village, which has a population of not less than 600, has sprung up almost like Jonah's gourd. That part of the place lying most remote from its center of population was for-

merly known by the same name, and during late years has been popularly referred to as "Old Knowersville," in contradistinction from Knowersville proper. It was there that the Knower family, long prominent in this part of the town, settled and opened the work of improvements, and a factory was located there as early as 1800.

On the site of the most considerable portion of the present village of Knowersville there were no buildings, in the fall of 1863, except two farm houses. September 16, that year, the first passenger train from Albany to Central Bridge, Schoharie County, passed this point. That was a day which will ever be memorable in the history of Knowersville. In the spring of 1864 a store was built by Becker & Hilton. It has been occupied by Albert Ward, from 1865 to 1868; by Crounse & Hilton, from 1868 to 1878; by Mr. Crounse (who still owns the building), from 1878 to 1883, and since April 1, 1883, by Mynderse & Pangburn. A depot and several residences were built before the close of the year 1864, and since that time improvement has been rapid.

In 1868 another store was built by Ira Witter, who soon sold it to Joseph W. Wright, who occupied it until the spring of 1884, when he leased it to Abram A. Tygert, its present occupant. A third store was built five or six years ago, which has been managed by Mr. Crowe, Davenport & Crowe, and since the spring of 1885, Davenport & Fredericks. About five years ago, Rev. N. Klock built a store, in which he carried on business about a year. A tin and stove store was opened by W. H. Lay, who was succeeded by Osborn & Taber, the present proprietors. A furniture and undertaker's store was opened by John Thierolf in 1877. In the spring of 1885 it passed into the hands of Ogsbury & Vanderpool.

In 1867 the Union Hotel was built. It was at first managed by George Severseu, who in about six months gave place to Andrew Warner, who was in charge one year. In 1869 he was succeeded by John Stafford, the present proprietor.

The Knowersville House was built in 1876 by James Ogsbury, who occupied it but a short time. It was purchased by Adam Wetherwax, the present owner. The German House, a saloon, was opened in 1873. It is now owned by Christian Hartman, who leases it to M. Van Auken.

In 1874 Henry Lockwood built a carriage factory, which was occupied by Van Benscoten Brothers from 1874 to 1880, and since then has been operated by Van Benscoten & Warner. James Ostrander, manufacturer of and dealer in shoes, has been in business three years. In 1870 William H. Van Benscoten established a harness shop, which for several years past has been under control of Frank Decker. Nathaniel Sturges, jeweler, has been in business about ten years. Hiram Fredendall's bakery was established in 1879. A saw and planing mill was established a few years ago by Philley, Elsass & Warner. They were succeeded by Elsass & Philley, and they by Sands & Son, who have put in a grist-mill with three runs of stones, and are doing a good business in their line. Snyder & Prout have for some years been manufacturing and dealing in wagons and carriages. Van Aernam & Steiner, painters, began business in 1874.

The following firms and individuals are engaged in the hay trade: Roman & Co., of Albany, James Campbell, agent; Fairlee & Elsass; Isaac Reamer, representing New York capital, and James Finch, with a similar connection. Sylvester Sands, Newton Ketcham, Frederick Mynderse and Frederick Keenholtz are grain buyers, some of them also handling buckwheat flour and other produce. Smith Philley, station agent, deals quite extensively in plaster, lime, cement, oil and flour. Other business and mechanical interests are represented by Rev. A. P. Ludden, fruit grower; Ira Fairlee, liveryman, and Friday & Sharp, blacksmiths.

Hon. Hiram Griggs, attorney, has been a resident of Knowersville since 1862, and has exerted an influence by no means slight upon the growth and prosperity of the place. Atchison Mitchell, Esq., another successful lawyer, has been practicing his profession in the village about four years. Drs. Frederick and Jesse Crounse and Rufus T. Barton are resident practitioners.

About 1877 Rev. N. Klock began the publication of a local newspaper named the *Golden Era*, which he issued at Knowersville for five years, when he removed it to Mechanicsville. The *Knowersville Enterprise*, a seven-column paper, well edited, extensively circulated and of considerable local influence, was established by David H. Crowe in the summer of 1884.

Local trains making four trips between Knowersville and Albany were put on by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company in December, 1878. In March, 1879, the number of trips was reduced to three, as it was found that this arrangement would amply provide for local travel, in connection with an increasing number of through trains, all of which stop at Knowersville. The village is admirably provided with freight, telegraphic and express facilities, and has stage connection with

Knox, Berne and West Berne and Thompson's Lake, and East Berne.

Unlike most villages of its size and importance, Knowersville has only one church. Here people of varying theological and sectarian beliefs meet with the Lutheran congregation, joining in their worship and contributing to the support of their organization with a unanimity as commendable as it is remarkable. Its local educational advantages are surpassed by those of few other villages of its size, a graded school being maintained, in which a high standard of instruction is offered. Three teachers are employed, and there is an average attendance of 112. An elegant and commodious school-house was built about ten years ago, at a cost of about $5,000. Knowersville has a flourishing library association, and several secret, social and beneficent organizations, of which many of its leading citizens are members.

This village possesses ample evidence of the thrift of its inhabitants. It is a village of pleasant and attractive homes, in which are few signs of poverty. The spirit of enterprise is dominant, and its business men are progressive and fully abreast with the times. It is recognized as an important railway point, and its growth seems not yet to have been attained.

MANUFACTURES.

Guilderland has never been a distinctively manufacturing town. Few manufactories of more than local importance have ever been established within its borders. Most of the manufacturing enterprises established or attempted to be established have already been incidentally mentioned. The first notable manufactory, and in most ways the most important, ever established in the town, was the "glass house," at the place afterward called Hamilton and now familiarly known as Sloan's. This was first in operation in 1792. "Spafford's Gazetteer," published in 1813, says: "Guilderland contains a factory where are made 500,000 feet of window glass annually." This once flourishing business was discontinued in 1815 on account of the scarcity of fuel.

Clothing works were erected at French's Mills in 1795 by Peter B. Broeck. Abel French established another factory there in 1800, and a third was in operation at Knowersville about the same time. In 1813 there were 100 looms in families, which made annually about 25,000 yards of cloth for common clothing. Most of these disappeared long since, upon the introduction of cloths made in the large factories of our great manufacturing centers. At Sloan's the Battermans early established a woolen factory, which, during several successive proprietorships, has been converted into a hat factory, a cotton batting factory and a foundry. As a foundry it was first owned by William Fonda. The present owners are Newbury & Chapman, who make a specialty of the manufacture of piping plugs. Mention has been made of grist and flouring-mills at different points within the town boundaries. Veeder's and Becker's mills were much resorted to by the resident farmers early in the present century. Saw-mills were few indeed, on account of the scarcity of timber. The large woolen factory at Guilderland Center, now the property of E. Spawn & Son, was formerly owned by Reed & Co. The cider and vinegar manufactories of A. V. Mynderse and Michael H. Frederick, in the same neighborhood, are worthy of note in this connection; so, also, are the saw-mill, planing-mill and grist-mill of Sands & Sons; the carriage factory of Van Ben Scoten & Warner; the wagon manufactory of Snyder & Prout—all at Knowersville—and the spring-bed manufactory and bottling establishment of A. F. Deitz, at Guilderland Center.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

Dr. James S. Lowe came to Guilderland from Saratoga in 1820, and died in 1847. Dr. Frederick Crounse has practiced his profession in the town since 1833. Dr. W. G. Davis is also an old practitioner. Dr. Jonathan Johnson, from Dana, Massachusetts, practiced in the town until his death in 1861. Dr. Wands, from New Scotland, practiced here about eight years, and removed to Cohoes. He died about fourteen years ago. Dr. Andrew Wilson came when a young man from Kinderhook, Columbia County, and practiced in Guilderland some twenty-four years. Removing to Albany, he died there about 1877. Dr. Barrows bought his residence (at Sloan's) and his ride in this town, and upon leaving sold them in turn to Dr. Abram De Graff, who has since enjoyed a lucrative practice. Dr. Thomas Helme, of McKownsville, has passed most of his life in this town, and is widely respected and employed. Dr. William Zea, a native of Gallupville, Schoharie County, located at Guilderland Center, and after twelve years' practice there died of consumption. Dr. Jesse Crounse received his diploma at Albany Medical College in 1877, and is located at Knowersville. Dr. R. F. Barton graduated at Ann Arbor, Michigan, and after a few years' practice at his native place (Portland, Vermont), came to

Knowersville some years since. Dr. Andrew C. Crounse received his diploma early in the present year.

CHURCH HISTORY OF GUILDERLAND.

THE LUTHERAN CHURCHES.

The Dutch colonists at Albany soon extended their settlements into the surrounding country, and ministers of religion followed and labored for many years among the scattered settlements, preaching in private houses and barns, gathering the scattered members of the Lutheran faith together, and thus laid the foundation for future organization.

We learn that the churches of Guilderland were thus served by these godly pioneers. One or two are worthy of notice. The first that came to this town was Rev. Peter N. Sommers, in 1743. This will appear from his diary. Thus:

"In the name of the Holy Trinity. I, Peter Nicholas Sommers, from the City of Hamburgh, authorized as Evangelical Lutheran preacher by the Consistory of Trinitatus at London, and ordained by the Rev. Johann George Palm, started from Hamburgh, and under God's almighty protection arrived at London on the 25th day of October, 1742. On the 27th started for Albany, where I remained till the 25th of May. The Lord our God be with me, that the great end of my arduous office may be accomplished, that the name of the Lord may be glorified. Amen."

We learn from the same record that his field of labor was wide, as he preached to the Lutheran people in Claverack, Hoosick, Stone-Arabia, Little Falls, Canajoharie, Schoharie, Helderberg and Albany. He spent his life in this field, and was universally beloved. He located at Schoharie, and after more than fifty years of laborious and efficient service died at Sharon in 1795, aged eighty-five years, and was interred near the Old Fort Church at Schoharie.

Though he preached occasionally in Guilderland and performed ministerial services among the families of the Lutheran faith, no regular organization was effected till the 13th of October, 1787, when the St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church was duly organized, with Rev. Heinrich Moeller as the first regular pastor.

The first communion service was observed, August 11, 1788, when fifty-eight communicants were present. Rev. Mr. Moeller came from Hamburg, Germany, and studied theology with Rev. Dr. Muhlenbergh, of Philadelphia. He served as chaplain in the Revolutionary war, after which he served several congregations. At one time he was pastor of the Lutheran Church in Albany, and the first Lutheran house of worship in that city was erected under his ministry. He was reputed as a noble example of a pure, devoted minister. He served the church at Guilderland six years, and died at the age of eighty years. He was succeeded by Rev. Mr. Mayers, who served the church but a short term. His successor was Rev. L. Merket, who ministered to the church a number of years, baptizing and instructing the children, and confirming them at a certain age as members in full communion, as was the practice in those days.

In the year 1828 this church called to the pastorate Rev. Adam Crounse, then a young man of good talents and acquirements, of unblemished moral character, and unquestioned fidelity to his faith, a firm believer in all the great doctrines of the cross, especially in the great cardinal doctrine of justification by faith. Standing on this fundamental truth, he manifested the spirit and firmness of the great reformer when he said, "Here I stand." And one might as well attempt to overturn the Helderbergs as to swerve him from the pillar and ground of his faith. And his was not a dead faith. He preached as a condition of justification repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and faith which works by love as the only evidence of regeneration.

Though he adopted the Augsberg confession and was an influential member of the Hardwick Synod, yet he took a new departure from the old practice of confirming without an experimental knowledge of Christ.

With a yearning passion for saving souls, he entered upon his mission here. From this date the congregation has been carried onward and upward in an unparalleled degree in spiritual and temporal prosperity.

Indeed, what else might be expected from the service of such a man with the blessing of God in a large field of more than 200 families through a space of 35 years? The answer is—just what now exists—one of the largest and strongest churches within the Hardwick Synod.

At his first communion he records the names of 47, and adds these words:

"May God of his infinite mercy grant that the above recorded souls may not only hold fellowship here, but eventually meet around the throne of God, and there unite in singing the song of the Lamb, is the sincere prayer of their servant for Christ's sake, ADAM CROUNSE."

Previous to this time, so far as we can learn, the congregation had never witnessed any special

season of grace. But under the ministration of such a pastor a great change was to come. The year 1832 was one of general revival influence throughout the land. In many places Pentacostal seasons of grace were witnessed. A young man came to the Glass House, a village in the eastern part of the town, and was invited to preach in the Union School House. At the close of the service he was urged to stay and preach another Sabbath. During the week it became evident that several were deeply impressed by that first discourse. Soon a most striking work of grace commenced. It extended to the Helderberg. Many from the families of the Reformed and the Lutheran Churches came to the meeting and returned to tell what God had done for them.

The increasing interest caused the Reformed Church to open their house for special religious services, which were greatly blessed.

Dominie Crounse came, and for a time sat in silence, and he saw the grace of God and was glad; he drank in the spirit and joined in earnest prayer, and went home and resolved to have revival service in his own church.

As a result, he records at his next communion, 100 having joined the church on that occasion. From this date we could record frequent outpouring of the Spirit on this community. During thirty-five years Dominie Crounse sowed the good seed of the kingdom with an unsparing hand, and laid the foundation for great prosperity, making it a joyful service for his successors to reap the golden harvest. Here he lived and labored till called up higher. We read from the minutes of the Hardwick Synod :

"Our venerable and beloved brother, Rev. A. Crounse, was permitted to leave the land of the dying and enter the land of the living on the 13th of May last, 1864. For more than a year he seemed to dwell on Pisgah's summit, with the heavenly land and the celestial city in full view."

Rev. J. W. Lake succeeded Mr. Crounse and served the church acceptably for four years, when, in 1869, Rev. David Swope was called as pastor and served the church until April, 1875. In 1871 the church enjoyed another revival of religion, which resulted in ninety additions to the membership.

It was now evident to all the congregation that the old church must be extensively repaired or a new one built. The church and parsonage stood in the country, midway between Guilderland Center and Knowersville, about two miles from each. Neither of these villages, situated upon two railroads, had a church of any denomination. Several meetings were held and various propositions discussed—whether the old church should be repaired or torn down and a new one erected in its place; or whether the old site should be abandoned and two new churches built, one in each village. Other denominations were awake to the importance of occupying the villages.

The Methodists had purchased a lot in Knowersville and were preparing to build a church. At length, after much discussion, St. John's wisely voted, by a large majority, to abandon the old site and build a new church in each village. At the same session, Mr. John Mann gave a spacious lot for the church in Guilderland Center, and Mr. Conrad Crounse one large enough for a church and a parsonage at Knowersville. A few were dissatisfied, but by judicious management serious trouble was avoided. Two beautiful churches, costing in the aggregate over $20,000, were built simultaneously. The one at the Center was consecrated, February 21, 1872, and the one at Knowersville on the 14th of March following. Funds sufficient to pay all indebtedness incurred in erecting both these churches were subscribed at the consecration. The congregation agreed to remain as a unit for five years, though worshiping in two places. They have since peacefully divided, the Knowersville church taking the name of St. James', and the Guilderland church adopting that of St. Mark's. The Methodists, seeing the ground so satisfactorily occupied at Knowersville, sold their lots and wisely abandoned all thought of building a house of worship there.

These churches were erected under the ministry of Rev. Mr. Swope, and the covenant, agreement and conditions judiciously carried out under the efficient ministry of Rev. A. P. Ludden, whose praise is in all the churches of his denomination as a most successful pastor.

He was the successor of Rev. Mr. Swope, and, after serving these churches over five years, he had the happiness of introducing to the communion of saints 121 at Guilderland Center and 173 at Knowersville. He has since retired from the pastorate, and devotes himself now to revival efforts among the churches. Both of these churches are in a prosperous state and self-sustaining. The Rev. Mr. Heck recently has been called to Knowersville. The sister church is under the pastoral care of Rev. J. S. Harkey. Each sustains a large and flourishing Sabbath school. We doubt whether there is a town within the bounds of the denomination where the salt of grace and divine truth

has produced a more saving effect, or inspired with more spiritual energy, or can produce such an array of carriages coming in procession from every way and making haste to the house of God on the Sabbath morning, as may be witnessed in Guilderland.

THE REFORMED CHURCH.

There is no record of this church back of the pastorate of the Rev. Thomas Van Heusen, who was called here in 1795, and remained pastor thirty years. Twenty-five years ago "Father" Hilson, then ninety years of age, stated that the first minister here was a man by the name of Schunaman, stationed at Katskill, who came and preached in the barns and administered the sacraments; that on one occasion he found it difficult to gain their attention, as the people on Saturday had been to one of those old-fashioned horse-races which were frequent in those times, when he exclaimed: "I wish you could see yourselves sliding right into hell," when all roused up with surprise. He added: "not that I want you to go there, but see your danger and flee from it."

At another time, during the Revolutionary war, he tried to rouse the people to a sense of their duty to their country. He told them it was high time to rise and shake off the foreign yoke; that submission to England was no virtue; that rebellion was no crime. But he was told, during the week, that it was folly to think of overcoming Great Britain, and, failing, England would confiscate all their property. On the next Sabbath he brought the subject before them again and said: "You say you are afraid you will lose your property! Property? you ought to be willing to lose your lives in the sacred cause of liberty!" Here the old man rose, and, bending under the weight of ninety years, in voice and gesture used his ministerial authority to enforce his sentiments. But the Tories, he said, considered him a troubler in Israel, and on that evening, as he was taking tea at a dwelling under the Helderberg, near the "Indian Ladder," they fired bullets into the house.

But the dominie took a light, and, in spite of the resistance of the women, who said the assailing party would kill him, rushed out, and he said they ran like cowards. It is cause for congratulation to all her citizens that such a Christian patriot ministered in Guilderland. Let his name go down to posterity and be cherished by every generation here.

But Dominie Van Heusen was the first pastor. By his instructions and baptisms he drew together and laid a good foundation for the church in coming years. He was a kind of second John the Baptist. He baptized all the children that were brought to him. Abraham Van Derpool, who was a worthy elder, and has just passed away, aged nearly one hundred years, stated that it was the practice of the dominie to visit the families before communion and instruct the youth, telling them that their parents took on themselves the covenant vows for the children in infancy, but now it was their duty to assume them; gave them some catechism to learn, and then received them into the church. So far as can be learned, they had never witnessed any special season of grace. Still good christians grew up here, on whom grace had distilled like the morning dew. After a noble service of thirty years he withdrew from the pastorate and soon after died, and was interred in the cemetery at New Scotland. Rev. Dr. Hardenburgh was next called, who, after a few months, was called to the city of New York. He was succeeded by Rev. Robert Blair, who, on account of impaired health, soon removed to New Jersey, but he left the footprints of a godly man, beloved by all the congregation. After him, they extended a call to Rev. Nanning Bogardus, a man of a robust constitution, with a lion-like voice, but it was soon discovered that he was not the man for the place, and he was dismissed.

They next called Rev. Thomas Frazer, who did good service for a short time; but, on account of some difference of opinion as to renting the seats, in which he took part, he impaired his influence, and, having a call to another charge, was dismissed. The next pastor was Rev. William Bailey, a young man who did good service, especially among the youth, in gathering them into the Sabbath school; but, after a short time, having a call to Schodack, he asked for a dismission, which was granted.

Rev. J. B. Steele was next called. He was a man of good talents and acquirements, a sound and instructive preacher, but confined himself very much to his home and his study. He was a lover of books and knowledge. Inspired somewhat with a spirit of poetry, he at length brought forth a very respectable volume of poems. But he never gained a warm affection from the people. He served them well for some six years, and then retired by mutual consent. He is still living—the oldest pastor in the Reformed Church.

In 1848 this church extended a unanimous call to Rev. Wm. P. Davis, with whom they were well acquainted, who came to the town in 1832 and commenced his service at the Glass House, a

village some four miles away, where his labors were greatly blessed, extending to the suburbs of Albany. He had often assisted in revival service in this congregation; and as early as 1834 had been offered a call to this church, which he declined; but he accepted the latter call, and was installed as pastor in 1848; and it may be interesting to quote a paragraph from his semi-centennial discourse, delivered in 1882:

"At the time I was installed over this beloved people, I felt that God had let me fall just in the niche I was ordained to fill. I have ever been disposed to count it among the happiest circumstances of my life that my lot was cast here. I found a people kind, frank and friendly, who cast the mantle of charity over my many imperfections, and by whose cordial co-operation God has made use of the weakness of man to set off the luster of His sovereign grace. Before I proceed to a rehearsal of the grace of God here, I will say that abundant is the occasion I have in reviewing what God has done here—where I have reaped the first fruits of my labors; where I have beheld the rich displays of converting grace, the remembrance of which will be fondly cherished to my dying day, and I trust will be revived again in brighter realms, and recounted in celestial songs—that all success has been of God. Let human instrumentalities be forgotten, while the remembrance of what God has done be cherished to the glory of His grace. To illustrate the work of grace here, I may state that as early as September, 1832, I was called to perform service here, and have preached more or less for fifty years within your bounds; was invited to assist in some of the first revival efforts in this place, and well remember the first service in the old red church, a structure of from 50 to 60 feet square. It was well filled; never saw so many old men together. Some covered their bald heads with bandana handkerchiefs. But as I came down from the high goblet-shaped pulpit, O, what a greeting I received! I could see by the expression of their eyes and the transparency of their looks that it meant goodness of heart, open frankness, genuine hospitality, and these I have ever found to be the characteristics of Dutchmen. But the spirit of God was poured out, and many were examined to unite with the church. One woman rose and told her experience, revealing the wonderful grace of God.

"Long before I became pastor I witnessed several special seasons of grace. But as pastor I was received with open arms. They gave me the most cordial co-operation in everything pertaining to the prosperity of this church; they came forward with willing hearts and liberal hands; they adopted as a rule: Owe no man any thing; hence the funds were subscribed before work began."

In 1834 the old red church gave place to a commodious house of worship, which answered well their purpose for thirty-four years, when it was necessary, to meet the wants of this large and increasing congregation, to build again. For this purpose ten subscribed $200 each, viz.: John Bloomingdale, Adam Bloomingdale, William Relyea, Jacob N. Hallenbeck, James Fryer, Alexander Fryer, Abram Van Auken, Myndert La Grange, William P. Davis. Twenty-three signed $100 each, and so on till about $8,000 was raised, and the year 1867 witnessed the erection of a beautiful and substantial structure, with circular gallery and commodious audience room, 50 by 80 feet, with the most comfortable model seats, handsomely furnished, ceilings frescoed and ornamented—nothing gaudy, but all presenting a uniform and fine view; capable of seating seven hundred; with suitable spire and fine-toned bell of 2,060 pounds. It was erected under the ministry of the Rev. Wm. P. Davis, who drew the plan and specifications, and was chairman of the building committee. Completed at an expense of not less than $9,000, without debt.

In 1856 the parsonage, standing on the south part of the parsonage farm of fifty acres, conveyed to this church by the late Patroon, was remodeled and enlarged, at an expense of $1,600; previous to which, a line of sheds 600 feet long, the best to be found in Albany County, was built, with ample grounds, all inclosed with a fine banister fence standing on rock; all of which bespeaks the liberality and piety of a good people in the best of causes. We again quote from the semi-centennial sermon:

"As to the spiritual prosperity of this church, there are many still living who can bear testimony that they have witnessed the grace of God, not only as the morning dew, but in refreshing showers from on high, and that revival has followed revival for more than twenty years. In 1858 we enjoyed a Pentacostal season. Such was the prayerful desire that we could stand still and see the salvation of God.

"The result was an addition of 100 on the first Sabbath in May; and three years after 65 were added to the church."

We cannot go farther into detail, but will state one or two things which contributed to this result. One was the organization of a ladies' sewing society, which extended through the whole congregation, and brought into social intercourse the whole parish, without respect of persons. They had a good entertainment, and closed with prayer. This was kept up for eight months. Then the ladies' fair, in a spacious tent, which cleared $450, purchased a fine-toned bell, which became the loudest preacher to call all to the house of God. This

not only produced harmony of views, but in bringing all the people into social intercourse with the pastor, and as all had taken part in the enterprise, it created a united interest and produced a wonderful revolution in church-going to the present time. This is witnessed by a stranger with surprise, to see some three hundred carriages coming from different directions to the churches on the Sabbath morning. Another is the interest resulting from the Sabbath school. Fifty years ago there was no Sabbath school in this vicinity. Revival influence led to the organization of many, and so conducted as to become the nursery of the church. By judicious instruction the youth have been kept within the bounds of the church, and so efficient has been the application of truth as to lead many of them to Christ.

Sabbath school concerts originated in Guilderland, which excited an interest throughout all this community. When, at length, the county convention met here, Dr. Lawyers and other eloquent speakers said they had come to stir us up, but they were stirred up themselves by the interest manifested and asked how it had been produced. They were answered that it was the result of our Sunday school concerts. They said they would record this as the banner town of the county, and from their recommendation this local practice obtained in other towns and counties. But the moving power of all we attribute to the prayerful co-operation of all, and more especially to the devoted efforts and prayers of a band of godly mothers in Israel.

After witnessing the blessing of God on this church for more than twenty years, in the completion of the edifice and the enlargement of the congregation, Alexander Fryer and wife, who had been awaiting the dedication of the church with deep interest, died nearly at the same time, and were brought to the church, and this funeral service was the first performed in the building. And there, too, the church and congregation were dedicated to the service of the *Triune God in the presence of the dead.*

Soon after this Rev. Wm. P. Davis, having a call to Rotterdam, accepted, and was dismissed in 1869.

Rev. S. L. Gamble became his successor, and during his pastorate of fourteen years the church has been greatly blessed; revival has followed revival; large numbers have been added to the church; and it now reports two hundred and fifty-one families and five hundred and thirty-four communicants.

HAMILTON UNION CHURCH OF GUILDERLAND.

This church, of the Presbyterian faith, was organized, March 25, 1824, by a committee of the Presbytery of Albany, Rev. Mr. Weed, of Albany, acting as moderator. The original members numbered seventeen. In the fall of 1825 the membership had increased to thirty-seven. October 19, that year, Rev. Judson Buck, the first pastor, was installed. His successors have been as follows: Rev. William P. Davis, who was installed December 1, 1835; Rev. Mr. Cooney; Rev. B. H. Pitman, of Albany, who entered upon his pastoral duties in 1847; Rev. J. Clancy, who came in 1852; Rev. W. Frothingham, who was installed in January, 1856; Rev. W. W. Page, who assumed charge in June, 1862; Rev. J. B. Adams, who was installed June 1, 1865; Rev. D. Vermilye, who came in 1869; Rev. W. P. Davis, who entered upon a second pastorate in May, 1873; Rev. J. O. Van Fleet, who came in February, 1880; and the present pastor, Rev. Dr. Webster Belden, who has served since November, 1881.

The membership of this church is about one hundred. Its house of worship was dedicated January 30, 1834.

GUILDERLAND METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Methodist preaching has been conducted in this town during nearly the whole of this century. At first it was in private houses; then for a long time service was held in the school-house of the Chesebro District, near Fuller's Station. About 1852 a great revival occurred, and the people began to cast about for a more permanent place of worship.

Guilderland village, familiarly known as the Glass House, was settled upon as the appropriate place. Land for a church building was there donated by Geo. C. Batterman, and a church edifice, costing about $2,000, was erected and dedicated in the autumn of 1852.

On April 18, 1853, a regular church organization was effected, and the church incorporated, with the following as trustees: Henry Spawn, John Arnold, Giles Reagles, Isaac Pearl, Robert D. Carhart, Elijah Chesebro, Wm. Powel, Williams Chesebro and M. Y. Cheesebrough.

In May, 1854, the present parsonage property was purchased for about $900.

In 1866, during the pastorate of the Rev. E. E. Taylor, the church was raised and a basement for chapel purposes placed under it, a gallery was built across the end and several other alterations made, the whole improvement costing about $3,000.

Again, in 1884, under the labors of Rev. E. C. Hoyt, the church was repaired inside and outside, at a cost of $600.

Since the erection of the present church edifice the following pastors have officiated at its altar:

Revs. Alvin Robbins, Bishop Isbell, A. Osborn, J. F. Craig, Andrew Heath, Andrew Garvin, E. E. Taylor, J. Leonard, B. F. Livingston, W. J. Sands, J. B. Wood, Jarvis Devol, J. S. Bridgford, George W. Easton, John Lemley, C. V. Grismer, Myron White and E. C. Hoyt.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF M'KOWNSVILLE.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of McKounsville is situated about one mile west of the Albany City line, on the western turnpike. It was the outgrowth of Sunday school services held in a neighboring school-house, in which there was also occasional preaching.

The church edifice was built in 1866, an acre of ground for the purpose having been given by Mr. John McKown. The original cost of the structure was about $2,800. During 1884, the church was repaired and improved, at an expense of about $250.

This organization has been connected with the church at Guilderland in one pastoral charge, and has had the following pastors: Revs. E. E. Taylor, J. Leonard, B. F. Livingston, W. J. Sands, J. B. Wood, J. Devol, J. S. Bridgford, George W. Easten, John Lemley, C. V. Grismer, Myron White, E. C. Hoyt. It has a membership of fifty and an average attendance of about 150.

THE STATE ROAD METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The State Road Methodist Church was organized in 1864, by Rev. E. E. Taylor, with thirty members. A house of worship was erected in 1865, at a cost of nearly $4,000, largely through the generosity of a Mr. Parker, who was residing temporarily in the neighborhood of Fuller's Station. The first pastor was Rev. John N. Short. The present pastor is Rev. William O. Tower, who lives at Schenectady.

H. Griggs

HON. HIRAM GRIGGS.

The first of the family of Griggses, of which Hon. Hiram Griggs, of Knowersville, is a representative, who came to America, was John Griggs, a Scotchman. The peculiar circumstances of his emigration are traditional in the family. Drafted into the British service during the war of the Revolution, he made his escape from an English man-of-war when off the coast of Connecticut, in Long Island Sound, and swam ashore. In time he seems to have made his way to Massachusetts, where he married Mary Skeels. Removing not long afterward to New York State, he settled in Old Schoharie (now Esperance), Schoharie County. He had six children, of whom the fourth in order of nativity was John P. Griggs, father of Hiram Griggs, who was born in Esperance in 1797, and died in Guilderland in 1869. His wife, Margaret Vervaline, a native of Dutchess County, survives him, aged eighty-three. John P. Griggs had five children, four sons and a daughter, of whom Hiram Griggs was the fourth, born in Esperance, March 18, 1836.

Mr. Griggs received his early education in common schools. Later he attended the Schoharie Academy, at Schoharie, N. Y., until the fall of 1856. During a few years thereafter he assisted his father, who was the proprietor of the Schoharie mills, in his business, and taught school several terms. In the spring of 1860 he entered the law office of Hobart Krum, of Schoharie, and was a student there until September 30, 1862. On the 8th day of May, 1861, he was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, and on the 8th day of July, 1867, he was admitted to practice in the District Court of the United States for the Northern District of New York. September 30, 1862, he opened a law office in Knowersville, where he has since resided, and been continuously engaged in the practice of his profession.

In 1867 Mr. Griggs was elected Supervisor of the town of Guilderland, and was re-elected each succeeding year until 1877, and was President of the Board in 1873 and 1874. In the fall of 1871 he was the candidate of his party for the office of Surrogate of Albany County, but was defeated by Peter A. Rogers (Democrat) by a very small majority. In 1877 he was elected to represent his district in the State Legislature, and he was re-elected for two succeeding terms. During this period he served on many important committees, including the Committee of Ways and Means, the Committee on General Laws, the Committee on Commerce and Navigation, and the Sub-Committee of the Whole. Mr. Griggs cast his first vote in 1857 in favor of Republican principles, and has been a stanch Republican ever since.

Peter Shaver

On the 11th day of September, 1872, Mr. Griggs married Helen C. Wright, of Knowersville, a daughter of Joseph W. Wright, who for many years was a leading merchant and business man of that village.

PETER SHAVER.

The late PETER SHAVER was born in New Scotland (then Bethlehem), Albany County, July 19, 1795, a son of Henry and Alida (Bradt) Shaver. His father was a native of Rhinebeck, Dutchess County, N. Y., and, when Peter was eight years old, removed to Guilderland with his family.

Peter Shaver was reared on his father's farm. His educational advantages were limited to common schools, reading and study at home, and he never attended school after he was fourteen years old. He was yet quite young at the outbreak of the war of 1812–14, but he saw active service in that struggle, and was one of the few remaining pensioners of that war living. In 1838 he bought his farm near Dunnsville. He became prominent in local affairs, and was chosen Supervisor of Guilderland, in which capacity he served four years, declining a re-election, and his ability for public service of a much higher order was recognized by his choice to a membership of the Constitutional Convention of 1846 to revise the Constitution of the State of New York. Politically, he was long a Whig and afterward a Republican. He was married in 1817 to Catharine Banker Waldron, daughter of Hon. Cornelius H. Waldron. They had a son, Henry P. Shaver, and a daughter, Hester Shaver. Mr. Shaver was a member, and for some time treasurer, of the Reformed Dutch Church of Guilderland.

His recent death was widely and deeply regretted, for it removed one of the best known connecting links between the earlier and later history of the town.

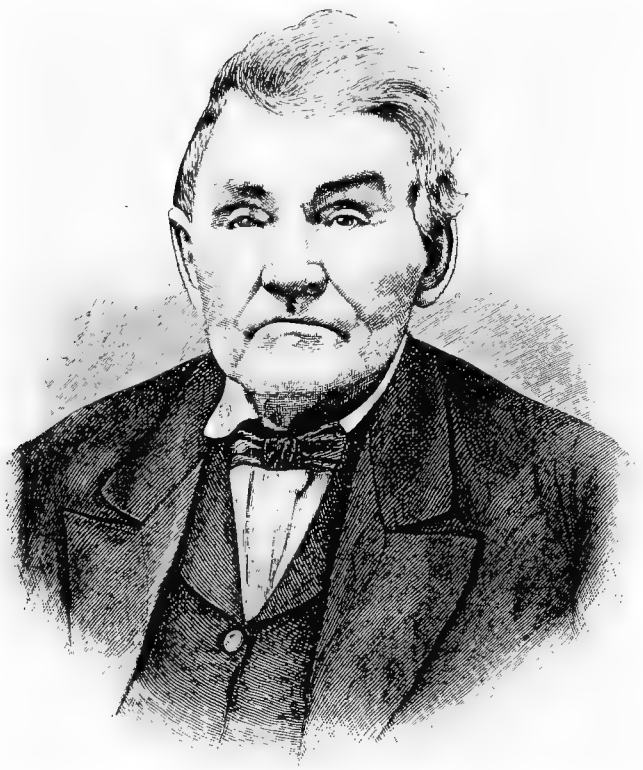
HENRY P. CROUNSE.

HENRY P. CROUNSE.

The first of the family of Crounse in America was Frederick Crounse, from Wurtemberg, Germany. The family descended from a Polish nobleman named Krounsky, who had fled from Poland and found refuge in Germany. The pioneer located on a tract of land embracing the present farm of Henry P. Crounse, and died on the place in 1777. At the time he came to Guilderland his son Frederick (2d) was seven years old. Frederick (2d), who was the grandfather of Peter Crounse, died in 1828. John Crounse, son of Frederick (2d) and father of Peter Crounse, was born on the farm above mentioned in 1770, and died there, March 2, 1854. Frederick Crounse (2d) was very patriotic during the Revolutionary struggle, and contributed liberally toward the support of the American cause.

John Crounse married Elizabeth Livingston. Their son, Peter, was born in Guilderland, January 6, 1798. He was brought up a farmer boy, and attended the public schools of his town. He has been a life-long farmer, though for a time he was the proprietor and operator of a small tannery, which was located on the Crounse homestead. In 1821 he married Miss Margaret Smith, a native of Rhinebeck, N. Y., who died in 1879, at the age of seventy-seven. They had nine children, seven of whom are living. The eldest, Henry P. Crounse, owns and resides on the old Crounse homestead. Mr. Crounse was a Whig, politically, until he united with the Republican party, early in its history. Always interested in public affairs, yet he was not an active politician, and, though often solicited to do so, always resolutely refused to accept any office. For generations the family has been connected with the Lutheran Church, and in his advanced years Mr. Crounse finds much consolation in the connection.

Henry P. Crounse was born in Guilderland in 1822, and has been a life-long resident on the old Crounse homestead. In 1860 he married Miss Susan Crounse, daughter of Conrad Crounse, of Guilderland, who has borne him five sons and three daughters. One of the sons died in infancy. Mr. Crounse is a Republican, and his family are members of the Lutheran Church of Knowersville.



FREDERICK CROUNSE, M. D.

FREDERICK CROUNSE, M. D.

FREDERICK CROUNSE was born in the town of Sharon, Schoharie County, New York, February 3, 1807, the eldest son of Jacob and Harriet Crounse. His parents were both of German descent. His father was born in Guilderland, Albany County, March 8, 1783. He became a farmer, and at the age of twenty-four years located upon a farm in Sharon, Schoharie County. Dr. Crounse's grandparents emigrated to this country from Wurtemberg, Germany, and became successful and well-to-do farmers and true patriots in the home of their adoption. Frederick was reared under the careful supervision of his father, and, in early years exhibiting an aptitude for books, was given the benefit of the best instruction to be obtained in the common schools, which he improved to the best of his ability. He was then placed under the private tutorship of the Rev. Adam Crounse, a minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and a fine classical scholar, with whom he remained two years and a half, giving his attention more particularly to the study of the languages. After completing this course, he entered the office of Dr. John C. Miller, at Sharon, New York, with whom he pursued the study of medicine a year and a half. He then entered the office of Dr. Delos White, of Cherry Valley, New York, with whom he studied during the summer months and attended lectures at Fairfield Medical College during the winter, where he graduated after attending three full courses of lectures, and was one of six appointed by the faculty of the college to read their theses at the graduating exercises, which took place in February, 1830. He began the practice of medicine at Bethlehem in partnership with Dr. Israel Day. He remained with Dr. Day one year, when, in consequence of the death of his mother, he returned to Sharon, New York, and practiced his profession there a year, at the expiration of which he removed to Knowersville, Albany County, where he began practice, May 24, 1833, and where he has remained since, enjoying a large and remunerative practice and possessing the confidence and esteem of the public in an eminent degree. He is still actively engaged in the practice of his profession, and even at his advanced age keeps abreast of the times, and is thoroughly informed upon the latest subjects of medical interest.

W G. Davis.

WILLARD G. DAVIS, M. D.

WILLARD G. DAVIS was born in the town of Ware, Hampshire County, Mass. His parents were Benjamin and Theodosia (Barns) Davis, and were of the Puritan stock as far as their genealogy can be traced. The Doctor enjoyed the advantages of the district and select schools of Ware, and of the Academy at Sherburn Falls, until his mind had become disciplined and stored with useful knowledge, when, in the early part of 1837, he entered upon the study of medicine in Albany with Dr. Robert Bullock, and continued it with Drs. March and Armsby. He graduated at the Albany Medical College in February, 1841. On the second day of April following, he located in the vicinity of Dunnsville, Albany County, and began the practice of his profession, soon establishing an extensive ride, which he has sustained until the present time, during a period of forty-four years. March 3, 1846, he married Mary Ann, daughter of Alexander and Elizabeth (Aernam) Tygert, of the same neighborhood.

Dr. Davis is a man of positive opinions and great firmness of purpose, and thus has made his influence felt extensively. His clearness of perception, his general knowledge of business, and his acquaintance with human nature render his counsels valuable, and people naturally look to him as a safe adviser. He has ever been an efficient member of the church in his vicinity, and his influence and support have aided very much to establish it in its present state of prosperity. He has also been very liberal in his donations to objects of charity, and to institutions for Christian purposes, especially to Foreign Missionary Societies.

As a physician, Dr. Davis has always been considered a safe and successful practitioner, and by keeping himself abreast of the times as to the knowledge and application of new remedies he has become of late years more and more useful. His patients feel a full confidence in his ability, and his Christian sympathy is very soothing to the sick and a great solace to those who know that they must die. At all hours of the day or night his best services have been cheerfully and promptly rendered without partiality to the poor and rich alike, and while requiring just compensation from the one class, he has rendered as faithful and willing services to the other.

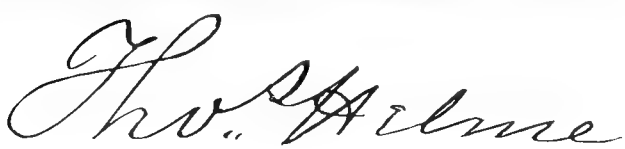
S. V. Frederick

STEPHEN V. FREDERICK.

STEPHEN V. FREDERICK was born in Guilderland, on a portion of the Frederick tract on which his father was born, March 17, 1831, a son of Christopher and Appalona (Hilton) Frederick; attended common schools in Guilderland, and later was for a time a student at the Fort Edward Institute. He taught school in Knox during the winter of 1856 and 1857. Later he taught in his home district in Guilderland most of the time until 1867. In the meantime he had been elected Supervisor in 1861, and re-elected five times, the last time in the spring of 1866. He was elected Treasurer of Albany County in the fall of 1866, and served in such capacity from the first of January, 1867, to the first of January, 1870. He was a candidate for re-election, but was defeated. Since that time he has devoted his time and attention to the management of his farm and the settlement of several estates which were intrusted to him by friends, whose confidence in him was such that they insisted upon his undertaking the responsibility.

January 14, 1863, Mr. Frederick married Miss Anna Reid, of New Scotland, who has borne him three daughters. He is of the fifth generation of the descendants of Michael H. Frederick, a German, who settled in Guilderland on a large tract of land about 1730. His mother's grandfather, Adam Hilton, settled in Guilderland in 1790, and built the old Hilton stone farm-house, which is still standing near Knowersville. His father, Christopher Frederick, who was born in 1793, saw service in the United States army during the war of 1812–14, and was a pensioner of the government until his death in 1880.

Mr. Frederick has in his possession an ancient volume, entitled, "The Young Man's Best Companion," which was once the property of his great-grandfather, Adam Hilton. It is a curious book, which was evidently designed as a compendium of instruction or encyclopedic text-book, and bears the finger-marks of several generations of readers.



THOMAS HELME, M. D.

Dr. HELME was born in the town of Guilderland, October 4, 1832. His grandparents were natives of Rhode Island, and his grandfather served during the Revolutionary war in a regiment from that colony. After American independence had been won he removed to Montgomery County, N. Y. Thomas Helme, Sr., Dr. Helme's father, settled in Guilderland, Albany County, in 1818, and engaged in farming. He was a prominent man in the community, and for about twenty years held the office of Justice of the Peace.

Dr. Helme received his early education in the common schools of Guilderland, and later was a student at Hartwick Seminary, a well-known educational institution of Otsego County, N. Y. He graduated from the Albany Medical School in 1854, and commenced practice in June of that year at McKownsville, Albany County. In 1861 he was elected School Commissioner of the Third district of Albany County. In 1863 he was commissioned Assistant Surgeon of the 148th Regiment, New York State Volunteers. He participated in all the battles of the Army of the James, from Bermuda Hundred to the taking of Fort Harrison, and was wounded in the last-mentioned engagement, September 29, 1864. February 25, 1865, he was commissioned Surgeon of the Eighty-fifth Regiment, New York State Veteran Volunteers, and served as such until mustered out of the United States service at Elmira, N. Y., in July, 1865. In 1872 he was again elected one of the School Commissioners of Albany County.

October 4, 1854, Dr. Helme was married to Miss Elizabeth Knowles, of Guilderland, who has borne him eight children, seven of whom are living. Dr. Helme enjoys an enviable professional reputation, and takes high rank among the physicians of Albany County. He has held various offices in the Albany County Medical Society, and for the past four years has been a delegate representing the society at the annual sessions of the New York State Medical Society.

We take pleasure in making mention of the following citizens who, by their guaranteed support, have helped to insure the publication of this valuable work : Jesse Crounse, R. F. Barton, Fredk. Crounse, J. H. Heck, A. P. Ludden, Jacob A. Crounse, David F. Van Aken, H. P. Crounse, John Conrad Chism, Conrad H. Crounse, Jas. A. Hilton, Jacob S. Scrafford, Adam S. Westfall, De Witt C. Thomas, Jacob Hallenbeck, John P. Ogsbury, Peter J. Ogsbury, John Munders, John Stafford, Daniel Husen, John Quackenbush, Frank V. McKown, Willard De Freest, John Cramme, S. H. Lainhart, Abram A. Tygert, W. G. Davis, And. A. Scrafford, Wesley Schoolcraft, Henry C. Hilton, Aaron Fuller, Thomas Tygert, Mina Buzzee, Mrs. Louisa N. Kaley, Mrs. J. H. Gardner, Steven V. Frederick, Addison Van Anken, John H. Pangburn, James A. Crounse, Frederick Van Wie, George Clute, Henry Witherwax, And. M. La Grange, A. Coss, Jas. R. Main, J. Christian Hein, Chas. A. Hein, Henry E. Drumm, Thos. Holmes, Thomas Helme, Wm. McKown, J. H. Clute, R. F. Barton, W. P. Strevell.

FRANCIS V. MCKOWN is a farmer, established in 1852; his farm is known as the French Tavern Stand, kept as a hotel for over seventy years, and afterward the hotel, with all the out-buildings, torn down and built new for the accommodation of farming purposes.

REV. A. T. LUDDEN has been for over forty years the pastor of the Lutheran denomination, having served six different charges; he is now stationed at Knowersville, N. Y.

JOHN H. PANGBURN is engaged in the mercantile business at Knowersville, N. Y., where he has been established since April, 1883.

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF KNOX.

DESCRIPTIVE.

KNOX is the northwestern town in Albany County. It is bounded on the north by Schoharie County, on the east by Guilderland and New Scotland, on the south by Berne, and on the west by Schoharie County. It has an area of over 25,000 acres, and measures about six miles across, north and south and east and west. It is centrally distant about twenty miles from Albany.

The surface of the town consists of a high, undulating plateau region, marked by a few small hills. Its eastern part constitutes a portion of the Helderberg region, but the declivities are gradual, and give the surface a moderate inclination toward the northwest. The soil is chiefly gravel and clay, with hard pan underneath. Large boulders are numerous, and the geological outcroppings in various parts of the town present a very interesting study.

Knox, now almost stripped of its timber, was originally covered by a luxuriant growth of pine, birch, maple, oak, ash, basswood, hemlock and other varieties of wood common to the region of which it forms a part.

The principal streams of Knox are the Bozenkill, forming a part of its eastern boundary, and its branches, and Beaver Dam Creek, in the southern part.

About a mile and a quarter north of Knoxville are two caves, supposed to be of considerable extent, which are objects of much interest to many, and about which cluster several picturesque, but scarcely probable, legends, which have been handed down to the present generation of residents, through their ancestors, from the early settlers. Another thing that is often remarked by people who have driven over the road from Knowersville to Knoxville, is the long stretch of road, some distance from the latter place on the high plateau extending through that part of the town, presenting the appearance of having been paved by nature at a prehistoric time and left for the use of man. The rocks over which this road has its way are flat and quite smooth, and a small amount of cutting here and there would render it one of the evenest. Indeed, it is much preferable, in its natural state, to the average cobble-stone pavements of our cities.

The Albany and Susquehanna Railroad traverses the northeastern corner of the town, with a way-station known as Knox. There are within the boundaries of the town about eighty-five miles of public roads, most of which are kept in excellent condition the year round, a circumstance which, more than any other one thing, evidences the thrift of its citizens.

Thompson's Lake is a small body of water in the southeast part of Knox which extends into the adjoining town of Berne.

EARLY SETTLEMENT AND PROMINENT CITIZENS.

The first settlers upon the territory now designated as Knox were Germans, who located there some time before the Revolutionary war. Some of them espoused the English cause, and after the defeat of Burgoyne found temporary refuge in Canada. Captain Jacob Van Aernden was an active leader of the Whigs of this section during the struggle for independence.

In 1789 Samuel Abbott and Andrew Brown, from Connecticut, settled in this locality, and not long afterward twenty or thirty other families came from the same State. From this period on, the most prominent families in the town were the Browns, Todds, Williamses, Denisons, Crarys, Chesebroughs, Gallups, Frinks, Tabers, Coateses, Gages, Weitzels, Pinckneys, Williamsons, Basslers, Saddlemires, Haverleys, Timmers, Engles, Schoonmakers, Swarts, Sands, Clickmans, Keenholtses and Batchers.

Some of these names are now extinct in the town; but many of them have had representatives in successive generations to the present time. Among the prominent citizens of the town during the period from its organization to 1850 were Malachi Whipple, Dr. Erastus Williams, Egbert Schoonmaker, Frederick Bassler, Potter Gage, Alexander Crounse, Charles Chesebro, David Van Aukin, Perez Frink, Henry Denison, P. Witter, Isaac Barber, Daniel Chesebro, John Gallup, Wright Skinner, Dow Van Derker, Henry Williams, Cyrus Chapman, Henry Dane, Daniel Gallup, Joseph Gallup, Samuel Russel, Gurden Gallup, the Seaburys and Charles Clute, some of whom are still living, and still active in all public affairs. The following named men were the best known and most influential residents of the town about 1850, and for a much later period, and some of them rank among the leading men of Knox at this time: Henry Barckley, Elisha White, John C. Cannady, Joel and Gilbert Gage, Jacob Auchampaugh, Bemsby Williamson, John Finch, John Allen, Jr., Peter Schoonmaker, Alexander Crounse, John G. Crary, Charles G. Frink, Denison Crary, Alexander Crounse, Jacob P. Hane, John Possor, Conrad Batcher, Gurden Gallup, Anson Tols, John H. Hand, Samuel O. Schoonmaker, Lyman Witter, Frederick Orelup, John H. Sand, Israel Walker, Sylvester Allen, Elias K. Williams, Jacob Kip, Jacob Bronk, Edward Settle, Abram H. Onderdonk, Azer Gallup, Joseph A. Haswell, Henry F. Orelup, Adam Snyder, Cornelius Woolford, David Van Auken, James Armstrong, Henry Tarpanny, John T. Beebe, Frederick Leh, Isaac N. Crary, John G. Gallup, George W. Stephens, William Williamson, Eldridge Chesebro, Amos Crary, Ebenezer Gallup, Stephen Hungerford, Robert Hurst, S. Flansburgh, Thomas Stafford, John V. Schoonmaker, Henry W. Williams, Orange Beeman, John Bassler, Frederick Clyckman, Matthias Brackley, Jehial White, Conrad Batcher, John F. Sternburgh, John Posson, Jacob Crounse, Evert M. Brackley, Hiram Thousand, James Finch, Peter Swan, 2d, Archibald Scott, David W. Sturges, Rodney Wilder, Philip Gifford, Benjamin Lee, Henry Dutcher, Jacob Truax and William Davenport.

The civil list, elsewhere presented, and the notices of the various institutions and interests of the town, contain the names of those who have been foremost among the citizens of Knox since the date mentioned.

In the troublous times of the Revolution and of the anti-rent struggles, which are referred to at length in the general history of Albany County, some of the pioneers of Knox and their descendants bore a part.

CIVIL HISTORY.

The town of Knox was erected by an act entitled "An Act to Divide the Town of Bern, in the County of Albany," passed February 28, 1822. Its text is as follows:

"I.—*Be it enacted by the People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly*, That, from and after the first day of March next, all that part of the town of Bern, in the county of Albany, lying south of a line commencing on the west line of the said town of Bern, three chains south of the public road laid from the manor line to Schoharie Court House, and running north eighty-five degrees east, until it intersects the west line of the town of Bethlehem, thirty-eight chains on a course south, five degrees east from the corner of Bethlehem and Guilderland, be and remain a separate town, by the name of Bern; and all the remaining part of Bern lying north of the aforesaid line be erected into a new town by the name of Knox; and that the next town meeting in the town of Bern shall be holden at the place where it now stands adjourned, and the next town meeting in the town of Knox be holden on the first Tuesday of March next, at the Presbyterian Meeting House, near Sarah Todd's dwelling house, in said town.

"II.—*And be it further enacted*, That, as soon as may be after the first Tuesday in April next, the supervisors and overseers of the poor in the towns of Bern and Knox aforesaid shall, by notice given for that by the supervisors thereof, meet together

and apportion the poor maintained by the said towns of Bern and Knox, and the poor money belonging to the same, agreeable to the last tax list; and that each of the said towns shall forever thereafter separately support their own poor."

Much historic material, of great local interest and importance, passed away with the destruction by fire of the records of Knox, covering the period from its organization to the year 1850. At the expense of considerable time and trouble, the following list of the supervisors of the town, during the period mentioned, has been obtained:

1822–24, Malachi Whipple; 1825, Erastus Williams; 1826–31, Egbert Schoonmaker; 1832–37, Frederick Bassler, Jr.; 1838–39, Egbert Schoonmaker; 1840–42, Potter Gage; 1842–43, Alexander Crounse; 1844–45, Charles Cheesbro; 1846–47, David Van Auken; 1848–49, Perez Frink, Jr.

As is usually the case in agricultural towns, the office of the town clerk of Knox has been at the residence of each successive incumbent. The same misfortune rendered the town clerk homeless and deprived the town of the records of its municipal transactions. From the record made after that event it appears that, at the annual town meeting of 1850, Michael Lee, Daniel Gallup, Abraham Batcher and Stephen Merselis, Jr., were present in their capacity as justices of the peace, and Ephraim N. Bogardus acted as clerk. The meeting was held on the 9th day of April, at the house of Henry Barckley, and the following officers were duly elected:

Lyman Witter, Supervisor; John G. Crary, Town Clerk; Samuel O. Schoonmaker, Justice of the Peace; John H. Hand, Superintendent of Schools; Anson Tols, Collector; Gurdon Gallup and Conrad Batcher, Overseers of the Poor; John Posson, Assessor; Jacob P. Hane, Commissioner of Highways; Peter Schoonmaker, Alexander Crounse and John Allen, Jr., Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; John Finch, Bemsby Williamson and Jacob Auchempaugh, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Gilbert Gage, Joel Gage, John C. Cannady and Elisha White, Constables.

At this meeting Henry Barckley's house was designated as "The Town House," or place of holding township meetings, for the ensuing year. The town was divided into fifty-six road districts, and the following named persons were chosen overseers of highways:

John Posson, Jacob Crounse, Hiram Thousand, Evert M. Barckley, David W. Sturges, Archibald Scott, Peter Swan, 2d, James Finch, Rodney Wilder, Philip Gifford, Jacob Truax, Henry Dutcher, William Davenport, Benjamin Lee, Matthias Barckley, Jehiel White, John F. Sternburgh, Conrad Batcher, John Bassler, Frederick Clyckman, John Oliver, Orange Beeman, Henry W. Williams, Thomas Stafford, John V. Schoonmaker, Robert Hurst, S. Flansburgh, Stephen Hungerford, Ebenezer Gallup, Alexander Crounse, Amos Crary, William Williamson, Eldridge Cheesbro, George W. Stephens, John G. Gallup, Isaac N. Crary, Frederick Leh, John T. Beebe, James Armstrong, Henry Tarpenny, David Van Auken, Cornelius Woolford, Adam Snyder, Henry F. Orelup, Joseph A. Haswell, Azor Gallup, Abraham H. Onderdonk, Edward Settle, Jacob Bronk, Jacob Kipp, Elias R. Williams, Silvester Allen, Israel Walker, John H. Sand and Frederick Orelup.

The following entries appear in the town records for the year 1851:

"In conformity with the statute, the following by-laws are considered necessary by the majority of the electors present:

"*Article 1st.*—It is ordained by the electors present of the town of Knox, at their annual town meeting, convened and held at the house of Henry Barckley, in and for the town of Knox, and county of Albany, on the 8th day of April, 1851, that the following rules and regulations be adopted as by-laws and ordinances for the said town of Knox.

"*Article 2d.*—And it is further ordered that the town of Knox shall be divided into three assessment districts, and that each district shall be entitled to one assessor. And that all that part of the town of Knox lying north of the center of the township road, running east and west through the said town, compose the North District. And all that part of said town of Knox lying east of the center of the road leading from the place formerly owned by Evert Barckley to the place formerly owned by Cyrus Chapman and south of the township road, compose one district, and the same shall be known as the Eastern District. And all the remaining part of the said town of Knox lying west of the Eastern District and south of the North District shall compose one district, and the same shall be known as the Southern District.

"*Article 3d.*—And be it enacted that the overseers of the poor shall at every annual town meeting hereafter report to the town meeting the number of poor to be maintained, and the cost of their maintenance, the receipts and expenditures of all moneys in their hands, and what sum in their opinion will be necessary to maintain the poor for the ensuing year, that the same may be raised and collected.

"*Article 4th.*—And it is further ordained that all partition fences for lands, gardens, orchards or meadows shall be five feet high and otherwise good and sufficient.

"*Article 5th.*—And it is ordained that the fence viewers shall be allowed seventy-five cents for each day's service in the execution of their office.

"*Article 6th.*—And it is further ordained that no horses shall go at large; also, that no cattle, sheep or swine shall go at large, and that the penalty on them shall be, when found going at large and secured in any pen or yard or any premises, the owner or owners thereof shall pay to the person or persons so taking them up the following sums: For every stallion two years old or older, four dollars; for every cow, ox, steer, bull or calf, fifty cents; for every sheep, two cents per head, for every swine, six cents per head, and for every boar two months old or older, two dollars.

"*Article 7th.*—All moneys collected for the violation of the by-laws shall go, the one-half to the person or persons taking up the said cattle, horses, sheep or swine, the other half to the poor of the town aforesaid.

"*Article 8th.*—And it is further ordained that every person's yard shall be his own pound, and that he shall give the owner notice within twenty-four hours of all trespasses, and that stock shall be impounded no longer than forty-eight hours."

These ordinances were subsequently modified or amplified as occasion required. They are given as being of interest as the first by-laws of Knox, the records of which are extant.

The civil list of the town of Knox from 1851 to 1854, inclusive, is given below, except for the years 1868–72, inclusive, missing from the records:

1851.—Lyman Witter, Supervisor; John G. Crary, Town Clerk; Amos Crary, Justice of the Peace; Jacob Truax, Collector; Charles Saddlemire and Conrad Batcher, Overseers of the Poor; John Posson and John T. Beebe, Assessors; George Freighley, Commissioner of Highways; Johan Jost Sand, James M. Cheesbro and Philip Chrysler, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Potter Gage, Jacob Auchenpo and William Williamson, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Charles Gage, Joel Gage, Johan Jost P. Deitz and John Quay, Constables.

1852.—Stephen Mercelis, Jr., Supervisor; John R. Williams, Justice of the Peace; John H. Sand, Superintendent of Schools; Denison Crary, Town Clerk; John Jost P. Deitz, Collector; Joseph A. Haswell, Assessor; John Bassler, Commissioner of Highways; Charles Saddlemire and Conrad Batcher, Overseers of the Poor; James M. Cheesbro, John Allen, Jr., and Ezra Champion, Jr., Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; William Gage, Thomas P. Whipple and James Finch, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Charles Gage, John Quay, William Snyder and Andrew Batcher, Constables.

1853.—Stephen Merselis, Jr., Supervisor; Michael Lee, Justice of the Peace; Denison Crary, Town Clerk; Frederick Bassler, Assessor; Lewis Quay, Collector; Alexander Crounse, Commissioner of Highways; David Van Auken, Overseer of the Poor; James M. Cheesbro, John Allen, Jr., and Ezra Champion, Jr., Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Peter Swan, Oliver B. Wood and John A. Landrum, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Charles Gage, John Quay, Andrew Batcher and Henry Fullington, Constables.

1854.—Henry Barckley, Supervisor; John P. Canady, Justice of the Peace; Hiram Crounse, Superintendent of Schools; Denison Crary, Town Clerk; Matthias F. Warner, Assessor; Lewis Quay, Collector; Ira Van Auken, Abram Batcher and Potter Gage, Commissioners of Highways; Edward A. Chase and David Swart, Overseers of the Poor; James M. Cheesbro, John Allen, Jr., and Elias K. Williams, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Potter Gage, Manasseh Schoonmaker and James Finch, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Charles Gage, Henry Fullington, David Ecker, George Richter, Clark Stephens and Sylvester Allen, Constables.

1855.—Henry Barckley, Supervisor; Ephraim A. Bogardus, Justice of the Peace; Charles Gallup, Town Clerk; David Finch, Collector; Charles I. Frink, Commissioner of Highways; David Swart and William Williamson, Overseers of the Poor; Andrew J. Onderdonk and De Witt Schoonmaker, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; John Lake and Lewis Barlow, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Jacob Auchempaugh, Assessor; Charles Gage, George Pitcher, Alfred A. Whipple, John D. Haverly and Cornelius Hellicass, Constables.

1856.—John Keenholtz, Supervisor; Samuel Werner and Daniel C. Seabury, Justices of the Peace; Charles Gallup, Town Clerk; Hiram Crounse, Superintendent of Schools; David Finch, Collector; Peter Schoonmaker and Jacob J. Truax, Assessors; William Lear, Commissioner of Highways; William W. Williams and Charles Saddlemire, Overseers of the Poor; Philip D. Haverly, David Swart and John Allen, Jr., Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Robert Schoonmaker, Alanson Lake and James Finch, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Charles Gage, Lewis Vroman, Ira Bunza, George Pitcher and John D. Haverly, Constables.

1857.—John Keenholtz, Supervisor; Morgan Leake, Justice of the Peace; James Gallup, Town Clerk; Elisha White, Collector; John S. Beebe, Assessor; William Williamson, Commissioner of Highways; Charles Saddlemire and Ira Stevens, Overseers of the Poor; George Hane, William Sand and David H. Spencer, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Robert Schoonmaker, George Terpening and John Saddlemire, 4th, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Charles Gage, Ira Bunza, Moses Gallup and Jacob F. Clickman, Constables.

1858.—Samuel Gallup, Supervisor; David C. Seabury, Justice of the Peace; Francis Wood, Town Clerk; Peter Allen, Collector; Jacob W. Bronk, Commissioner of Highways; Jacob J. Truax, Assessor; James Finch and Ira Stephens, Overseers of the Poor; Elon Gallup, Adam Reamer and George Hane, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; John Saddlemire, Alexander Howard and John S. Wilber, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Charles Gage, William Havens, Moses Gallup and Archibald Hanney, Constables.

1859.—Samuel Gallup, Supervisor; Henry Warrick, Justice of the Peace; James A. Houck, Town

Clerk; Jacob Kneiskem, Assessor; Avery Crary, Collector; John Pitcher, Overseer of the Poor; John Armstrong, Jr., and Denison Crary, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Joseph A. Haswell and Henry W. Williams, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Andrew Batcher, William Kneiskem, Edward A. Chace and John Quay, Constables.

1860.—Samuel Warner, Supervisor; Ephraim N. Bogardus, Justice of the Peace; James A. Houck, Town Clerk; Ira Van Auken, Commissioner of Highways; Andrew Batcher and Lewis Quay, Assessors; Amos Saddlemire, Collector; John Pitcher, Overseer of the Poor; John Armstrong, Jr., Denison Crary and William H. Ketchum, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Ezra Lee, Joseph A. Haswell and John Ketchum, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Charles Gage, Ira Bunzey, John Stephens and Elisha White, Constables.

1861.—Samuel Warner, Supervisor; George Terpenning, Justice of the Peace; James A. Houck, Town Clerk; Ira Van Auken, Commissioner of Highways; Hiram Gage, Assessor; Amos Saddlemire, Collector; John Pitcher, Overseer of the Poor; Daniel J. Crary, John Armstrong and Paul Schoonmaker, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Joseph A. Haswell, Jeremiah Roach and Benjamin Finch, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Charles Gage, Ira Bunzey, Thomas P. Whipple and Jeremiah Roach, Constables.

1862.—Samuel Warner, Supervisor; John Allen, Jr., Justice of the Peace; Ezra Lee, Town Clerk; Ira Van Auken, Commissioner of Highways; John Pitcher, Overseer of the Poor; John Posson, Assessor; George J. Williamson, Collector; Silas Pitcher, Daniel J. Crary and Andrew Gallup, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Jeremiah Roach, Benjamin C. Auchampaugh and Benjamin Finch, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Thomas P. Whipple, Benjamin C. Auchampaugh, Charles Gage and Ira Bunzey, Constables.

1863.—John Keenholtz, Supervisor; Michael F. Hilton, Justice of the Peace; Ezra Lee, Town Clerk; Ezra Brodt, Collector; Ira Van Auken, Commissioner of Highways; John Pitcher, Overseer of the Poor; Peter Schoonmaker and Lyman P. Witter, Assessors; Daniel J. Crary and William H. Van Benscoten, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; David Spencer and Edward Van Auken, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Charles Gage, Peter Z. Allen, Benjamin C. Auchampaugh and Andrew Batcher, Constables.

1864.—Ira Van Auken, Supervisor; E. N. Bogardus, Samuel Warner and Henry Warrich, Justices of the Peace; Edward M. Van Auken, Town Clerk; Denison Crary, Commissioner of Highways; Samuel B. Davenport, Assessor; Joseph W. Crary, Collector; John Pitcher, Overseer of the Poor; William H. Van Benscoten, Daniel J. Crary and Ira Fairlee, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Miner E. Posson, Henry H. Wilbur and B. Finch, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Charles Gage, Peter Z. Allen, Andrew Batcher and Oliver B. Fairlee, Constables.

1865.—Ira Van Auken, Supervisor; John R. Williams and Samuel Warner, Justices of the Peace; Edward M. Van Auken, Town Clerk; Coleman Armstrong, Collector; Denison Crary, Commissioner of Highways; Peter Schoonmaker, Assessor; Peter Z. Allen, Overseer of the Poor; Peter S. Snyder, Hiram Bunzey and Peter Hungerford, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Henry A. Wilbur, Miner E. Posson and John Williamson, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Charles Gage, Ira Bunzey, David Houghton and Oliver B. Fairlee, Constables.

1866.—Peter Schoonmaker, Supervisor; Jacob Van Benscoten, Town Clerk; Morgan Leik and George A. Batcher, Justices of the Peace; Lyman Witter, Assessor; Denison Crary, Commissioner of Highways; John Pitcher and Peter Z. Allen, Overseers of the Poor; Levi Pier, Collector; Hiram Bunzey and Peter S. Snyder, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Robert Haswell and Oliver Fairlee, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Ira Bunzey, Charles Gage, Miner Quay and Theodore Batcher, Constables.

1867.—Peter Schoonmaker, Supervisor; Amos Saddlemire, Town Clerk; John R. Williams, Justice of the Peace; Denison Crary, Commissioner of Highways; David Warrick, Collector; Samuel Davenport and Christopher H. Warner, Assessors; Peter Z. Allen and John Pitcher, Overseers of the Poor; Hiram Bunzey, Peter S. Snyder and Elam Williams, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Charles Seabury, David W. Sturges and Alexander Ludrum, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Charles Gage, Oliver B. Fairlee, Theodore Batcher and John M. Quay, Constables.

Peter Schoonmaker was re-elected Supervisor each successive term until 1873.

1873.—Hiram Gage, Supervisor; David H. Crowe, Justice of the Peace; Edwin M. Cheesbro, Town Clerk; Jacob A. Warren, Collector; James Armstrong, Assessor; Ira Van Auken, Commissioner of Highways; John Armstrong and Sylvester Allan, Overseers of the Poor; E. G. A. Crounse, Henry C. Williams and David Stiner, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Ezra Lee, George J. Williamson and John Van Natta, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; John J. Hungerford, Allen Marselis, James I. Naskolds, George Pitcher and Ezra Stephens, Constables.

1874.—Hiram Gage, Supervisor; C. Wesley Schoonmaker, Justice of the Peace; Edwin M. Cheesbro, Town Clerk; William Ostrander, Collector; Samuel B. Davenport, Assessor; Ira Van Auken, Commissioner of Highways; William Baxter and John Armstrong, Overseers of the Poor; E. G. A. Crounse, H. C. Williams and David M. Stiner, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Hiram Van Benscoten, Theodore Ostrander and Benjamin C. Auchampaugh, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; James I. Nasholds, Charles Gage, George Pitcher and Jacob J. Truax, Constables.

1875.—James M. Cheesbro, Supervisor; Foster F. Warrick, Justice of the Peace; Oliver B. Fairlee, Town Clerk; William J. Haverley, Collector; John Keenholtz, Assessor; Ira Van Auken, Commissioner; John Armstrong and Sylvester Allen, Overseers of the Poor; Denison Crary, William

Sand and Rufus Gaige, Commissioners of Excise; Henry C. Williams, David Stiner and Austin Crary, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Theodore Ostrander, Ira S. Van Auken and Austin Gifford, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Ezra Stevens, John Pitcher, Abraham Ostrander and William J. Pier, Constables; James H. Nasholds, Game Constable.

1876.—James M. Cheesbro, Supervisor; Ezra Champion, Justice of the Peace; Oliver B. Fairlee, Town Clerk; Rufus Swan, Collector; Amos Saddlemire, Assessor; Ira Van Auken, Commissioner of Highways; E. Armstrong and Jacob H. Saddlemire, Overseers of the Poor; Sanford Quay, William G. McDonald and Nelson Quay, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Ira S. Van Auken, Henry A. Wilbur and John Van Natta, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Frank Adams, Ezra Stevens, Charles H. Ball, Abram Ostrander and Charles Gage, Constables.

1877.—James M. Cheesbro, Supervisor; Charles W. Schoonmaker, Elam Williams and C. B. Wood, Justices of the Peace; Ambrose L. Saddlemire, Town Clerk; Henry Way, Collector; Almond Marselis, Assessor; Ralph Woolford, Commissioner of Highways; Samuel H. Saddlemire and William Ostrander, Overseers of the Poor; Hiram Van Benscoten and Denison Crary, Excise Commissioners; Sanford Quay, Isaac Reamer and William J. McDonald, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; George J. Williamson, Ira S. Van Auken and Austin Gifford, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Charles H. Ball, Frank Adams, Ezra Stephens, John Osterhant, William J. Smith and Louis Winne, Constables.

1878.—William J. Haverley, Supervisor; Norman O. Bell, Justice of the Peace; Ambrose L. Saddlemire, Town Clerk; Jacob A. Werner, Assessor; Wilbur O. Van Auken, Collector; Eliakim Armstrong and John Posson, Overseers of the Poor; Ralph Wolford, Commissioner of Highways; Theodore Armstrong, Excise Commissioner; William J. McDonald, Hiram Bunzey and N. Cheesbro, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Perry C. Ostrander, Charles E. Sturges and Lewis C. Lendrum, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; John M. Quay, Frank Adams, John L. Schoonmaker, William J. Smith and Ezra Stevens, Constables; Louis Winne, Game Constable.

1879.—I. W. Cheesbro, Supervisor; Elam Williams, Justice of the Peace; Wilbur O. Van Auken, Town Clerk; Charles F. Seabury, Assessor; H. J. Truax, Collector; John Posson and Eliakim Armstrong, Overseers of the Poor; Ralph Wolford, Commissioner of Highways; Sanford Quay and Miner Chrisler, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Perry C. Ostrander and Robert D. Roach, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Ezra Stevens, John M. Quay, Frank Adams and William J. Smith, Constables.

1880.—I. W. Cheesbro, Supervisor; Ezra Champion, Justice of the Peace; Oliver B. Fairlee, Town Clerk; Almond Marcelis and Jacob H. Werner, Assessors; Theodore Batcher, Collector; Jacob J. Truax and William Baxter, Overseers of the Poor; Ralph Wolford, Commissioner of Highways; Ellery Deitz and Clark Hunting, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Ira S. Van Auken and Michael Harley, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Gilbert Gage, Jacob Stevens, John M. Quay, Ezra Stevens and William J. Smith, Constables.

1881.—I. W. Cheesbro, Supervisor; O. B. Fairlee, Town Clerk; Charles W. Schoonmaker and F. F. Warrick, Justices of the Peace; W. P. Witter, Assessor; Hiram Bonzey, Collector; Sylvester Allen and E. Armstrong, Overseers of the Poor; Ralph Wolford, Commissioner of Highways; William McDonald, John G. Gallup and L. Haverley, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Theodore Ostrander, Michael F. Halsey and C. Chapman, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Gilbert Gage, Frank Adams, A. Witter and Jacob E. Stevens, Constables; Elisha H. Davenport, Excise Commissioner.

1882.—William J. Haverley, Supervisor; Adam C. Hunting, Town Clerk; J. D. Wood, Justice of the Peace; Ralph Wolford, Commissioner of Highways; Sylvester Allen and E. Armstrong, Overseers of the Poor; Ira S. Van Auken, Collector; Charles F. Seabury, Assessor; William McDonald, Allen Kreiskem and L. Haverley, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Arthur Witter, Theodore Ostrander and John Van Natta, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Gilbert Gage, Frank Adams, James I. Nasholts and William J. Pier, Constables; Edward Stafford, Game Constable; Manasseh Schoonmaker, Excise Commissioner.

1883.—Charles G. Frink, Supervisor; Elam Williams, Justice of the Peace; Adam C. Hunting, Town Clerk; Newton Ketchum, Commissioner of Highways; Sylvester Allen and Theodore Ostrander, Overseers of the Poor; A. Kreiskem, Alonzo Warner and L. Haverley, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Amos Fairlee, William P. Witter and Miles Posson, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; James I. Nasholts, William J. Smith, Gilbert Gage, Ezra Stephens and Frank Adams, Constables; Denison Crary, Excise Commissioner.

1884.—Charles G. Frink, Supervisor; Wilbur O. Van Auken, Town Clerk; Lyman P. Witter, Assessor; Madison Finch, Collector; William Baxter and Hebron J. Truax, Overseers of the Poor; John J. Gallup, Adam C. Hunting and Edward J. Youngs, Inspectors of Election, District No. 1; Robert Schoonmaker, Eliakim Armstrong and Miles Posson, Inspectors of Election, District No. 2; Gilbert Gage, James I. Nasholts, William J Smith, William J. Pier and Frank Adams, Constables; Edward Stafford, Game Constable; William J. Crary, Excise Commissioner.

KNOX IN THE REBELLION.

Knox bore a highly creditable part during the late war for the Union. Her sons responded patriotically to the call to arms, and the town, in its municipal capacity, generously encouraged enlistments. The following extract from the records will be found of great interest in this connection:

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING.

We, the undersigned, the Justices of the Peace and Town Clerk of the Town of Knox, in the County of Albany, do certify that we convened as a board of town officers, on the 26th day of July, 1862, at a special town meeting held at the Town House of said town, agreeable to a notice posted according to law in such cases made and provided, and that such notice stated the intents and purposes for which said town meeting was called. The following resolution, having received the unanimous vote of the electors there present, was declared duly adopted:

That we, the inhabitants and electors, tax payers of the Town of Knox, in the County of Albany, this day convened, do hereby authorize the Supervisor of the aforesaid Town of Knox, Samuel Warner, to borrow the sum of eighteen hundred (1,800) dollars, on the credit of the Town of Knox, and that the said sum so borrowed be levied on the taxpaying inhabitants of the said Town of Knox at the next annual meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Albany, and that the same be levied and collected together with the State, county and town taxes, and that the aforesaid sum so borrowed shall be paid as bounty money, to be apportioned in sums of one hundred dollars each to the eighteen persons, the due apportionment for the Town of Knox, who shall enlist as a soldier in the service of his country during the present war. Given under our hands at Knox this 26th day of July, 1862.

EPHRAIM N. BOGARDUS,
GEORGE TERPENNING,
HENRY WARRICK,
EZRA LEE,
Justices of the Peace.

Recorded per me this 8th day of September, 1862. EZRA LEE,
Town Clerk.

Doubtless further extracts from the records of Knox during this important period of its history would be found both interesting and valuable; but, unfortunately, several leaves are missing, following those from which quotation has been made and covering the remaining years of the war, and there is no further recorded evidence of the official acts of the town authorities during our memorable internecine struggle. But the sons of Knox were patriotic and nobly did their part, on the field of strife as well as elsewhere, toward the preservation of the Union. Following will be found a roster of those who enlisted in the United States Army from the Town of Knox, from 1861 to 1865, inclusive. It is copied from official sources, and is as complete and exact as it can be made. It contains honorable mention of many representatives of the oldest and and most influential families of the town.

Henry Allen, private, Seventh Artillery, Company K; enlisted August 1, 1862; mustered August 14, 1862; after serving nearly two years, was mortally wounded, and his remains lie buried near Petersburg, Va.

Michael Henry Barckley, first lieutenant, Seventh Artillery, Company K; enlisted July 2, 1862; mustered August 14, 1862; after serving nearly two years, was wounded in the right leg so that amputation was necessary; he died from the operation, and his remains are buried in Knox Cemetery.

Charles Baxter, sergeant, Seventh Artillery, Company K; enlisted July 26, 1862; mustered August 14, 1862; after serving nearly two years, was taken prisoner at Ream's Station, Virginia, sent to Petersburg, thence to Libby Prison, thence to Belle Isle Prison, thence to the prison at Salisbury, North Carolina; later was in service again.

Kleber Burlingame, corporal, Sixty-first Regiment, Company I; enlisted September 10, 1862; mustered September 9, 1862.

Joseph Merchant Bundy, private, SeventhArtillery, Company K; enlisted August 12, 1862; mustered August 14, 1862; after serving nearly three years, it is thought he died in one of the Confederate prisons.

Albert Bell, private, Tenth Regiment, Company G; enlisted October 1, 1862; mustered October 13, 1862; served the full term of his enlistment and was honorably discharged.

Henry Augustus Crary, Sergeant, 177th Regiment, Company G; enlisted in September, 1862; mustered October 13, 1862; served full term and was honorably discharged.

John Henry Carroll, private, Seventh Artillery, Company A; enlisted August 1, 1862; mustered August 14, 1862; shot through the head and killed at Petersburg, Va, and buried on the field.

Miram Auchampaugh, private, Twentieth Militia, Company K; enlisted August 25, 1864; mustered in September, 1864; discharged at close of war.

Adam Campbell, private, Seventh Artillery, Company K; enlisted August 12, 1862; mustered August 14, 1862; taken prisoner at Ream's Station, Va.

Joseph B. Davis, corporal, Sixty-first Regiment, Company D; enlisted in September, 1862; mustered September 19, 1862; discharged by reason of disability in 1863; died and was buried near Fairfax Court House, Va.

Miner Ecker, private, Sixty-first Regiment, Company I; enlisted in August, 1862; mustered Sep-

tember 19, 1862; discharged by reason of disability and died in Knox, and is buried in Berne.

Jerome W. Ecker, private, 177th Regiment, Company G; enlisted in October, 1862; mustered in November, 1862; honorably discharged at expiration of his term of service.

John Jay Gallup, private, 177th Regiment, Company A; enlisted, and mustered October 13, 1862; served nearly eleven months; was at the siege of Port Hudson; was honorably discharged.

Henry James Gallup, fife major, 177th Regiment, Company A; enlisted October 13, 1862; mustered same date; was honorably discharged at expiration of term of service.

Adam Matthias Hanes, private, Ninety-first Regiment, Company D; enlisted in August, 1861; mustered in November, 1861; after being in service nearly two years, he was mortally wounded at Port Hudson and died fourteen days afterward, and was buried at New Orleans.

Amos Gideon Hanes, private, Ninety-first Regiment, Company D; enlisted in August, 1861; mustered in November, 1861; served nearly three years; died of chronic diarrhœa, and was buried in Knox Cemetery.

Arthur Haswell, private, 177th Regiment, Company B; enlisted October 22, 1862; mustered November 18, 1862; after serving six months, died at Bonnet Carre, La.; buried in Rural Cemetery, Albany.

Elias Hanes, private, seventh Artillery, Company K; enlisted July 26, 1862; mustered August 14, 1862; was in service over two years, and died of wounds in the leg received at Cold Harbor; buried in Knox Cemetery.

Charles H. Hochstrasser, private, Tenth Regiment, Company G; enlisted October 1, 1862, and mustered same date; served nearly one year and was honorably discharged.

Alonzo Luddon, Jr., corporal, 187th Regiment, Company I; enlisted October 1, 1862; mustered November, 1862; was one of the "1,000 stormers" at Port Hudson and the first of his company to advance; died of disease contracted in service and is buried at Gallupville, Schoharie County.

Andrew W. Kellogg, private, Eleventh Battery; enlisted November 11, 1861; mustered in December, 1861. Died of small-pox at the Marine Hospital, Baltimore, Md., June 1, 1862; buried in Baltimore.

Newton Ketcham, private, Ninth Artillery, Company A; enlisted September 6, 1864; mustered September 12, 1864; was in service ten months, participating in the fight at Cedar Creek and the battle of Petersburg, Va.

Harrison Kniskem, sergeant, Sixty-first Regiment, Company I; enlisted August 30, 1862; mustered September 17, 1862; promoted sergeant September 19, 1862; served six months and was discharged on account of disability.

John Miner Quay, corporal, Seventh Artillery, company K; enlisted July 28, 1862; mustered August 18, 1862; promoted from private at battle of Spottsylvania Court House, Va.

Paul Quay, sergeant, Seventh Artillery, Company K; enlisted July 20, 1862; mustered August 18, 1862; promoted from corporal; taken prisoner before Petersburg, June 16, 1864, and sent to Belle Isle; is supposed to have died of starvation at Andersonville.

Andrew Grass, private, Seventh Artillery; enlisted and mustered August 25, 1864; served till discharged.

George Riter, private, Sixty-first Regiment, Company I; enlisted August 30, 1862; mustered September 19, 1862; killed May 10, 1864, at Po River, Va.

Lewis Washington Quay, private, Seventh Artillery, Company K; enlisted August 4, 1862; mustered August 14, 1862; served nearly a year and died at Washington, D. C., of typhus fever.

Isaac Jonathan Roach, sergeant, Forty-fourth Regiment, Company F; enlisted and mustered in 1861; served nearly three months, and died December 29, 1861, at Camp Butterfield, Va., of typhus fever; is buried in Knox.

Charles Edmond Sturges, corporal, Seventh Artillery, Company K; enlisted July 28, 1862; mustered August 14, 1862; served three years and was honorably discharged.

Denison Saddlemire, private, Eleventh Battery; enlisted September 5, and was mustered September 8, 1864; honorably discharged at expiration of term of service.

John Hurst, private, Seventh Artillery, Company K; enlisted August 9, and mustered August 14, 1862; died of typhus fever, at Baltimore, Md., March 16, 1864.

Charles Secor, private, Ninth Artillery, Company A; enlisted September 6, and mustered September 12, 1864; was in the fight at Cedar Creek, and was honorably discharged at the end of his term of service.

Simon John Secor, private, Ninth Artillery, Company A; enlisted September 6, and mustered September 12, 1864; after serving a little more

than a month, he was wounded in the right leg at Cedar Creek, rendering amputation necessary, and was discharged for disability.

Peter Secor, private, Sixty-first Regiment, Company I; enlisted in August, 1862; mustered September 19, 1862.

Andrew Secor, private.

Andrew Secor, Jr., private, Sixty-first Regiment, Company I; enlisted in August, 1862; mustered September 19, 1862.

Gabriel Henry Secor, corporal, Sixty-first Regiment, Company I; enlisted in August, 1862; mustered September 19, 1862; wounded at the battle of Gettysburg, Pa., and transferred to the invalid corps.

John Stalker, sergeant, Sixty-first Regiment, Company I; enlisted August 21, 1862; mustered September 19, 1862; died of disease in hospital at Washington, D. C.

Henry W. Stalker, private, Sixty-first Regiment, Company J; enlisted in August, and mustered September 19, 1862; died at Washington, D. C., May 5, 1863, from wounds, and was buried at Washington.

Chauncey Groat Townsend, private, Sixty-first Regiment, Company I; enlisted in August, and mustered September 19, 1862.

David Stafford, private, 117th Regiment, Company H; enlisted in September, and mustered October 13, 1862; served full term of enlistment.

Gabriel Secor, corporal, Ninety-first Regiment, Company D; enlisted for three years; was in battle at Fort McHenry, and died at Federal Hill; buried in Berne.

Orville Merrihew, private, 113th Regiment, Company D; enlisted August 12, 1862; mustered in September, 1862; died in Millen Prison of starvation and derangement.

Jesse D. Wood, private, Ninety-first Regiment, Company D; enlisted and mustered October 26, 1862; died of sickness at Port Hudson, while in service; buried in Berne.

John Michael Stines, private, Eleventh Battery; enlisted October 18, 1861; mustered January 5, 1862; enlisted a second time.

George Albert Simons, private, Eleventh Regiment, Company G; enlisted October 1, 1862; mustered October 19, 1862; promoted to sergeant and afterward to a clerkship in the Quartermaster's department.

Henry Crary Williams, enlisted August 30, 1862, and mustered September 19, 1862, as first sergeant, Company H, Sixty-first Regiment; promoted to second lieutenant February 20, 1863, and to captain, January 12, 1864.

Jacob Van Benscoten, corporal, Seventh Artillery; enlisted August 5, and mustered August 14, 1862; after serving nearly two years, was wounded in the neck; was discharged June 16, 1865.

Addison Reinhart, private, 113th Regiment, Company K; enlisted August 1, and mustered August 18, 1863; was confined at Andersonville ten months, and at the expiration of his term of enlistment was honorably discharged.

Thomas Pinckney Whipple, private, 177th Regiment, Company G; enlisted October 27, 1863; mustered November 27, 1863; served nine months; honorably discharged.

William Havens, private, Seventh Artillery, Company K; enlisted in July, 1862; mustered August 24, 1862; died from wounds and was buried at Petersburg, Va.

William Darius Fairlee, Tenth Regiment.

James D. Covert, private, 156th Regiment.

Myron L. Ham, Tenth Regiment.

Spencer Lelie, Tenth Regiment.

John Quincy Adams Crounse, Eleventh or Havelock Battery; died in service.

Francis Courtney, Tenth Regiment.

Andrew Jackson Damon, private, Seventh Artillery, Company K.

Charles Price, 113th Regiment.

Uriah Hallenbeck, Tenth Regiment, Company G; died in service; buried at Cairo.

Samuel W. Kelly, Tenth Regiment.

George Robert O'Donald, Fourth Regiment.

George Todd, Tenth Regiment.

Levi Duel, 113th Regiment.

Madison Settle, Tenth Regiment, Company G; died in service; buried at Fort Pillow.

Wm. Hemon, private.

John Stafford.

Daniel F. Foley, Tenth Regiment.

Frank Shufelt, private, Eleventh Regiment; enlisted in 1862.

Edward Shufelt, private, Seventh Artillery.

Henry Crounse, Ninety-first Regiment.

Samuel H. Reely, Tenth Regiment.

Peter H. Stevens, private, 113th Regiment, Company G; enlisted in July, 1862; mustered August 14, 1862.

Daniel Henry Stiner, private, Tenth Regiment, Company G; enlisted October 1, 1862; mustered October 13, 1862.

George W. Stiner, private, Tenth Regiment.

EDUCATION.

The earliest schools in Knox were of the most primitive description. It is said that previous to the beginning of the present century two or more were taught in little log school-houses by transient pedagogues. One of these pioneer school-houses is reported to have stood where Knoxville now is, and another in the vicinity of the locality now known as Township. The number of these houses increased as the growing population demanded during the early portion of the century, and in time they one by one gave place to small frame buildings, some of which have been replaced by new and more comfortable and convenient ones within the last few years. Under the operation of the public school system of the State of New York, the schools of Knox have been greatly improved, and the standard of instruction has been considerbly raised.

The following statistics will show at a glance the status of the schools in each of the thirteen districts of the town for the last school year:

District No. 1.—Number teachers employed, 1; number children of the school age, 52; number of weeks school was kept, 35; number of children who attended school during the year, 42; average daily attendance, 15.952; 1 frame school-house; value of school-house and site, $300.

District No. 2.—Number teachers employed, 1; number children of the school age, 59; number of weeks school was kept, 32; number of children who attended school during the year, 41; average daily attendance, 22; 1 frame school-house; value of school-house and site, $100.

District No. 3.—Number teachers employed, 1; number children of the school age, 42; number weeks school was kept, 34; number children who attended school during the year, 31; average daily attendance, 13.3; 1 frame school-house; value of school-house and site, $500; number of volumes in library 50; value of library, $10.

District No. 4.—Number teachers employed, 1; number children of the school age, 30; number weeks school was kept, 28; number children who attended school during the year, 20; average daily attendance, 4.588; 1 frame school-house; value of school-house and site, $250; number volumes in library, 150; value of library, $50.

District No. 5.—Number teachers employed, 1; number children of the school age, 31; number weeks school was kept, 33; number children who attended school during the year, 27; average daily attendance, 8.5; 1 frame school-house; value of school-house and site, $500; number volumes in library, 25; value of library, $25.

District No. 6.—Number teachers employed, 1; number children of the school age, 67; number of weeks school was kept, 34; number children who attended school during the year, 54; average daily attendance, 25.7; 1 frame school-house; value of school-house and site, $200; number volumes in library, 100; value of library, $20.

District No. 7.—Number teachers employed, 1; number children of the school age, 23; number weeks school was kept, 31; number children who attended school during the year, 21; average daily attendance, 13; 1 frame school-house; value of school-house and site, $300; number volumes in library, 30; value of library, $5.

District No. 8.—Number teachers employed, 1; number children of the school age, 38; number children who attended school during the year, 37; average daily attendance, 16.934; 1 frame school-house; value of school-house and site, $300; number volumes in library, 25; value of library, $5; number weeks school was kept, 36.

District No. 9 is a joint district, most of which lies within the town of Wright, Schoharie County, only 2 children of the school age living in the portion lying in Knox and the school-house being located in Wright.

District No. 10.—Number teachers employed, 1; number children of the school age, 41; number weeks school was kept, 30; number children who attended school during the year, 41; average daily attendance, 14; 1 frame school-house; value of school-house and site, $200; number books in library, 60; value of library, $20.

District No. 11.—Number teachers employed, 1; number children of the school age, 47; number of weeks school was kept, 30; number children who attended school during the year, 37; average daily attendance, 13.492; 1 frame school-house; value of school-house and site, $500: number volumes in library, 75; value of library, $40.

District No. 12.—Number teachers employed, 1; number children of the school age, 22; number of weeks school was kept, 28; number of children who attended school during the year, 10; average daily attendance, 4; 1 frame school-house; value of school-house and site, $400; number volumes in library, 78.

District No. 13.—Number teachers employed, 1; number children of the school age, 20; number weeks school was kept, 28; number of children who attended school during the year, 15; average daily attendance, 7.128; 1 frame school-house; value of school-house and site, $400; number volumes in library, 100.

An institution which has been in some sense a rival of the public schools of Knox, and which the partisans of the public school system contend was greatly instrumental in retarding its development in the town, is the Knoxville Academy. This institution, which during the past two years has been inoperative, and which it is not thought is likely to be revived, once stood high among similar educational establishments, and caused Knox to be regarded as the educational center of a considerable area of surrounding country. Many men of Albany County, who have since

become distinguished in various walks of life were students there thirty and forty years ago, and the institution was under the care of a succession of able instructors, named as follows :

Rev. Mr. Lockwood, Mr. Scribner, Henry Gallup, M. P. Cavert, Mr. Baker, Mr. Lyon, Mr. Warner, Charles McGregor, Henry McGregor, John T. Lansing, Samuel Patton, Rev. Mr. Jones, M. M. Goodenough, J. Q. A. Crounse, George P. Quay, Eugene Crounse, D. G. Many, John Bogardus, Alfred Batey and David E. Coeler.

This institution was organized under the general law of the State of New York for the establishment of academies, about 1829 or 1830, by Messrs. Gurdon, Gardiner and John Gallup, Dr. Elisha Williams, Dr. Brownell, Jesse Tyler and others. For many years it enjoyed a large patronage from the surrounding portions of Albany and Schoharie counties, and many students came from abroad ; but its patronage has gradually declined since the establishment of State Normal Schools and Graded Public Schools, and its years of usefulness seem to have passed. Its retrogression does not mark it as being in any manner peculiarly unfortunate, for its fate has been shared by nearly every other academy in the State, some of which have not been opened for one or two decades ; while its active existence did not terminate until within the past two years. During the temporary unfitness of the neighboring public school building, the old academy building has lately been occupied by the public school of the village of Knoxville. The board of trustees of the Knoxville Academy, in 1884, was constituted as follows : Elam Williams, president ; S. Sand, John G. Crary, J. W. Chesebro, Hon. Peter Schoonmaker, E. G. A. Crounse, A. C. Hunting, J. C. Ogden and Denison Crary.

KNOX'S PROFESSIONAL MEN.

It is believed that Dr. Erastus Williams was the first resident physician in Knox. He practiced his profession there during the early part of the present century. Dr. Moses Brownell was his contemporary and successor. Drs. John Van Allen, Zeh, Sigsby, Johnson and Johnson have been resident physicians since their time. Azor Taber, who was born in 1799 and died in 1858, was the only lawyer who ever practiced his profession in the town.

CHURCHES.

The New England settlers within the borders of Knox brought with them the religious tenets of their forefathers in Connecticut, and it was not long before the advisability of forming a Presbyterian congregation was agitated. It is thought to have been some years before a formal organization was effected, under the transient ministration of some clergyman who chanced to visit the locality. Irregular worship was established and occasional preaching was had until 1825, when the first pastor was settled. It is said that the church was formally organized by the Rev. Dr. Nott, of Union College.

About September 1, 1825, the Presbyterian congregation of Knox presented a call to Rev. J. Judson Buck to become their pastor and labor as such one-half of the time. This call was accepted, and on the 19th day of October following he was installed over the congregations of Knox and Hamilton Union. The engagement was to preach alternately to each congregation. At that time fifty-five persons belonged to the congregation. They were named as follows :

Henry Denison, P. Witter, Isaac Barber, Erastus Williams, Daniel Chesebro, John Gallup, Wright Skinner, Dow Van Derker, Henry Dane, Cyrus Chapman, Henry Williams, Daniel Gallup, Sally Todd, Lucy Gallup, Lucy Witter, Bridget Chesebro, Anna Chesebro, Betsy Van Derker, Nancy Van Derker, Rebecca Van Derker, Nancy Chesebro, Lewis Denison, Ann Allen, Ann Witter, Damas Corwith Witter, Polly Van Alstyne, Hannah Hilton, Nancy Gallup, Polly Crary, Sarah Williams, Abigail Rodgers, Mary Brownell, Elizabeth Brown, Mary White, Mrs. Russel, Betsy Wilson, Rachel Warrick, Hannah Settle, Ann Clow, Catherine Butterfield, Margaret Groat, Anna Young, Sarah Todd, Nancy Brown, Sally Parker, Susan B. Todd, Barbara Hart, Nancy Crary, Caroline Wilson, Polly Bundy, Asenath Talls, Lavina Chapman, Amy Bundy and Nancy Starkweather.

Rev. Mr. Buck had at this time been laboring with the people irregularly since 1822, and of these named above all except eleven united with the church through his influence. Those who were in connection at the time he came were the following named : Henry Denison, P. Witter, John Gallup, Daniel Chesebro, Wright Skinner, Hannah Gallup, Sally Todd, Lucy Gallup, Lucy Witter, Bridget Chesebro and Anna Chesebro. The elders of the congregation were Erastus Williams, Isaac Barber, P. Witter and Henry Denison.

The following entry appears in the church records under date of October 19, 1828 :

"This day ends three years of my pastoral labor at Knox. Having resigned my charge at Hamilton Union, for the last year I have labored constantly at Knox. J. JUDSON BUCK."

April 26, 1829, the pastor wrote as follows:

"This day closes my pastoral labors at Knox. Having obtained leave of Presbytery, I have resigned my pastoral charge.

"The church of Knox, which I greatly love, I commend to God and to the riches of His grace. Leaving it it the hands of "that great Shepherd of the sheep," I go away, praying the blessing of God may rest upon it, and that God may soon give it a pastor after His own heart. J. JUDSON BUCK."

Rev. Mr. Buck's connection with the church does not appear to have ceased, however, until some time in 1830, as he is recorded as having acted as moderator at meetings of the session until then. After an interregnum of fully a year, he was again moderator when the session met, August 26, 1831. It is supposed that he resided in the vicinity and took a friendly and helpful interest in the church, but did not act as its pastor after 1829. The records do not show that any pastor was installed subsequently, but Rev. Mr. Waters and Rev. Mr. Robertson, Rev. David Lyon, Rev. Mr. Snyder, Rev. Mr. Lockwood and other clergymen from neighboring churches, from time to time, acted as moderators at the meetings of the sessions, and by some it is thought that Rev. Mr. Waters and Rev. Mr. Rockwood were duly installed pastors.

The church seems to have languished. Financial and numerical weakness seems to have threatened its disintegration. The Presbyterians of Knox were few in number. They had no pastor. Their church was isolated from others of its kind. A strong sentiment had sprung up in the town in favor of the Dutch Reformed Church. For some time the advisability of reorganizing their church according to the rules of the Dutch Reformed Church was discussed by the Presbyterians. It is not to be supposed that this step could be taken without much opposition and no little acrimony. It involved the withdrawal of some members and the tardy and most unwilling acquiescence of others. The change was effected, however, and the old Presbyterian Church of Knox became the foundation upon which was erected the Reformed Church of Knox.

The church and congregation were received into the classis of Albany, at its semi-annual session held at Westerlo, September 20, 1842, and constituted "The First Reformed Dutch Church of Knox." The following members of the old Presbyterian Church were dismissed to form the new organization: Daniel Chesebro and wife, Joseph Gallup and wife, Henry Williams and wife, Lois Freeman, Ann Allen, Samuel Russell and wife, Mrs. Hannah Hilton, Mrs. Park Witter, Ann Young, Sally Packer, Daniel Gallup, Margaret Groat, Amelia Clute, Cornelia Bogardus, Sarah M. Williams, Gurden Gallup and wife, Eve Haverley, Magdalen Luce, John J. Tyler, Charles Clute, Beebe D. Crary, Cornelia L. Werner, Henrietta M. Williams, Sarah Herrick, Hannah Gallup and Hannah Crary.

At a meeting of the male members of the church held on Saturday, September 31, 1842, the following persons were chosen members of the consistory: Daniel Chesebro, Joseph Gallup, Gurden Gallup, Henry Williams, Jr., John Van Allen, Michael P. Cavart, Charles Clute, John Posson. Henry Williams was chosen treasurer and John Van Allen clerk. At that time the congregation consisted of forty-three members, representing twenty-five families.

The reorganization was effected under the ministration of Rev. Joseph Kneiskem, who was pastor of the new church until succeeded by Rev. John Vandervolgen. The succeeding pastors have been Rev. Mr. Hammond, Rev. Mr. Bogardus, Rev. James Compton, Rev. Mr. Vedder, Rev. William H. Ballagh and Rev. George M. D. Slocum, who resigned in 1882, since when the church has had no settled pastor, but has been "supplied" from Gallupville, Schoharie County.

The membership of this organization in 1884 was forty-five. The consistory and board of trustees were composed as follows: Henry Barckley, Charles Clute, elders, and William Chesebro and John Bogardus, deacons. The original house of worship was a plain wooden building, of the uninviting kind, which have been denominated "God's barns." It stood in Knoxville, a little below the site of the present structure, and on the same side of the street. The edifice now in use is a frame building, which was built about thirty years ago.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.

Nearly all the books and papers of Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Knox prior to 1828 are lost, so that very little of its early history is known, except what is given in Munsell's Annals and the old church books of Schoharie and Guilderland. About 1745 the members of the Reformed and Lutheran churches in this vicinity took up, under the church patent law, a tract of land for a Reformed and Lutheran church, lot and farm containing about forty-two acres. Soon after Rev. Nicholas Sommer, while pastor at Schoharie, visited this neighborhood and organized a Lutheran church. The first church and schoolhouse, a building about twenty feet square, was

erected about 1750. In August, 1810, another building lot was purchased, and in the following fall the old church was removed to the new lot and remodeled. In the spring of 1828 this old church was torn down and a new church, twenty by thirty feet, was framed, raised and partly inclosed; but before the windows were put in, or the doors hung, the Reformed and Lutheran officers had some misunderstanding, and their disagreement continued so long that the officers resigned and the society was broken up, nothing remaining but the unfinished church and the deed, all other papers having been lost or destroyed.

Nothing was done toward finishing the church or organizing the congregation until December 19, 1829, when a number of the former members, together with some others who helped support the gospel, met and re-incorporated and chartered "Zion's Lutheran and Reformed Church of the Helderberg," and as soon as weather would permit the church was completed. In 1839, owing to some difficulties, the Reformed members withdrew and built a church at Secors. October 13, 1839, Rev. Adam Crounse fully reorganized Zion's Lutheran Church at Knox with fifty-one members, twenty-one of whom were living in 1881. In 1850 the present church was erected, at a cost of $1,200. It was dedicated, March 23, 1851, Rev. Dr. Lintner, of Schoharie, preaching the sermon, and Rev. Adam Crounse, the pastor, conducting the other exercises. The parsonage was built in 1868 and 1869.

The first record of any pastorate that can be found states that in 1745 Rev. Peter Nicholas Sommer, then located at Schoharie, at stated times preached and administered the sacraments. From 1790 to 1800 Rev. Henry Moeller preached occasionally. From 1800 to 1828 Revs. Miller and Merkle occupied the pulpit. About 1830 Rev. Adam Crounse became pastor, in connection with Berne and Guilderland. He resigned in 1884. In 1845 and 1846 Rev. A. L. Bridgman became pastor of Guilderland and Knox, Berne having secured a pastor of its own. He resigned in 1848, and Rev. Adam Crounse was again pastor from 1849 to 1862. The church was without a pastor till November, 1864, the pulpit being supplied monthly by the members of the third conference, when Rev. A. N. Daniels became pastor, serving till June, 1872. Rev. N. Klock was pastor from July, 1872, to April, 1875. He was succeeded by Rev. A. Martenis, who resigned in 1877, returning for a few months in 1878. In November, 1878, Rev. Luther P. Ludden took charge and remained till the fall of 1883. Since that time the church has been supplied, Rev. Silas Young, of Gallupville, Schoharie County, occupying its pulpit and attending to the duties connected with the pastorate. When not occupied by a resident pastor, the glebe has been leased for farming purposes, and the rental applied for the benefit of the church. The present membership is about 120.

In 1884 the official management of this church was in the control of the following persons:

Trustees—Theodore Batcher, Amos G. Warner and Jacob A. Warner. Elders—John Keenholts, Seneca Frink, Mathias Zeh and Hiram Clickman. Deacons—Jesse Saddlemire, Eli Secor, Silas Clickman and L. Park Witter. Clerk—George Hanes.

The membership was about one hundred.

The early records of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Knox appear to be few and imperfect. Tradition says Rev. William Brown, a local preacher, was the first Methodist preacher in the town. From inscriptions on tombstones in the little cemetery on the farm owned by Nicholas Chesebro, it appears that Rev. William Brown was born October 24, 1758, and died April 25, 1834, aged 75 years, 6 months and 1 day. His wife, Mary (Chesebro) Brown, died January 18, 1835, aged 73 years. His daughter, Priscilla, died March 25, 1832, aged 30 years. When a young man, Rev. Mr. Brown built a house, which still stands on the Chesebro farm, and is said to be more than one hundred years old.

In its early days, this church was connected with the Methodist churches of Berne, Reedsville, Middleburgh and Schoharie, to form the Berne circuit. It is believed that Joseph Hunting, F. Dominic, Levi Van Auken and Christopher Chesebro were the first members of the Methodist church in this town.

The first church edifice stood about a mile east of the one now standing at "Knox street," and was taken down when the latter was built, in 1851, under the pastorate of Rev. John Chase. Another was built, about the same time, in that part of the town called "Township," and still another had been built in 1841, in the north part of the town. These three are now in use.

The succession of pastors has been as follows:

Revs. John Gage, 1846 and 1847; John Chase, 1851 and 1853; C. M. Anderson, 1853; Elisha Watson, 1854 and 1855; Aaron Hall, 1856 and 1857; A. Campbell, 1858 and 1859; R. Patterson, 1860 and 1861; C. E. Taylor, 1862 and 1863; M. P. Bell, 1864-1866; H. Harris, 1867 and 1868; William Earl, 1869 and 1870; W. C. Butcher, 1871; J. B. Wood, 1872 and 1873; S. Palmer,

1874 and 1875; J. C. Walker, 1876; J. J. Austin, 1877 and 1878; A. Eaton, 1879 and 1880; E. Morgan, 1881 and 1883; A. V. Marshall, 1884 and 1885.

The last annual report shows a membership of 162, and many members have since been added.

The Baptist Church in the territory now including the town of Knox was, previous to 1825, known as the Church of Berne. In 1812 Rev. N. H. Ripley was pastor, with 105 members. We learn from a copy of Minutes without date that before this the members had numbered 110. They had no pastor for twelve years, when Rev. Samuel Hare preached for them eight years, closing his pastorate in 1832. In 1828 they had 99 members. In 1833, Rev. N. Ferguson; 1835, Rev. M. S. Earl; 1843, Rev. R. Winegar preached for them one year each. In 1845 Rev. W. Storrs was pastor, probably for two years, and the membership was 82. In 1848 and 1489 Rev. W. Hodgson was pastor, and the church gained ten members. About 1850 Rev. S. G. Tower began preaching for them, and about 1853 he, by faithful, earnest and persistent effort, succeeded in building a house of worship. He closed his labors with them about 1861. In 1864 and 1865 Rev. H. M. Jones was pastor, and Rev. Thomas Fisher began to preach for them in 1867, continuing till 1870. From September, 1872, Rev. J. S. Johnson was pastor for two year. Rev. G. Becker, then a licentiate of Flat Creek church, began preaching for them in April, 1878, and continued for some time. About this time the membership had become greatly reduced. In 1884, through the evangelical labors of Rev. L. G. Brown, of Adams, N. Y., a considerable accession of membership was secured. Charles J. Seabury is deacon, and Rev. J. Becker comes occasionally from a distance to hold services.

MANUFACTURES.

Knox cannot be regarded as a manufacturing town. It has no water-power of importance, and is too remote from transportation facilities to render the introduction of heavy steam-driven machinery profitable.

From an early date small saw-mills were in operation at various points along the small streams having their courses through the town. They did their allotted part in the work of improvement incident to the civilizing period through which Knox, in common with most other portions of our eastern country, passed in its time. Among the owners of such mills were Amos Crary, Hiram Gage, Egbert Schoonmaker and Nathaniel Swan, who were operating previous to 1825, and Malachi Whipple, Daniel Cary and Mr. Vandecar, whose mills passed out of active existence about 1840. Swart & Saddlemire were running a mill until a few years ago, and Frederick Bouler and Bemsley Williamson are the owners of small mills, which are operated from time to time, as the depth of water in the streams will permit. The supply of timber, once plentiful, is now nearly exhausted, only occasional patches of woodland remaining.

There was once a small grist-mill on a little stream in the north part of the town. For years the farmers of Knox have been compelled to take their grain to be ground outside of the borders of the town.

Gideon Taber, who was once a shoemaker and tanner and harness manufacturer in Knox, was at the same time the progenitor of one of the leading families of the town, and one of the best known men in Albany County. He was born in New London, Conn., in 1764, of a Quaker father and mother. Being a non-combatant, he went to Canada during the Revolution, to avoid being drawn into the American army and compelled to fight against his convictions, and for a time he commanded a vessel on Lake Champlain. Coming to Knox after peace was established, he went about among the farmers, "whipping the cat," as itinerant shoemaking and repairing was denominated. Being a thrifty man, he prospered, and after a time established a small tannery, where he made leather, which he manufactured into shoes, saddles and harness, employing quite a number of men, and doing a large business for the time. He became a justice of the peace and represented his fellow citizens in the Assembly about 1818–20. His grandson, Charles Clute, now owns and lives on the old Taber homestead where his tannery and manufacturing operations were carried on.

In 1831 Alexander Crounse, who had moved into Knox from an adjoining town, put up a tannery building, 56 feet by 28, on the main road through the town west of Knoxville, and for many years did considerable in the manufacture of harness and upper-leather. The changes in the hide and leather trade during the last few years have contributed to render this business less profitable and important than it was formerly. About five years ago Mr. Crounse transferred the establishment to his son, Eugene G. A. Crounse. An addition to the tannery building was erected in 1884, and improved machinery for the manufacture of horse feed was put in. This branch of industry

Mr. Crounse carries on in connection with tanning, his father, Alexander Crounse, giving his personal attention to the supervision of the latter department.

Nathan Crary, father of Mr. John G. Crary, organized the manufacture of pill-boxes in Knox about eighty years ago. Since his time the business has been more or less extensively carried on by John G. Crary and others. The manufacturers of Brandreth's and other pills obtain their supply of small wooden boxes here, and many of the citizens of Knoxville and vicinity find employment in the industry.

BURIAL GROUNDS.

In the earlier days of the history of the town, interments were made on the farms of the residents. Here and there may still be seen neatly kept family plots on gentle slopes not far distant from some of the finest farm-houses in Knox. About the time of the organization of the old Presbyterian church, the graveyard in Knoxville, which is still known as "the old Presbyterian burying ground," was opened. Occasional interments are made there still, and many of its quaint old headstones bear the names of those who were among the pioneers of the town.

The Whipple Cemetery, in the eastern part of the town, has long been much in use by the people of Knox. It occupies a commanding position upon an abrupt elevation, and contains numerous interesting and quite a number of sightly monuments. It has recently been improved and provided with a substantial inclosure and an attractive entrance. It is so known from the fact that it is located on a portion of the Whipple farm, and is maintained at the joint expense of the many families who bury their dead there.

The Knox Cemetery is a beautiful and sightly burial place, possessing many advantages. The Cemetery Company controlling it was organized in 1874, and the cemetery was dedicated by Rev. Mr. Robinson, August 18, that year. The body of Lieutenant Michael P. Barclay was the first one buried there. The officers of the company at its organization were David Van Auken, Amos Crary, Charles Clute, Henry Blackley, and one other. The present officers are as follows: Charles Gage, president; Peter Schoonmaker, secretary and treasurer; William Van Auken, Nicholas Chesebro, W. Crary and Arthur Witter.

LOCAL INSURANCE.

Knox has a local mutual fire insurance company, which has been in successful operation several years, with which Hon. Peter Schoonmaker and other prominent citizens have from time to time been officially connected. Its policies now aggregate about $400,000, and its assessable bonds amount to $16,000. Its officers in the fall of 1884 were: Ira Van Auken, president; Elias Bassler, secretary; William Sand, I. D. Haverly, James M. Chesebro, Nicholas Chesebro, Amos Saddlemire, Austin Gifford and Norman O. Bell (agent).

Peter Schoonmaker

HON. PETER SCHOONMAKER.

Hon. PETER SCHOONMAKER is a son of Christian and Lydia (Warner) Schoonmaker, and was born in Knox, June 29, 1828. He was reared on his father's farm, and received his education in the public schools of his native town. He engaged in farming and became known as one of the most successful farmers and business man in his section of the county. He from time to time purchased several farms in Knox, and at his father's death inherited the old Schoonmaker homestead, where he has lived all his life. For some time past he has been the most extensive real estate owner in the town.

In 1850 Mr. Schoonmaker married Miss Emeline Wolford, a daughter of Henry Wolford, a farmer of Knox. He has two sons—Winfield Scott Schoonmaker and Jay Schoonmaker, both of whom are married, live near their father, and are ranked among the most enterprising of the young business men of Knox.

An ardent Republican and an active worker for the advancement of the cause of his party, both at home and abroad, Mr. Schoonmaker has, since he grew to manhood, taken a deep interest in political affairs. He was elected assessor of the town of Knox in the spring of 1855, and re-elected each successive term until he resigned the position in 1866. In the last-mentioned year he was elected supervisor. He was re-elected the six succeeding terms, five times without opposition. In 1872 he was the candidate of the Republican party for member of Assembly to represent the First Assembly District of Albany County. The district had for several years given a Democratic majority, and at the best could only be regarded as close by the Republicans. No better evidence of Mr. Schoonmaker's personal popularity could be adduced than the fact that he was elected by 987 majority. Mr. Schoonmaker served on the committees on "Roads and Bridges," "Agriculture" and "Privileges and Elections," and cast his vote for Hon. Roscoe Conkling for United States Senator. His service as Assemblyman was both creditable to himself and highly satisfactory to his constituents. He declined a re-election and has since refused to be a candidate for any office, devoting himself to his business; but his interest in the Republican cause is so deep that he has at the same time been an active and influential worker for the success of his party in his town, county and country. He has also devoted himself assiduously to the advancement of the interests of the town of Knox. He has been prominent in the conduct of its educational institutions, and is one of the leading spirits in the management of the well-known local insurance company of Knox. He and his wife are members of St. Paul's Lutheran Evangelical Church of Berne.

Denison Crary

DENISON CRARY.

Among the earliest settlers in Knox were the Crarys and Denisons, who came from Connecticut in 1798. Thomas Crary was born in Connecticut, October 12, 1744. He married Mehetabel Mason, January 9, 1772. They had nine children—Thomas, born in 1775; Mary, born in 1777; Mason, born in 1779; Eunice, born in 1782; Cynthia, born in 1786; Amos, born in 1788; Andrew, born in 1790; Ephraim, born in 1793; and Jabez, born in 1796. Amos Crary married Mary Denison in 1811, and had six children, named as follows in the order of their birth: Denison, Susan, Thomas, Horace, Sarah Ann and Esther. Susan removed to Iowa and died there. Thomas died in infancy. Horace removed, when a young man, to Schoharie County, and thence, in 1883, to Chicago. Sarah Ann also lives in Chicago. Esther lives in Iowa. The only one representing the family in the town at the present time is Denison Crary, eldest child of Amos, who was born June 30, 1812. Captain Henry Denison served the cause of the colonies in the Revolutionary war, and after coming to Knox was one of the most prominent early residents. He was one of the founders of the Old Knox Presbyterian Church, of which he was also a deacon for many years. He had seven children, named Henry, Daniel, Gideon, Mary, Sally, Lois and Esther. Henry removed to Pennsylvania and died there. Daniel became a physician, and lived and died in Onondaga County, which he represented twice in the Assembly. Gideon died in Knox, at the age of thirty-three. Mary married Amos Crary, and died in 1840, aged fifty-one. Sally died unmarried. Lois and Esther married, and died in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Denison Crary was reared on his father's farm, attending the public schools, and for a time the old Knox Academy. He has been a farmer all his life, except about three years, during which he was engaged upon the construction of the New York Central Railroad, between Schenectady and Utica and between Syracuse and Auburn, and of the Erie Railway, upon which he fulfilled two contracts, one for a mile of grade eastward out of Dunkirk, and another for a section in Orange County. In these contracts Anson H. Taylor, his uncle, was his partner. His home farm was purchased by his father about 1842, and Mr. Crary has owned and lived on it since 1862. Since that date he has purchased a small farm, partially timber land, located about a mile from his residence.

S B Davenport

June 16, 1856, Mr. Crary married Miss Henrietta M. Williams, of Knox, a granddaughter of Ebenezer Williams, who was another of the early settlers who came into Knox from Connecticut about the close of the last century. He has been a Republican since the organization of the Republican party, and has voted for every Republican candidate for the Presidency from Fremont to Blaine. Previous to the organization of the Republican party he was a Whig. But it is not to be supposed that, while he is an ardent partisan, he is by any means an active politician. He has been too busy all his life to mingle much with public affairs. His attention to his own personal interests has been close and unremitting, and he is recognized as one of the most successful farmers in his section of the county. Mrs. Crary is a member and Mr. Crary is a regular attendant and liberal supporter of the Dutch Reformed Church of Knox. He also contributes generously to all worthy public objects, and is regarded as the friend and abettor of all needed improvements in the town. He has served his fellow townsmen as Highway Commissioner and Town Clerk, but has usually refused to be a candidate for any office whatever.

SAMUEL B. DAVENPORT.

SAMUEL B. DAVENPORT was born in Newcastle, Westchester County, N. Y. His father was William Doty Davenport. His mother was Phebe C. Marshall (Davenport), who died February 3, 1869, aged seventy-three years. They were married October 20, 1814. William Davenport, grandfather of Mr. Samuel B. Davenport, was born June 18, 1759, and married Elizabeth Doty, who was born February 10, 1763. Some time prior to the Revolutionary war he removed from Flushing, L. I., to Chappaqua, Westchester County. His farm lay between the British and American lines, as they were drawn at one time, and it was his ill fortune to twice fall into the hands of the English soldiers. Upon the first occasion he made his escape unharmed; but upon the second, while endeavor-

ing to hurry him away to a place of confinement, his captors, mounted on horseback and driving him on foot before them, pricked and injured him with their bayonets so seriously that he never entirely recovered from the wounds then received. He died July 23, 1826; his wife, July 23, 1846. Their children were Samuel, born February 28, 1785, and died December 27, 1792; Stephen, born October 4, 1786, and died April 24, 1853; Mary, born September 13, 1788, and died February 12, 1854; William Doty, born December 7, 1790, and died March 3, 1876; Phebe, born August 17, 1793, and died about ten years ago.

The children of William Doty Davenport and his wife were: David M., born November 12, 1815, who died October 3, 1871; Lydia C., born April 23, 1817, who died April 8, 1871; Marilla K., born May 16, 1822; Samuel B., born July 7, 1825; Mary, born March 23, 1829; Ira M., born February 23, 1831; Elizabeth, born August 20, 1883; Asa, born September 1, 1836, who died September 9, 1839.

William Doty Davenport and his family removed to Knox in 1828, when Samuel B. was about three years old. The latter well remembers the crossing of the Hudson at Albany by the family and his fright at the boats plying about him. An attempt to rob Mr. Davenport by men who had known of his drawing his money from the bank in Westchester County, and followed him with that purpose in view, was frustrated in Duanesburgh, while the party were passing through a dense wood, by a faithful dog which the new-comer was bringing to his new home in Knox. Mr. Davenport also remembers when, at the age of six years, his father took him to Albany to witness the opening of the Albany and Schenectady Railroad, one of the first railroads of any importance opened in the country. He was educated at the common schools at Quaker street, and brought up to a farmer's life. He has since resided in Knox, and has been a successful farmer and a highly respected citizen. He is a Republican in politics, and deeply interested in public affairs and those of the community in which he lives. He has served the town of Knox as assessor eleven years in succession, and has for many years been a trustee of Grove Cemetery Association, proprietors of the Grove Cemetery at Quaker street. He married Miss Hannah Jane Powell, daughter of Elisha Powell, a Quaker, and for many years, till his death, a resident of Greenville, Greene County, N. Y. Mrs. Davenport died August 20, 1874. He married Mrs. Caroline M. W. Baker, widow of Dr. Austin A. Baker, of Howard, Steuben County, N. Y., April 24, 1876. By his first marriage he had children as follows: Isabel, born July 17, 1851, who died April 8, 1860; Mary Marilla, born June 26, 1853, who married George Hallenbeck, of Knowersville, June 21, 1882, and Elisha H., born April 2, 1856, who married Miss Emily Baker upon the same date as that of his sister's marriage above mentioned, and has one son, named Baker L., who was born December 22, 1883.

We take pleasure in making mention of the following citizens, who, by their guaranteed support, have helped to insure the publication of this valuable work: E. G. A. Crounse, Peter Schoonmaker, Chas. G. Frink, Denison Crary, Jacob Sholtes, Robert Schoonmaker, J. G. Lendrum, Dennis H. Colliton, A. Quay.

ALONZO QUAY, born in Knox, February 10, 1853; married Elizabeth E. Townsend, Novemer 15, 1856; farmer; Knox post-office.

Charles G. Frink

CHARLES G. FRINK.

Charles Frink came from Connecticut and settled in what is now Knox in 1797. He was the great-grandfather of Mr. Charles G. Frink, the present supervisor of the town. His son, Charles Frink, Jr., married into the Stark family of Connecticut before he accompanied his father to Knox. He became a farmer in Knox, and had three children, two sons and a daughter. The sons were named Russel and Charles, the last mentioned of whom was the father of Mr. Charles G. Frink. Prudence, the daughter, married Oliver Forsyth, of Wright, Schoharie County. Russel married Rebecca Gallup and removed to Schoharie County, and thence to Belchertown, Mass., where he died. Charles married Maria Osterhout, of Knox. They had twelve children, of whom Charles G. Frink, born July 2, 1819, was the oldest. He attended the common school, and later was a student at the old Knox Academy for a time. He was reared by his grandfather, George Osterhout, and lived with him until he was about twenty years old, when his grandfather removed to Fulton, Schoharie County. Later, Mr. Osterhout removed to Rotterdam, Schenectady County, where he died.

Mr. Frink learned the mason's trade and worked at it in connection with farming for about seven years. January 20, 1844, he married Miss Margaret Schoonmaker, daughter of Christian Schoonmaker, of Knox. A few years afterward he turned his attention wholly to farming, and since his marriage has lived on the old Christian Schoonmaker homestead, which was inherited by Mrs. Frink. In 1861 he purchased the Osterhout farm, formerly owned by his grandfather. Later, he bought the De Witt Schoonmaker farm. Mr. Frink has had six children, only three of whom are living. They were named, in the order of their birth, Seneca, Charles M., Lydia, Ida, Mary and Minnie. Lydia died July 27, 1860, aged 6 years; Mary died August 19, 1874, aged 13 years; Minnie died August 21, 1874, aged 11 years. Seneca married Emeline Quay, of Knox, and lives on the Osterhout farm. Charles M. married Euphemia Truax, of Knox, and lives with his

father. Ida is still a member of her father's family.

Politically, Mr. Frink is not a strong partisan, but inclines to the principles of the Democratic party. He has not been active in politics and has never sought office of any kind, but he has been elected to several minor town offices, and was chosen supervisor of Knox in 1883, and re-elected in 1885. Though not a church member, he has always been a liberal contributor to the support of Christianity in the town.

HISTORY OF NEW SCOTLAND.

By JACOB S. MARKLE.

AS this township was originally a part of Bethlehem, and Bethlehem formed from Watervliet, their histories previous to 1833 are difficult of separation, and render the work more complicated, as the records are incomplete in their local connection; and in collecting the material very little was obtained from public or private records, as they generally were disconnected in detail. So few family records having been found reliable, the writer was obliged to deduce an approximate date for general reference in the order of events.

The names and complete succession of the Roman Consuls and the victors of the Olympian games are facts of record, while many important events and data in the history and settlement of the township cannot be clearly determined in these days of modern progress. Few papers or records of value were found in families relating to early settlements, or bearing upon the history of neighborhoods. Many difficulties had to be overcome, and the author returns thanks to those who kindly contributed valuable information, and especially is he indebted to the Rev. James G. K. McClure for history of New Scotland Presbyterian Church, and many other facts taken from his "Centenary Sermon."

The design of the writer has been to compile general facts of history, and record events that shall possess valuable information for the reader and the public for future reference.

The township of New Scotland was formed from Bethlehem, April 25, 1832, and is the central town of the county, having an area of 61,711 acres, and a population of 3,253. There are no records of the commissioners or surveyors who located or established the boundary line, nor any minutes relating to the same. The act of the Legislature defines the point of beginning as follows: "From and after the passage of this act, all that part of the town of Bethlehem, in the County of Albany, lying west of a line beginning at a point six miles west of the Hudson River, in the south bounds of the town of Guilderland; thence on a southerly course, parallel with the Hudson River, to a point in the north bounds of the town of Coeymans, six miles west from the said Hudson River, and all lying west of said line, shall be a separate town, to be known by the name of New Scotland."

Of the trees marked by the surveyors as monuments in this division line many have been wantonly destroyed, and the few remaining will soon disappear.

The surface is broken by ridges and hills that rise from 400 to 800 feet high. The Helderberg Hills are a marked feature of this town, and have a great bearing on its physical structure, as they extend through the western part, from south to north, forming the water-shed, and giving direction to the drainage, also contributing to the diversity of scenery and agricultural resources. The soil is clay and gravelly loam; the eastern and central parts are rolling, the southern undulating, and the western part, occupied by the Helderbergs, hilly. The principal streams are the Normanskill, in the northeast corner, and its tributary from this town is Vlye or Fly Creek, which takes its rise from the base of the Helderbergs; Vlaaman or Flaman's Creek, in the eastern central; Onisquethau Creek, in the southern, with several small streams as tributaries, and Black Creek, in the northwest. Lawson's Lake, in the south, on the line of Coeymans, is a small sheet of water, the outlet of which falls into a deep cavity and flows for some distance into a subterranean cavern, in which are found beautiful stalactites and thousands of bats clinging to the walls. Bennett's Hill, at Clarksville, has a strong sulphur spring, and from the summit a fine landscape lies before the visitor. At the foot of Cope-

land Hill are remarkable sink-holes, from five to eight feet in diameter, which extend through the soil and lime rock to the depth of ten or twenty feet. These cavities are connected by an underground passage, which has been explored and found to contain several rooms, while a stream of water forms the bottom of this passage. At Clarksville are two caves of considerable interest, frequented by visitors. Mount Pleasant, which is a series of hills east of New Salem, and the location of Mount Pleasant Cemetery, seems by nature to have been especially designated for the purpose, possessing an elevated situation, with diversity of surface, and an unbroken view in all directions for many miles.

The railroads that enter the town and contribute to the general prosperity are: The Albany and Susquehanna, which passes through the northeast corner, with a station at Vorheesville, and the New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad enters the town near Feura Bush, extends north, crossing the track of the Albany and Susquehanna road at Vorheesville, which is an important station.

The physical feature of this town is the Helderberg Hills, which form a very interesting group, as they extend from north to south in the western part and slope back to the adjoining towns. These ranges are outlying spurs of the Catskills, which are a northerly continuation of the Alleghany Mountains, and a part of the great Appalachian system. Their declivities are very steep, and sometimes precipitous on the east, but slope more gradually toward the west.

The highest point of these hills is an elevation of 1,823 feet above Governor's Island, mean tide, and is upon the farm of David Flansburg, in the western part of this town. Upon this summit the United States Coast Survey and the New York State Survey have a station, named "Helderberg."

There are several elevations from 1,000 to 1,700 feet high, and the plateaus from 600 to 1,000 feet.

From the summit of the Helderbergs, and along the Beaverdam road as it winds up the hill, many lovely prospects can be seen The range is extensive and the scenery varied in beauty, presenting a charming panorama of the surrounding country. From the summit can be seen the villages nestling in the valley beneath, and in the distance the City of Albany, and new Capitol, West Albany, Greenbush, Troy; also, the Green Mountains of Vermont. Trains of cars upon several railroads are seen winding over the plains like small threads, and at night the electric lights of Albany illumine the sky like an aurora borealis.

The soil of this town is well adapted for the cultivation of all cereals, grass, potatoes and fruit. Hay is one of the principal crops. Extensive orchards of apple and plum trees are cultivated. Hops are becoming an important staple with many farmers, and a large area is planted throughout the town. The farmers are an intelligent class, and many of them adopt the progressive systems of rotation, manuring and the use of fertilizers. Much attention is given to the improvement of neat cattle, and the careful crossing with improved breeds secures qualities that are very much desired. Many years ago Matthew Bullock, an Englishman, living in this town, introduced and imported some fine stock of short-horn breed, which for years proved to be of great benefit to the dairyman and farmer. Some of this original breed is yet in possession of his son. Mr. Joseph Hilton, an extensive farmer, has a fine herd of prize Devon cattle. Jersey cattle, noted for their butter qualities, are now largely supplanting other breeds.

Bee culture is becoming a business of much importance, requiring careful attention and close study. This industry is yet in its infancy; old methods are giving place to improvements through practical experience and scientific knowledge. The following have extensive apiaries: Aaron Snyder, James Markle, Peter Livingston, Henry Martin.

Limestone is quite extensively quarried for building purposes. Formerly the burning of lime was an industry of the township, but the increased cost of fuel brought the expenses above any profit and the business has been abandoned.

The acreage of forests is rapidly diminishing.

Let us consider what were some of the primary causes that induced many to emigrate from Holland and settle at Fort Orange and vicinity. The Directors of the West India Company, located at Amsterdam, to encourage emigration, offered special inducements and allowed their members to buy and possess large tracts of land. Among those who took advantage of this offer was Killian Van Rensselaer, a director of this company, who secured for himself all the lands for twenty-four miles square on each side of the river at Fort Orange, about 1630. The patroon, in his anxiety to have this land settled, offered a special and liberal inducement, with free rental for a term of years to all who would occupy lands upon his patent. Up to 1664 the Dutch had control of the colony of New Netherlands, but now the English succeed and a change of government follows; this did not interfere with the patroon's rights, yet at this time only 210 families had availed themselves of this

offer, and these were in proximity to Fort Orange. As the surrounding country was a heavy, dense forest, with roving bands of Indians, they remained near the settlement for protection, and where they could enjoy liberty of worship and other advantages. At this time (1660) an event of considerable importance takes place. Jan Hendrickse Van Baal, a servant of this West Ind'a Company, purchases of four Mohawk chiefs, Canaghto, Schanwino, Canhowadadin and Sagodeimechta, a tract of land estimated to contain 69,000 acres, and defined as follows: "A certain parcel of land near Schenectady, lying and being by the kill or creek called by the Indian name, Towassontha, otherwise the Norman's Kill; the said land stretching from the Sandy Hills northwest to an outlook of land which it also includes, containing in length and in breadth all the land as it lies in a square, together with the woodland, valley or meadow ground, hills and creeks, therein included."

The land was partly in Guilderland and Bethlehem (now New Scotland), on both sides of the Norman's Kill, and was covered by the Van Rensselaer patent.

This transaction was considered lawful, since Francis Lovelace, Governor-General under James, Duke of York, confirmed the Van Baal patent in 1672. Within a few years of this confirmation, Van Baal sold half of this patent to Jan Hendrickse Vroman, and, in 1686, Vroman and his wife, Geesie, sold the same to Omie de La Grange for one hundred beaver skins. In 1716 Omie de La Grange and Johannes Simonse Vedder purchased the remainder of the patent from the heirs for £250. Here, then, was the first settlements on the Norman's Kill by Isaac and Omie La Grange and Koenradt Koens, about 1700. Several of the settlers about New Scotland took leases from these families as early as 1716. As these lands were mostly of good quality and invited settlers, the patroon laid claim to them and began a lawsuit, which was decided by the arbitrator in his favor (the arbitrator having been bribed, as the Van Baal heirs asserted), and on the 6th day of July, 1776, after having had these lands in possession ninety years, Simon J. Vedder, Arie (Aurie) La Grange and Volkert Vedder, with sixty-three other families, gave up their possession to the patroon. This patent extended west as far as Samuel Taylor's, east of Salem. The de La Grange family was a Huguenot family, driven from France into Holland by persecution, and one of the first settlers in Albany was Jost de La Grange.*

* Doc. History of New York.

The above is compiled from a sermon by Rev. James G. R. McClure, when pastor of New Scotland Presbyterian church.

One of the first settlers in this town was Teunis Slingerland, from Holland. He located on the Onisquethau flats, and purchased a tract of land from the Indians, receiving a deed signed by three chiefs. This deed is said to be in existence, but cannot be obtained; so the writer cannot fix dates or vouch for the authenticity of the transaction. Teunis Slingerland married Engeltje, a daughter of Albert Andriessen Bradt. Slingerland built a dwelling and erected mills soon after getting possession, and descendants of this family occupy a part of this tract, which contains superior farming land. This family came about 1660; at the same time Storm and Jan Bradt and a family of Segers settled in the town. Many of their descendants are living in this and adjoining townships.

In 1685 a deed was given to Teunis Slingerland and Johannes Apple, his son-in-law, by the representatives of the three races or clans of the Maquaes (Wolf, Bear and Turtle), owners and native proprietors of all the land called *O-nits-quat-haa.* The following extracts from this deed are given:

Sa-go-a-di-och—qui-sax, To-ho-daa-we, Ro-jen-dre, Tap-in-dan-e-go, Ro-jon-jow, So-ha-ayn-to-wanne, being empowered by all the sachems of the three races of the Maquaes, and by On-i-gho-cen-da, one of the principal owners, for and in consideration of the following goods, to wit, one piece of shrift, three casks of rum, three kettles, three shirts, hundred and fifty hands white wampum, and one bag of powder, sell, transport, convey, &c., &c., to Teunis Slingerland and William Apple, his son-in-law, their heirs, &c., a certain tract of land lying on the north side of a certain creek called O-nits-quat-haa, to the westward of Albany, lying behind Norman's Creek, about sixteen miles into the woods, and marked on the east and west end by a Wolf, Bear and Turtle, &c.

Barent Pieterse* claimed that this land was included in his patent, bought of the sachems at Catskill, April, 1673, which the Maquaes denied, and declared they were the owners. Pieterse after a time gave up his claim, and the Slingerland deed was signed, 1685, by the following:

	Mark.
SAG-O-A-DI-OCH	(Wolf) QUI-SAX,
RO-JEN-DRA	(Bear),
TO-HO-DAA	(Turtle) RAI-WE.

(These marks are crude pictures of the animals named.)

Signed in presence of PIETER SCHUYLER,
GARRET BAUCHRY,
WILLIAM TELLER.

* This was *Barent Pieterse Coeymans.* This tract is said to contain about 10,000 acres.

Recorded in Book of Deeds, No. 3, pp. 289 and 290, County Clerk's office.

1700 to 1750.—During this period in the history of our township a goodly number of immigrants arrived and settled in different parts of this wilderness town. They represented several of the European states, and brought with them the customs and peculiarities incident to their national education, and were a sturdy, industrious class, ready to meet the toil and privations that were before them. They came with wife and children to secure a home and future inheritance for the enjoyment of their posterity.

These early settlers had much to contend with before the forests were cleared, and the fields and meadows tilled and shorn. This was when the Indian roved through these wild woods, and the sweet melody of nature's songs filled with music every hill and dell; but, emulating the patience and self-denial of conscious manhood, they learned to overcome hardships and difficulties till time crowned their struggles with success. The history of many of these pioneers is full of romance and adventure, and could it be collected would form an interesting and exciting narrative. Their influence did much to model and shape the future destinies of public affairs.

The following names represent some of the men who came at this time: Francis Moak, Jacob Hellenbeck, Andries Houck, David Delong, Jonathan Hoogtaling, Isaac Pryce, Adam and John Long, W. Van Atten Brates, John Mead, Hallers Thompsons, Albert and Jan Bradt, Conradt Hoogtaling, Wm. Van Allen, Albert Slingerland, Storm Bradt.

1750 to 1775.—Up to this date the lands owned by the patroon were taken in possession by the settlers as squatters; few of them held leases. Slow progress was made in clearing and cultivating the land, so many unfavorable conditions and disadvantages to contend with that it required united efforts, with brave hearts and willing hands. The Slingerlands on the flats were in advance, and about this time erected the grist-mill near Clarksville. From 1750 to 1775 there was a large immigration of a sturdy, industrious class from Scotland, Ireland, England and other European states, possessing an intelligence which inspired them with courage to promote the well-being of each other, and by their influence give to the reformed religion an example worthy of Christianity. Actuated by these high motives, the moral power thus exerted was soon felt in the material and moral progress and improvement of the colonists.

The names of many who represent the above are: Henrick Bouse, Johannes Seger, Derk Terwilger, Nicholas Sigsbee, Henrick Albright, John Wademan, Samuel Taylor, —— Fuller, George Reid, George Swan, Ebenezer and John Wands, William and Charles McCulloch, David and William Allen, McBrides, Pattersons, Moaks, Jacksons, McCoughtrys, Ramsey, Kirklands, Bruce, Valks, Lenox, Congers, Anthony Waine, Wm. Pangburn, Samuel Erwin, Antone Slingerlant, Ingraham, Lampheres, and others.

1775 to 1800.—Following this period, after the close of the Revolution, great progress and enlightened changes marked a new era in the order of events. Cessation of hostilities brought a change in the affairs of government, which guaranteed security to life and property; and during the next twenty years a new impulse was given the industries by a large influx of intelligent settlers from adjoining counties, who became the recognized public men of authority, and contributed to the civil, political and religious progress, the material prosperity and general welfare of the people. Some of these were Johannes Markle, Frederick Reinhart Fuller, Benjamin Van Zandt, Conrod Bowe, John Furbeck, Benjamin Winne, Mathias Young, Nicholas Van Schaack, M. and F. Van Wormer, Elias Mattise, John Martin, John Stalker, Johnsons and De Reamers. Smiths, Mathias Winne, Richard Radliff. Many of their descendants are yet residents of the town, and with descendants of earlier settlers have occupied positions of trust and honor.

1833.—Since New Scotland became a township and invested with legal powers of local government, many of her citizens, who were descendants of the early settlers, became prominent as leading men in politics, foremost in public affairs, progressive in agriculture, and conspicuous in every enterprise that contributed to the general intelligence and moral elevation of the people. Besides those in the following list of officers, others are no less deserving of honorable mention for the service they have performed in civil, political, religious or educational interests during the past twenty-five years. Without being specific in detail as to personal merit, the following are given: Samuel Patton, Ephraim Hotaling, Edward Hotaling, Peter H. Flagler, Smith O'Brien, John S. Loucks, David D. L. McCullock, J. Martin Erwin, William J. Reid, John H. Hallenbeck, Henry H. Mead, Tunis Slingerland.

The first town meeting was held at the house of Edmund Raynsford, April 9, 1833, when the following were elected to their respective offices:

Supervisor, James Reid; Town Clerk, David Springstein; Justices of the Peace, Garret Van Allen, Frederic Markle, David G. Seger; Collector, Samul Moak; Assessors, Alex. McMillen, Anthony De Long, Robert Wands; Commissioners of Highways, John Furbeck, Jr., Wilhelmus Young, John P. Rowe; Commissioners of Schools, Edmund Raynsford, Christian Houck, James Patterson; Inspectors of Schools, Abram Fort, Samuel Dickson, David McCullock; Overseers of Poor, Charles McCullock, William Murphy; Sealer and Inspector, Thomas Lloyd; Poundmaster, Richard L. De Forest; Constables, Samuel Warren, James Winne, John Wagoner, David J. De Long. None of these men are living. Some of the above men had served in office in the Town of Bethlehem. Frederic Markle received his appointment and commission, as Justice, from Gov. Tompkins, in 1808, and held the office until 1844.

Samuel Dickson, M. D., was elected to Congress in 1855; John McEwen and Henry Fitch, who were born in this town, have served as Sheriffs; John R. Radley and Wm. J. Reid have served as Associate Justices; David D. D. McCullock, a term as Commissioner of Schools, and the following as Members of Assembly: Edmund Raynsford, Aaron Van Schaack, David G. Seger, Frederick Mathias, John Reid, Harman Van Derzee, Henry Creble, Peter Slingerland, Hiram Becker.

Statement of the real and personal property of New Scotland, as assessed and equalized in 1883—Amount of taxes levied, with rate thereon: Acres, 35,679; real, $2,534,636; personal, $101,300; total, $2,635,936; amount collected, $21,636; rate, .82; Collector, John R. Wayne.

Delaware and Hudson Canal Company—Total valuation, $34,000; tax, $278.80.

New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad—Total valuation, $31,800; tax, $260.76.

Population—1835, 3,030; 1855, 3,327; 1860, 3,304; 1865, 3,311; 1870, 3,410; 1875, 3,264; 1880, 3,253.

Farm and agricultural products of New Scotland, as per census of 1880:

	Bushels.	Value.	Acres.
Wheat	2,046	$2,557	158
Rye	30,245	25,000	2,664
Corn	45,805	30,775	1,752
Oats	111,892	55,946	3,668
Buckwheat	14,999	12,000	941
Barley	882	882	43
Potatoes	38,083	19,042	566
Apples	23,416	11,708	....

	Number.	Value.
Milch Cows	1,195	$47,800
Other Cattle	774	10,300
Oxen	103	7,150
Horses	1,103	132,361
Sheep	2,880	11,520
Swine	1,906	15,200
Fowls	16,543	8,272
Hay, tons	11,977	150,000
Butter, lbs	115,731	29,000
Honey, lbs	22,429	2,423
Eggs, dozen	84,331	12,040
Farms	382	2,436,750
Stock	....	231,384
Tools and Implements	....	125,189
Building and Repairing Fences	....	10,586
Cash paid for Fertilizers	....	2,610

In 1864 the agricultural returns were: Wheat, bushels, 354; oats, 40,824; corn, 26,448; potatoes, 31,917; apples, 41,567; cows, 1,349; butter, 140,678 pounds; horses, 1,069; sheep, 3,470.

Population in 1835—Males, 1,515; females, 1,515; voters, 640; aliens, 10; paupers, 8. Acres improved land, 19,395; cattle, 2,495; horses, 1,242; sheep, 4,018; swine, 1,861. Since 1835 the township has increased by only 223 inhabitants.

LIST OF SUPERVISORS, JUSTICES OF THE PEACE AND TOWN CLERKS, FROM 1833 TO 1884.

Year.	Supervisors.	Justices of the Peace.	Town Clerks.
1833..	James Reid.	Garret W. Van Allen.	David McCullock.
1833..	" "	Frederic Markle.	Thomas Lloyd.
1833..	" "	David G. Seger.	" "
1834..	" "	Tunis Houghtaling.	" "
1834..	" "	James Wands, 2d.	Joseph Wayne.
1835..	" "	Conradt Terwilger.	David McCullock, 1836.
1837..	" "	Peter V. W. Brooks.	" "
1839..	Aaron Van Schaack.	John R. Bullock.	" "
1840..	" "	William Van Allen.	" "
1841..	William Murphy.	Peter V. W. Brooks.	Robert Taylor.
1842..	" "	Anthony De Long.	" "
1843..	" "	Abram Van Dusen.	" "
1845..	Conrad Mathias.	William Murphy.	John Houck, 1844.
1846..	" "	John R. Radley.	" "
1846..	" "	Storm D. Bradt.	" "
1847..	Robert Taylor.	Myndert R. Veeder.	Alexander Reid.
1849..	" "	John R. Reid, 2d.	" "
1850..	" "	George Wands.	Jacob H. Delong.
1852..	John McEwen.	Robert Coughtry.	Simeon P. Simmons, 1851.
1852..	John Mathias.	Alanson Van Auken.	Thomas Bullock.
1854..	William Van Allen.	" "	" "
1855..	Peter V. W. Brooks.	" "	Thomas A. Reid.
1856..	" "	Daniel Robertson.	John Van Huysen.
1857..	James Slingerland.	" "	Isaac Van Wie.
1858..	" "	" "	James B. Wayne.
1859..	Samuel C. Rowe.	Michael W. Houghtaling.	" "
1860..	James Slingerland.	" "	" "
1861..	Henry Crounce.	" "	" "
1862..	James Slingerland.	William Mitchel.	Frederic R. Gardner.
1863..	John R. Taylor.	William J. Reid.	William R. Houghtaling.
1864..	" "	Silas Wright.	George A. Reid.
1865..	David Callanan.	" "	" "
1866..	Nicholas A. Delong.	" "	Samuel Patton.
1868..	Samuel Patton.	Nathan Crawford.	Frank Ingraham.
1869..	Nicholas B. Houck.	" "	" "
1870..	Alonzo B. Voorhees.	" "	Edwin L. Wright.
1871..	Robert Taylor.	" "	David P. Latta.
1873..	Tunis Slingerland.	" "	Nicholas H. McCullock.
1874..	Henry H. Mead.	" "	" "
1875..	Teunis Slingerland.	" "	" "
1876..	D. V. S. Raynsford.	Van Derzee Lagrange.	Joseph Allen, 1879.
1880..	" "	Ephriam Hotaling.	" "
1881..	Henry H. Mead.	Abram Relyea.	George B. Russel.
1882..	Hiram Bicker.	John Ryall.	David De Long.
1884..	Charles Wood.	" "	Jacob H. De Long.

The figures denote the year of election to office.

CHURCH HISTORY.

The great Reformation which Luther proclaimed spread with wonder over Europe, severing the chain of servile and subverted liberties, which brought light to the dark and superstitious minds so long held in abject bondage, and enkindled a spirit of hatred toward those who were converts to the new doctrines, or espoused the cause of christian independence. Liberty of conscience was interdicted; persecution followed, with barbaric cruelties; deprivations endured, and at last many were driven from their homes and country; protection denied those who were followers of this gospel reform, and they became exiles in the more liberal states of Europe, or sought the shores of the New World, where freedom to worship God according to the dictates of an enlightened conscience would not be denied them.

A country free from the dictation of priestly rule offered a home to the persecuted of France, and to those who sought refuge in Holland. Thus it is that those exiles who came here brought with them the sterling qualities which had been taught by self-denial and the higher principles of religion and christian civilization, which have left their impress upon the present posterity.

The independence which characterized the immigrants to this town was deeply infused in their devout zeal for advancing the cause of human happiness, and to establish, not only freedom of religious opinion, but freedom of speech and government. Many of these were Huguenots, who had been driven by persecution to escape the loathsome

prisons and cruelties which awaited them if they adhered to a religion not in accordance with the Catholic faith and Jesuitical dogmas. Others from Holland came with their souls full of love and truth, which had been taught them, and accepted the Bible as the revealed word of God, which offered unto men a standard of faith and worship to be found only in the confession of the gospel, which was best adapted for their intellectual and moral good. To them, in a great degree, we are indebted for the blessing of religious liberty and freedom of worship, for the first fruits of independence and the establishment of christian principles, which exalt us above other peoples.

Let us not forget that all these blessings were purchased for us at the cost of life and property, of banishment from their native land, of trial and privation, of persecution and bloodshed; and how little do we know of their dark and anxious hours, of their losses and momentous struggles; and shall we make no effort to hand down the fruits of their sacrifices and of their daring energy to our posterity, to pass the torch of religious liberty unquenched to those who stand next us in line?

These men brought with them a deep, healthy, spiritual devotedness to the Christian religion, and by their teaching and example have left with us results that are constantly growing more prominent and powerful. Our advancement in all essentials that contributed to the intelligence, prosperity and moral relations of society is largely the product of ideas taught by these men as they had faith to comprehend doctrines consistent with human intellect and revealed in scripture.

The religion of Christianity is a power in forming the character of any community or society, and the influence exerted is always a factor in the interest of mankind, and when recognized as an element in government it will endure through all time.

We now come to the history and organization of the several evangelical churches in the town, of which there are nine, viz.: five Reformed Protestant, three Methodist Episcopal and one Presbyterian.

Among the early settlers in the town were several families from Scotland and the North of Ireland, who brought with them the orthodox faith and doctrines of Wyckliffe and Knox, which they were anxious to perpetuate and establish in their new home, as a legacy from their persecuted fathers, who had been taught in the school of Calvinism, and with rigid training had deeply implanted in their hearts devout reverence for the Bible and firm faith in the doctrines of their church.

Their only means for hearing the word preached or receiving the ordinances of their church, as marriages, baptisms and catechism examinations, was at Albany, a distance of ten miles, and many of them were obliged to walk or go on horseback. Mrs. Cullings was so devout an attendant that she frequently walked to Duanesburg to attend the Scotch Presbyterian Church.

About the year 1776 a Presbyterian missionary came to what is now New Scotland village, then in the township of Watervliet, and under two large oak trees, which stood near where the blacksmith shop now is, preached for these willing hearers the first sermon heard in the neighborhood, and laid the foundation for a church organization, which was effected in the year 1787 by the Presbytery of Suffolk, afterward called the Presbytery of Long Island; this was a frontier mission church.

In 1789 this church was transferred to the Presbytery of New York.

The next year, 1790, the Presbytery of Albany was established by order of the Synod of New York and New Jersey. This new Presbytery held its first meeting in Albany on the 9th of November, 1791.

At this meeting New Scotland petitioned for supplies, and Presbytery granted their request by naming three ministers who should each give a Sabbath. At the next session Mr. Condict supplied them one Sabbath in March and Mr. Lindsley two Sabbaths in September. In 1792 Mr. Lindsley preached on eight Sabbaths for this people. From this time till March, 1795, they had no stated preacher; but now they were more successful and a call was extended to the Rev. Benjamin Judd, which he accepted, and was installed on the 2d of September, 1795. The Lord's Supper was celebrated for the first time on the second Sabbath of May, 1796, with 22 communicants. David Allen and Michael Bruce, elders.

The first board of trustees was constituted, February 28, 1791, by the election of Thomas Burnside, Peter Cutchen, James Henderson, John Jackson, John McCoughtry and John Vores.

In 1791 a building was erected and used for religious purposes, and in 1795 the parsonage or glebe was occupied by the first pastor, Rev. Benjamin Judd, whose full amount of salary was $250.

Mr. Judd's pastorate was of short duration, for in less than a year he was dismissed by Presbytery for specific charges, and on the 13th of November, 1798, John Arnold, the second pastor, was in-

stalled. He had formerly been minister of the Presbyterian congregation of Ballybay, in the County of Monoghan, Kingdom of Ireland. But in less than three years Presbytery was called upon to assert its authority here, as Mr. Arnold had transferred his ministerial calling, and serious charges were preferred against him; but he fled from the bounds of Presbytery and thus escaped trial.

The church was without a pastor until October 27, 1807, when Thomas Holiday was ordained and installed. He was a North of Ireland man, and came to this country when nineteen years old. He never attended college, but studied under a Dutch Reformed minister, and was transferred from the Classis of Paramus to Albany Presbytery. He continued as pastor of this church until the 29th of February, 1831. He was born in 1773, and died in 1840; was buried at Ridgeburg. He was a successful preacher of the times, but adopted the customs and usages then in vogue, which oftentimes by his example interfered with his high calling and destroyed his influence for good.

It was the custom in this church to use Rouse's version of the Psalms in singing, also to have them lined by a precentor; but the young people preferred Watts', and this innovation was bitterly opposed by the old Scotchman. Yet Domine Holiday had the courage to change the order and divide the time to please both parties. On the first Sabbath a Watts psalm was read, which at once caught the quick ears of the reverent worshipers, who detected the change, and many left the house until after singing the Watts psalm. Archie McBride returned and ordered his family to leave the house, and never afterward entered the church.

The fourth pastor was James McDonald, born near Paisley, Scotland, 1790. He was ordained and installed on the 30th of October, 1832. He remained until the 5th of February, 1834. He died at Springdale, Wisconsin, on the 6th of October, 1836.

This anecdote is worth recording: Dr. Edwin N. Kirk, once of Albany, came to New Scotland on a Sabbath morning to preach, and brought one of his best discourses to entertain the rural congregation. After its delivery, Mr. McDonald arose to offer the concluding prayer, and used these words: "And now, Lord God, send down Thy Holy Spirit and crack the skull of this young man. Take away his vanity and conceit and put some of Thine own wisdom there."

Dr. Kirk never forgot New Scotland, although he became a distinguished preacher.

Robert Knell, an Englishman, supplied the pulpit for a brief time after McDonald's departure.

Reuben Sears became the fifth pastor, and was installed, October 16, 1836. The pastoral connection ceased, June 10, 1845.

On all great moral questions his views were radical. He never swerved from what he considered his duty, and in spite of remonstrances he continued to offer anti-slavery and tee-total resolutions before Presbytery, which were always laid on the table; yet had he lived only a few years longer he could have gloried in being one of the many whose works do follow them. Human slavery was abolished at a fearful sacrifice and cost, and the same fate awaits the sum of all evils—intemperance. Advocates who have pleaded for the overthrow of these national curses have been stigmatized as fanatics; yet how true it is—

> "We live in deeds, not years,
> In thoughts, not figures on a dial."

To Mr. Sears is due the first organization of a permanent Sabbath school. He died at Prophetstown, Illinois, July 25, 1846.

Gains Mills Blodgett served the congregation as stated supply from June, 1846, until June, 1856. He was a chaplain in the U. S. army during the Rebellion, and at its close was honorably mustered out of service.

In 1856 Walter Powell declined a call from this church, but temporarily supplied the pulpit.

On the 29th of November, 1857, John James Cameron became by ordination and installation the sixth pastor. His ministry here extended until the 19th of August, 1860, when, his health failing, he resigned. Upon the organization of the 17th N. Y. Vol. Regiment he was commissioned as 2d Lieutenant, November, 1861. He died serving his country, May, 1862, a victim to malaria and exposure of camp life.

The seventh in the line of pastors was Samuel L. Gamble. His first sermon was preached in April, 1861. Accepting a call, he was ordained and installed, 27th August, 1861, and the connection between him and the church was dissolved, December 12, 1867. In 1870 he became pastor of the Reformed Church at Guilderland Center, where he still remains.

At the General Assembly meeting in Albany, 1868, Mr. James William Edie, of the Presbytery of New Castle, was invited to preach before this congregation. Complying with the reqnest, he made so favorable an impression that a call was extended, which he accepted, and became the eighth pastor of this church, November 10, 1868.

He remained here until September 18, 1870, when his connection with this church was dissolved. He died 10th September, 1874.

William G. Handy, the ninth pastor, was installed, July 3, 1871, and granted a dissolution by the Presbytery the 10th of February, 1874.

James G. K. McClure, of Albany, was licensed by Albany Presbytery, June, 12, 1872, and was ordained and installed as the tenth pastor of this church and congregation, December 10, 1874.

His pastoral relation with the people was highly appreciated, and with the young he was held in just estimation; the pleasant, affable courtesy which he extended to all, the genial address and cultivated politeness, rendered him a favorite with the young and endeared him to all with whom he associated. After serving with satisfaction a people who were sincerely attached to his ministry, he resigned his charge, September 19, 1879, and was dismissed by Presbytery to continue his work in other fields.

The eleventh pastor, Rev. Wm. H. Ford, was installed, April, 1880, and continued his ministry until June, 1882, when he resigned. Mr. Ford was received from the Classis of the Reformed Church, and preached to this congregation with general satisfaction.

During the summer of 1883 the pulpit of this church was supplied by the Rev. Mr. Nason.

On the 29th of May, 1884, the Rev. Dewitt G. Rockefeller was installed the twelfth pastor.

We find, as early as 1791, a building had been erected and was used for divine service; at a later period this building was lengthened, and the pews were made square, except those on each side of the pulpit. The elders sat in front of the pulpit, which was high from the floor, with a sounding board—the shape of a large umbrella—directly over the minister's head.

During the residence here of Mr. Blodgett, in 1848, the old church building was taken down and a new one erected, which required nearly two years in completing; it was finished in 1849, containing 48 pews, with doors. While the new church was being built service was held in the Hall of Mr. Raynsford. Under the Rev. J. W. Edie's pastorate, in 1869, the dimensions of the church building were again enlarged by the addition of 16 feet, which secured 16 more pews. The interior of the house was refurnished, walls frescoed, and wood painted, at a total cost of $4,000.

In the year 1877–78 a basement was constructed under the whole length of the building, which is used for chapel and Sabbath school purposes. Again, in the spring of 1884, the interior or audience room was renovated and rich wall paper used in place of fresco-work.

The real estate of this church was the gift of Stephen Van Rensselaer, the fourth Patroon. The deed bears date February 19, 1793, and reads: "For and in consideration of ten shillings, lawful money," he granted the trustees "a parcel of land, beginning at a marked black oak tree in William McKollock's line, containing one hundred and fifty-six (156) acres, the same to be used for divine worship, and for no other intent or purpose whatsoever."

This property was part of the farm now owned by Robert Moak, and, being distant from the church, was exchanged with Jacob Moak's, who owned seventy-three and four-fifth acres adjoining the original church lot. On the 19th or June, 1795, the Patroon gave his permission to the transaction, and Jacob Moak took the church farm on the Cliff ("clepp"). On the 6th of February, 1844, Stephen Van Rensselaer gave the trustees a quit-claim deed for this farm, and on February 27, 1872, the remaining part of this property, about sixty acres, was sold to Derrick V. S. Raynsford. The parsonage and attachments, the church edifice and sheds, are valued at $12,000.

In September, 1877, the parsonage, with much of its contents and valuables belonging to Rev. J. G. K. McClure, was consumed by fire.

Another building, of modern architecture, was soon after erected, and during the autumn and winter following the basement under the church edifice was constructed.

The history of "New Scotland Presbyterian Church" is largely taken from McClure's historical sermon of the same.

The Reformed Churches of this township are five in number, located at Jerusalem, New Salem, Clarksville, Union and Onisquethau.

The Protestants on the continent of Europe were divided into two great divisions, known by the names of Lutherans and Reformed. The Reformed Church had its origin in Switzerland, under Zwingle, and was more fully developed under Calvin.

The Hollanders were the first who planted the Reformed Church in America, as it had been distinctly known on the continent.

The early title or name of the Reformed Church in 1818 was "Reformed Protestant Church." In 1840 the word Dutch was added, when it become "Reformed Protestant Dutch Church." In 1867, by an ecclesiastical order, the name was again

changed to "The Reformed Church in America," and the several States in which churches of this denomination were established confirmed this title by legislative enactments.

Emigrants from Holland settled in this town as early as 1650, but no records can be obtained showing that these people assembled in public worship earlier than 1780. Previous to this date those whose hearts prompted them to worship with the pious people of their fatherland and conform to the old-established religion of the Reformed Protestant Church of Holland thought it no hardship, if they could enjoy this privilege, to walk or ride on horseback to Albany, the nearest place where these ministers spoke their native tongue. Here as yet was the only Dutch church, and on communion occasions these few families were sure to wend their way to Albany, taking with them their young children for baptism.

If the parents were fortunate to own a horse, a family of three could be carried on its back; otherwise the distance had to be traveled on foot, over rough trails and circuitous by-paths, as roads at that time were not common, owing to the few settlers and the great distance they lived from each other.

It was customary then for each baptized child to have a godfather or godmother as sponsors, and these frequently accompanied the parents.

Schenectady followed Albany in securing Holland preachers, and as population increased, these were sent to remote neighborhoods as missionaries to preach the gospel and teach the doctrines of their church. From 1780 to '85 there seems to have been some form of preaching to the people of Jerusalem, but there are no records previous to 1786, when Dirck Romeyn, of Schenectady, came through this town, preaching, baptizing and performing the marriage ceremony. His record covers baptisms of what now constitutes the Reformed churches of the town. He had three places or stations where the people gathered for public worship at stated appointments. These were Helderberg, Salem and Jerusalem. Dirck Romeyn must have had these three places in charge as pastor, according to his record, until 1794, when Rev. Harmanus Van Huysen came from New Jersey and become pastor of this congregation and Helderberg, dividing his time between them.

In the year 1790 an organization was effected and a house of worship erected for the congregation of Jerusalem. This house was located between Union and Jerusalem, which now offered to the people a place for them to assemble and enjoy the great blessings of attending worship under their own vine and extend the branches to others; privileges which had been denied many were fully appreciated, and the frequent commingling of the farmers, who were now brought together almost every Sabbath, taught them lessons of forbearance and charity, and their social greetings were bonds of Christian fellowship.

From and after 1800 there were great changes in the condition of material prosperity, and the township became settled by a more intelligent class of farmers, who secured advantages which had been in a great measure the labor of earlier occupants.

This congregation received its share of spiritual blessings, and under earnest preaching from its pastor increased and multiplied in numbers, as well as extended its bounds of usefulness, so that the old building which had been used so many years for religious purposes was fast becoming too small for the increasing congregation. A more central location was selected, and in the year 1825 a new one was erected, which is the present edifice at Jerusalem (Feura Bush). It was in this year that Rev. Harmanus Van Huysen closed his labors in this church and at Salem. After many years of toil and hardship endured, he retired to spend his declining days with his family, surrounded by those who were dear to him as friend and neighbor, and receive the benediction of the church, "well done, good and faithful servant." He died, 1833, on his farm near New Salem, and is buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

The present house of worship at Jerusalem is a frame structure and will seat 500 persons. It has been repaired and otherwise improved in its appearance, conveniences and attractions; connected with the church is a parsonage and commodious sheds for the accommodations of those who attend upon the Sabbath.

The house of worship is pleasantly located, with a fine grove surrounding it, which furnishes an inviting resort for Sabbath school celebrations and social gatherings.

The following is the order of ministers who have succeeded each other as pastors of this church: Harmanus Van Huysen, from 1794 to 1825; Samuel Kissam, from 1828 to 1841; Staats Van Santvoord, 1844 to 1854; —— Compton, 1854 to 1860; A. V. Gulich, 1860 to 1865; Alexander C. Millspaugh, 1866 to 1872; Edwin Veeder, the present pastor, 1873. The church reports 93 families, 126 communicants, 150 Sabbath school scholars. Total amount of money contributed for all purposes, $682. Parsonage and church property, $10,000.

The history of Salem Reformed Church is connected with that of Jerusalem; from 1786 to 1794 Dirck Romeyn, of Schenectady, was here as a missionary, and served the people, who were Hollanders, with a few German families, and they had many discouragements and difficulties to contend with. During his visits the people would assemble in some house or barn, and in this primitive way were attentive listeners to the sermon, which was

delivered in their own language. Changes in this mode of worship followed, as the people became more anxious for regular and stated preaching.

Dominie Van Huysen is now providentially sent to them, and has charge of Helderberg and Jerusalem congregations; as yet there seems to be no regular society here, and Salem served as a way station between the other two churches, holding services as often as convenient for the administration of the sacrament, performing baptisms and solemnizing marriages. These meetings were usually held in the house or barn of Johannes Markes, about a half mile south of New Salem.

There seems to have been an organization formed as early as 1794, but no records of officers. It was not until 1813 that a permanent organization was put in working order, and at this time Mr. Van Huysen must have been the installed pastor of Salem.

The first officers of the church were Benjamin Van Zandt, John Terwilliger, John Van Etten, Jacob I. Hallenbeck, Frederick Fuller, Jeremiah Cronssler, John A. Severson and David Van Etten. In this year a church building, of wood, was erected, with high-back seats, a gallery on two sides and end, with a high pulpit, and an ornamented sounding board over the minister's head. The whole inside was ceiled with pine, and the center was arched up to the roof. In this building many learned divines have preached to the people of this valley.

The usual method of notifying the people when the Sabbath morning service commenced was by blowing a tin horn, as many made their first call at the tavern. The land upon which this church was erected was the gift of Stephen Van Rensselaer.

This building was taken down in 1844 and another erected very nearly upon the same spot. This was a more modern structure, of wood, with gallery, closed pews, with doors, and a cupola containing a bell, the gift of M. & J. Hendrickson, of Albany; the cost of the building was $1,200. The following were building committee: Willhelmus Young, Frederic Markle, Frederic Fuller, Peter L. Houck.

Temporal prosperity as well as spiritual growth having attended this congregation in the past years, the minds and hearts of many were prompted, as a thank-offering, to increase and extend the moral influence of their religious benefits, and concluded that with a house of worship, attractive in appearance and comfortable in its arrangements, they could best fulfill this intention by the erection of a new church edifice. Efforts were rewarded with encouraging results, and it was resolved that the enterprise receive immediate action. The congregation own a parsonage and lot, east of the present church building, and upon this ground, in 1875, was erected a large modern church edifice of wood, at a cost of $10,000.

The building is chaste in its architectural design, having a large audience room and gallery, lighted by stained-glass windows, seats in walnut and chestnut, elegant pulpit, frescoed walls, and is heated from two furnaces in the basement, which is completely furnished for chapel or Sabbath school purposes. The spire is 120 feet high and contains a bell. The furnishing and other necessary expenses amount to $2,000. The foundation is 44 x 60 feet, and the audience room will seat 600. The contract builder was Peter Smith, and the building committee Robert Moak, Peter S. Albright and John H. Hallenbeck.

The house was dedicated, October, 1875, under the pastoral charge of Nicholas Pearse; the dedicatory sermon was preached by the Rev. John A. Lansing, D. D. The old church building and lot were purchased by Abram Mann, and is yet standing on the ground of the first church. The following is the order and names of ministers who have been installed or officiated as pastors of this church: Dirck Romeyn, from 1786 to 1794; Harmanus Van Huysen, 1794 to 1825; R. J. Blair, 1825; H. A. Dumont, 1826; Ira C. Boice, 1826 to 1829; Abram Fort, 1829 to 1836; S. V. E. Westfall, 1837 to 1843; S. Van Santvoord, 1843 to 1844; J. V. Vandervolgen, 1846 to 1848; J. Middlemass, 1854 to 1855; A. G. Lansing, 1858 to 1861; H. Slauson, 1862 to 1866; J. Kershow, 1867 to 1872; N. Pearse, 1873 to 1877; A. G. Lansing, 1877, and continues as pastor.

The president of consistory reports: No. of families, 100; communicants, 212; Sabbath school, 176 scholars; money for all purposes for the past year, $1,686. The following are the members of consistory: Elders—Christopher Terwilliger, John E. Taylor, Peter S. Albright, John L. Van Olinda. Deacons—William M. Young, James Markle, James N. Moak, Alfred Taylor.

The Reformed Church of Union was organized in 1825, from Jerusalem and Salem congregations. The first pastor was Rev. Ira C. Boice, who preached also at Salem. The church edifice is a large, commodious frame building, with belfry and spire. There are a parsonage and sheds upon the church lots. The past year, the spire was blown down and other damage sustained, which rendered it necessary for repairs and other improvements. The spire was not replaced, but the bell forgets not to give its welcome sound. With the several improvements, it is now an attractive house of worship, being conveniently arranged and neatly furnished. The audience room will seat 350. Value of church property, $5,000. The following is the order of ministers who have served as pastors of this congregation since its organization: Ira C. Boice, from 1825 to 1829; Abram Fort, 1830 to 1836; S. V. E. Westfall, 1837 to 1847; D. A. Jones, 1848 to 1850; B. F. Murden, 1850 to 1854; J. M. Compton, 1854 to 1860; A. V. Gulrick, 1860 to 1864; W. H. Ballagh, 1865 to 1868; — Demerest, 1871 to 1874; J. M. Compton, again, 1876 to 1878; A. C. Millspaugh, 1878, and continues present pastor.

The consistory is composed of the following members, viz.: Elders—H. H. Vanderzee, John S. Van Atten, Michael Slingerland, Isaac Van Atten. Deacons—Daniel H. Heller, B. F. Van

Atten, Leonard Litchfield, Cornelius Slingerland. The president of consistory reports: Families, 50; communicants, 49; Sabbath school scholars, 60; money contributed for all purposes the past year, $750.

The Reformed Church of Onisquethau.—This was originally a Presbyterian church, having been organized by the Presbytery of Albany in 1824, and a church edifice erected, 1825; Rev. Thomas Holliday, pastor. During the construction of the Erie Canal, a large force of men quarried stone at this place for building the locks and for other purposes. This stone was hauled by four and six-horse teams to the nearest point on the works. The smaller ones, being rejected, were used in part to build this church. The stone mason was Barrent Spose, with other workmen.

In the year 1839 the church and property passed into the possession of the consistory of the Reformed Church, and with it a change of name and government. The church building and sheds are located in a large lot, with pleasant surroundings.

During this present year (1884) all the internal construction and fixtures have been removed, and the plan of the audience room materially changed in convenience and general arrangement. It now compares favorably with other rural churches. Will seat 250. Church property valued at $2,500.

The following persons have been pastors since it became a Reformed church: Staats Van Santvoord, 1839 to 1864; A. C. Millspaugh, 1866 to 1872; Edwin Vedder, 1873 to 1883.

Consistory report for the year: Families, 50; communicants, 64; Sabbath school, 50; money contributed for all purposes, $350.

The following are the present members of consistory: Elders—Peter Van Atten, Walter McCullock, Henry H. Mead, John Sickles. Deacons—Edward Mitchel, John Osterhout, Conrad Mosher, Richard Vanderbelt.

The Reformed Church of Clarksville was organized in 1853 by the Rev. Staats Van Santvoord, with a membership of seven. Rev. Jasper Middleman was first pastor. A house of worship was erected in 1853, at a cost of $2,400. Since then sheds have been erected and other improvements made. The building is of wood, and will seat 250.

Report for the year is: Families, 61; communicants, 106; Sabbath school scholars, 178; contributions for all purposes, $498.

Present consistory: Elders—John F. Markle, John B. Shafer, Frederic R. Gardner, Edward Hotaling. Deacons—John D. McCullock, Leonard Applebee, James Hallenbeck, Thomas Kant.

The pastors of this church have been: Rev. J. Middlemas, A. G. Lansing, from 1858 to 1862; Hiram Slauson, 1862 to 1866; W. H. Ballagh, 1867 to 1869; J. Westveer, 1869 to 1871; Nicholas Pearse, 1873 to 1877; A. G. Lansing, again, 1877 to 1883.

About the year 1813 a few families of Friends, who were residents in the neighborhood of New Salem, formed a society, and held their semi-weekly meetings at the house of Thomas Bushmore, afterward at the house of Abigail Bennett. In the year 184– they purchased a lot of land in the eastern part of the village of New Salem, and erected a meeting house, which was used until 1860. Their membership becoming too small to continue meetings longer, the society was abandoned. Bushmores, Bennetts and Woods were the prominent families.

The Methodist Episcopal churches of New Scotland are three in number, and this branch of the Protestant Church is of more recent date than the others. The first Methodist preacher in this town was Freeborn Garrison, who was an itinerant missionary in establishing churches, and would occasionally stop on his way to Knox, where he formed a society. Methodist preachers and exhorters who came through the town and held their meeting in school and private houses were Elias Vanderlip, Bergely Howe, Sherman Miner, Stebbins and Jollie G. Young. It was about 1820 that an organization was effected, and in 1824 a church building was erected in the northwest part of the township, and known as the "Black Creek Methodist Church." This building was of wood, and is the house now used by the society. Improvements have been made in its internal arrangement, commodious sheds attached, and connected with the church is a burial ground. Among the originators of this church enterprise and society were Saxon Chesebrough, Jacob Martin, John Jackson, John P. Crounse, Benjamin Holmes, John E. Oliver, E. Switzer, Samuel Martin; the first pastor was William Johnson; the present pastor, Rev. Mr. Fisher. The value of church property, $6,000; number of members, 90; families, 40; Sabbath school scholars, 100; amount collected for church and benevolent purposes, $400.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of New Salem was organized in 1850, and a house of worship erected the same year upon a lot purchased from Abram Mann, situated on the main road in the north part of the village. The building cost $1,500. The construction of sheds and other improvements of recent date increases the value of this property to $3,500. The belfry has a fine-toned bell, which sends its sweet sounds through the valley, echoing from hill to hill, and calling the people to the house of worship. The Rev. C. Warrick is the present pastor. The roll of members, 35; families, 25; Sabbath school, 45; contributions for all purposes, $300.

Among the members who were active in the organization of this society, and largely through whose efforts the building was erected, were Ebenezer A. Fitch, Alanson Van Auken and Andrew J. Smith.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Clarksville was organized in the year 1860 by the Rev. S. S. Stillman, as pastor, and a house of worship erected the next year, at an expense of $4,000. The structure is of wood, with a finished basement. The seating capacity is 300. The present year (1884) the trustees of this church sold their parsonage and lot to Peter H. Flagler, and will build a parsonage in the rear of the church. The present

membership is 40; number of families, 35. The Rev. C. Warrick is now serving the society and congregation as pastor. The church officers are: Robert McLaughlin, Hiram Ingraham, S. P. Simmons, A. Van Wie, Jacob Miller, Lucian Haight, Silas Wright.

VILLAGES.

New Salem is a post village at the foot of the Helderbergs, on the old Beaverdam road, now the Albany and New Scotland plank road. It is pleasantly located in the valley formed by the Helderbergs on the west and a range of hills on the east. The mountain just back of this village has an elevation of 1,700 feet above tide-water.

The place was settled as early as 1770, and among the first who came here were Seth Price, Bashmanger, Christian Bradt and Van Valkenberg, or Valick. These were followed by John Stalker and family, John Wamp, or Wemple, Obadiah Cooper, Benjamin Van Zandt, Crousler and others. Alexander Stather built a large house in 1807 for a tavern, which has been used continuously for the same purpose, and is now occupied by William Southard and owned by Abram Mann. This property was in the possession of David G. Seger for many years. There was an inn kept by Johannes Markle, a half mile south of Salem, as early as 1792. The Beaverdam road passed through the Hendrickson and Markle farms, but in 1806 its course was changed so as to run down the hill, as now. From this time Salem dates its progress; several houses were built and a church erected. Buildings and a yard for a tannery were the first enterprise by Beriah Chesebrough, which were continued as a tannery until bark became scarce. It was then converted into a saw-mill, with water power, and now is used as a feed and saw-mill, with a 30-horse-power engine. The property is now owned by John H. Mathias. A saw-mill was erected about 1800, on the Spring Creek above the village, on what was part of the Winne farm.

In 1829–30 Aaron Van Schaack built a large house for a store and tavern. Soon after the town was formed a post-office was established here, and the name adopted as "New Salem." Previous to this it was "Punkintown." Van Schaack was the first postmaster. The mail was carried by John W. St. John, with a coach and four horses, from Berne to Albany, on Monday and Friday, and returned on Tuesday and Saturday. Mail is now received daily. Early blacksmiths: Gordon, Hendrickson, Albright. The first schools were taught in private houses. The school-house was built about 1823. Teachers: Hoyt, Woodberry, Rogers, Lathrop, Earl and Wesley Dollar. The last, a dread to all scholars, taught in the old school-house which stood on the road opposite the cemetery gate. In 1839 David C. Segar erected a building, which was rented by Thomas D. Bennett for a store. This is now used as a shoe and harness shop. The present store building was erected in 1875, and is owned by J. M. Erwin, who is postmaster. The village contains no manufacturing establishments beyond those necessary for home supply. The property of Aaron Van Schaack is now owned by Abram Mann, for hotel purposes.

The village is twelve miles from Albany, on the plank road, three miles north of Clarksville, four miles south of Voorheesville Station, and three miles west of New Scotland P. O. It contains 42 dwellings, 47 families and 200 inhabitants; a Reformed and Methodist church, school-house, two hotels, one store, two harness shops, one shoe shop, two blacksmith shops, a wheelwright and carpenter shop, tin shop, one paint shop, fruit evaporator, a milliner and dressmaking rooms; and the professions are represented by one physician, Dr. Hiram Becker, and one clergyman, Rev. Abram G. Lansing, of the Reformed Church.

Clarksville is the largest village in the town, situated on elevated ground in the northwest part, on the old Delaware turnpike road, which forms the main street, while the Onisquethau Creek flows along the southern side. This was originally Bethlehem P. O., and Henry L. Mead, postmaster; the mails were carried on horseback. The present name was given to it from Adam A. Clark, who came here about 1822. Joseph Webster carried mail from Albany to Rensselaerville.

The early settlers were William Bose, who lived in a log house; Samuel Ingraham, who kept tavern in the upper part of the village, not far from David McCullock's old store; Joseph Bright, who kept a tavern where George Fuller now lives. Later, Henry L. Mead (Judge) became a prominent citizen and postmaster. He was a son of John, who settled at Tarrytown. Soon after 1800 many changes took place. Harmanus Bogardus, a carpenter, came here from Feura Bush, erected buildings and kept tavern. He also built a house for Judge Mead, where Michael Flansburgh now lives. A man by the name of Jenkins also kept a tavern. The "Albany and Delaware Turnpike" was chartered in 1805, soon after which the road was constructed. This brought travel from Rensselaerville, and Clarksville, being half-way, was a convenient place for the traveler to take rest and entertainment. This accounts for the numerous public houses at that time. About 1822 Bogardus sold his property to Adam A. Clark, who continued the business for many years. It is now owned by Isaac Schermerhorn and kept as a hotel. The first log school-house stood opposite S. P. Simmon's shop, and was used occasionally for religious meetings.

Francis Seger and Mr. Taylor were early teachers. The present school-house is a fine building, erected in 1881, and located in the west end of the village; William Keenholts, teacher.

In the year 1841 Peter L. Houck built a saw-mill on the Onisquethau Creek, which furnishes the water power; it is now owned by Frederic R. Gardner. In 1845 Rushmore Bennett and John Murphy built a saw-mill and flour-mill containing three run of stone. At first only water power was used. Now a 40-horse-power engine is substituted in case of necessity. This mill now belongs to Robert McLaughlin.

There are two caves here, which are visited by many persons.

The village contains a Reformed and Methodist church, 3 hotels, 3 stores, 2 harness shops, 2 wheelwright and 3 blacksmith shops, 1 bakery, 2 shoe shops, 1 stove and tin shop, 2 paint shops, 2 saw-mills, 1 grist-mill, 1 undertaker, meat market and dressmaking, 3 physicians, 4 lawyers; has 67 dwellings, 78 families, and 300 inhabitants. Clarksville is 12 miles west of Albany. Silas Wright, postmaster.

New Scotland, in the northeast, is a post-office and hamlet, with 15 dwelling, 17 families and 75 inhabitants. The Presbyterian Church is located here, to which is attached the New Scotland Cemetery; contains some fine monuments. The name is derived from the many Scotch settlers who came here about 1765. There was a post-office here as early as 1820; Adam Holliday, postmaster; he was succeeded by Edmund Raynsford, who was a resident of the place for 50 years. Some of the early settlers were: Jacob Moak, Anthony Wayne, Henrick Bouse, William McCullock, who had a tannery near the plank road, south of Albertus Bucker's; Christie, Bellamy, Holiday and Wayne kept tavern; the present hotel and property were formerly owned by Ed. Raynsford; it is now kept by Mrs. Geo. Reid and son. A tannery was built by Peter Rushmore, on the premises now owned by Henry McMillen. A log school-house was the attraction for the boys and girls 80 years ago; now a more inviting and comfortable house, with pleasant surroundings and a bell, call them for improved facilities in gaining knowledge. The present house was built in 1866. The parsonage belonging to the Presbyterian Church was burned in 1877. The barn and sheds of Derick V. S. Raynsford, also the sheds belonging to the tavern, were burned in 1878.

The business portion of the village consists of a hotel, one store, shoe shop, wheelwright and blacksmith shop, 2 harness shops. Dr. John H. Fitch is the resident physician and surgeon. The village is pleasantly situated 8 miles from Albany, on the plank road, and one-half mile from the New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad, and 2 miles from Slingerland Station, Albany and Susquehanna Railroad. George W. Coughtry, postmaster.

Feura Bush (Jerusalem P. O.), a hamlet two miles south of Unionville, near the line of Bethlehem, is a station on the New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad, eight miles from Albany. The neighborhood represents some of the first settlements in the township by such names as Moak, Brate, Bradt, Sager, Creble, Bogardus and others. A Reformed church, school-house, store, tavern, wheelwright and blacksmith shop, with a dozen houses and 50 inhabitants, make up the village. Hay and straw are extensively loaded at this station.

Unionville (Union Church P. O.), east of the Center, on the old Delaware turnpike, and a station of the New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad, contains the Reformed Church, school-house, tavern, blacksmith and wheelwright shop, 15 houses and 60 inhabitants. Christian Houck was an early tavern-keeper; also, David Chesebro. Among the first settlers were Bradts, Hallers, Longs, Wademans, Sigsbee and Radleys. Peter Stoner kept a tavern on Stony Hill, and Dr. Dennick kept a tavern between Union and Clarksville, on the Van Derpool farm; post-office discontinued.

Callanan's Corners is a post-office and small hamlet in the east corner formed by the angle of Bethlehem and Coeymans; the village is partly in each township. The post-office is in New Scotland. The name is derived from two brothers, who settled here 50 years ago. There is a store, post-office, shoe shop, wheelwright and blacksmith shop, and the hamlet contains 50 inhabitants. James McWilliams, postmaster.

Voorheesville, in the northern central part, near the Guilderland line, takes its name from Alonzo B. Voorhees, a lawyer, who built the first house, in 1862, before the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad was completed. This mansion and grounds are now the property of S. V. R. Hoes. Peter Wormer erected a building and kept the first store. William Spore built a fine dwelling a short distance south of the railroad. In 1868 it was designated as a post-office, and James A. Reid first postmaster. After the Hudson and Saratoga Railroad was constructed, which crosses the Albany and Saratoga Railroad track at this place, a number of houses were built and a large hotel erected by Conrad Fryer. Connected with the hotel is a fine grove. Among the hotel proprietors have been John Stafford, Daniel Wormer and Conrad Fryer. In 1882 and 1883 the Athens Branch (or White Elephant Railroad) changed owners, and is now the New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad, usually designated *West Shore*. This road has been entirely reconstructed, and is now one of the most important roads in the State. Voorheesville is a station commanding unusual facilities for business; being located at the crossing of these roads, affords many advantages for the transportation of produce to the principal markets, as well as easy access to and from Albany and connections with other railroads. The distance from Albany is 11 miles, from New Salem 4 miles, and with pleasant surroundings and other inducements the place is rapidly improving. Many thousand tons of hay and straw are loaded here, which is brought by farmers from Knox, Berne, Guilderland and New Scotland. A steam saw-mill is now being built by Hotaling & Hicks. There are three blacksmith shops, one wheelwright shop, two stores, one tin and stove with general hardware merchandise, one hotel, depot and freight buildings; 32 dwellings, 38 families and 140 inhabitants. William S. Swift, postmaster.

Wolf Hill, two miles west of New Salem, is a post-office; John Haight, postmaster. There is also a post-office on the Beaverdam road, at the top of the Helderbergs, called "Helderberg post-office."

Onisquethau, locally known as "Tarrytown," about one and a half miles south of Clarksville, is a hamlet, containing a Reformed church and school-house. Stone was quarried here when the

Erie Canal was being constructed, and a large force of men employed. At that time there was a large building here, called the "Castle," part of which was used as a tavern, the barroom of which afforded the idle a place for lounging, drinking whisky and recounting stories till late at night, and on the morrow return and "TARRY" till night as usual; from this the name is derived. William Latta was a blacksmith here 75 years ago. John Mead and David De Long and —— Lamphere were first settlers. John Mead kept tavern and sold the farm to Thomas Austin, and this farm is now owned by Mr. Winston. Robert Mayhew kept store and tavern in the old "Castle." He dug the channel to drain Lawson's Lake. John J. Hoogabome, Tom Austin and Sol. Russel kept tavern. The present church was mostly built of stone that was rejected as too small for the canal. Many years ago a mill was on the creek at Delong's.

There are nine post-offices in the township, as follows: Callanan Corners, James A. McWilliams, postmaster; Clarksville, Silas Wright, postmaster; Jerusalem, J. M. Peck, postmaster; New Salem, J. M. Erwin, postmaster; New Scotland, George J. Coughtry, postmaster; Union Church; Voorheesville, Wm. S. Swift, postmaster; Wolf Hill, John Haight, postmaster; Helderberg, John F. Van Schaack, postmaster.

VILLAGE.	MONUMENT.	LATITUDE.			LONGITUDE.		
Clarksville	State Monument	42°	34′	31″	73°	57′	39″
New Salem	Reformed Church	42	37	30	73	57	03
Feura Bush	Reformed Church	42	34	35	73	52	53
New Scotland	Presbyterian Church	42	37	52	73	54	25
Union Church	Reformed Church	42	36	02	73	53	28
Helderberg	U. S. C. S. Monument	42	37	38	74	00	39
Albany	City Hall	42	39	05	73	45	19
Knowersville	Luthern Church	42	42	11	74	02	01
New York City	City Hall	40	41	43	74	00	03

As per "New York State Survey."

SCHOOLS.

The schools of New Scotland are sixteen in number, and are under the supervision of a commissioner, who is elected for a term of three years, and represents a district composed of the following townships: Bethlehem, Coeymans and New Scotland, the schools of which are under his charge.

The present commissioner is Samuel F. Powell, of Coeymans, and his duties are to examine and license teachers, visit the schools of the district, make reports to the State Department and supervise for the general interests of the schools.

Teachers are employed by one or three trustees in each district, who are elected at the annual meeting.

The history and formation of the several districts cannot be ascertained with any certainty, owing to the imperfection of the records. Previous to 1800 the school houses were mostly of logs; the population being sparse, but few schools could be supported. Frequently the school was in a private house, often in that of the teacher, and he was paid by a few families. As population increased and prosperity attended the settlers, districts were formed, composed of a number of families, and the teacher paid by a tax upon those who sent to the school.

Another change came, and the State became in a measure the support of the schools by appropriating a certain sum to each district from the public fund, the balance to be collected by rate bill. The school money so apportioned was in the custody of three School Commissioners, and teachers were examined and licensed by three School Inspectors.

Then came the State tax, which appropriates to each district a certain sum, based upon the number of persons between five and twenty-one years old and the general average of attendance for the year of twenty-eight weeks. The deficiency is collected by a tax upon the real and personal property of the district, thus rendering the schools of the State free to all.

The condition of the schools is far in advance of those of an earlier period, and, with the liberal aid from the State, higher qualifications of teachers and new methods of imparting knowledge and organized systems of instruction, rapid progress has been made in the past twenty years. The law of obedience by force with the ferule and rod has been superseded by that of love and kindness, treating the pupil as a rational being, subject to discipline, which is enforced by the law of ethics.

There has been very little change in the original location of school-houses, most of those now in use being near where the first ones were erected. The school-house for the neighborhood of Salem was on the Sharp farm, now owned by Wm. J. McMillen, on the old Beaverdam road, and opposite the cemetery gate; at Clarksville it was formerly in the village, on the location of S. P. Simmons' blacksmith shop.

The names of teachers previous to 1800 cannot be learned with certainty; a few who taught in the early part of 1800 are appended: Charles McCullock, Wesley Dollar, Harmanus Van Huysen, Edmond Raynsford, Francis Seger, James Wands, 2d, Horace Emery, William Hooster, James Patteson, Miss Hoyt, Ann Lawson, James McElroy, Peter De Long.

STATEMENT

Of the number of children, amount of public money received, amount collected by tax, wages paid per week and valuation of each School District in the Town of New Scotland for the year 1883.

No. of District.	No. of Children of School Age.	No. in Attendance.	Amount of Public Money.	Amount Collected by Tax.	Total Amount used in District.	Wages Paid, Summer Term.	Wages Paid, Winter Term.	Assessed Valuation of each District.
1	55	33	$104 61	$138 99	$282 84	$5 00	$6 50	$73,300
2	118	90	194 65	178 10	395 55	7 50	10 00	78,600
3	49	40	94 06	37 94	132 00	6 00	6 75	30,000
4	96	70	200 55	385 55	586 10	11 00	11 00	104,100
5	79	62	155 86	106 00	306 86	7 00	7 50	141,400
6	30	19	87 12	40 00	237 78	7 00	7 50	57,750
7	40	26	100 15	125 00	232 15	5 00	5 00	150,500
8	74	42	138 03	209 75	462 02	8 00	10 00	165,500
9	21	15	67 91	75 00	241 23	7 50	6 50	115,500
10	108	99	175 09	184 64	361 59	10 00	10 00	156,450
11	56	40	91 30	134 34	228 46	4 50	5 50	69,300
12	44	37	107 70	175 00	345 50	7 00	7 50	85,050
13	81	56	155 84	336 51	492 35	7 00	10 00	141,675
14	65	55	125 00	21 41	206 50	5 75	5 25	20,450
15	33	21	92 68	58 32	223 00	4 50	5 25	27,950
16	44	36	111 30	120 00	231 30	9 00	10 00	58,675
Total	993	741	$2,001 85	$2,326 55	$4,965 23			$1,476,219

Whole number of days' attendance for the year..... 417,394
" " weeks' " " " 5,863
Licensed Teachers, 27; Males, 17; Females, 10.

SOCIETIES.

The New Scotland Mutual Association was organized May 26, 1854. Robert Taylor, Chairman; F. C. Van Wormer, Secretary. The following directors were elected: Peter L. Houck, Rushmore Bennett,* James H. Loucks,* David G. Seger,* Frederic C. Van Wormer, Joseph Hilton, Abram Mann, Vise Henry Crounce, Robert Taylor, Thomas Bullock. David G. Seger, President; Robert Taylor, Secretary.

September 26, 1859, this company reorganized by act of the Legislature, and changed the name to "New Scotland Mutual Insurance Company," and elected the following directors and temporary officers: John Reid, Chairman; Robert Taylor, Secretary. Directors—Alanson Van Auken, John Reid,* Robert Taylor, Jacob Van Olinda,* George W. Bender, D. V. S. Raynsford, Robert Moak, Thos. Bullock, Abram Mann. Alanson Van Auken, President; Robert Taylor, Secretary and Treasurer.

Business of the company for 1884: Number of policies issued, 527; total amount of risks, $985,928; amount of bonds on premium notes, $43,058; paid for losses, past five years, $12,000. Most destructive fires were in the year 1878, amounting to $4,000.

Directors for 1884—William I. Spore, President; Samuel Patton, Secretary and Treasurer; Henry Creble, Henry H. Mead, Isaac Winston, Robert B. Taylor, Andrew McHarg, Henry Crounce, Charles Wood.

Three directors elected annually, who serve for three years.

* Dead.

As early as 1794 a Masons' lodge was in existence at New Scotland village, and continued its organization until about 1820. No records or transactions of the lodge can be found. Mr. Peter Furbeck remembers being at the funeral of Dr. Clark, who was buried with Masonic honors in the year 1813.

The following are some of the persons who were members: Adam Holliday, John Wands, William Warren, James Warren, James Dickson, Gloud Wands, Thomas Lloyd, William Wayne, James Wands, William Dickson. The house in which this lodge held its meetings is still standing. None of the members are living.

The first Odd Fellows lodge in the town was organized in 1848, located at New Scotland, and occupied the same rooms in which the Masons had held their meetings many years previous. The lodge was abandoned in 1858 and reorganized, March 4, 1872, and by the consent of the Grand Lodge it was removed to Slingerland, October, 1883, at which place the lodge now holds its meetings.

Open temperance societies were formed as early as 1839, and the moderate pledge adopted. This was followed by the Washingtonian pledge, which inaugurated an advance movement in the cause; a new impetus, through public lectures and the publication of temperance literature, educated the intelligent masses to a higher consideration of this great subject. It is now freely discussed, and the advocates of temperance are no longer classed as fanatics, but proclaim prohibition as the only remedy for this social evil. Several secret societies have been organized in the township, which, after

a few years of usefulness, were abandoned, and others, both secret and open, have taken their place.

New Salem Division, No. 254, Sons of Temperance, was organized in November, 1867, with the following officers and members: Wm. J. Reid, P. S. Markle, J. M. Erwin, Jacob Albright, Andrew J. Smith, I. B. Erwin, J. H. Flansburg, Wm. J. Spore, William M. Young, Nathan Ward. The society had a large membership, and held their meetings weekly in the upper room of a building owned by Alexander Reid; from here they were transferred to the hall over the new store of J. M. Erwin, and the society abandoned in the year 1880.

Clarksville Division, No. 25, Sons of Temperance, was organized in November, 1867. The following constituted their first officers, viz.: Samuel Marshem, Frederic R. Gardner, S. P. Simmons, Silas Wright, P. H. Flagler, Wm. H. Wright, A. B. Wright, Ed. Hotaling, Robert McLoughlin, D. Schermerhorn. This society surrendered its charter in 1872, and in the year 1874 instituted a lodge of Good Templars, with Peter H. Flagler as Worthy Chief Templar and Barent Staats as Deputy. This organization was abandoned in 1878.

New Scotland Division, No. 192, Sons of Temperance, was organized, March, 1870, and held their meetings in rooms connected with the M. E. church at "Black Creek." Rev. D. B. McKenzie, Worthy Patriarch. This society was abandoned in 1881. In 1878 the temperance cause was revived, and under the auspices of the "Women's Christian Temperance Union," the town was visited by Mrs. Courtney, who organized societies and lectured in many of the churches. Her work in the town was followed with good results.

February 28, 1883, Fidelity Lodge, No. 667, of Good Templars was organized at New Salem, with 22 charter members, Mr. Carr acting as Deputy Chief Templar. James Markle was installed as W. C. Templar, and Mrs. Mary Winne, W. V. T.; A. Eugene Bogardus, Secretary; Miss Ella Hurst, A. S.; John L. Van Olinda, Treasurer; Miss Cora E. Young, F. S.; William A. Winne, Chaplain; Milton Earl, Marshal; Mrs. Margaret Young, A. M.; Miss Minnetta Markle, I. G.; John B. Young, O. G.; J. M. Erwin, D. C. T. The lodge hold their weekly meetings in the hall over J. M. Erwin's store at New Salem.

In 1860 a "Young Men's Christian Association" was formed at New Salem, which continued for two years; among the active members were Rev. A. G. Lansing, Frederic Widmer, Alanson Van Auken, James Markle, Andrew Smith.

A division of Sons of Temperance at Feura Bush was organized, and soon after shared the fate of others. The destructive element in the several divisions was want of harmony and personal jealousies.

"Mount Pleasant Cemetery Association" was organized, March 6, 1864, with the following officers: Nathan N. Ward, President; John E. Taylor, Vice-President; Robert Taylor, Secretary; Robert Moak, Treasurer. The cemetery is located a mile east of New Salem, on the old plank road, and occupies a commanding site, with beautiful landscape scenery and distant views. The Helderberg Hills are seen from here in their varied beauty, while the village of New Salem lies in the valley below. The surface of the land is much diversified and irregular, giving to it many natural attractions, to be improved by the landscape gardener. It contains twelve acres and is laid out with geometrical exactness. The present officers are: President, Philip Luke; Secretary, Wm. J. Reid; Treasurer, John H. Hallenbeck.

Onisquethau Union Cemetery Association (located at Tarrytown) was organized in 1867, with the following officers: Rushmore Bennett, President; Jeremiah Mead, Vice-President; Hiram Crounse, Secretary; Hiram B. Mead, Treasurer. The cemetery ground is level, with an inclination to the east, and contains some very fine monuments. The present officers are: John Scott, President; Henry Mead, Secretary; Henry Bradt, Superintendent.

Jerusalem Cemetery Association, at Feura Bush, was organized in June, 1870, and the following officers elected: Henry Creble, President; Gen. James Slingerland,* Vice-President; Hiram Vanderzee, Treasurer; A. C. Millspaugh, Secretary. The cemetery occupies six acres of land in a pleasant location, and is tastefully laid out. The present officers are: President, Henry Creble; Vice-President, Isaac Van Allen; Treasurer, Harman Van Derzee; Secretary, John Van Allen; Superintendent, I. Van Allen.

New Scotland Cemetery Association, connected with the New Scotland Presbyterian Church, was organized, April 12, 1866. E. E. Wands, President; Thomas Bullock, Secretary and Treasurer; D. V. S. Raynsford, John Witbeck, George Taylor, Albert La Grange, Lewis Hess, George W. Bender, Abram Ruso, directors. The cemetery ground is conveniently arranged, and includes the old burying place of the church, containing about four acres. The present officers are: E. E. Wands, President; D. V. S. Raynsford, Treasurer and Secretary.

RECORD OF THE OFFICERS, SOLDIERS AND SEAMEN FURNISHED DURING THE WAR OF THE REBELLION.

The town of New Scotland contributed its share of brave hearts and stalwart men in the period of our country's peril and the trial of a free government. When the call to arms was proclaimed, her quotas were always filled, and her soldier sons endured in the field till peace dismissed them to their homes. The several companies and regiments to which our soldiers belonged went through many arduous campaigns. They were exposed to dangers and privations from the unhealthful surroundings, which often brought on disease and

*Dead.

incapacitated them from immediate usefulness; yet they were ready to obey commands and participated in some of the fiercest battles and assaults of the war.

Many of their achievements should have brought them honor and distinction, but the shadows of their superiors in office have obscured the deeds and daring of those men deserving of our gratitude.

The record of volunteers from this township contains the names of many who were in the prime of youthful manhood, possessed of sterling character, energy and patriotism, and their loyalty is well attested by the faithful performance of duty, the many sacrifices made, as well as inhuman cruelty endured by others in the horrible prisons to which they were consigned.

It can be said with credit that but few of the men deserted their post of duty and became refugees until after the close of the war.

The termination of hostilities brought new elements into consideration, and hundreds of brave men who periled their lives have been almost forgotten, as if they no longer had an existence, and the anxiety of the historian to especially favor men in high places has caused them to suppress many of the achievements originated and successfully carried out by heroes whose names should be remembered by every youth in the land.

Victory—after many hard-fought battles and reverses—crowned our army with success, and the living band of self-sacrificing heroes were once more at liberty to lay down their arms and return to home and friends.

Heroism deserves recognition, bravery its reward; but when men offer their lives in defense of their country and humanity, that all may enjoy the blessings of freedom, they deserve more than a reward—they claim our gratitude.

At the time and during the Revolutionary war New Scotland had few inhabitants. Many of these were adherents to the crown, or in sympathy with England; others belonged to that detestable class, Tories, who secretly aided the Indians in their stealthy raids of cruelty and carnage, and did not hesitate to plot the ruin or murder of neighbors and their families. A few names only are on record to our credit, and these will soon pass into oblivion. Among them were: William McCullock, Anthony Wayne, John Furbeck, John Wands, Robert Hilton, Albert Bradt, and some of the La Granges.

In the war of 1812 there went from what is now New Scotland a fair representation to teach England that we, although young in national life, were not to be intimidated or deterred from asserting our rights and protecting our citizens. These are some of the men who grace the record: Samuel Taylor, Samuel Moak, Francis Aernhout, Frederic Rowe, John Bush, James Jackson, Peter and Joseph Wands, Peter and Daniel McEwen, John Long, John Bradt, William R. Hilton, Thomas Wayne, Henry Moak, Samuel Warren, James W. Wands, John Eddington, and others. There is not living to-day one man who participated in this war from the township of New Scotland.

The following names are taken from the town records, making a complete list of men who enlisted, were drafted or furnished substitutes, during the war of the rebellion.

David D. L. McCullock, William Van Atten, Oscar N. Slingerland, Isaac Van Atten, Alexander F. Patterson, Jacob Martin Erwin, John A. Ramsey, Patrick Fowler, Solomon Luke, Wilhelm Buckar, Thomas Higgins, John W. Oliver, Daniel Van Deusen, Rensselaer Raynsford, Michael Kays, George Wayne, James Mathias, John H. Fitch, William Henry Fitch, John L. Winne, George Houghton, William Henry Van Alstyne, John McChesney, John Scott, Alexander F. Hart, John Ryall, George W. Jackson, Henry C. Reid, James Ryall, Eli H. Hart, Edmund Wells Raynsford, Alexander McMillen, Abram Van Deusen, Peter H. Scutt, Joel Y. Bloomingdale, Alonzo Stalker, John Stalker, Henry Van Zandt, James Henry Neeper, James J. Reid, William James Stalker, John A. Markle, James M. Wands, Abram M. Hays, Benjamin Pearl, John H. Flansburg, Garret W. Oliver, John Wood, Richard Wood, Robert J. Wands, Alexander H. Wands, Frederick Whiler, James E. Wands, Thomas Wands, Oliver Wands, John Walser, Abram Relyea, Henry Crounse, Martin Talmadge, Barnard O'Neal, Amos L. Westfall, Andrew B. White, George Ferguson, Peter Pearl, Datus T. Cole, Garret G. Long, Philip Arnis, Cornelius Hotaling, John A. Sager, Jacob M. Dingman, John S. Loucks, William Henry Mosher, Isaac H. Van Wie, John Jackson, Prime Jackson, William H. Latta, Joel B. Cole, James H. Oliver, Garret Bradt, Levi Hallenbeck, John Henry Stalker, William H. Stalker, Henry Stalker, George Tompkins, John R. Bradt, David G. Hotaling, John Crooks, William Groesbeck, Levi W. Hallenbeck, John Wagoner, John W. Smith, Jacob Wheeler, Jacob Weidman, Abram B. Decker, Francis L. Brate, Henry Vroman, William Brady, Adam Bradt, Lewis H. Smith, Nelson W. Miller, Harvey Fletcher, Charles H. Shear, John D. Houch, Boltus De Long, Storm Long, Jacob H. De Long, Philip Latta, Walter Slingerland, Prime Tompson, James Pelton, William Carknard, Joel Carknard, Andrew Carknard, Jacob Wagoner, William B. De Long, Samuel Marsham, John Lewis Houck, William B. Hotaling, Franklin Hallenbeck, Henry W. Case, John Winston, Rosalro Pomeroy, Deevigna Pomeroy, Marshal Weaver, David Wheeler, William Zinck, Anthony Blanchard Seger, Cornelius Britton, William James Clapper, Warren Clapper, William Henry Miller, Richard Miller, Frank Miller, John Carknard, Van Zandt Bradt, Edward L. Wright, Lanson Devoe, William Seward Murphy, Henry Hotaling, Henry Bradt, Peter L. Houck, Jr., Thomas F. Ray, George H. Pladwell, Robert C. Salisbury, James McNab, L. A. Cooley, James Wm. Mann, Charles H. Falke, Alonzo Tenbroeck, J. C. Bridgman, —— Frederick, Richard O. Warren, William J. Cook, N. M. Hawley, James Turner, Jr., Abram Grote, Joseph L. Chamberlain, Albert W. Taffe, Charles S.

Hermance, Conrad P. Gesler, John H. Bullock, J. P. Heath, William Snell, William G. Mink, Asa W. Dingman, Charles Eckhart, Francis Bradt, Thedore A. Carpenter, John F. Oliver, Lucius L. Houck, Alfred Flansburg, Hiram W. Hallenbeck, Charles H. Carknard, Isaac C. White, John Wagoner, Garret H. Van Denburg, William Wagoner, Isaac Van Alstyne, Jacob Bake, Abram F. Hotaling, Alexander Begs, Jacob Oliver, Barton Britton, Prime Jackson, Jacob Boice, William Slingerland, C. W. Witbeck, Peter Henry Schermerhorn, William Burnside, Edgar Shear, Leonard Applebee, John F. Hallenbeck, Solomon Wilsey, Charles Wilson, David Murphy, John Spreadbury, Edward Johnson, Edward Lawrence, George Smith, Thomas Carroll, Dennis Sawyer, John Rickett, Isaac M. Manning, Philip Dailey, George W. Clowe, Sanford W. Cheesbro, Frederick Hallenbeck, Joseph Baricansky, Robert C. Salisbury, Capt. Charles McCullock.

TANNERIES.

The first tannery was built by William McCullock, in the year 1774, on the south side of the plank road, opposite Albertus Becker's house, and east of New Scotland. Here is a small flat, with a diminutive supply of water from a spring just above, which gave Mr. McCullock facilities for tanning leather. Another was constructed at New Salem by Beriah Chesebrough, which was used until 1855; one at New Scotland, built by Peter Rushmore; one in the Houck neighborhood, and one on the farm of Arnold Wood. All have been abandoned for several years, as the supply of bark failed.

MILLS.

There are some vestiges of Uziah Conger's saw and grist-mill, which was upon the Vly Kill, near Mrs. James McElroy's, and a few are still living who remember the carding mill at the same place.

Perhaps the first grist-mill was built by the Slingerlands on the Onisquethau Creek, east of Clarksville, on the farm of Conrad C. Crounce. Here the water of the creek dashes down a rapid fall of forty feet, and passes through a gorge of slate rock, with sloping walls forty to sixty feet high. The mill was built on the bed of the creek, below the falls, and approached by a narrow roadway along the side of the wall, which was quite steep. Here the farmers for many miles distant came on horseback, with their grist of wheat or corn, to be ground into flour for bread, or into meal for *mush* or *suppawn*, to be eaten with milk. There are a few persons yet living who, when boys, came to this mill with grists; but none can give the year when it was built or when abandoned. The best authority gives the date 1750 to 1760. Another grist-mill was erected on the farm now owned by Michael Slingerland many years ago. A man by the name of Van Zandt was an early settler on this farm. The grist-mill has disappeared, and in its place a saw-mill—with circular and upright saws—owned by Mr. Slingerland. A grist-mill was erected in 1831, in the northern part of the township, on the Vly Kill, by the La Granges; this mill has three run of stone, and connected with it is a saw-mill. It is largely patronized by farmers, and grinds many tons of buckwheat flour.

On a spring creek, south of Andrew Allen's and north of the turnpike road, there was once a carding-mill belonging to a man by the name of Grant. The spinning of wool or flax is an accomplishment of the past, and mills for carding or dressing of cloth are no longer a necessity; the spinning wheel no longer anything but an ornament in the household.

PHYSICIANS.

Previous to 1800 there is no satisfactory evidence that physicians were resident in this town. When physicians were needed in extreme cases, they were called from Albany or some adjoining town. Many families resorted to domestic remedies, in the use of herbs, roots and salves, for the relief of the sick; and among the pretenders to skill were those who assumed to cure disease by the laying on of hands or repeating words in cabalistic form, which the superstitious patient would receive in faith as of divine origin.

Among the earliest physicians were Drs. Clark, Dennick, Day, De Lamater. Dr. Clark practiced at New Scotland, died in 1813 or 1814, and was buried with Masonic honors. His remains are in the New Scotland Cemetery. Dr. Clark was succeded by Thomas Lloyd, and soon after by Samuel Dickson. Dr. Lloyd was bold and experimental in his practice, and liberal in his opinions. Samuel Dickson was a son of one of the early Scotch settlers, possessing a kind, genial disposition, affable in his manners, conscientious as a physician, and highly esteemed by all. His intelligence commanded respect and consideration among his townsmen, and he was elected in 1854 to Congress, to represent the Albany district. He died in 1858, and is buried in New Scotland cemetery. Dr. John H. Becker, a graduate of Albany Medical College, settled here, and continued the practice of medicine until his death.

John H. Fitch, now located at New Scotland, is a great-grandson of William Allen, a member of a Scotch family who were early settlers in the town. Fitch graduated from the Eclectic Medical College of New York City in 1868. He was adjunct professor and demonstrator of anatomy in this college for two years; practiced in New York three years, and came to New Scotland in 1873. Is now a practitioner of the homœopathic school. Dr. Moak practiced at New Scotland for a short time about 1876.

Dr. Peter De Lamater lived and practiced at New Salem. He resided at the Spring, on the farm now owned by Isaac Albright. He moved to Duanesburgh about 1818. Two of his sons became physicians. From this date until 1855 there was no settled physician at this place, when Milton B. Lamb came and remained till 1866; then he disposed of his property and interest to Hiram

Becker, of Central Bridge, who was a graduate of Albany Medical College.

Dr. Valentine Denick was located between Clarksville and Union; he was one of the first postmasters in the town, and kept tavern on the Delaware turnpike, on the premises now owned by Mrs. Vanderpool. He was a successful physician for the time, as the science of medicine then was not developed, and afforded few facilities to the student. Drs. Schermerhorn, Holmes and Ingraham were settled at Clarksville. Succeeding them is Hiram Crounce, a graduate of "Castleton Medical College of Vermont" in 1847; practiced in Rotterdam one year, Knox seven years, Guilderland one year, and located in Clarksville in the year 1857.

Conrad J. Crounce graduated from Albany Medical College in 1845; first located in Knoxville, and came to Clarksville in 1862.

Dr. M. S. Dayton also located at Clarksville.

Dr. Israel Day practiced medicine in the northern part of the town, at what is locally know as *Black Creek*. He was succeeded by Henry Sager, a graduate of Fairfield Medical College; he died in 1859.

Dr. G. V. Voorhees was located at Voorheesville in 1870. Dr. A. Oliver, now located at Voorheesville, is a graduate of Albany Medical College in 1876, and studied medicine with Dr. Hiram Becker.

INDIANS.

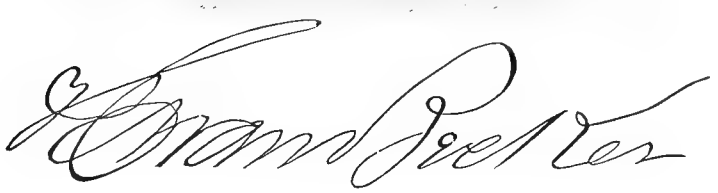
The township contains very little of interest in regard to its Indian history. The two most important events or transactions were the Van Baal deed, given by four Mohawk Chiefs, and the deed to Tunis Slingerland, signed by three Indians. In many localities the farmer throws up with the plow relics of Indian workmanship, as flint arrow-heads, implements of flint with sharp edges for cutting wood and skinning of animals, long round stones used in pounding corn, and other curiosities. Indians were quite numerous through the town, and their trails extended from the Mohawk and Schoharie valleys. They crossed the Helderbergs by means of trees felled against the precipitous rocks, which were called "Indian ladders," or by a few narrow defiles, yet used in gaining the summit. The Helderbergs afforded secret resorts and skulking places for the Indians and Tories, into which they could hide and thus elude discovery. They had camping grounds on the *Tawasentha*, or Norman's Kill; in the valley along the Helderbergs; at Clarksville; on the Hotaling farms, extending all along the Onisquethau Creek, and the Slingerland flats. After 1800 they broke up and lived in small companies, building rude huts, which they would abandon, and then wander to some other locality, erect huts in the neighborhood of farmers, from whom they expected to live by begging or the sale of their handiwork, the proceeds of which were only too often squandered for whisky. Civilization is incongenial to their natures, and their intermixture with negroes lost to them their ethnological characteristics; they assumed habits and names of the whites. Harmanus, Isaac, Jerry, Davy, John, Shoppy, Ginny, Becky and Sarah were common. The last time the writer saw any of these half-breeds was in 1842.

ORCHARDS.

Apple trees were planted upon many farms, two hundred years ago; whether by the Indians or whites is not known. In a few orchards some of these trees are yet standing. The farms south of New Salem were settled by Jan Braat, and on the farm now owned by R. Markle is one of these ancient trees, which measures thirteen feet four inches in circumference. The writer has heard an old man, now dead, who was born in 1760, say these trees were as large around as a barrel when he could first remember seeing them; as his grandfather lived on these premises, the trees must be at least two hundred years old. Many other orchards in the town give evidence of great age.

GRAVE-YARDS.

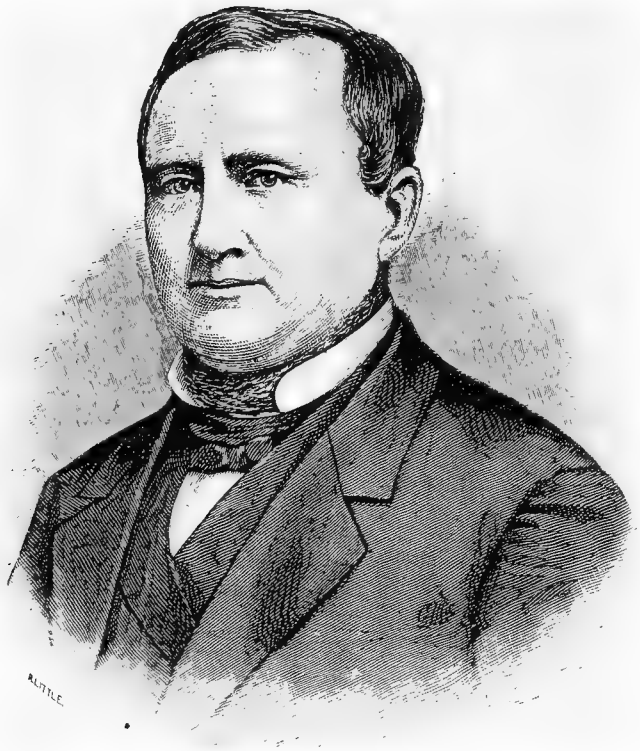
It seems to have been the custom through the town for almost every family to have their dead buried upon their own farm or premises. There are yet upon many farms grave-stones or other monuments that mark the resting places of those who died beyond the recollection of any living; but few have any inscription from which to learn the date. Many of these burial places have passed from their original owners, and are cultivated with the adjoining land. Soon not a vestige of them will remain. Cemeteries are being substituted, of which there are four in the town, as more appropriate and enduring.



HON. HIRAM BECKER, M. D.

Hon. HIRAM BECKER, M. D., was born in the town of Wright, Schoharie County, N. Y., January 22, 1840, and is now (1885) in his forty-sixth year. He attended the district schools of his neighborhood and afterward entered the old Gallupville Academy, where many other men of mark in this section were educated, wholly or in part. Later, he was a student for a time at the Schoharie Academy in 1857 and 1858. After completing his studies there he entered upon the study of medicine, passing the years 1862–64, until his graduation, at the Albany Medical College, in the meantime teaching school as occasion offered and his plans permitted. He soon established a medical practice both large and lucrative, locating in time at New Salem, and takes rank as one of the best read and most skillful physicians and surgeons in Albany County. Dr. Becker was reared in the Republican faith, politically, and has never departed from it. He has gained a prominent place in the counsels of his party, both in his town and county, though he is not and never has been an office-seeker; but his abilities have been recognized by his repeated elections to the supervisorship of New Scotland and his election, in 1883, to represent the Second Assembly District of Albany County (consisting of the Tenth, Eleventh, Fourteenth, Sixteenth and Seventeenth wards of the city of Albany, and the towns of Guilderland, Knox and New Scotland) in the Legislature. In the latter instance his popularity was attested by a majority of 707 over the vote cast for his opponent (Francis Freckleton, a Democrat), in spite of the fact that in the previous year (1882) the Democratic plurality in the district had been 324. In his legislative capacity Dr. Becker served with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents, both on the floor of the house and on several important committees. It is but his due to state that he was offered the nomination for re-election, but declined it in favor of the gentleman who became his successor, preferring to devote his time and energies to his increasing professional duties to longer taking active part in public affairs.

Dr. Becker is essentially a self-made man, for by his own exertions he has conquered those difficulties which cumber the pathway to success and won an enviable position in his profession and among his fellow men. He is a close student of passing events and takes a worthy and most in-



Hiram Crounse

telligent interest in all things which in any manner affect the welfare of his town, county and country. His mind is of a liberal cast and his sympathies with mankind are broad and earnest. As a man and a citizen he commands undisputed respect from all classes, and in all of the relations of life he is just, zealous and helpful.

HIRAM CROUNSE, M. D.

Dr. HIRAM CROUNSE, now residing at Clarksville, Albany County, N. Y., was born in 1820, in the town of Sharon, Schoharie County, N. Y. In 1836 he moved to Albany County, and in 1847 he graduated in medicine from the Castleton (Vermont) Medical College, since which time he has continually practiced. His standing among the medical fraternity is deservedly high, and he has a large and successful practice. He takes first rank as a man and a citizen, and is one of the best known and most highly respected men in his section of the county.

We take pleasure in making mention of the following citizens, who, by their guaranteed support, have helped to insure the publication of this valuable work: Hiram Becker, A. G. Lansing, Jacob M. Erwin, Hiram Crounse, Leond. J. Applebee, Henry H. Mead, Jno. B. Van Nattan, C. Slingerland, Eph. Houghtaling, Peter Van Attan, John Le Bœuf, Jno. V. Leonard, Jas. H. Loucks, Henry Brate, Henry Creble, Edwin Vedder, Wm. Southard, Michael Slingerland, Samuel Patton, Teunis Slingerland, Fredk. R. Gardner, D. D. L. McCulloch, Hester Slingerland, James J. Arnold, Hiram Wiltsie, John Johnson, Cath. Van Derpoole, Vanderzee La Grange, Wm. I. Spore, Mrs. Mary Mead, Isaac Winston, Mary Bradt, John H. Scutt, Jno. A. Pangborn, Wm. B. Van Atten, D. V. S. Raynsford, Albert La Grange, Jno. H. Fitch, Peter J. Fuller, Albertus Becker, Alex. Reid, Almon Barton, J. J. Wademan, Elias M. Gallop, Andrew Johnson, F. B. La Grange, N. A. De Long, Frederick R. Gardner.

HENRY H. MEAD, a farmer, fifty years of age, residing at Onisquethau.

F. R. GARDNER is proprietor of saw-mill and lumber business; established in Clarksville since 1853.

LEONARD J. APPLEBY is a farmer, born in 1841; lives in a tenement house in the place he now owns; married in 1861 to Rachel M. Hallenbeck, daughter of A. F. Hallenbeck; has a family of eight children. His father was born in 1806; died 1857. His mother's maiden name was Nancy Swartwout.

JOHN H. FITCH, M. D., physician and surgeon; established in New Scotland since 1873.

HIRAM WILTSIE is a farmer, and established in Coeymans since 1850. In 1847 he married Charlotte E. Schoonmaker, daughter of Henry Y. Schoonmaker, of Bethlehem; they have six children. In 1863 they moved from Coeymans to Jerusalem, town of New Scotland, where they now reside. He is one of the largest farmers in the town.

JOHN H. SCUTT is a farmer in the southwest corner of the town of New Scotland. About the year 1790 his great-grandfather, Philip Scutt, settled on this farm, where he lived and died. He had two sons, John and Philip, who also died here.

SAMUEL PATTON—John, Robert, and William Patton, brothers, were born in the north of Ireland, of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and came to Albany in 1825, and after four years removed to the town of New Scotland. Mr. Samuel Patton, son of Robert Patton, inherits many of the higher qualities of his parents and Scotch ancestry. He has been called to represent this town in the Board of Supervisors, one term, and refused to accept a re-election. He has served the town as clerk, and is the efficient secretary of the Town Insurance Association. He is an honorable, upright and highly respected citizen.

JACOB MARTIN ERWIN was born at New Salem, and is of Scotch-Irish and Holland descent. At the first sound of secession, in 1861, he was fired with youthful patriotism and zeal for the safety of his country, and in the autumn of 1861, he, with others of this village, enlisted as a private in the 91st Regiment, N. Y. V. After returning from the army, he resumed his business of shoemaking, for a short time, and then engaged in the mercantile business at New Salem, with Conrad Mathias, whose daughter, Amanda, he married, in 1867. He has never held any public office but that of postmaster, which he now fills; is a stanch advocate of his party principles, and is respected by all classes as a citizen worthy of their confidence and esteem.

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RENSSELAERVILLE.

By NORMAN W. FAULKE, Esq.

CHAPTER I.

THIS town derived its name from Stephen Van Rensselaer, then proprietor and landlord of the manor of Rensselaerwick, upon which the town was located. The town was settled chiefly by immigrants from New England. The first survey was made in 1787 by Van Rensselaer's agent, and from his statement we obtain the names of the inhabitants living on the land or having made improvements thereon and number of the lots, viz.:

Commencing in southwest portion of the town, on lot No. 7 was Peter Plank; No. 8, Peter West; No. 9, Charles Edwards; No. 11, Gershom Stevens; No. 24, Hendrick Young; No. 25, Peter Shoemaker; No. 26, Peter Becker; No. 37, Wm. Showerman; No. 43, Peter Emerick; No. 45, Peter Bassor; No. 47, John Ellis; No. 56, Peter Miller; No. 66, Bastian Smith (2d ward of Preston Hollow); No. 70, Samuel Howe; No. 84, Andricks Huyck (1st ward Preston Hollow); No. 88–89, Curtis Cleveland and Jesse Pierce; No. 90, Abel Mudge; No. 92, Johanis Hagadorn; No. 102, Peter Nouck; No. 103, Derrick Van Dyke (now John Hess); No. 108, John Pierce; No. 109, Sylvester Pierce; No. 111, Daniel Cooper; No. 125, Abner Tremain; No. 127, Caleb Pierce; No. 128, Daniel Mudge; No. 131, Daniel Cooper; No. 145, Thos. Farrington; No. 147, Samuel Martin and Josiah Skinner; No. 148, Daniel Mudge; No. 149, George Van Benson; No. 167, Green; No. 168, John Coons; Nos. 169–170, Jonathan Skinner; W. Pt. of No. 181, Bela Phelps; No. 186, Thos. Brown, Adam Coons, Niel McFalls; No. 188, Reuben Bumps, Philemon Lee, Hezekiah Dibble; No. 204, Hendrick Rhoda, Samuel Nicholls; No. 209, Reuben Bumps; No. 210, Bela Cook; No. 223, Jonathan Edwards; No. 224, Alanson Sexton, Andries Asher; No. 225, Andries Asher, Michael Brant, Ashel Culver; No. 226, John Rascone; No. 227, Nathan Hatch, Jonathan Crocker; No. 243, Widow Becker; No. 247, Daniel Cooper, Becker and Staats; No. 263, James Borthwick; No. 247, Joseph Lincoln and John Ramier; No. 281, east part, James Broyce; No. 282, John Heron; No. 283, John Hunter; No. 284, no name given; No. 302, Samuel Ramsey; No. 303, John Hunter; No. 350, George Ramsey; No. 351, John Connell.

Michael Brant, a German, from Schoharie County, lived in the town on lot No. 225 (the present residence of Wm. Chapman) during the revolution.

About the year 1783, John Coons, from Columbia County, squatted on lot 168. When he located there, there was but one house standing on the present site of the village of Rensselaerville. Silas Sweat, a very early settler, came in from West Stockbridge, Mass., and settled upon a farm about one mile east of Rensselaerville.

Apollos Moore, from Pittsfield, Mass., settled about two miles east of the village of Rensselaerville in 1785. He came on foot, while his wife rode a horse (which cost five dollars) and carried all their property. Mr. Moore became a leading citizen, was Justice of the Peace, Supervisor, and finally Judge of the Common Pleas Court of Albany County, which office he held until 70 years old. He made an able judge. He also kept a store at his farm and had a large custom grist-mill in the village. He was a soldier in the revolution, having enlisted at the age of sixteen. He died in 1840, at the age 76, leaving a good record, and honored for his integrity as justice and judge.

Gerardus Drake, ancestor of the present Drake family, settled near the present site of Potter's Hollow in 1803. He came here from Dutchess County, New York. John Drake came in 1808, and settled at Potter's Hollow. He became an influential man and prominent in the Society of "Friends," a society which sprang up in that section of the town, having a church in Potter's Hollow and at Smith's Corners. Abram and Jeremiah Young and Aaron Winnie, from Ulster County, settled near Potter's Hollow in 1790. Stephen Treadwell, an eminent minister of the Friends Church, in 1816, settled upon a farm near Potter's Hollow. He was the father of Hon. Valentine Treadwell, now living in Potter's, the latter having held many important positions, as Assemblyman, Senator, Supervisor, United States Revenue Assessor and Justice of the Peace.

Joseph Lincoln, John Reusior, with several brothers by the name of Hatch, settled in the northern part of the town about 1787, one of whom built a house, for many years known as the "Hatch house." A little way south of the present site of the village of Rensselaerville was the tannery, store, etc., of Peckham Griggs. This was called in early days Peckham Hollow. Here the late Judge Rufus W. Peckham and his brother George were reared to manhood. Rufus taught school in this town until he studied law. They were afterwards well known in Albany as the law firm of Peckham & Colt. Colt was a brother-in-law. All of that law firm are now dead.

Rufus W. Peckham became an eminent lawyer at the bar of Albany, was Congressman, Supreme Court Justice, Judge of the Court of Appeals, and was drowned in the *Ville du Havre* steamer accident a few years ago. His son, Rufus W. Peckham, is now Judge of the Supreme Court, living in Albany

Later, Mr. Lester succeeded the Peckhams in the tannery business, upon the farm now owned by Joseph Pullman. The first settler in the village of Rensselaerville was Samuel Jenkins, who came there, February 22, 1788, and in the following April erected the first dwelling house, and later the first grist-mill.

Capt. Daniel Shay, known as the leader of what was called the "Shay's rebellion" in Massachusetts, fled from that State and settled in the southwestern portion of this town, in the vicinity of Preston Hollow, in 1795, at its early settlement. After purchasing a farm near there (the farm now owned and occupied by Edward Lounsbury), Shay purchased the farm of David Williams, who was one of the captors of Major Andre. Shay's son, also named Daniel, afterward became a leading citizen and business man in Preston Hollow.

Major John Edwards, a revolutionary officer, settled, lived and died at Preston Hollow.

The principal streams are the Catskill Creek and its tributaries, Scrub, Fox, Ten-Mile and Eight-Mile creeks and Willow Brook. There is a sulphur spring on the farm early known as the "Gardner farm," now owned by W. S. White.

CHURCHES.

The Presbyterian Church at Rensselaerville was organized in 1793. Rev. Samuel Fuller was the first pastor. The first Sabbath spent in town was April 14, 1793, when he made the following record in his first journal: "This is a new settlement, and they have no meeting house. The trustees applied to me to preach for them three Sabbaths longer, which I agreed to do." In November he received a unanimous call to settle at this place. He was to receive £100 settlement, and £50 a year till it makes £80. The ordination took place, January 23, 1794. The services were held in a log building, occupied temporarily as a meeting house, which stood in the southwest corner of what was afterward Elder Fuller's orchard (of late belonging to Wm. Aley, deceased). It was originally a dwelling house, with two rooms, but by removing the chimney and putting a rude pulpit in its stead on the western side, it was converted into a place of worship. The day of the ordination was stormy, and the snow driven through the crevices so moistened the hands of Mr. Judson, the ordaining minister, that the prints of his thumb still remain upon the Bible used on the occasion. In February Mr. Fuller removed his family to this town, and from the 8th day of February to April 10 he lived in the house with Samuel Nichols, which stood on lot No. 204, about one-third of a mile north of what has long been called the "Red House," west of Fuller's place. The building was a log cabin of two small rooms, with a trough roof. The apartment occupied by Rev. Mr. Fuller had but one window, containing but four lights, covered with oiled paper instead of glass, and was so con-

structed that after meals they were obliged to put the table upon the bed, and the only space allowed him for a study was in the corner of the room, where a board laid upon the head of a barrel served him for a writing desk. The settlement being new and furniture not easily obtained, the cradle for their child was the half of a basswood log, hollowed out for that purpose. In the spring he removed from his uncomfortable quarters at Mr. Nicholls' to what is now the middle room of the house for many years occupied by Matthew Mulford. The Rev. Samuel Fuller continued pastor of this church for sixteen years, when he united with the Episcopal Church and became the founder of the Episcopal Church in Rensselaerville.

On the 15th of June, 1796, the frame of the first house of worship of the Presbyterians was raised, and completed during the next summer. It stood upon the hill near the late residence of Rufus Bouton, lately deceased, nearly a mile west of the Fuller place (late Wm. Aley's). The first service was held therein, September 11, the site being a few rods west of the house of late known as Rufus Bouton's, and about ten miles southwest of the village. That point was then the location of the village, there being but a few houses in the place now known as Rensselaerville. It was a grand site for a church. From it on a clear day they could look into four States, and, standing in the doorway, they might see the Berkshire Hills and the Highlands of Connecticut, where so many of them were born, while all about them were the homes they had made. To be sure, it had neither steeple, nor tower, nor turret, nor had they any bell to call them to worship, but there was a pulpit inside, which was an object of universal veneration. It was quite an imposing structure, fronting the door, pushed high up on the wall, as was the custom in those days, and approached by a long flight of steps. Back of the pulpit a window, and over the minister's head hung a sounding board. Under the pulpit was the "Deacons' seat," where these dignitaries of the church sat facing the audience, with due solemnity of countenance. The building itself was a neat, well-finished edifice, substantially the same as the present academy at Rensselaerville. There were three doors—one opposite the pulpit, and one on each side. The gallery ran around on three sides. The pews were square, so that part of the occupants sat with their backs to the minister. On a Sabbath morning the people came from miles around in every direction up to the house of God. For many a year it was on horseback that they came, the husband riding in front and the wife seated on a pillion behind him, with perhaps a child in her arms. There were two services, with a short intermission, during which the people refreshed themselves with lunch brought from their homes, and then talked over the last news about George Washington and King George, for whom some still had a slight feeling of loyalty. Mr. Fuller, their minister, was a man of ability, seldom preaching without notes. In early days Deacon Woodford and Deacon Camp officiated, and are fondly remembered by many of our citizens of the present day. The former lived near the schoolhouse, and his house is still standing. Between the years 1810 and 1818 the village on the hill decreased, while that in the valley grew and prospered. Mills and manufactories clustered along the stream, and it soon became evident to the people that they must leave the pleasant site their fathers chose for a church, and move their buildings down into the valley. Of those who worshiped in this edifice almost all sleep in their graves. Yet there are still a few who can just remember going to the old church on the hill. A lot was purchased, and in the summer of 1813 the building was moved to its present location, where it is known as the Rensselaerville Academy. During the time of its removal services were held sometimes at Deacon Woodford's and sometimes at Mr. Watson's hotel in the village. The church was poor, and it was with the greatest difficulty that it could meet the expenses of removal. Daniel Conklin, Nichols Cornell and Deacon Woodford were very active in raising funds and forwarding the work. Finally Deacon Woodford went to Albany and told the brethren of this faith in that city how the expense had been more than double the estimate of $600, and that the church was $190 in debt, which they could not raise and support preaching. The good Deacon went zealously at work in the city, but having failed to take out a license, he was arrested by a constable, who led him to the Mayor's office, where the Deacon pleaded his own cause so nobly that not only did the Mayor discharge him and give him a license, but also sent him on his way rejoicing with a liberal subscription. With such a name at the head of his paper, he met with great success. This church was dedicated, September 10, 1815. Rev. Seth Williston, of Durham, delivered the sermon on that occasion. It was during the second period of the church that the site of the edifice, not being satisfactory, being on the edge of the village, on a steep eminence, difficult of access, and cold in winter, and the inhabitants desiring the edifice for an academy, the money for a new structure was raised, and in the summer of 1842 the foundations were laid, and the enterprise vigorously prosecuted. Its success was due to the liberality and enterprise of several wealthy citizens, among whom were Mr. Gordon Conklin and Mr. Abram Dayton and others. The present church was dedicated, December 6, 1843, Rev. Marcus Smith, a former pastor, officiating.

The Episcopal Church in Rensselaerville was organized and founded by Rev. Samuel Fuller, February 20, 1811. Services were held in the chamber of Rufus Watson's house until the fall of 1812. The first wardens were Jacob Wood and Allen Durant, and the vestrymen, Asa Colvard, Jonathan Jenkins, Josiah Watson, Jesse Hollister, Ezra Lester, Apollos Moore, Elijah Griggs and Ichabod Peck. The first church edifice was consecrated, October 2, 1815, and cost about $3,000. The present edifice will seat about 200, and is valued at $6,000.

The Baptist Church in the village of Preston Hollow was organized about 1793, and even had

an existence as early as 1790. The first meetings were held in a log school-house near the site of the present residence of Hiram Kelsey. In 1821 an edifice was erected, situated on the bank of Fox creek, near the site of the present residence of Norman Powell, about one and a half miles from the village. The building was a frame one, sided up, but not plastered or finished in the interior. In the year 1883 this building was taken down and another church edifice erected out of it upon the knoll near the present school-house in the village, where its members worshiped down to 1846, when the present commodious church was erected, costing $6,000. The church has had the following pastors in the order named: In 1793, Elder Green; then followed Revs. John Winans, John Cooper, James Mackey, Seth Paddock, John I. Teeple, Chas. Randall, Harvey Cornwall, Hiram Haynes, Wm. S. Apsey, J. M. Ferris, Leonard Smith, D. B. Collins, J. B. Pixley, M. A. Joslin, Giles Humel Hubbard, the latter of whom is the present pastor. Rev. Seth Paddock held the pastorate for the longest period. He was born in Dutchess County in 1785, came here when a young man, experienced religion and united with this church. The church finally gave him a license to preach the gospel. He was ordained as its pastor and served it faithfully for sixteen years, when he removed to Durham, where he was pastor of a Baptist church thirteen years. He died October 23, 1879, at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. G. C. Hubbard, in Preston Hollow, in the ninety-fourth year of his age. His funeral was attended the following Sunday by a large concourse of people, when the pastor, Rev. J. B. Pixley, preached and Rev. A. M. Cole, of E. Durham Church, participated in the services.

The Baptist Church in Rensselaerville was erected in 1797. The first preachers or pastors were Wm. Stewart, and later Rev. Truman Beman, then Rev. Ephriam Crocker, whose ministry continued until 1836, when Rev. Reuben Wingar became its pastor, and then the new present church was built. Mr. Wingar was a very acceptable pastor for many years, when he removed to Amsterdam, N. Y., where he still lives. The present pastor is Rev. Mr. Waterbury.

The Society of Friends had two societies, one at Smith's Corners, a hamlet with a Friends church, which has been taken down within a few years.

The Friends Society and meeting house at Potter's Hollow, was organized about 1795, with about 30 members. The first preacher was Reuben Palmer. The first house of worship was erected in 1806; the present church in 1818; it has never had over forty members. The last preacher was Israel Drake, a very good man, now deceased.

The Methodist Episcopal Church in the village of Rensselaerville is a very large organization with a commodious edifice.

The Methodist Church in Medusa dates its organization many years back. The people of that locality first held their meetings in a log schoolhouse, and afterward in the Union Church until in 1869–'70, when the society erected a large church in the village. It is a fine edifice, and the membership large.

The Christian Church in Medusa was organized in 1830, and in 1835 its members held services in an edifice built by subscription of the citizens to be used by different sects of religion for their worship. Previous to this time this organization worshiped in the school-house, and in warm weather they held their meetings in Bedford's barn, now owned by C. J. Waldron, Esq.

The Methodist Church in Preston Hollow was organized about the year 1840. The present fine church was erected in 1844. This church, although its history does not reach as far back as that of sister churches, is to-day in a prosperous condition, and its services well attended.

VILLAGES.

There are five villages in the town.

Preston Hollow is an enterprising and thrifty village in the southwestern part, situate upon the Catskill Creek, in the valley of the Catskill, near the famous mountains of that name.

A few years ago the name of the village of Preston Hollow was changed to Monclova, and the post office went by that name for about two years, when by consent of its citizens, its name was changed back again to its old name of Preston Hollow.

The first settlers on its site, Andricks Huyck, on lot 84, and Bastian Smith, on lot 66. The founder of the village was Dr. Samuel Preston, in 1798. In the year 1870 the village was by an act of the Legislature, incorporated for the purpose of grading the streets and making sidewalks and planting shade trees. Stage coaches leave the village daily, both to Catskill and to Middleburgh. It is 13 miles from Middleburgh and 24 from Catskill. Its population by the last census was four hundred. It contains two fine church edifices, a Baptist and Methodist; a large, first-class hotel, M. Murphy proprietor; a large custom flouring mill, owned by Lawrence Faulk & Co.; three stores; two leather tanneries, Devereux & Co.'s sole leather tannery, and Rivenbergh Bros. upper-leather tannery; a flourishing village school, and a select school and literary institute, where the higher branches are taught; two millinery shops; a photograph gallery; a foundry, owned by Wm. Morrison; two blacksmith shops; a wagon maker's shop; an extensive harness shop, owned by A. E. Hinman; a cooper shop, owned by R. Vanakers; two law offices, with large law libraries, one that of Norman W. Faulk, Esq., and the other of Lawrence Faulk. The village derived its name from Dr. Preston, its founder. It has a Good Templars Lodge, with a large roll of members; a large, fine hall for lectures and exhibitions, owned by Benjamin White, after whom the hall is named. There are two extensive evaporators for drying apples and other fruit, lately erected by Mr. Benj. White. The inhabitants are characterized by their intelligence, energy, sobriety and enterprise. Among its early business men and earliest settlers were Daniel Shay, Jr., David Davenport, Alvin

Devereux, Sr., Theodore Devereux, Henry Rickerson, Samuel Preston, James G. Clark, Ebenezer White, Judge Robert W. Murphy and Reuben Palmer, further mention of whom will be given hereafter under the general history of the southwest portion of the town.

2. Medusa is in the east portion of the town, on the "Ten-Mile Creek." It was first settled in 1783 by Uriah Hall and his son Joshua. The place for many years bore the name of "Hall's Mills," from the parties just named. Uriah Hall and his son took a lease from Van Rensselaer of many lots covering the site of the village and vicinity. Hall erected the first grist-mill and dwelling here; he also was the proprietor of the first store here, and, being a thorough business man, he obtained a large trade through the neighborhood. He caused a school-house to be erected in the early times, that attracted settlers and business. Joshua Hall continued in business here until 1806, when he was accidentally killed by a tree falling upon him while he was chopping wood upon one of his farms, now owned by Walter Doolittle. His son married a sister of Wm. R. Tanner. The elder Hall had now become too old to manage business affairs, and his retirement was a serious check to the growth of the village. Joseph Hall, in 1785, settled upon the farm afterward owned by Willet Mackey, and now owned by his son, Alexander W. Mackey, at the east end of the village.

In 1785 William Hall settled upon the farm a little east of the village, being the Edward Frost farm. Job Tanner was also one of the first settlers in that section. He had seven sons and two daughters, all of whom married and reared families. Most of them removed to the west. Judge William R. Tanner is a descendant of him, and still resides at this village, where he was born and reared. His father was a farmer and man of business. Wm. R. Tanner has been Supervisor of the town, also an associate judge on the bench, and for many years has held the office of Justice of the Peace. He, too, is a farmer, and has been an extensive owner of mill property. He is a highly esteemed citizen, a leading member of the Methodist Church, and through his energy has caused a commodious church to be erected there for that denomination. He lives upon the farm where his father lived and died. The village of late years has much improved in appearance, and has a population of about 200.

Daniel Doolittle was one of the early settlers. He married the widow of Joshua Hall and had sons, Talmadge and Walter Doolittle. In 1850 the name of the village and post-office was changed to its present name, "Medusa." It contains a Methodist Episcopal and a Christian church, a hotel, two stores, two custom mills for grain, turning works, an evaporator, and a paper mill by John Milton & Co. Chas. Delamater, son of Lucius, is a leading business man and successful merchant. A good farming country surrounds the village with its post-office and carpenter shop and two blacksmith shops.

3. Cooksburg, in the extreme southwest corner of the town, is a small village of about fifty inhabitants. It sprung up when the Catskill and Canajoharie Railroad was opened to its site, and in 1840 was named in honor of Thomas B. Cook, of Catskill, a leading man in that railroad enterprise. In its immediate vicinity at that time were two extensive sole leather tanneries, one owned by Mr. Hand, and afterward by George Bellamy; the other by S. R. Potter & Co. These tanneries were both burned to the ground many years ago and were never rebuilt. John W. Couchman is a resident of the village. The village contains two drug stores, a hotel, cooper, undertaker and shoe shops, a grist-mill and cider-mill. It was first settled by Daniel Youngs and Garret Snyder. In 1839 the Catskill and Canajoharie Railroad was opened to this place, twenty-three miles from Catskill. In 1831 the company was organized, and in 1836 contracts given out, and amid much ceremony ground was broken at Catskill in the latter year. In 1838 the proprietors were denounced as swindlers. In 1839 the road was opened to this place, at which time there were only two buildings here, one the present hotel, then kept by David Young (and now owned by Wm. Brazee), and the large unpainted farm residence of Mr. Garret Snyder. There was but one small engine on the road, called the "Mountaineer," and when once it needed repairs it was shipped to Jersey City, and then drawn by oxen over the country to Paterson, N. J., where the locomotive works were located. It was repaired, sent back, and still it did not do its work. It was returned to Paterson for repairs, and when replaced on the track it still refused duty. In the meantime the management was getting into financial difficulty. The stock was $1,000,000, and the State had pledged its credit for $200,000. The road was finally sold to the "Catskill Bank" for $11,000, and the man who took it off their hands finally pulled up the rails and sent them to the junk shop. This digression is introduced, as Cooksburg came into existence through the Catskill and Canajoharie Railroad, and we were compelled to note the rise and fall of this enterprise that came to so untimely an end.

4. Potter's Hollow is also a small village, lying in the extreme west part of the town, of about 100 inhabitants. It has a post-office, hotel, Quaker church, two stores, one a hardware and the other for general merchandise. It was first settled about 1806. It is the home of ex-Senator Valentine Treadwell, who has been Supervisor, Assemblyman and Senator, and is now a Justice of the Peace. His father, Stephen Treadwell, was an able Friends preacher here. Its early settlers were the Potters, Samuel and Timothy, from whom it derived its name. Potter Palmer, the Chicago millionaire, was born and grew to manhood here. He is the proprietor of the well-known Palmer House of that city. His father, Benjamin Palmer, was an extensive farmer and landowner, and reputed wealthy. He was Justice of the Peace and a leading citizen. His eldest son, Akins, is a wealthy and highly respected citizen of this village.

A daughter, Ann, wife of Rev. Philip Couchman, resides here. Benjamin's two other sons, Milton J. and William, reside in Chicago, Ill.

5. Rensselaerville is the largest village in the east part of the town, and after its settlement became the chief place of business and financial center, which it maintained till about twenty-five years ago. When its wealthy citizens died and the wealth disappeard, at least its enterprise languished. Yet with its three or four stores, a good hotel and its mills and manufactories, it has of late recovered a portion of its former importance. Its post-office is a money order and postal order office, in charge of Postmaster George L. Bouten. Its population is about 600. It has an academy, a flourishing district school, four churches—Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist and Episcopal, all fine edifices. Messrs. Geo. L. Boughton and F. Huyck have erected a large custom flouring mill, which is run under the supervision of Mr. Boughton. It once had a large woolen and felt manufactory, owned by F. C. Huyck and Waterbury. These men moved away, and on their departure the machinery of the mill was also taken down.

What may be termed its first settlement was started upon the hill west of its present site, near the Rufus Bouten farm-house, where the first Presbyterian church was built, and in the vicinity of the Fuller place. Afterward Samuel Jenkins, who came here February 22, 1788, settled in the valley, and in the following April erected the first dwelling in the village, and afterward built the first grist-mill, subsequently called the lower mill, and soon the present site began to be the village proper. Samuel Jenkins was really the founder of the village, and the place should have been named after him. He was the father of Jonathan Jenkins and the grandfather of Charles M. Jenkins, Esq., of Albany.

Daniel and Josiah Conklin, from Long Island, were among the early settlers. Daniel engaged in tanning and shoe manufacturing and became wealthy. They located for a time with Reuben King, about two and a half miles west of this village, but finally removed to this place. The tannery was then in the southern part of the village. His son, Gurdon Conklin, became a successful tanner. Judson Conklin one of the substantial citizens, is a farmer a little northeast of the village. Asa and Philo Culver were early business men, the former being at one time Supervisor of the town. Wheeler Watson was an early settler and man of business affairs. Malbon Watson, who became a successful lawyer and afterward a Judge of the Supreme Court, was a son of Wheeler Watson. Rufus Watson, a brother of Wheeler, was a blacksmith, and afterward managed a hotel in the village, in the house still later owned and occupied by Caleb Tompkins. At that time Caleb Tompkins had the lower hotel. Josiah, another brother of Wheeler Watson, was a farmer living on the farm called of late the Philip Teeter farm, next west above the Fuller place. Arnold B. Watson, a son of Josiah, afterward became the president and main stockholder of the Unadilla Bank. Rev. Samuel Fuller, the first pastor of the Presbyterian church, lived on the farm where Wm. Aley died. Henry Stone, an able lawyer, then lived in the village. Abram and Louis Dayton were early merchants and business men. They each amassed good fortunes. Dr. Hyde, an eminent physician, lived and died in this village. Dr. Platt Wickes, who has been Dr. Hyde's successor in the practice of medicine, has spent his life here, and reared a large and respectable family. He still lives, at the age of 89, in the full possession of all his faculties. Then came Robert L. Mulford, a successful merchant and business man, and John Huyck, successor to the Daytons. Each became well-to-do merchants and retired with a competence. Earlier yet, Ely Hutchinson was a successful merchant, retiring wealthy. Among the second generation was John Niles, who practiced law, and served the people as a Justice of the Peace and as Judge in the County Court, and was respected for his integrity.

Franklin Frisby lately died in this village, leaving an ample fortune. O. H. Chittenden was a leading lawyer at the bar of this county, and while a resident of Rensselaerville was elected Surrogate of Albany City and County, dying soon after his term of office closed.

In the beautiful cemetery of the village, where lie the remains of the most of those persons who are named as dead, there stands a large and costly monument to the memory of the brave soldiers who went out from the town to fight for their country. At the dedication of this monument, a few years ago, the late Hon. Lyman Tremain, of Albany, delivered the oration in presence of a large concourse of people there assembled. In the second generation was also Dr. Gilbert H. Titus, who for many years was Town Clerk, and later Justice of the Peace.

INDIANS.

About the year 1711 there were five paths or trails through this part of the country, used by the Indians. The main one began at Catskill and followed the stream by that name through the southwest corner of the town of Rensselaerville, and on through the present site of Preston Hollow. This, being the most attractive valley leading from the Hudson River to the Schoharie Valley, was universally used and traversed by the different tribes of Indians, and consequently this portion of the town was the first section settled, which from traditions was not later than 1712.

The Stockbridge and Schoharie tribes frequented this trail, and afterward the Stockbridge tribe located near the Schoharie tribe. The first settlers were Derrick Van Dyke, who, before the Revolution settled upon lot No. 103, on the flats, near the present site of Preston Hollow, and Andries Huyck, who settled on Lot No. 84, in the same village. Derrick Van Dyke often told his son Abram about this Stockbridge tribe of Indians, who in his time visited this section for the purpose of hunting and fishing in and along the Catskill Creek; that their camping ground was on what is now known as Coon's Meadow, on the outskirts

of Preston Hollow. He also said that these Indians were careful observers of the Sabbath, refraining from hunting and fishing on that day, and in all respects keeping it holy. This was attributed to the preaching of the renowned Eliot. Apple trees are still standing and bearing fruit upon the lands of John Hess, which tradition says were planted by these Indians. Many readers will remember reading a sketch of the massacre of the Deitz family, in Berne, in this county, during the Revolution, by a party of Brant's Indians, who, after committing their terrible crime, hastened toward the head waters of the Catskill Creek. In their course they passed the house of Michael Brant, a white man, who was the first settler on lot No. 225, in this town. Brant's house then stood in the hollow near the present residence of William Chapman. And so on they went with their prisoners, John and Captain Deitz, and trophies of their plunder, and the scalps of their victims upon poles. At the time of this Indian incursion into Berne Mr. Brant had gone to Catskill, leaving his family alone, and returned just in time to see these Indians pass his house. But they offered no violence to those within, but passed on down the Fox Creek, through the present site of Preston Hollow, camping that night at the junction of West and Catskill creeks, the present site of Cooksburgh.

CHAPTER II.

The first settler in or near the present site of Preston Hollow was Derrick Van Dyke, who, with his family, left Rhinebeck, coming on foot to this place, and settled here on lot No. 103, in the year 1770. He erected a house on the flats near the bank of the Catskill Creek, on the farm where John Hess now lives. Upon the site thereof are still standing a number of apple trees of his planting, which, down till within a few years back, have borne fruit. Van Dyke was of Low Dutch extraction. Tradition has it that he was a recognized friend of the British during the Revolution, during which he was seized by the Indians and carried captive to the headquarters of Sir William Johnson, who led a force of British soldiers, in conjunction with his Indian allies under the noted Indian chief Brant, in the Valley of the Mohawk. Van Dyke soon returned home without injury, and his house was ever after that a hospitable and welcome home to the Indians when journeying between Kingston and Schoharie, and in return, although they were under command of their Chief Brant, they never offered him or his house any molestation; hence tradition classed Van Dyke a Tory.

Van Dyke's family, consisting of his wife and four sons, trudged their way on foot, carrying their burdens, with no road to follow other than the Indian trail we have mentioned. And, gentle readers, who ride, perhaps, in an easy carriage and think elliptic springs and a good road scarcely endurable, must not be offended when informed that your great-great-grandmothers (I am now talking to the fair sex, descendants of the sturdy pilgrims to this happy valley, not Rasselas, but of the Catskill), clad in linsey-woolsey of limited length, bearing each on her back a sack of provisions or clothing, set out upon this long journey on foot, upon this intricate Indian trail or foot-path. Would you ask why their husbands did not carry the burdens thus imposed upon their amiable consorts? They had not a vehicle of any kind, nor indeed had they a single horse; consequently the husband, and all the children able to bear burdens, were heavily laden, sleeping nights in the open air, after having built fires to keep off the wolves, which thickly infested the forests through which they journeyed.

Derrick Van Dyke had four sons, viz., Abram, Henry, John and Jacob. Of these we give the career of Abram, the eldest, as of the others we learn nothing of importance to this narrative. Abram became a leading citizen of Preston Hollow, having settled and lived in that village from its earliest date, and was afterward familiarly known by the name of "*Brommie.*" The want of grist-mills was a source of great inconvenience to the early settlers. At first there was no mill nearer to Preston Hollow than that at Leeds, 20 miles distant; afterward there was one in the Schoharie Valley, near Middleburgh, the early settlers being compelled to follow the foot-path or Indian trail, at first carrying their grain on their backs to Leeds, to have it ground. Afterward they procured ox teams, and carried their grain on sleds to the Schoharie mill. "Uncle Brommie" (Abram) in after years would relate how, when a young man, his father sent him to this Schoharie Valley mill with an ox team and sled, over a tortuous and tedious route, about 16 miles, through a dense wilderness, upon what scarcely might be termed a road; and on his return how he was set upon by a pack of howling wolves, that threatened instantly to devour him and his oxen, but that, by his hallooing and the use of his ox-goad alternately on sleigh and oxen, he finally escaped and reached home in safety. Early in the settlement of Preston Hollow Abram Van Dyke built and owned the first grist-mill in that village and section, the same afterward owned and run by miller Adams, as he was called. This mill was subsequently rebuilt upon a large scale by R. R. Post, and is now owned and operated by Lawrence Faulk & Co.

Abram lived many years in the house still standing at the north end of the village, opposite the fine residence of Warren S. Purington. While Van Dyke occupied it there was a stoop or veranda in front of it, from which the writer, when a boy, has often heard the sweet notes of Uncle Brommie's hand-organ. He was at one time a justice of the peace, which office he held by appointment of the Governor. He died in the same house described above, September 19, 1842, aged 76 years. He had five sons and five daughters, viz., Richard, William, Abram, Harry, Reuben, Sibyl, Kate, Lydia, Millie and Nellie, all of whom we have not space to follow; but of two of his children who made their mark in the world, Richard and William, we will briefly make mention.

Richard was educated for the practice of law, and for many years lived and practiced his profession near Cairo, Greene County. In later years he went West, where he engaged in his law practice until his death. He was a good lawyer, and stood high in his profession.

William Van Dyke married Sally Ann Dare, a daughter of Captain Abijah Dare, a revolutionary soldier and pensioner, who was an early settler, and at this time lived upon and owned the farm or a portion of that now owned and occupied by Benjamin White, in Preston Hollow. William's wife, Sally Ann, died in that village, July 3, 1837, aged 31 years. By this marriage there was born to him a number of children, only one of whom, Earl Van Dyke, survives. He is a contractor, now living in Catskill. After living in Preston Hollow many years he purchased a large farm in Conesville, Schoharie County, upon which he moved and continued to reside until his death. He was an extensive and successful drover and dealer in cattle and other live stock. He again married a second wife, by whom he had many children, one of whom, George, is also a large land-owner and drover, residing in Conesville, Schoharie County, where he is held in high esteem, and has held the office of Supervisor of the town. He is a man of sound judgment, possessing all the business qualities of his father.

Lawrence Faulk was also an early settler; came in here about 1790; he owned and lived upon the farm now owned by Hiram Kelsey, where he reared many children. The subject of this sketch became also an extensive business man in his day, owning two or three different turnpike roads, among them, one time, the Schoharie turnpike, running through Preston Hollow. His house was the central place for town meetings; the famous town whipping post being located at his place. He died November 15, 1838, aged 72 years, and is buried beside his wife, Esther, who died October 22, 1849, aged 82 years, in the Creek Side Cemetery, in Preston Hollow. He had seven children, viz., William, John, Lawrence, David, Peter, Hiram and Mary.

William died January 16, 1859, aged 72 years; his wife Elizabeth died October 31, 1865, aged 79.

John became a lawyer; he was educated at the Greenville Academy, and among his classmates were Judge Amasa J. Parker and the late Michael Sandford; he died in Illinois a few years ago.

Lawrence Faulk, the next son, has been a successful lawyer, but on account of his extreme age is about retiring from practice; he has held many offices of trust in the town of Rensselaerville, and for many years was Justice of the Peace; he lives in Preston Hollow, where he has resided from an early period; his son, Norman Wheaton Faulk, became his successor in the practice of law. Lawrence Faulk, Jr., married Mrs. Lucinda Hubbard, a daughter of Col. Darius Phelps; she was the widow of Giles Hubbard, who died at Schoharie while Sheriff of Schoharie County. Sheriff Hubbard was a classmate of Gov. De Witt Clinton and Cadwallader Colden, in Union College, from which he was a graduate.

Peter, another son, is still living as a farmer in Michigan.

Hiram, the youngest son, had a checkered career for many years; is now living in Ohio.

Mary married Jacob White, both of whom are now dead.

David Faulk is a highly respected citizen of the village of Durham, where he owns and manages a hotel.

Alvin Devereux was among the early business men in the town; he lived at Preston Hollow; he died November 7, 1825, aged 34 years; he was the father of Alvin Devereux, Esq., of Deposite, N. Y., and of Horace T. Devereux, Esq., of Preston Hollow; each has been honored with the office of supervisor a number of times in their respective towns. Mr. Alvin Devereux was in nomination on the Democratic ticket for one of the Presidential Electors on the Grover Cleveland ticket; he is a leading citizen of his county. The widow of Alvin Devereux, Sr., Mrs. Olivia Devereux, was an excellent and estimable lady; she was born October 22, 1794; died February 8, 1872; she was an exemplary woman, a Christian lady, a member of the Presbyterian church; her deeds of goodness and charity were widely known, and, when she died, the utterance was universal that a mother to the village had gone. Her death was lamented by all citizens.

CHAPTER III.

Commencing in the year 1787, to which year this chapter will be confined, we shall give the name and residence in that year of each settler in the southwest portion of Rensselaerville, for in that year neither of the villages of Preston Hollow or Potter's Hollow existed, and Cooksburgh sprang up at a comparatively late date. Beginning at the west line of the town, on lot No. 145, upon the Catskill Creek and Valley, the first residence was that of Peter Nouck, on lot No. 102 (being the farm afterward known as the Tignor and Goff farms). Mr. Nouck's house was then the western terminus of the road leading to Dewitt's grist-mill. In 1787 there were but three main roads, with branches, in this town; one leading from Nouck's along the Catskill Creek to Dewitt's mill (now Oak Hill), and thence to Leeds; another, then called the "new road," from Freehold to Schoharie, which from Oak Hill ran north through this town by the "Big Lake." The other was called the "old road," running farther east of the "new road," and intersecting the latter on lot No. 186, where, in 1787, stood the residences of Thomas Brown, Adam Coons and Niel McFalls; and at lot 207 stood the dwelling of John Nicholls, where a branch road started running northeast to Beaver Dam (now known as Berne). At lot No. 267, upon which then stood the two dwellings of Joseph Lincoln and John Rausier, from the Beaver Dam road commenced a road running southeast through lots Nos. 249, 250, 230, 231 and 212, all then occupied. This was called Basick Path. Having given all the roads in the town in 1787, we return

again to the southwest portion of the town. We left off at Peter Nouck's. The next dwelling was that of Derrick Van Dyke, lot No. 103, heretofore described. We next come to lot No. 84, where, in 1787, lived Andries Huyck, now owned by Peter and Edgar Mattice. Huyck's residence stood on the rise of ground up back of the present buildings on that farm, which are now in the village of Preston Hollow. Andries Huyck's house, and that of Bastian Smith, on lot 66 (upon which two lots now is situated the present village of Preston Hollow), must be said to be the only house on the site of that village in 1787. Smith's house was on the farm now owned by P. Murphy. Following the road as it winds along the Catskill Creek through lot 46, then unoccupied, we reach lot 45, upon which stood the residence of Peter Bassor; here the road left the creek and ran directly to Dewitt's mill. Passing through lot 7, upon which lived Peter Plank, the next and last lot on the south line of the town was lot No. 8, where stood the residence of Peter West. Having arrived at the south town line in this direction, we are at the residence of Peter Basser, and follow the Catskill Creek southerly (although in 1787 there was no road as now leading from Preston Hollow to Cooksburgh or Potter's Hollow), and come to lot 27, near the junction of Catskill and West Creeks. Here lived Peter Becker, while lot 26 is the present site of Cooksburgh. We proceed up the West Creek toward where now stands Potter's Hollow. The next lot is No. 25, then occupied by Peter Shoemaker. This is the lot afterward owned and occupied by Benjamin Palmer, Esq., known in his day as an extensive land-owner and very wealthy. It was here he reared a large family of children, four sons and three daughters. Benjamin Palmer was an honest, frugal and upright man, having filled the office of Justice of the Peace with honor and ability. He died many years ago. Of his children it may truly be said that they all ever walked in the paths of rectitude, and grew to be men and women, loved and respected by their neighbors and acquaintances. We now proceed up the West Creek. The next dwelling was that of Hendrick Young, standing on south side of the creek, on lot 24. The next lot was 44, where stood the residence of Peter Emerick. At this time not a building stood upon the present site of Potter's Hollow.

CHAPTER IV.

Doctor Samuel Preston, from whom the village of Preston Hollow took its name, came there soon after the Revolution; he having emigrated from Connecticut, and settled here in 1789, was the first settler and founder of the village, although Houck had erected a cabin about a quarter of a mile on the northeast of the village previous to this. Doctor Preston lived in a large wooden frame building (the first erected in the village), which was still standing a few years ago upon the site where now stands the new dwelling of Hon. W. Coon. Dr. Preston erected the first saw-mill and mill-dam in the village, being upon the same site as that now maintained by H. T. Devereux. During the time Preston ran this saw-mill this valley was a dense wilderness of huge pine timber, and lumbering was the chief business of him and the other early settlers. Of Preston's family we learn of his having three sons, Eben, Jeremiah and Roswell. He had two daughters, one of whom became the wife of Nathaniel Rider (afterward a wealthy and leading citizen); the other became the wife of Samuel Hill. The latter were the parents of Mrs. Matilda Brant, who is still living with her children in the village.

Henry Couchman, another very early settler in this town, emigrated from Dutchess County soon after his marriage and settled one and a half miles from the present village of Preston Hollow, while this, the southwest portion of the town, was a dense wilderness. He, too, suffered the privations of a pioneer life. The nearest mill being at Leeds, twenty-four miles distant, and the nearest apple tree at Schoharie, from whence in after years he procured a bushel of apples, saved the seeds, which he planted and raised an orchard, which is still standing on the farm, about a mile and a half west of the village, now owned by his grandson, Edward Couchman. His wife, a beautiful High Dutch woman, full of fortitude and perseverance, in after life often related their early adventures in connection with the Indians, also of her using the gun to drive off the invading wolf and bear from their flocks and domestic animals. He accumulated a good property and reared a family of seven children upon this farm, viz., Philip, David, John, Margaret, Betsey, Polly and Sirena. Philip, the oldest, married a daughter of Rev. John Winans, the latter for many years pastor of the Preston Hollow Baptist Church. Soon after his marriage Philip moved to Black Rock (now the lower part of Buffalo), about the time of the war of 1812. He subsequently returned to Broome, where he reared a family of ten children. He was honored by his town with the offices of Supervisor and Justice of the Peace. He died in 1857, aged 72 years. David, after his father's death, purchased the old homestead farm, where he lived until not many years ago, when he died, highly respected by his townsmen, who had honored him with many town offices, all of which he filled with honor to himself and his constituents. John died a short time ago at Cooksburg, having retired from business. For many years he had carried on a blacksmith shop in Preston Hollow. Margaret, the eldest daughter, married Holly Winans. Their son, Philo Winans, with his family, resides now in the village. Betsey married Henry Horer, who became a man of wealth, made chiefly by the tanning business, carried on at Haurerville. He moved to Middleburgh, and lived a retired life, and he and his wife died at that place a few years ago, the latter at the age of 82 years. Polly married William Burnett. She died in Ontario County. Sirena married John Hagadorn. She died in Michigan.

In 1798 Joseph Burchard, Jr., emigrated from Connecticut to this town, and erected a cottage in

the valley of the Catskill. His house was on the west bank of the creek. There is still standing an orchard which he set out, which remains to show where he lived. He died April 23, 1813, aged 66 years; he left six sons and five daughters, viz., Daniel, Joseph, Elias, Dixon, Preserved, Lyman, Elizabeth, Amy, Esther, Hannah and Dorothy. His wife, Hannah, died in 1825, aged 74. Dixon located in Kalamazoo, Mich., where he built a hotel, which was still standing as an old relic in that city and seen by the writer thirty years ago. Elias was killed by an accidental blow from a wagon tongue. Daniel settled in Ohio, and reared a large family. Rutherford Burchard Hayes, ex-President, was a descendant of Daniel's family. Preserved lived most of his days upon a farm, at Franklinton, Schoharie County, from which he retired in his old age, and moved to Preston Hollow, where he resided until his death, in 1873, aged 83. He was a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church, and was always respected for his uprightness and amiable character. His daughter, Julia A. Norwood, was the wife and is now the widow of Dr. Jacob H. Norwood, of Preston Hollow. Lyman purchased and settled on the old homestead, where he died a few years ago. The next settler was Teal Rockefeller, who at an early period carried on a blacksmith shop on the lands now owned by Edward P. Davis, where a nephew, Peter Rockefeller, kept a hotel, still standing, where Elias Scott lived and died. A short distance south of this, George Wait built a tavern The writer remembers yet the long, red tavern standing about forty-five years ago, which was afterward owned and kept by Wm. Goff, now deceased. Pullman succeeded Wait, and Goff Pullman; then Irwin Tigner.

The present turnpike running through this valley from Schoharie to tide-water was originally chartered in 1802, and led from Athens (formerly called Lunenburgh) to its intersection with the Great Western turnpike, at a point three miles this side of Cherry Valley. In 1807 it was divided into eastern and western branches. The eastern branch was once owned by Lawrence Faulk (the father of Lawrence Faulk, Esq., now a citizen of Preston Hollow), and afterward by Thomas P. Danforth, Esq., Middleburgh. It has since had portions of it cut off, until it now commences at the new bridge in Oak Hill, and runs to the bridge over Schoharie Creek in Middleburgh, and is now owned by Messrs. H. T. Devereux, of Preston Hollow, and James Layman, of Livingstonville, as far as that portion through Preston Hollow. The original road-bed ran on the bank of the creek where the tannery now stands, crossing its present bed and running up what is now the schoolhouse street in the village, crossing Scrub Creek, up the "cheese hill" road to a point next above Devereux's orchard, thence west out to its present bed. This accounts for the fact that the Devereux mansion faced south and the original road, instead of east toward the present road. This turnpike road was the main outlet and thoroughfare, over which the farmers of Otsego and Schoharie, in early times, conveyed their butter and other farm produce to Catskill and Athens. At these early times, as will soon appear, the traveling public must have been well supplied with hotels, or taverns, as they were called in these days, there being no less than ten in the space of four miles, all upon this thoroughfare and in this time, which space included Preston Hollow, and two miles each way from this village. Each of these sold spirituous liquors, and nearly every family possessed of sufficient means kept their private keg of whisky. First, on the south bounds of the town, Peter West's tavern was located; following the turnpike north, was Henry Plank's hotel, on the present site of R. Arnold's house, while not a half a mile north of that was Levi Conyes' tavern; then, another half mile brought us to a hotel kept by Jacob Rockefeller. This old house was still standing about thirty years ago. It stood with its barroom built over a deep ravine. Less than half a mile north was the tavern of Henry Mott, on the site of the present Murphy House, in the village, while, at the north end of the village, were two others, one by Levi Palmer, in the house now known as the Devereux mansion, the other, the old Tuttle tavern, on the present site of the Faulk mansion. Northward from the village, not over a mile distant, were the two taverns of Wait and Rockefeller, mentioned. These hotels, in their day, were patronized and filled with farmer guests from Otsego, Delaware and Schoharie counties, going to and returning from market with their produce.

In these early days, the Tuttle house, in the village, was the stage house, where the extensive stage proprietors kept a heavy stock of coaches and horses, and where they exchanged horses, this being a daily route and line from Catskill to Canajoharie.

The following is a list of the Supervisors of the town of Rensselaerville from 1818 to the present time:

In 1818, Asa Colvard; 1819–21, Eli Hutchinson; 1822–3, Nathaniel Rider; 1824, Isaac Gardiner; 1825, Joshua Gardner; 1826–7, Wheeler Watson; 1828–9, Joseph Conner; 1830–31, John Niles; 1832, Nathaniel Rider; 1833, Nathaniel Rider; 1834–5, Charles L. Mulford; 1836, James Reid; 1837, Samuel Niles; 1838–9, Louis M. Dayton; 1840, Joseph Conner; 1841, Benjamin E. Mackey; 1842, Benjamin E. Mackey; 1843, James G. Clark; 1844, Shadrach R. Potter; 1845–6, Valentine Treadwell; 1847–8, S. M. Hallenbeck; 1849, William Aley; 1850, Wm. Aley; 1851, Daniel A. Mackey; 1852, William Aley; 1853, B. Frank Sayre; 1854, William Aley; 1855–7, Norman A. Ford; 1858–9, Andrew Felter; 1860–1, James E. Mackey; 1862–1867, six terms, George H. Saraway held the office, and may be termed the war Supervisor; 1868–70, Wm Magivny; 1871–72, Wm. R. Tanner; 1873–5, Horace T. Devereux; 1876–80, Albert T. Moore; 1881–3, Hercules W. Sayre; 1884, Jacob B. Norwood.

The population of the town is about 3,000.

We take pleasure in mentioning the names of the following citizens who, by their guaranteed support, have helped to insure the publication of this valuable work: S. M. Hollenbeck, Wm. Morrison, J. B. Norwood, M. Murphy, John Hess, V. Treadwell, John W. Couchman, W. O. Jarvis.

Hon. Valentine Treadwell is a farmer and merchant, located at Potter's Hollow; was member of the Assembly in 1847, and elected to the Senate of New York in the same year, where he remained for two years. Has twice been Supervisor and held other prominent offices. Has been postmaster of his village for twenty-four years.

Hon. John W. Couchman, of Cooksburgh, farmer and notary public, a native of Scoharie County, New York. He represented that county in the Assembly in 1860; held the office of Assessor for twenty-five years; has acted in many official capacities and has been all through life an unyielding Democrat of the Jackson and Jefferson school. Is identified with the Methodist Church.

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WESTERLO.

By J. S. MARKLE.

THE author takes this opportunity of returning thanks to the many friends who so kindly rendered him important service in communicating valuable information, and to those who freely assisted in collecting material for these pages. Special thanks are due Messrs. Thomas Saxton and Chas. Lapaugh for brief church histories. It is much to be regretted that the proper persons authorized by law have failed or neglected to obtain a complete record of the soldiers or volunteers from this town who served in the war of the Rebellion. Efforts should be made to obtain this record, as a part of the history of this township and for future reference.

Albany, N. Y., 1884.

Westerlo, as a township, was formed from Coeymans and Rensselaerville, March 16, 1815, being the seventh in the order of division. The name is derived from Rev. Eilardus Westerlo, who came from Holland in 1760, and was pastor of the Reformed Dutch Church at Albany.

The geographical position is upon the south border of the county, near the center, and is bounded on the north by Berne and New Scotland, on the east by New Scotland and Coeymans, on the south by Greene County, and on the west by Rensselaerville. The physical geography presents a surface of hills and dales, which gives it a diversified and undulating appearance. The hills and elevations rise gradually, with a general southern inclination, while the banks of the streams are somewhat steep and irregular, and the valleys are mere narrow ravines. The soil is a sandy and gravelly loam near the streams; the uplands are interspersed with small, flat stones and underlaid with clay and hard pan. There are no lofty mountains or steep declivities—except along the streams—the highest point being in the northerly part of the town, about 800 feet above tide.

The strata of stone is graywacke, and in a few locations quarries are opened, from which flagging stones are taken.

The streams are the Haanakrois Creek, which flows through the northeast corner, and at Dormansville furnishes water power for the mills near by. Basic* Creek rises in the extreme northern part, flows south across the township, thence into Greene County midway on the south line, passing through Chesterville and South Westerlo. Wolf, Fly Creek and other small streams are tributaries. Eight-Mile Creek flows south through the western part of the town, thence into Rensselaerville, and empties into Ten-Mile Creek. In the northwest part of the township, near Van Leuven's Corners, is a small lake, the outlet of which is the source of the Switzkill. The Haanakrois and Basic creeks furnish the water power for the several mills in the town. Manufactures from raw material are limited, and this industry does not receive much attention.

In the early settlement of this township, when the hills and valleys were one dense wilderness of noble forest trees, the pioneer was anxious to clear the land, that he might use the soil, and to this end trees were felled in great piles, then burned, and the ashes gathered, which were taken to the ashery and sold or bartered for necessary family supplies.

Asheries were quite numerous, and the proprietor usually connected with the business that of general merchandise and groceries. These are

*Low, flat.

now wholly abandoned, and with some other manufactures are industries of the past. Within a few years, so great was the demand, and the price of wood so high, the remaining forests have rapidly diminished, and at the present time only small patches of a few acres have been spared the woodman's ax.

The wealth of the township is in its agricultural resources, which are not yet fully developed. The people, generally, are engaged in the noble work of husbandry, an occupation of honest and honorable antiquity, and one which, with diligence and economy, is a safe staff to lean upon. Independence is the reward of thrift when accompanied with the higher element of intelligence, and this is to be obtained only by careful and judicious training of the mind in the knowledge and art of agriculture. General farming predominates, with the cultivation of rye, corn, oats and buckwheat; hay is also a principal crop, and is of excellent quality. The soil, grazing land, water and variety of surface are decidedly favorable for dairy farming, and many are engaged in the production of butter and a few in the manufacture of cheese. The hills and uplands are utilized as pastures for sheep, and many farmers have fine flocks, and from the production of mutton and wool another source of profit is realized. The most serious objection the farmer has to contend with in this branch of farming is the destruction of his sheep by dogs, which are permitted to run at large. There should be a State law enacted imposing a heavy tax upon all dogs.

Fruit is largely cultivated, and there are many fine orchards of mixed trees; apple, pear and plum predominate.

The learner in the school of experience has a power to obtain results through system and skill unknown to the mere plodder, and in no vocation is this fact more fully exemplified than in the various branches of farming. Intelligence, careful observation and judicious reading mark the industry, thrift and prosperity of the farmers of this township, and they may well rejoice in the goodly possession of their fertile farms, pleasant surroundings and comfortable homes.

The settlement of this township commenced previous to the revolution, when a few daring men, full of youthful zeal and perseverance, wended their way through trails and by-paths to this (then) wilderness, to secure a home and the means for future livelihood. Many were the hardships and privations that beset them, yet with courage they overcame obstacles and discouragements that seemed like mountains, and in time came to gladden their hearts and strengthen their hands as a reward for their toil and sacrifices, in the waving fields of golden grain, in the herds of cattle and sheep upon the meadows and hill-sides, and the luscious fruit upon a thousand trees; and lastly, the disappearance of the log cabin, that sheltered them from the winter storms and wild beasts, for the primitive frame house, with added comforts and security; and now their descendants enjoy the increased conveniences of modern skill and the luxuries that flow from well-earned prosperity.

Very important changes have transformed the past, and the present is subject to modern progress. Science, literature, religion, education, politics and other departments have their representatives, and from these sources emanate much of the prosperity, temporal and spiritual, which is everywhere evident.

Originally Westerlo was included in the townships of Rensselaerville and Coeymans, and in the Van Rensselaer and Coeymans patents. The first settlers occupied land in Watervliet until 1788, and after 1790 and 1791 in the former townships, so the early or first settlers were not residents of Westerlo until 1815.

Among the early settlers were Philip Myers, born in Germany in 1744, and came with his father to America in 1753, landing at New Baltimore. Old Mr. Myers returned to Germany for the rest of his family, but was never heard of afterward. Philip remained with Andreas Witbeck, an early settler of Coeymans, until 1763, when he located on a farm at Chesterville, built a log-house, kept bachelor's hall for two years, then married a daughter of Nicholas Stoddard, who had previously settled here. It seems the Indians and Tories were somewhat troublesome in this vicinity, and Myers took his family to Dutchess County, but returned to his former possessions after the war closed, and died, April 12, 1813. The farm is yet in the possession of his descendants.

Andrew Hannay, a native of Galloway, Scotland, born 1733; came to America in 1774; soon after settled in Westerlo, on the farm now occupied by his youngest son, David. In 1777 he raised a company of volunteers to join Gen. Gates, but on reaching Albany he learned that Burgoyne had surrendered, and they returned to their homes.

Jacob Ford came from Hillsdale District, Columbia County, in 1795, and settled on lot 369, afterward on lot 318, now in possession of Henry A. Ford.

Adam St. John, of Scotch origin, came from Old Paltz to Westerlo in 1790, and settled at Lamb's

Corners. He came with the Huguenots from Holland. He and four of his brothers were soldiers in the Revolutionary war, and were at the surrender of Cornwallis. Many of his descendants are residents of the town.

Jehial Lamb came from Massachusetts, and settled in the southwest part of the town, about 1793; and Jacob Ingalls, from Rhode Island, settled here about the same time. Descendants of these two families are living in the vicinity of Lamb's Corners. Isaac Winston settled near Chesterville. He did service in the war for independence; was taken prisoner and held for eighteen months. Stephen and Solomon Mabey were early settlers. Stephen Mabey came from Rhode Island soon after the Revolution, and settled at South Westerlo. Samuel Mabey was born here 93 years ago, and lived and died on his farm. Dr. Jonathan Prosser, from Dutchess County, came in 1788, and settled on the farm occupied by his son. Lodowick and Jacob Hanes, Germans, came at an early date and settled on the Basic Creek, near Dormansville. Josiah Hinckley, also a Revolutionary soldier, settled in 1783 on the farm now owned by his grandson. At this time there were but eight families in the town. John Gibbons, born 1766, lived at New London, Conn., and during the Revolutionary war drove an ox-team and helped to remove the military stores from New London in the night to a place of safety. After the war he removed to Rensselaer County, and in 1795 came to Dormansville. His son, Dr. Ransom H. Gibbons, born in 1802, resides at Dormansville.

Apollos Moore taught school in 1788; he afterward became first Judge of the County. Robert O. K. Bennet taught a school in 1790.

Among the early settlers were William Haverland, William Bird, James Arnold, Abram Becker, Rev. Reuben Stanton, who also was a surveyor, and received for his services one hundred acres of land; Jared Reynold, Daniel Lockwood, William Wheaton, Isaac Lobdell.

VILLAGES.

CHESTERVILLE (*Westerlo P. O.*)—This hamlet is located about one mile north of the center of the township, on Basic Creek, and fifteen miles from Coeymans and twenty miles from Albany. It is named from Rev. John Chester, who was formerly pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church of Albany.

The post-office was established, among the first in the town, about 1827. Previous to this letters and papers were delivered by post-riders once a week. Esquire Brown and a man by the name of Peck, remembered by a few of the inhabitants, did this service for the settlers and their families. Now the mails are received daily. Smith and Disbrow were early postmasters. The present postmaster is Hiram K. Jones.

The vicinity dates its settlement as the earliest in the town. It was here that Philip Myers located before the commencement of hostilities which brought independence for the colonies, and just south of the village Lobdell and Baker erected mills as early as 1795, while Grant and Eadie had an ashery and kept store in 1798. Moses Smith followed as a merchant, tavern keeper and manufacturer of potash. Nicholas Lapaugh and Henry Pierce were also tavern keepers. Jeremiah Green operated a tannery. The hamlet contains 45 dwellings and 220 inhabitants; two churches, Reformed and Baptist; school house, one hotel, Henry C. Latham, proprietor, and four stores; A. S. Green & Son, general merchandise; Perry Swartout, sundry merchandise; Hiram K. Jones, dry goods, groceries and sundries; Gilbert Anderson, hardware and tin; three blacksmith and two wheelwright shops; one general undertaker, shoe shop, paint shop, millinery and dressmaking. The professions are represented by Alonzo Spaulding, attorney and counselor at law; Felix Weidman, J. B. Washburn and Cyrus Ecker, physicians and surgeons. About 1820 a Masonic lodge was located here, with the following persons as members: Col. James Sackett, Sylvester Ford, George Prindle and Nicholas Lapaugh. The Good Templars instituted a lodge here in 1878, which has been abandoned.

SOUTH WESTERLO (P. O.), first called "Smith's Mills," from David Smith; name changed 1827, when the P. O. was organized. Thomas Saxton was postmaster for twenty-nine years. Mr. Saxton came here when 14 years old; served as clerk for his uncle, Thomas Smith, and continued in business until 1859. The mail was brought by Peck, on horseback, once a week. Among the early settlers and business men were: Thomas Smith, general merchant, distiller and manufacturer of potash; Bemet, Wheaton, Cross, Storer, Stanton, Reynolds, Lockwood, Slauson, Trowbridge.

The hamlet is situated in the southern central part of the township, between Basic and Fly creeks, twenty-four miles south west from Albany and sixteen miles from Coeymans. Here are located the mills of D. M. Wooster and the woollen factory of D. W. Calder & Son. There are 25 dwellings and 125 residents. There is a Christian church, school-house, public hall and select school rooms, harness shop, wheelwright and blacksmith shop. G. W. Robins, postmaster, general merchandise and post-office; L. S. Lockwood, dry goods, groceries, etc.; J. Reynolds, drugs and bottling establishment; Edwin Haines, physician and surgeon. The Good Templars have a working lodge.

DORMANSVILLE P. O. is in the eastern central part of the town, and named in honor of Daniel Dorman, who was first postmaster, in 1832. The hamlet is nineteen miles southwest from

Albany and twelve from Coeymans Landing. Among the first settlers were Jacob Dorman, 1802; John Gibbons, 1795; W. Tomkins, William Ward and Lewis Husted, who kept a public-house. Here is still standing a frame school-house—square—which is the first one built in the town. It served in the past for school and religious purposes; it is now used by Mr. J. W. Gale as a storehouse. Formerly Hiram and Erastus Gibbons were proprietors of the Dormansville Hotel, and dealers in dry-goods, groceries and general merchandise. The hotel business has been abandoned, but the other branches are continued. Mr. Erastus Gibbons is the present postmaster. Near here on the Haanakrois Creek, are the grist, saw and plaster mills of William A. Dickson & Son. The hamlet contains ten dwellings, Methodist church, school-house, store, wheelwright and blacksmith shop and paint shop. A tannery was formerly operated here by Mr. Gale. Ransom H. Gibbons, physician and surgeon, was born here in 1802, and located as physician in 1826.

Van Leuven's Corners, in the northwest part of the township, is a small hamlet on the old Delaware turnpike road, and in former times had a church, taverns, mills, tannery, and other business enterprises. All of these are now abandoned, and the place has settled into rural quietness. Isaac Van Leuven was an early settler, and from him the place derived its name. A Reformed church was organized here in the early history of the town, but is now abandoned. William Beardsley, John Preston and James Sackett were tavern keepers. Here John Preston had his tannery and curry shop, which is continued on a moderate scale by Luther Preston. Mr. Preston was a school-teacher and the author of "Every Man His Own Teacher, being an introduction to arithmetic, by John Preston, Philo. Math. Albany: Printed by G. J. Lomis, 9 Washington street, 1834. Inscribed to the Hon. Stephen Van Rensselaer."

James Sackett was a colonel in the war of 1812, a prominent business man and a mason. He was buried from the church at Van Leuven's Corners, July, 1821, with military and Masonic honors, and was interred in the Snyder cemetery. The place was first called "Sackett's Corners," then "Preston's Corners," and now "Van Leuven's Corners." Here William Beardsley kept tavern, who, after moving to Albany, was elected sheriff. Many years ago a man by the name of Gideon Wood made spinning wheels where Peter Van Leuven lives. Josiah Jones came to this neighborhood when fourteen years old with his father from Claverack. Then there was very little cleared land. Mr. Jones is 87 years old and has clear recollections of former days. A few years ago a steam saw-mill was operated here, which was burned down. The names of the residents in this neighborhood are those of the early settlers, and their progress is characteristic of their ancestors. Jacob Ford settled near here in 1788.

Lamb's Corners, a small neighborhood in the southwest part of the township, was settled by Jehial Lamb, Adam St. John, Jacob Ingalls, Hezekiah Boardman, Thomas Jencks, and descendants of the first three families are quite numerous. They were New Englanders and came about 1790. Others followed who became permanent residents in this part of the town, and the well-managed farms, with fine residences, ample and commodious out-buildings, attest the thrift and prosperity of their surroundings.

Here is a Methodist church and society, school-house, store and blacksmith shop.

Westerlo Center, or Thayer's Corners, is a small hamlet, containing a store of general merchandise, T. W. Ingalls, proprietor. D. Boice, blacksmith shop. Formerly a man by the name of Thayer kept store and tavern Residents in the vicinity are several families of Winegards, Atkins, Hanes, Wiltsey, Lockwoods, Stanton, Reynolds.

Mills and Manufactures.—In the early history and settlement of the township these were few, as the wants of the people were limited and supplied from the most economical sources Asheries, grist and saw-mills, with carding and cloth-dressing mills, met the demands and requirements. The first mills were those erected by Lobdell and Baker as early as 1795. The location of these mills was a short distance south of Chesterville, on the Basic Creek, on lots 328 and 200 of Van Rensselaer's patent, where are now the mills of Jacob Burgher & Son, occupying the same privileges and nearly the same ground as the original mills.

Isaac Lobdell, Sr., sold these mills to Isaac Lobdell, Jr. Then they were sold to John Winegard and Silas B. Martin, then to Josiah and Peter Winegard, then to Edmund Adkins, then to Weaver and Vincent, and lastly to the present owners, Jacob Burgher & Son. The old mill of Lobdell was taken away by a freshet, and was on the opposite side of the creek from the present mills.

At South Westerlo formerly were a tannery and asheries belonging to the Smiths, who afterward erected a grist-mill, which was built by Asher Morse. These mills passed through the ownership of several persons, and are now operated by D. M. Wooster, the owner. Here are located the mills of W. D. Calder & Son, for the manufacture of flannels, cassimeres, satinets and yarn. These mills are located on the Basic Creek.

Near Dormansville, on the Haanakrois Creek, are the grist, saw and plaster mills of William A. Dickson & Son.

Saw-mills are numerous. Darius Lockwood, on the Wolf Creek; Samuel Snyder, on Eight-Mile Creek, and Henry A. Ford, on Basic Creek, built in 1870.

About 1812 Jenks had a carding mill on the Basic Creek below Chesterville, which was destroyed by fire, and another put up by George Wiltsey, which was operated by Drum & Possom; they were converted into a turning shop, and then into a grist-mill, remains of which yet exist.

Quarries of blue stone, for flagging, are operated to a considerable extent in the northwest part of the township.

Several persons are engaged in bee-culture. This industry is receiving considerable attention; but like many other branches connected with modern experiments, skill and scientific knowledge, combined with practical experience, will be required to make the business a success, for there are many causes of failure which call for investigation and study.

The town is assessed for 35,568 acres of land, and the assessed valuation for the year 1884 is: Real, $1,222.550; personal, $71,550; total, $1,298,100; and equalized: real, $1,237,809; personal, $71,550; total, $1,336,208.

CHURCHES.

There are five evangelical churches and organized societies in the township, divided as follows: two Methodist, one Reformed, one Baptist and one Christian; and formerly a Friend's meeting house.

The first organization of religious societies occurred in the township of Rensselaerville as early as 1793, but no churches were erected until 1790 west of Albany city, and in 1796 the first church was built in Rensselaerville. It is a singular fact that the first organizations of the several religious societies in the townships took place from 1790 to 1800.

After the Revolutionary war closed and peace with its blessings began to be realized, immigrants came and acquired farms in what was Rensselaerville township. All the land was included in the Van Rensselaer patent, and at that time the terms and conditions were considered favorable and just to the tenants, which were readily accepted by them, as their means were limited and they could obtain possession of these farms without money by simply complying with the terms offered by the patroon.

These early settlers were people who came from the New England States, and from adjoining counties on the river, and were descendants of English or Scotch families. A few were German and others of the French Huguenots, who came with the Hollanders. Each of these nationalities were imbued with the religious teaching and training of their youth, and in establishing their churches, they adhered to the tenets, doctrines and government of their early education. Being strong in their convictions—yet with charity for all—they were emulous for prompt action, and with united purpose they organized with confidence of success, and the past well proves that their efforts have been a means of elevating the moral tone of society and advancing the spiritual prosperity of the people.

The Methodist Episcopal Church at Dormansville was organized as early as 1826, the people worshiping in private houses, and in the old square schoolhouse, which is the oldest building in the neighborhood. The present church edifice was erected in 1840–41, and dedicated by Rev. Mr. Hedstrom. S. Wright and Turner have been pastors. The present trustees are William Stuart, William Dickinson, J. W. Gale, J. G. Ward and John Gibbons. The present pastor is John W. Morrison. The society numbers 110 communicants, 100 Sabbath school scholars, and amount contributed for all purposes, $600. The church is a frame building; sheds are attached, and the parsonage is conveniently accessible.

At Lamb's Corners is a Methodist Church, designated as "Olin Chapel," in honor of Dr. Stephen Olin. About 80 years ago a class was formed here, led by Thomas Smith and Alexander Lamb, at whose house meetings were held; this house is now occupied by his son, Francis A. Lamb. Meetings were also held in the school-house until the house of worship was erected in 1853, when the following members were elected trustees: Alexander Lamb, Amos Fish and Ludlow St. John. The present trustees are F. A. Lamb, Edwin St. John and W. A. St. John. The church is a frame building, and will seat 200. The society reports 23 members, 50 Sunday-school scholars; contributions for all purposes, $125. The present pastor is Rev. O. D. Ramsay, who resides at Greenville.

*The First Baptist Church of Westerlo.—The church society was organized on the 26th day of May, 1800, in what was then the town of Rensselaerville (now Westerlo), which at that time was an almost unbroken wilderness. The following are the names of the original members: Roswell Beckwith, Aaron Baker, Isaac Winston, Isaac Lobdell, Thomas Martin, Benjamin Martin, James Slade, Sarah Winston, Miriam Lobdell, Cynthia Baker, Lois Slade, Judith Stanton, Eleanor Martyn, Mary Spaulding and Lydia Mallison.

On the day mentioned they met at the house of Isaac Winston, and by the aid of Elder Josiah Morris, of Rensselaerville, were constituted a regular Baptist Church. The day after its organization four candidates were received and baptized into its fellowship.

They worshiped in private dwellings, schoolhouses, barns and groves until the erection of their meeting-house in the village of Chesterville. On the 11th day of January, 1820, the First Baptist Society of the township of Westerlo met in the school-house near Zina W. Lay's, for the purpose of electing officers to manage the affairs of said society, and likewise to become a "body corporate" by the name of "The First Baptist Society," in the town of Westerlo. Deacon William Bentley and James Slade were elected presiding officers, and the following persons were elected trustees, viz.: Sylvester Ford, James Jaycox, William Bentley, James Slade, Isaac Lobdell, Jr., Knight Bennett. The presiding officers, on the 31st day of January, certified to the charter before James Sackett, Commissioner, and caused the same to be recorded in the clerk's office of the City and County of Albany, in the book of church patents, the 22d of February, 1820.

The deed for the site of their first church edifice was given by George Pinney, of said township, and covered thirty-five one-hundredths of an acre, being part of lot No. 238, for which they were to pay fifty dollars ($50), and they were also to pay, or cause

*Furnished by Charles Lapaugh, for the author.

to be paid, yearly and every year hereafter "unto Stephen Van Rensselaer, proprietor of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, or his legal successors, a proportionate part of the rent of the whole lot No. 238, and to erect and ever after maintain a good and lawful fence around said church plat."

March 28, 1853, the society sold this piece of ground and purchased the one where their church edifice now stands, of Archibald S. Green, and moved their building upon it.

The church has had nineteen different pastors. The following are their names and the order in which they served: R. Beckwith, Adam Clark, R. Burrett, David Corwin, Wm. E. Childs, L. O. Lovell, M. House, Reuben Winegar, Charles Fergueson, Alfred Harvey, G. C. Tripp, Jr., J. D. Pope, R. F. Hartwell, J. C. Weeden, Wm. Carpenter, A. Peloubet, A. Waterbury, James H. McGaghen, D. P. Brown.

The church has received into her fellowship 816 members; some have been excluded; 162 have died in the triumphs of faith, while many have been dismissed by letter to join other churches.

The present number of members is 201; number of Sabbath-school pupils, 180; teachers, 10. The church edifice is of wood, and will seat 350; value, $2,000. The present trustees are Reuben A. Winston, James O. Castle, Jacob Swartwout, Levi S. Moak, Elias H. Babcock and Josiah Winegar.

The Reformed Church, located at Westerlo, formerly Basic, Chester, was organized in 1793. The pastors have been Revs. Samuel Center, missionary, 1823; John Vanderveer, missionary, to 1823; Samuel Van Vechten, missionary, 1823–4; Benjamin Van Keuren, missionary, to 1824; Abram Fort, 1824 to '31; Joseph Wilson, 1832–34; Elbert Slingerland, 1834–6; John Gosman, 1836–8; Alanson B. Chittenden, 1839–40; James A. H. Cornell, 1841–3; Samuel Robertson, 1843–8; Nanning Bogardus, 1849–50; William Demarest, 1850–4; Samuel Dyer, 1856–61; Philip Furbeck, 1862–7; Adrian Westveer, 1868–9; Francis M. Bogardus, 1869–72; John H. Pitcher, 1873–76; William D. Buckelew, 1876–79; Solomon T. Cole, 1879–83.

The present officers are: Elders—Geo. Clark, Gilbert Smith, Gilbert Anderson, Albert Carl. Deacons—G. H. Smith, Ludlow Udell, William Burch, E. S. Swartwout. Families, 50; communicants, 84; Sunday-school, 83. Amount of contributions, $480. Value of church property, $2,500.

South Westerlo.—A Baptist society was organized here, and a church edifice erected, about 1808 or 1810, then in the town of Rensselaerville. At that time the place was called "Smith's Mills," named from David Smith, who owned the mills, and, it is said, gave the land upon which this church was built. The society for many years exerted an influence that resulted in much good, and were quite prosperous in building up the religious and special interests of the society. For many years they had no regular preachers, but were supplied by Elders Josiah Baker, William Stuart and others.

Rev. Reed Burritt was settled over this church about 1820, and continued as pastor for ten years or more. In the meantime strife and dissension were introduced, and the "Old and New School Societies" became involved in a controversy for the control of the affairs of the church. The "New School" branch were successful in getting the organization incorporated, thus securing legal possession and control of their society. Among other ministers who served this church were Messrs. Crocker, Mudge and Stanton.

The society having fulfilled its mission, and the membership gradually decreasing, they disbanded and sold the church building (which stood where George W. Robbins' house now stands) in 1847, and the old church was moved out of the village.

The Christian Church of South Westerlo was organized in 1820 by the Christian societies of Rensselaerville, Coeymans, Berne, Baltimore and Freehold; records of this society previous to 1833 are in possession of the Freehold church. In the year 1824 the society erected a church building, which was used as a house of worship until sold to O. L. Hannay, and is now converted into a public hall, and in which the society of Good Templars meet. In 1833 Anthony Hanes, Nathaniel Holmes and Cyrus Wheaton, were trustees; Joshua Nelson, moderator, and Thomas Saxton, clerk; Abraham Hagen, Robert P. Derboos and Anthony Hanes, deacons.

The original church edifice, becoming too small for the accommodation of the society, was sold, and the old tavern property of William Showers was purchased, and the present house of worship and parsonage were erected in 1872, at a cost of $13,000.

The following are the present officers: Rev. D. J. Putnam, pastor; Darius Rundell, Zerah Lockwood, William Lake; O. L. Hannay, chairman; Jefferson T. Hannay, clerk. Members, 150; Sunday-school scholars, 180; teachers, 8; contributions for all purposes, $1,000.

The corporate cemeteries of Westerlo are two. The Westerlo Rural Cemetery Association was organized, October, 1871, with Wm. V. L. Lapaugh, president; George E. Disbrow, vice-president; Charles Lapaugh, secretary and treasurer; Lewis C. Lockwood, John Sherwood and Joseph Babcock, trustees. The present officers are: Henry Smith, president; James O. Castle, vice-president; Henry A. Ford, Chester Gifford, Gilbert Anderson; Charles Lapaugh, secretary and treasurer. The cemetery is located one mile north of the village, and contains two and three-fourths acres of land.

The Haanakrois Rural Cemetery was organized in 1879, with the following officers: Edward Gibbons, president; William Applebee, vice-president; Miner Gibbons, secretary and treasurer; Henry Simpkins, John G. Ward, Allen Kniffen. The cemetery contains two acres of land, and is located one mile east of Dormansville.

There are several burial grounds in different parts of the town, which contain the remains of the early settlers, and the one at Van Leuven's Corners is noted for the burial of Col. James Sackett. Most

of these private burial places are being superseded by incorporated cemeteries, which offer protection and security in the future.

Town Insurance.—Westerlo and Rensselaerville, of Albany County; Greenville and Durham, of Green County, constitute "The Farmers' Fire Insurance Association," and was incorporated under a special act of the Legislature, April, 1857. Thomas Saxton, director and agent.

Kedron Lodge, No. 960, I. O. G. T., was instituted at South Westerlo, December 15, 1878, with Dewitt Stanton, W. C. T.; Alice Knowles, now Hannay, W. V. T., W. W. Gunnison, G. L. D.; F. P. Loucks, L. D. The following are present officers: F. M. Swartwout, W. C. T.; Mrs. Emily Stanton, W. V. T.; Dewitt Stanton, L. D. Number of members, 65.

For a distance of about six miles, commencing at the old Delaware turnpike and extending across the town to Verplank's Bridge, over the Haanakrois Creek, and passing through Chesterville and Dormansville, is the western portion of the Coeymans and Westerlo stone road, incorporated June, 1868; Henry Slingerland, director.

Schools.—There are eighteen school-houses in the township, with three joint districts. Schools were early established, and Apollos Moore and Robert O. K. Bemet were teachers before the township was organized. John Mott, a Quaker, taught a select school many years ago, on the farm of R. Cartwright, for the education of his religious sect, which at that time was quite numerous. The other sects were not excluded. After the death of Mott the school was continued by Henry Lawson, and after him, for a time, by John Preston.

Gideon St. John taught school for twenty-seven years, and Truman Ingalls for many years, in connection with a grammar school, evenings. Heman Crocker, Solomon Trowbridge, C. Stewart, Moses Scott and Levi Holmes, Miss Bush and Ann Lawson were teachers fifty years ago.

The number of children of school age for the year 1869 was 800; the number attending school, 665; average attendance, 281. Amount expended for school purposes during above year, $4,701.

Schools in the township are well conducted, and progress is the grand feature that gives promise of a higher order of education.

The following table is compiled from the Commissioner's report, in the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, for 1883:

No. of District.	Children 5 to 21 Years of Age.	Number Attended School.	Valuation of Real and Personal Property of District.	Total Amount for School Purposes.	Amount Paid Teachers.	Amount Paid Teachers per week for Winter Term.	Paid Teachers per week for Summer Term.
1	74	45	$43,900	$321 79	$285 00	$7 50	$7 50
2	30	24	36,720	187 25	161 00	5 50	4 00
3	28	28	28,540	139 85	120 00	3 75	3 00
4	28	24	17,500	100 00	90 00	6 00	4 00
5	28	17	29,450	170 13	156 00	4 00	4 50
6	34	37	27,750	194 64	167 50	5 12	4 50
7	83	67	53,525	289 12	232 09	6 50	4 00
8	24	15	.....	144 75	.....	....	....
9	27	23	14,475	95 30	73 50	5 50	4 00
10	36	29	18,650	165 00	145 00	6 75	4 00
11	24	20	21,850	230 33	222 00	8 00	6 00
12	19	13	29,630	180 86	154 58	4 63	4 12
13	..	..	.....	.....	.....	....	....
14	27	20	24,275	175 91	175 91	7 00	5 50
15	30	23	31,480	215 00	204 00	7 50	5 25
16	28	27	.....	.....	.....	....	....
17	25	30	17,120	229 91	189 00	5 50	3 75
18	27	20	17,450	191 85	174 00	7 00	5 00
19	19	13	14,270	161 30	148 00	7 00	4 00
20	17	13	11,100	181 00	151 00	4 50	3 50
21	50	43	41,975	247 10	213 00	7 50	5 50
Totals	658	511	$479,435	$3,476.35	$3,062.08		

PHYSICIANS.

The early physicians of Westerlo were Drs. Zina W. and Josiah Lay, Jonathan Prosser, Erastus Hamilton, assistant surgeon in the war of 1812; Peleg Peckham, P. S. Brigham, Willis A. Alston, Hiram Barber, Hyde, George Holmes, Bradly.

The present physicians are: Felix Weidman, who graduated from Albany Medical College in 1847; located at Central Bridge, then at South Berne, 1849, and Chesterville, 1860

Edwin Haines graduated from Albany Medical College in 1867; practiced in Albany three years, Stone Bridge, Schoharie County, four years and located at South Westerlo in 1873.

Cyrus Ecker graduated from Albany Medical College in 1874; located at Chesterville in 1875.

J. B. Washburn graduated from Albany Medical College in 1881; located at Lake George, and came to Chesterville in 1883.

Ranson H. Gibbons, the oldest physician in the township, and one of the oldest residents, was born

in 1802, in what was Coeymans. He studied medicine with Dr. Zina Lay and Dr. Hyde; and to prepare himself the better to practice his chosen profession, he attended a course of lectures at Fairfield, and was licensed by the censors of Herkimer County. After obtaining his license, he located, in 1826, at Dormansville, the place of his nativity; and after many years of hardships, in riding over the hills through winter storms, and over rough roads winding through the forests, he lives to enjoy the comforts of life in his old age.

SOLDIERS.

As this township was not settled until after the war of the Revolution, it has no record of soldiers who are entitled to credit for services performed in behalf of this town. Many who fought in that war afterward become residents.

In the war of 1812 a few names have been obtained, which are appended: Joseph Babcock, T. Witbeck, James Sackett, Col. Elliot St. John, William and Alexander Mackey, Walter Huyck, John W. Prosser, Nathan Clark, Abram Hageman, James and Abram Hawley, Benjamin Stanton, Caleb Tompkins, Carpenter Bishop, Martin Lambert. There is no record of the soldiers of the Rebellion.

The civil history of Westerlo commenced April 4, 1815, at which time the first town meeting was held at the house of William Beardsley, John Gibbons moderator, and town officers were elected. The following list comprises the names of Supervisors, Justices of the Peace and Town Clerks, including the year 1884. The figures denote the year elected:

Supervisors—Moses Smith, 1815; William Wheeler, 1819; Sylvester Ford, 1820; James Sackett, 1821 (died, and Moses Smith appointed); Thomas Smith, 1822; D. J. D. Verplank, 1823; Moses Smith, 1825; Henry Peers, 1826; Thomas Jenks, 1828; Peter Onderdonk, 1830; Charles Hyndman, 1831; Anthony Miller, 1833; David Wooster, 1835; William Bentley, 1837; Zelum Hitchcock, 1839; Fred. H. Rosekrantz, 1841; Abraham Griffin, 1843; Abram Vrooman, 1845; Avery Slade, 1847; Caleb Smith, 1849; Samuel F. Powell, 1851; George H. Bentley, 1854; Abraham Griffin, 1856; Thomas Saxton, 1858; Abijah C. Disbrow, 1860; Jared T. Reynolds, 1863; Charles Bentley, 1866; Julius Thayer, 1868; Orson L. Hannay, 1870; Warren Rosekrans, 1871; Orson L. Hannay, 1872; Daniel M. Wooster, 1874; Ansil C. Requa, 1880.

Justices of the Peace, appointed—Jared Reynolds, 1822; Gilbert Ward, David Stanton, Isaac A. Wiltsie, Mathew Miller. First Justices elected in November, 1827—David Stanton, William Bentley, Isaac A. Wiltsie, Abijah C. Disbrow, Joseph C. Martin, 1829; William Bentley, 1830; James Lister, 1831; Jeremiah Green, 1833; Charles Hyedman, 1834; Abraham Griffin, 35; Cyrus Ingalls, 1835; Hugh Scott, 1837; John P. Wheeler, 1840; Samuel Mabee, 1840; Amasa Thayre, 1842; John H. Snyder, 1843; Lewis Reynolds, 1844; Truman Ingalls, 1845; Datus E. Battershall, 1846; Horace E. Robins, 1848; Farley Fisher, 1850; Abram L. Green, 1851; Alfred Gibbons, 1852; Stephen Martin, 1853; Samuel F. Powell, 1854; John B. Teats, 56; George E. Disbrow, 1858; Calvin Martin, 1859; Luther B. Tompkins, 1861; Samuel Snyder, 1863; Thomas Smith, 1864; Alonzo Spaulding, 1867; Darius Rundell, 1868; Edward Gibbons, 1868; Wm. V. L. Lapaugh, 1870; John W. Gale, 1873; Julius Thayer, 1876; John Gibbons, 1877; Stephen A. Knowles, 1879; Lorenzo D. Reynolds, 1883; Lay Ruland, 1884.

Town Clerks—Thomas Jencks, Knight Bennett, 1824; Augustus Mygatt, 1825; Moses Myers, 1826; Thomas Saxton, 1831; Stephen Tompkins, 1832; Cyrus Ingalls, 1833; Jeremiah Green, 1834; Andrew Myers, 1837; Fred. A. Rosekrans, 1839; Philander S. Wickham, 1841; Anthony J. Haines, 1843; Calvin Martin, 1845; James Crandall, 1846; A. S. H. Disbrow, 1848; David Gould, 1850; Garret H. Bentley, 1851; Enos Knapp, 1853; Moses S. De La Vergne, 1855; Robert S. Lay, 1857; Jared T. Reynolds, 1858; Julius Thayer, 1860; Thomas Smith, 1862; John H. Snyder, 1864; Peter Winegard, 1866; James A. Sloan, 1868; Judson A. Bouton, 1870; Jacob Swartwout, 1872; Sanford Gould, 1873; Warren Rosekrans, 1875; Gilbert H. Smith, 1877; James O. Castle, 1879; James F. Fisher, 1881, Gilbert Anderson, 1883.

Members of Assembly—Moses Stanton, Abijah C. Disbrow, Daniel Dorman, Peter Flagler, Jay Gibbons.

County Clerk—Robert S. Lay.

School Commissioner—Julius Thayer.

We take pleasure in making mention of the following citizens, who, by their guaranteed support, have helped to insure the publication of this valuable work: Josiah Winegard, John W. Gale, Peter Van Leuven, R. Arnold.

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WATERVLIET.

By JACOB S. MARKLE.

INTRODUCTION.

THE pages devoted to the history of Watervliet have been gathered and carefully written from sources that were attainable, and from information kindly given by those who had knowledge of the facts, events or circumstances connected in some way with the several subjects under consideration, and from which important data was obtainable. Old deeds and other records have been of much value, and from these information of general interest has been freely given. Personal assistance was rendered in some instances, for which the writer acknowledges his indebtedness and kindly returns his sincere thanks.

The limit of the work precludes much that might be introduced, did it not trespass upon the general plan of the history and conflict with the province of other writers.

We have thus imperfectly traced the records and historical associations connected with the changes and modern progress of this old township, from its early settlement in colonial times, and its struggles, to its present modest prosperity; and much of this has something to remind us of the stalwart patriotism of its founders and the enthusiasm which belongs to a people of intelligence, physical vigor and exalted manhood.

ALBANY, 1885.

WATERVLIET TOWNSHIP.

The Manor of Rensselaerwyck was erected into a district, March 24, 1772, and subdivided into East and West districts, March 5, 1779, the river being the separating line. The West District, as defined by act of March, 1772, embraced all that part of the manor north of an east and west line from Beeren Island north to Cumberland County, except the City of Albany.

The name of WATERVLIET is of Dutch origin, from *water* and *vlakte*, level plains or flats. The level lands or flats along the river were and are subject to overflow in time of freshets; hence they are the "*overflowed flats*" or *water-vlakte*, the last word corrupted into "*vliet*," which is incorrect, as *vliet* in the Dutch language means *river*.

This township was the first one organized in the county, and was formed, March 7, 1788, and included the West District of the Manor of Rensselaerwyck, with Colonial or State lands on the north. That part of the city north of Patroon and Quackenbos streets, known as the *Colonie*, was incorporated, March 31, 1791, and again, March 30, 1801. April 9, 1804,* it was made a village, and April 11, 1808, it was organized by the Legislature as a township, in which it continued to exercise civil and political privileges until February 25, 1815, when the township was divided, a part merged into the bounds of the City of Albany and the remaining portion reannexed to Watervliet. In 1870 a part of this old *Colonie* was taken from Watervliet and annexed to Albany City.

The township has undergone many changes since its formation in 1788, when it included all the territory as now represented by the several townships, Cohoes and Niskayuna. The following changes have taken place and other divisions formed from this parent since its organization:

Rensselaerville was taken off in 1790, Coeymans in 1791, Bethlehem in 1793, Guilderland in 1803, Niskayuna in 1809; a part of Colonie was annexed in 1815; Cohoes was taken off in 1869, and in 1870 a portion was annexed to Albany City. West Troy and Green Island, parts of the township, are incorporated villages.

The township is triangular in shape, resting upon one point, and occupies the northeast corner in the county.

It is bounded on the north by Schenectady and Saratoga Counties, on the east by Saratoga and Rensselaer Counties, on the south by Rensselaer

* The following, from the session laws of 1804, reads: "An act to vest certain powers in the freeholders and inhabitants of that part of the Town of Water Vliet, in the County of Albany, commonly called the Colonie, which was incorporated, April 9, 1804, as follows: 'Lying on the west bank of Hudson's River, in the northeast bounds of the City of Albany; extending north about three-fourths of a mile to Mill Creek; thence west one mile up along the said creek; thence southerly with a line parallel to the said river till it strikes the north bounds of said city; thence east to the place of beginning.'" The village was to elect five persons as trustees, who were empowered to make by-laws, levy taxes and perform other duties; a Treasurer, Collector and five Assessors were also to be elected by the freeholders. The first town meeting was held at the house of William Kane, in April, 1809, no records of which can be found.

County, Albany City and Guilderland, and on the west by Albany and Guilderland. The Hudson and Mohawk Rivers flow along the east and north boundary, separating it from Rensselaer and Saratoga Counties.

The number of acres of land assessed in 1883 was 33,560; the assessed and equalized valuation of personal and real estate for 1883 was $5,524,828.97; the assessed valuation of West Troy and Green Island, $4,875,076.21; total for the township, $10,399,904.18. Population in 1865, 27,275; 1870, 22,609; 1875, 20,894; 1880, 22,220. The surface is broken into plains and uplands, which have an elevation of from 200 to 300 feet. The declivities of this upland have numerous gullies, worn by the small streams, while the Mohawk on the east has made precipitous banks and deep cuttings above and below the falls; swamps and small marshes are numerous. A fine interval of alluvial soil, varying in width, extends along the Hudson; this is frequently overflowed by freshets, and the deposit which accumulates renders the soil very fertile. The soil along the river flats is a rich alluvium, and a light sandy loam upon the upland and plains. There are mild sulphur and chalybeate springs. Bog iron ore is found in a few locations, and some graywacke quarries furnish excellent building and flagging stone.

The streams or creeks are small. The principal ones are Patroon's Creek, with its tributaries, Sand Kill, Lisha's or Lychus Kill, Town Branch, Schauline Creek, Donker Kill, Dry Branch, Ralger Kill and Red Creek. The acreage of woodland is rapidly diminishing, and only small patches remain, containing a few acres, and small groves preserved for ornament or wind-breaks. Roads and turnpikes are numerous, and are kept in good traveling condition, and railroads traverse through the town in many directions.

The first settlements in this township were made upon lands included in the Van Rensselaer Manor. The great inducement and favorable terms upon which settlers could obtain these lands were at that time of much importance and advantage to them in their condition. Their means were very limited, and their wealth consisted mostly of their families, a few necessary supplies and hardy constitutions. The wilderness which surrounded them could be made to bear fruit, and after many days of toil and hardship, struggling against poverty and self-denial, they saw the result of their labor, performed with rude implements, in fair crops of grain and forage, an increase in live stock, more acres ready for cultivation, and some of the comforts of life to be enjoyed in old age. But the course of prosperity does not always run without friction; disturbing elements cannot always be guarded against; conflicts at that time were of varying kinds, and these often interfered with the lone settler's security and domestic comfort.

In time civilization threw her protecting arms about them, thus securing their lives and property from savage and wanton destruction; society made advances; moral progress was strengthened into spiritual life, and knowledge was nurtured in the school of adversity. It was this robust and pioneer experience that gave action and power to a class of men who accepted the conditions necessary to educate them for citizens, asserting their self-reliance and principles of individual right in the affairs of popular government and the relations of social progress. These early colonists exhibited shrewdness in the selection of their lands for farming purposes, and in locating their future homes near the settlement in the colony of Rensselaerwyck, so that they were under the protection of Fort Orange in time of trouble, and could enjoy other privileges with those at the fort. Albany at that time was an outpost of civilization, around which clustered a community of Dutch, who were engaged in the fur trade with the Mohawks and other tribes of Indians. They were a rude and not always overscrupulous people, were anxious to accumulate wealth, and ready for the best bargain, that they might add to their possessions, and share in the enviable honors, however won, of their neighbors.

The Hollanders were wise in gaining the friendship of the Indians, thus securing a measure of safety from their stealthy, savage raids, at the same time the better to control the trade in furs with them; yet they were unwise in introducing disturbing elements in the civilization of these savages—the use of the tomahawk and rifle, and the greater evil, firewater. This sudden change was so great that the Indian added to his own bad habits many of those of the white man, thus developing all his inherent savageness and brutal tortures, to be used against those who brought not the best, but a destructive, agent in civilization.

The first settlements in what is now Watervliet were made north of the city, along the river, extending to Port Schuyler, now a part of West Troy. The Van Rensselaers occupied most of the land in the vicinity of the Colonie; then came the Schuylers and a few other families whose interests and business were more directly connected with Albany. From

a map of the Van Renseslaer Manor, made in 1767, there were then but 148 families west of the Hudson River. The following names are given as settlers at that time in what is now Watervliet. Those along the Hudson from Albany to the mouth of the Mohawk were : Jeremiah Schuyler, Peter Schuyler, Col. Philip Schuyler, Peter Cluet (west of the Schuylers), Jonas Sharp, Guy Young, Hans Van Arnum, Jan Outhout, Henry Bullsing, Cornelius Van Denbergh, Wirt Van Denbergh. Along the Mohawk from its mouth north : Jonas Outhout, Abram Van Denbergh, Cornelius Van Denbergh *alias* King, —— Lansing, Henry Lansing, Cornelius Onderkerk, Douw Fonday, Franz Lansing, Dirk Hemstraet; and at the Boght: Hans Lansing, William Liverse, Jan Douwve Fonda (Frederick Clute and —— Wynans on colonial lands). Along the Mohawk, west of the Boght: Daniel Van Olinda, Jacob Clute, Bastian Visher, Jacob Freltie, Diederick Scheffer, Martys Bovee, Fransway Bovie, Hans Heemstraet, Bastian Cregier, —— Duyvepagh, Simon Groet, Hans Cluet, Robert Canier. In the northwest corner: —— Consaloe, Hans Consaloe, Isaac Truax; and the following who lived over the manor line, —— Cluet, John Schuyler, Nicholas Hallenbeck and Glen Braat. On the sand road to Schenectady, John Richies, at the Knil; Christie, at the Sandbergh, and a family at the Verfbergh.

Many of these early settlers have left their names and descendants to perpetuate some quality of their ancestry; and whether the scene be laid in the primitive forest, or upon the cultivated field, the same struggles brought out invigorating elements of character, which were qualities essential to their robust manhood, which gave them an influence in civil affairs, and communicated spiritual life to the rude state of society. Many others have departed with no record by which to follow their outgoings, and their names are lost for all time. Others came and took their places as actors in the great problem of human liberty to be solved by persistent exertion. From a record in the possession of Peter Lansing, of Lishaskill, the history and genealogy of Hendrick Lansing is taken, Peter being a lineal descendant and representative of this family, whose great-grandfather settled in Watervliet about 1700.

Hendrick Lansing, of the town of Hasselt, in the province of Overyssel, was the ancestor of all the Lansings in America. His son Gerret early came to Beaverwyck from Hasselt, near Swoll Overyssel, and died before October, 1679. His sons were Hendrick, Gerrit and Johannes, and from these have originated the several families. The daughters were Hilletie, who married Storm Van Derzee, son of Albert Andriesen Bradt, and their daughter Anne married Johannes Becker; Alltie married Gerrit Van Slichtenhorst; Gysbertie married Hendrick Janse Roseboom.

Hendrick Lansing, son of Gerrit, was in Albany as early as 1666, and died July, 1709. His son Jacob married Hellina Pruyn, and their son Hendrick J. married Lena Winne, 1769. Hellina died in 1827. Jacob died in 1792. Their son Benjamin married Mary Tymerson. Their children were: Peter, who married Catharine Norris; Helen, who married Lewis Morris; Henry B., who married Eliza Putnam, and afterward Sarah Knight; Cornelius T., who married, first, Catharine Billson, then Caroline Steers. This family settled at Lisha's Kill, and comprise one branch of the Lansings.

Col. John V. A. Lansing, who married Harriet Verplank, came here in 1791 or 1792, and settled on the farm where his grandson, Vischer Lansing, lives. He had four sons and four daughters. The four brothers married sisters, daughters of Cornelius Groat; Abram V. P. Lansing married Helen Groat; Gulian V. P. married Catharine; Jacob J. married Rachael, and John married Eliza.

The daughters of John V. A. married as follows: Maria, first, Richard J. Pearse, then Garret L. Winne ; Williamke, Sebastian Pearse ; Helen, Jacob Weaver, and Harriet, Jacob C. Lansing.

From this family have originated the following professional men: Rev. Dr. John A. Lansing, Revs. Abram G. Lansing, Gulian Lansing and his son John G., Jacob Pearse, Nicholas Pearse and Augustus Pearse, Elmer C. Lansing and J. McCarrol Lansing, physicians; Howard Lansing and Christopher Lansing, attorneys at law.

Two brothers, Gerret and Ryckert-Claas Van Vranken, sons of Claas Van Vranken, early bought lands in Niskayuna. From these descended the families of this name in that town. Gerrit, son of Claas, married Ariantje Uldrick, and their children were Claas Uldrick, born 1685, and Maritie, born 1690. Claas in 1704 married Geertruy Quackenbos; their son Petrus married Neeltie, daughter of Dirk Groat, and from this family are the descendants of Watervliet, and the Groats are probably descended from this family and from Seymun Groat.

Jacob Lansing and his wife, Hellena Huyck, came from Holland at an early date, about 1700, and his son John settled in the vicinity of the Boght, on the farm now owned by Egbert Lansing. Rutger Lansing's son Gerret settled on the Mo-

hawk, above the falls, and here are the possessions and improvements of Isaac D. F. Lansing, extending along the river, and at the Aqueduct. In 1795 I. D. F. Lansing built a large two-storied brick dwelling house, near the Cohoes dam, which is still standing and occupied. Teunis Lansing's family are represented by the children of Francis T.

Daniel Van Olinda was an early resident, and obtained a certain piece of land from John De Puyster, which is described in a deed of sale, given to Isaac Fonda, July, 1738. Portions of this property remain in the possession of his descendants.

Isaac Fonda was from Holland, and born in 1715, and in 1749 married Cornelia De Friest, and his line of descent to the present time is through his son Isaac I., then Isaac I., Jr., Cornelius I., James V. V., Daniel D. and Charles Fonda. When Isaac Fonda obtained possession of this property the following persons were on adjoining lands: Gerardus Kloett, Hendrick Rider, Jacob Lansing, Dirk Bradt.

Mr. James V. V. Fonda (son of Cornelius I.), 80 years old, is living on the original homestead, and part of the old house, built before the revolution, is attached to a dwelling near the road, and in this small room Richard Kloet kept a tavern during the stormy days of revolutionary times, when Indians and Tories gave the neighbors much trouble, for here they would meet and discuss the stirring events of the day, which were generally boisterous after the firewater began to burn. Tradition repeats the story that Gen. Washington at one time was a guest in this house, and stood upon the same floor now in use, and that an Indian, who became angered, threw a tomahawk at Dick Kloet, but, missing him, struck a beam, the mark of which is now concealed by repairs. Also, that Gen. Morgan and his soldiers camped and occupied the hill near the canal, and quartered his men upon the families in the vicinity. This seems to be historical ground. Mr. Fonda, who relates the above and many other incidents, has in his possession a Holland Bible, printed in 1713; also, a powder horn, with the name James Bouyngy engraved upon it, with the date 1756, and other designs. He has also an old sword, inscribed with date of 1758, with the initials P. D. Another curiosity is an "*Ulster County Gazette*," published at Kingston, January 4, 1800, by Samuel Freer & Son, containing a full account of the death of Washington, with letters from England and France, and address of John Adams, and proceedings of Congress.

Douw Fonda and wife were from Holland, and his family was perpetuated by the descendants of his two sons, Abram and Douw. Other families of Fondas were Isaac H. and Henry I., the name being numerous in the township.

The Van Rensselaer patent did not include the whole of Watervliet, the northeastern portion being government land, and deeds were given by England, as the one here mentioned, now in the possession of Lansing Van Denbergh, who kindly permits a record of it to be taken. It is written on parchment, in large English script, has no signature, but a great seal of the crown, three inches in diameter, half inch thick, of wax, and now broken in many pieces. It is dated October 21, 1697.

"William the Third, by the grace of God, King of England, Scotland and France and Ireland and Zealand, and Defender of the Faith, greeting: Our loyal subject, Peter Hendrich De Haas: All that land between the Cohoos and Conn-Hagioewa, on the south side of Schinictady River, lying between the two Creeks, about two miles in length, more or less; in breadth from east side of a marsh, including the said marsh, &c., &c., at an annual rental of twenty shillings, &c."

This tract of land came into the possession of Peter P. and Gerrit P., sons of Peter Van Denbergh. In 1805 a partition deed was given by Peter P. to the sons of Peter P., viz.: Douw, Peter G., Isaac G. and Cornelius G. Van Denbergh.

This property was in the vicinity of the Boght, and some portions remain in the family.

Another family of early settlers was Jacob Cluet and his sons, Johannes J. and Jacob. This family owned a farm north of Town-house Corners, and Luykes Witbeck received a deed of this property from Stephen Van Rensselaer, dated February 27, 1769, in the ninth year of the reign of George III.

Luykes Witbeck had three sons, Abram L., Gerret and John, and from these brothers the name descended to the several families of Watervliet. John L., son of Lucas I., and grandson of John, lives upon the original farm. The above deed is witnessed by Lucas Van Vechten, Nicholas Cluet and Cornelius Wendell. Mr. John L. Witbeck has in his possession a small brass brasier, which is old and rare, from the Fonda family; also, a remarkable piece of embroidery upon silk.

At the commencement of hostilities with England, the inhabitants of this town were included in the west district of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, and many of them held lands leased by the patroon at an annual rental. Farms, at first, were located in the vicinity of Fort Orange, for protec-

tion. The settlements gradually extended beyond, and finally occupied the level lands along the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers. One of the most important considerations of the founders of this colony was to secure the trade in furs with the Indians, and to do this the Indians were induced to bring their peltries to Fort Orange for exchange. At certain periods of the year they came down the Mohawk to Schenectady or the falls in canoes, and then by trails to the place of barter. These trails or paths were afterward used by the whites as roads, of which three at least diverged from Albany—one leading direct to Schenectady, with a branch to the west; another across the center of the town to the Mohawk, and one along the Hudson up to the bend or boght of the Mohawk.

With few exceptions the first settlers were Dutch, and they readily conformed to all the laws and requirements as promulgated by those in authority. A peaceable yet persistent people, with simple habits of living, industrious and persevering, strongly attached to early traditions of justice and religion, they planted upon this soil principles and practices which were the underlying source of success, and the issues that followed were the result of loyalty and patriotism.

In carefully studying the condition of the people as well as that of the country, the observer will at once notice the wonderful change that was wrought when hostilities ceased, and peace once more smiled upon a nation, now free and independent. Every condition of prosperity, every branch of industry, every public or private enterprise, manufactures, agriculture, commerce, churches, schools and professions were now open and ready for development. All seemed to spring into new life with an impulse that was irresistible, and the spirit of progress swept with renewed force over the land, of which this district received a large share.

At this time, about 1785, the way is open for a new element to mingle with Holland society, and many families from New England and the adjacent counties improved the opportunity and located among the Dutch, occupying lands under leases from the patroon. This immigration, in their intercourse and association in the affairs of government, politics, religion and education, introduced the ideas and principles of Puritanism which they received as a legacy from the New England teachers, and these were advanced and instilled into the minds of the people, and a unity of sentiment in essential things was in time accepted, the results of which have been a blessing to the community in elevating morality.

Since 1800 the advantages derived from an intelligent and liberal course of education, as well as popular government, have been seconded by the rapid advancement of general literature and aided by the newspaper, in the cultivation of knowledge which enlarges the mind and fosters a spirit of investigation for higher culture in the natural and general sciences, the laws of mechanics and industrial pursuits.

These have been well received in the town, as its general prosperity attests. The internal improvements, its numerous manufactures, its public and private enterprises, its mechanical pursuits, its rapid advance in agriculture, its system of modern schools and institutions of practical sciences, its freedom of religious sentiment as proclaimed from the numerous churches and religious societies, denote the progress and enlightenment of the people, and the prosperity of those who contributed to the general welfare. The rural portion of the town has an industrious population engaged in that occupation that forms the basis of every nation's prosperity, the tillage of the soil.

Of late years the methods of farming have been based upon practical systems, and the advancement in special agricultural knowledge from scientific investigation and practical experiments. These are sources from which the intelligent farmer will obtain suggestions and results of much value, and the careful study of agricultural journals is of more value to the farmer than the purely political newspaper.

Improved machinery and labor-saving implements are the farmer's greatest boon; these, with judicious breeding of live stock, are a source of wealth to the intelligent farmer who exercises wisdom and prudence in all things pertaining to rural economy. A large part of the cultivated acres in the township is devoted to dairy purposes, for the production of milk to supply the demands of Albany, Cohoes, West Troy, Green Island and the neighboring villages. Mixed gardening—vegetables and small fruits—is an industry of considerable magnitude, extensively conducted upon small farms by Germans and others.

Below is given a list of supervisors, justices of the peace and town clerks from 1793 to 1844. The first town meeting of which there is any record was held at the house of Isaac Truax, Jr., on the 2d day of April, 1793. The figures denote the year when the person was elected.

Supervisors: Stephen Van Rensselaer, 1793; Jacob Winne, 1795; Cornelius Glen, 1801; Enoch Leonard, 1804; Stephen Van Rensselaer,

1808; John Schuyler, Jr., 1810; Lucas G. Witbeck, 1824; Francis Lansing, 1827; John C. Schuyler, 1833; Jeremiah Schuyler, 1837; Gilbert I. Van Zandt, 1838 to 1851.

Justices of the Peace (by appointment)—Jurian Hogan, 1797; Jedidiah Strong, 1809; H. V. Cuyler, 1809; Nicholas Freligh, 1810; Stephen M. Conger, 1811; Lyman Stanford, 1811; Jedidiah Baker, 1817; E. Wilson, Jr., Jacob I. Wager, 1820. Special town meeting, December 22, 1822, the following were elected: Jedidiah Strong, Philip Lennenbacker, Elijah Ranney, Stephen M. Conger, Daniel Van Dyke, 1827; Isaac Fonda, Jr., 1827; Ethical Enders, Isaac H. Williams and Frederic V. Waterman, 1831; A. W. Richardson, 1833; Stephen Groesbeck and Lawrence V. K. Van Demark, 1834; Francis O. Dorr and Jonathan Kash, 1836; John Hastings, 1838; Supply F. Wilson and William King, 1839; Jonathan Hart, 1840; Martin Winne, 1841; Matthew Fort, 1842; James M. Barnard, 1844.

Town Clerks—Luther Trowbridge, 1793; Gerret Clute, 1800; Benjamin Winne, 1802; Levinus L. Winne, 1805; Harmanus V. Cuyler, 1809; Lyman Swan, 1811; John G. Ruby, 1813; Gerret T. Lansing, 1826; Stephen Groesbeck, 1833; Martin Witbeck, 1834; William R. Peake, 1835; Oliver Burr, 1838; John Mason, 1842; Cole H. Denio, 1843; Robert I. Moe, 1844.

NEW YORK STATE SURVEY.—PRELIMINARY GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION OF STATIONS AND MONUMENTS IN WATERVLIET.

Name of Station.	No. of Monument.	Owner's Name.	Latitude.			Longitude.		
Arsenal	237	U. S. Government	42°	43′	09″	73°	42′	07″
Center Street	240	On Green Island	42°	44′	33″	73°	41′	27″
Lansing Pine	15	Benjamin Lansing	42°	45′	37″	73°	50′	38″
Race Course	236	Erastus Corning	42°	41′	16″	73°	42′	55″
Lishaskill P. O., Reformed Church	....	.....	42°	45′	20″	73°	52′	36″
N. Y. C. R. R. Shops, Tall Chimney	....	West Albany	42°	40′	38″	73°	46′	30″
Williams Monument in Rural Cemetery	....	.....	42°	41′	53″	73°	44′	16″
County Line Monument	43	Watervliet & Niskayuna	42°	46′	43″	73°	47′	59″
" " "	97	Watervliet & Niskayuna In road opposite T. J. Miller's store.	42°	46′	19″	73°	49′	26″

Nestigione Patent, in Saratoga County, and Connestigione, another old patent, granted in 1697 to Peter Hendrix De Haas, are the origin of Niskayuna, and of an extensive tract on both sides of the Mohawk. The latter was west of the Cohoes Falls and within the present township of Watervliet. The Erie Canal enters this town from Saratoga County in the northeast corner, crossing the Mohawk at the lower aqueduct, and winds along the margin of that river, by the Cohoes Falls and through the city of Cohoes; thence southerly and forms a junction with the Champlain Canal, just above West Troy, through which it passes, across the Arsenal grounds, and thence along the Hudson River flats through North Albany—the great lumber market—and by the Van Rensselaer mansion, to the Albany basin, about 13 miles in this town, having 19 locks, 165 feet descent, and two locks of 22 feet descent at the side just opposite Troy.

West Albany R. R. Y. M. C. A.—In March, 1876, Mr. E. D. Ingersol, general railroad secretary of the Y. M. C. A. of America, called a meeting for the purpose of organizing an association, which was held in the machine shops of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad at West Albany, which resulted in the election of Mr. T. F. Blackburn as president. George S. Spencer became the first general secretary in October, 1876. Present membership, 193.

The following have served as presidents since Mr. Blackburn: Walter Van Guysling, William F. Horth, Seth Clark, Charles A. McBain, W. H. Rockenstive, Oliver S. Vedder, E. W. Morgan, and L. Packard, the present incumbent. The secretaries have been George S. Spencer, George M. Heckendon, Augustus C. Doerscher and E. W. Gorton.

VILLAGES, POST-OFFICES AND HAMLETS.

Boght (or Groesbeck's Corners), an old-settled place in the northeast corner of the township, in the bend or boght of the Mohawk, on the Loudonville road, and near Crescent station, west of Cohoes, contains twenty dwellings, Reformed Church, parsonage, school-house No. 18, shoe shop, and formerly a store. This vicinity and the Aqueduct were settled by Van Denberghs, Van

De Marks, Fondas, Clutes, Van Vrankens, Lansings, and later by Wm. Groesbeck, the Simons, Godfreys, Roffs, Dunsbacks, and Runkels.

North of the Boght is the Aqueduct, containing dry-dock and brick-yards, and north is Dunsback Ferry, across the Mohawk. Here John Van De Mark kept tavern, and early settlers were Van Vrankens. The Erie Canal crosses the Mohawk River in the northeast corner by a stone aqueduct, 1,137½ feet long, resting on 26 piers, which are 26 feet high, and contains 18 locks.

Town House Corners (Van Vranken's, and now Latham's Corners), is a hamlet at the crossing of the Loudonville road and the Troy and Schenectady turnpike, six miles from Albany. Has been known by the above names from local causes. The neighborhood was settled by Van Den Berghs, Witbecks, Van Olindas, Van Vrankens, Oothouts and Mathias Markle. Joseph Yearsley and Myndert Van Denbergh kept taverns many years ago. The neighborhood is thickly settled and contains 41 dwellings, Reformed Church, parsonage, school-house No. 11, hotel, James Latham, proprietor, and blacksmith shop. Dr. Jonas Wade located in the vicinity as early as 1806; was a successful practitioner in his day, and much reputed for his many good qualities. His son, E. M. Wade, succeeds him, and another son, Edward Wade, is a lawyer of Albany City.

Watervliet Center (P. O.) is a small hamlet in the northern central part of the township, located on the Troy and Schenectady turnpike, two miles north of the Shaker settlement, and contains thirty-six dwellings, two stores, James Pearse, merchant and postmaster; William Graham & Brother, general merchandise; Abram W. Fraleigh, proprietor of the hotel; two blacksmith shops and wheelwright shop. School-house No. 6, built as early as 1800, and the old house in which Laban Hills kept tavern in 1820, are landmarks.

The postmasters have been Laban Hills, Lewis Morris, and James Pearse, the present incumbent.

Early settlers in the vicinity were Witbecks, Orlops, Van Vrankens, Groats, Feros, Dr. Fraley, Sickles and Forts, at Fort's Ferry. Those who came after were Chamberlain, Gallager, Weatherwax, Cragiers and Lewis Morris, who came about 1835, and made great improvements in erecting hotel, store and several shops of which he was proprietor, and from this circumstance the place is known as Morrisville.

Near here, on the Town Creek, were the mills and woolen factories of Henry Waterbury, and on the same creek near Fort's Ferry were the Shaker mills.

Shaker's (P. O.), two miles south of Watervliet Center, and eight miles north of Albany, is the settlement now comprising the four families of the Shakers who located here in 1775, on lands leased from the Patroon, then a wilderness. The settlement number's 300 souls. This is a favorite resort for visitors in summer, and is reached by a pleasant drive on the Shaker road. For full details see County History.

Lisha's Kill (P. O.), name derived from an Indian who is said to be buried on the bank of the creek near Visher Lansing's, is a small hamlet in the northwest corner of the town, on the old Albany and Schenectady turnpike, nine miles northwest from Albany, and near the Central Railroad.

The first settler was Jacob Lansing, grandfather of Benjamin, and his descendants are numerous in the vicinity. Another early settler was John V. A. Lansing, who came in 1792. Many of his descendants are residents of the neighborhood. These were followed by Van Benthuysens, Ostroms, Van Zandts, Groats, Bulsons, Campbells, Stanfords. Charles Stanford kept a tavern on the turnpike as early as 1803. He was an enterprising and respected citizen, and was the father of ex-Governor Stanford. Here for many years was C. Lansing's tavern and Morris' store. The post-office was established about 1830. Postmasters have been Lewis and Jacob Morris. Peter Lansing was appointed in 1848, and is the present incumbent. Mr. Lansing is also proprietor of a general merchandise store, notary public, and formerly kept a hotel. The neighborhood is thickly settled with thrifty farmers. Two school houses, Nos. 7 and 8, afford the children facilities for education. The Reformed Church, parsonage and sheds attached, are conveniences for spiritual instruction, and comforts for the farmers' horses. A blacksmith shop near by is a necessity, and the toll-gate is a relic of former days, when six-horse teams, with heavy freight wagons loaded with merchandise, were passing and repassing at all hours of the day.

Newtonville (P. O.), formerly Newton's Corners—names given in honor of John M. Newton, who came here about 1840, and soon after erected a dwelling, and in 1850 a building for a store. He was an enterprising citizen and deservedly respected. He was engaged in active business during his life, and his sons continue the same line of business in the city where they reside.

The post-office was established in 1850. John Holmes was the first postmaster, and retains the office up to this time. President Arthur's father was Holmes' bondsman.

This hamlet is on each side of the Loudon road, four miles north of Albany, and is pleasantly located. Has a Methodist church and parsonage, school-house No. 13, store, of which John H. Kemp is proprietor, in which the post-office is kept. Here are located the shops of James Brewster, for the manufacture and sale of wagons, carriages and sleighs and general jobbing work; located at Ireland's Corners in 1851; came here in 1876 as James Brewster & Son; the firm is now James Brewster's Sons (James C. and William H.). The original Methodist church was built about two miles from here, near Lawson's, and for several years a boarding school—"Home Lawn"—was conducted by the Cole family. Rev. William Arthur (father of President Arthur), a Baptist preacher, also was principal of a private school for some time. The Baptist church (now abandoned) is just on the borders of the village. Early residents in the vicinity were Gilbert Waterman, Capt. Van Olinda, John Gornay and others. Dr. H. C. Abrams is located here as physician. Following the plank road south, on either side, are many fine residences and farm houses, which continue for the intervening short distance, and Ireland's Corners (P. O.), now Loudonville (P. O.), is reached. This is a thriving and lovely suburban hamlet, three miles from Albany, on the Loudonville plank road. The name is from Lord Loudon, and the road was in use previous to and during the revolutionary war.

The village owes its first name to Elias H. Ireland, who bought the lands in 1832 of Van Rensselaer, then all woods and only three houses or families near him. Jonathan Seeley Ireland was a preacher in the early days of Methodism, and being independent, he was his own sexton. Thomas Seeley Ireland, father of Elias, had settled in the vicinity previously, as well as Charles T. Ireland and John Ruby. Dr. Peter B. Noxen came here soon after E. H. Ireland, and practiced medicine during his lifetime. He was located at first at Coeymans Landing. Elias made improvements, engaged in the hotel and merchandise business, was quite successful, and died in 1870. His property has changed hands and great improvements are being made. The post-office was established about 1850, Elias H. Ireland, postmaster; name changed to Loudonville, 1871; Samuel Bacon, postmaster. James Brewster located here in 1851, for the manufacture and sale of wagons, carriages and sleighs; in 1876 he removed to Newtonville.

There is a store, containing general merchandise, in which is kept the post-office, Ralph H. Gove, proprietor, also present postmaster. School-house No. 11 is pleasantly located and arranged for two teachers.

This is the finest and most desirable suburb of Albany, and with Newtonville, is a closely populated district. The Loudon plank road offers easy access and delightful drives. The surroundings possess many attractions, and as a quiet, rural resort, or place of residence, many of the business men of the city have fine mansions, beautiful lawns, gardens and green-houses, which are much admired for their cheerful and home attractions. These, with the surroundings of the neighborhood and the natural scenery quite diversified, possess many striking features. Among those who reside here, and have done so much for the permanent benefit and encouragement of a higher order and cultivation of the beautiful in nature and art, are Samuel Bacon, P. K. Diedrick, George L. Steadman and John C. Hughson.

Center Station, in the western part of the town, on the Central Railroad, is a collection of a few houses, and the place is a way-station, which furnishes conveniences to the residents of the neighborhood.

Menand's Station, on the Albany and Northern Railroad, is the location of Louis Menand's extensive green-houses, flower gardens and nursery grounds, which were established by the present proprietor in 1842. Here are located the fair grounds, originally intended for the use of the State Agricultural Society.

They contain several buildings, sheds and ample accommodation for poultry, live stock, manufactures, machinery, domestic and agricultural products and implements. The place is convenient of access from all points by steamboats, railroads and horse cars. The State Fair for the present year, 1885, is appointed to be held here. The property is now owned by John Sundergan. Here also are located the Rural, St. Agnes and Anshe Emeth cemeteries.

Early settlers here were Schuylers, Ten Eycks, Gorways, Glens, Jermains, Hillhouse. The vicinity is now thickly populated, and many business men of Albany have their residences here. The attractions of natural scenery and the result of modern science and skill have changed the aspect of these low, hilly ridges and rendered them conspicuous and beautiful for situation, possessing many striking features for the skill of the artist to develop in design of architecture and landscape ornamentation.

West Albany P. O. (formerly Spencerville). This is a busy and thriving place, lying north of Pa-

troon's Creek and west of the city line, two and a half miles from the City Hall, reached by State street and Central avenue horse cars, and New York Central Railroad cars, which pass through it. Here are located the extensive repair, machine and car shops, engine houses, cattle yards and other industries connected with the above railroad. The necessary ground occupied for the transaction, transfer and other purposes of the company's immense business at this place covers many acres; 1,500 men are employed, under competent superintendents and skilled foremen.

The stock yards here are next in importance to those of Chicago and Buffalo, and in former years the transaction in live stock was even more extensive.

The business was originally commenced as early as 1847, by Wm. Wolford and Gallup, on Washington avenue, afterward at the old "Bull's Head," on the Troy road, and then transferred to what is now the end of Central avenue by Hunter and Gallup. About 1860 the business was removed to its present location in West Albany, where large sheds and commodious buildings were erected, with other accommodations for feeding, transfer and shipment of stock.

For several years Allerton, Dutcher & Moore were proprietors of the cattle yards, and in November, 1868, Eastman Brothers became proprietors, and have continued to the present. They purchase 500,000 tons of hay for feeding the stock for one year. A large brick hotel, conducted by John Williamson, is located in the immediate vicinity of the yards, which furnishes accommodations for buyers and sellers.

The post-office was established, September, 1862, by the appointment of Joseph Mather postmaster. The present postmaster is George W. Gibbons. The business transacted here has materially fallen off for the past few years, which is attributed to the shipment of slaughtered beef, in refrigerator cars, to all the great cities, as well as live stock to foreign markets. The receipts of hogs and sheep do not show much change. The following table gives some important figures, which are obtained from reliable sources, and gives the number of car loads for the years designated :

Year.	Car Loads Cattle.	Car Loads Sheep.	Car Loads Hogs.	Car Loads Horses.
1878.....	28,238	10,262	4,894	627
1879.....	31,484	9,923	5,449	949
1880.....	34,718	10,312	5,234	1,058
1881.....	33,452	10,057	5,153	906
1882.....	24,208	9,497	6,172	788
1883.....	20,847	10,718	6,595	717
1884.....	17,444	9,925	10,891	851

The following gives the number of live animals:

Year.	Car Loads Cattle.	Car Loads Sheep.	Car Loads Hogs.	Car Loads Horses.
1880.....	525,228	1,089,800	992,309	15,184
1881.....	568,225	1,608,120	979,070	11,778
1882.....	411,536	1,324,530	1,110,960	10,244
1883.....	375,200	1,690,650	961,300	8,808
1884.....	299,760	1,207,975	1,999,070	13,158

For the week ending December 31, 1884, there was received: Cattle, car loads, 3,910; sheep, car loads, 12,760; hogs, car loads, 25,500; horses, 80.

MANUFACTURES, MILLS AND OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Grist and saw-mills were erected on the small streams at an early date. These creeks furnished a limited warer power, which served the people in their needs of lumber, flour and manufacture of domestic supplies. Remains of these early mills are in a few localities; others have been erected upon their ruins, thus have served their purpose, and now, with the strides of modern progress and invention, changes have been wrought, improvements made, and steam, in a great measure, monopolizes as a motive power the ancient water wheel.

Caldwell, Frazier & Co. had a factory, and —— Muir clothing works on Mill Creek as early as 1803. The Shakers had a grist and saw-mill about the same time. The Lansings had a saw-mill on Lisha's Creek. Grist and saw-mills have been operated for many years on the Schaline or Town Creek, near where it empties into the Mohawk. These are now operated by Taylor Brothers. A woolen factory, near Watervliet Center, on the same creek, was formerly conducted by the Waterburys. Mills and manufactories of various kinds were early erected and operated on the Patroon's Creek, in Tivoli Valley. These are now within the city boundary. With few exceptions, the mills, manufactories and industries are confined to the cities and villages.

The works of greatest magnitude now in the rural portion of the town are the fine brick buildings erected by Truman G. Younglove in 1866 as a straw-board paper mill, the lime and cement kilns and the Lansing grist-mill. These are located just below the "Cohoes Company's" dam, and near the Cohoes city line.

The paper mill has all the modern machinery and first-class fixtures; was operated by the owner and builder for three years; then passed into the "Cohoes Straw-Board Company," composed of T. G. Younglove & Co. (G. H. Stewart and Levi Dodge), who operated it till April 1, 1883. The property is now owned by Thomas Brisline. When in operation, seven tons of straw were manufactured into five tons of paper per day, requiring four tons of coal, and about twenty-eight men were employed. The monthly pay-roll amounted to $1,100. The motive power, turbine wheels, driven by water from the Cohoes Company's Canal.

The lime and cement works were started in 1869, by the "Capitol Lime and Cement Company," composed of Truman G. Younglove, George Stewart and David T. Lamb, of Waterford, and Henry Dunsback, of Crescent, Saratoga County. The kilns are not used at present. The mill is now operated for grinding soap-stone and marble. The property is now owned by Lewis Hoffman.

Here also is located the grist-mill which was originally owned by Gerret Lansing, and then by I. D. F. Lansing. Connected with it is the dwelling house erected in 1795. The work of greatest importance at this place is the dam across the Mohawk, above the falls, which furnishes the water power for the Cohoes industries.

The "Cohoes Company" was incorporated, March 28, 1826, with a capital of $250,000, which was increased, April 26, 1843, to $500,000. The first trustees of this company were Charles E. Dudley, Peter Remsen, Francis Olmstead, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Jr., Canvass White, David Wilkinson and Henry J. Wycoff. A dam was built across the river in 1831, which was carried away in 1832. Another was constructed, and this was partially destroyed in 1839, and rebuilt the same year. The company now own the entire water power from half a mile above to one mile below the falls, which gives a total descent of 120 feet.

The present stone dam was constructed in 1865, and is one of the most substantial and costly structures of the kind in the United States. The entire length of the dam is 1,443 feet, and with the head-gate and gate-house, which is of solid stone and brick masonry, built in 1866, cost $180,000.

The directors at this time were Alfred Wild, president; William T. Garner, Charles Van Benthuysen, David J. Johnson, Samuel W. Johnson, William W. Niles, and Truman G. Younglove, agent. The work was done under the supervision of the agent. The engineer was William E. Worden; assistant, David H. Van Auken; and contractor, John Bridgford.

Five canals at different levels are constructed, and the water is again used from the level of the State dam. These canals were constructed at different periods, the first in 1834, three-fourths of a mile long, with a fall of 18 feet; the second in 1845, one-third of a mile in length and a fall of 25 feet; the third is half a mile long and 23 feet fall. This and the previous one are parts of the old Erie Canal. The fourth and fifth have a fall of 20 feet each. The entire water power is estimated at 10,000 horse power, and all is not utilized. The abuttal of this dam on the east is the town of Waterford.

Henry O. Lansing, about 1875, built a custom grist and saw-mill on the Lisha's Kill, to be operated by water or steam, containing two run of stone and a corn-crusher; frame building. The Shakers have one of the largest saw mills in the town. There is not the demand for mills of this kind that there was formerly. As the forests are growing less, and timber is becoming scarce and increasing in value, farmers purchase their lumber and save their small forests.

CHURCH HISTORY AND SOCIETIES—WATERVLIET.

In collecting the history of the several church and religious organizations of Watervliet, the same conditions exist that prevailed with early organizations throughout the county. For many years the Reformed Dutch Church was the only organized religious body. The first pastor was Rev. Johannes Megapolensis, who came to Albany in 1642. The services were conducted in the Holland language for 140 years, and for seventy-five years this was the religion of this colony. At this time, 1716, the first Episcopal church west of the Hudson was opened for worship, and the Presbyterian church in 1761 or 1762, and it is well to know upon what authority the people were guaranteed the right of worship. Here is the foundation stone, contained in the "New York Charter of Liberties," upon which is built the fundamental principle of our government, and which should be sacredly held as a divine legacy:

"No person professing faith in God by Jesus Christ shall at any time be in any ways disquieted or questioned for any difference of opinion." The company was bound to give them local government; officers were to be appointed by the directors and council, and were invested with the religious privileges, as the following extract: "No other religion was to be publicly tolerated, save that taught and exercised by the authority of the Reformed Church in the United Provinces." This provision was imperfectly complied with, yet in 1639 "the Bible was declared to be the Constitution" by the government of the colony of New Haven. Then membership in the churches was largely under the control of the ministers, and civil and religious obedience was exacted from all. The Holland and English colonists had contended for religious liberty and vested rights, and they thought these could be best preserved by the protection of freedom in religious liberty and a conservative government which would secure equal political rights, to be adjusted by the people. To the early principles taught by these true men, in a spirit of intensified conscience that were destined to perform an important part in the civilization of this new world, are we largely indebted for this spirit of freedom and action, which is an inheritance to be preserved for all time as priceless.

It may be well to ascertain what were some of the causes that operated against the early formation of church societies disconnected and remote from those at Albany.

First, the country was slow of settlement and families were widely separated. Secondly, the wealth of these pioneers consisted in their poverty, hardships, self-denial, and in their rude cabins. Thirdly, the disturbed and unsettled condition of their surroundings rendered life and property unsafe, subject at any time to the attack of their cruel and savage enemies, the Indians.

As settlement advanced in the manor, material progress followed. This gave encouragement for renewed effort in the direction of religious privileges,

which had in a great measure been denied them. As their means were yet limited, they collected or gathered in small bands at the most central house of a neighbor for private worship, and thus extended their religious views and influence among their immediate neighbors, and formed a nucleus for future growth. The first organized church or society beyond the city seems to have been in the town of Berne, about the year 1763, and one in Niskayuna, about the same time, both Reformed Dutch churches. The exact date of the organization of these churches with some others, is uncertain, as the records have been lost, and tradition is not always reliable. From this time no further efforts were made for the establishment of church organizations until after hostilities ceased and peace followed the war for independence, which at once opened the way for religious liberty and freedom to all classes and creeds.

It was from the Holland ancestors, who had fled from enforced cruelty and persecution, that these great principles of human liberty and conservative religious freedom were inherited ; yet we should not forget that spirit and system of moral development which was brought and fostered by the English, and particularly those who came from New England, who had also been tried by the same severe test of persecution, and which serves as a balance to preserve the forces which exalt religious freedom and energies, the rights of justice to the common interests of humanity. Moral progress and religious development which was now influenced by the revival or introduction of new elements, by the free expression of ideas and newspaper exhibits of intelligent views, brought a conflict of opinions and religious convictions that opened a spirit of discussion, and introduced practices somewhat unexpected in their results. Yet the test of vital piety and truth of the doctrines were practically sustained, and Calvanism maintained a place among the churches ; for at that time the Calvanistic faith and doctrines were attacked by other orthodox followers.

The lessons taught from this controversy were not without their powerful influence upon the revival of a purer Christianity, and the spirit of intolerance was in a measure swept away for the more charitable one of brotherly love.

The organization of Reformed churches in Watervliet was previous to its formation as a township; other denominations in time followed, and now there are three Reformed, three Methodist Episcopal, Presbyterian, one Roman Catholic. The churches of West Troy and Green Island are not included in the history of the rural district of Watervliet. The Boght Reformed (Dutch) Church is located in the northeast part of the town, above the Falls, and northwest of Cohoes, in the bend or elbow of the Mohawk River, boght being the Dutch for bend. For many years the nearest church was at Albany ; but they had worship among themselves, and a building was erected for occasional worship at an early period. There is no record of the first house of worship that was standing when the church was organized.

A petition, signed by forty-two persons, was presented to the Classis of Albany, February 22, 1784, and the first record of organization is April 14, 1784. From the relation afterward sustained between this church and the one at Niskayuna, it is evident that the Boght Church is to be regarded as the offspring of the Niskayuna congregation. As the Niskayuna Church was originally in Watervliet, some mention of it must form part of the history of this township. The precise date of its organization cannot be determined, as the facts and records, for the most part, have been lost. It appears, however, from the best sources of information to be obtained, that it was as early as 1760. After the organization of the church at the Boght, these two congregations were under one pastorate. The Rev. E. Westerlo, of Albany, for some time had the supervision of this church. The first pastor was the Rev. John Demarest, who began his ministry in 1790, taking charge of the Boght church in connection with the church of Niskayuna. He preached in the Dutch language, and records during his ministry are written in Dutch. He closed his ministry in 1803, and the union of the church of Niskayuna with the church of the Boght ceased at this time. In 1805 Rev. Dr. John Bassett was called, and continued pastor until the spring of 1811. During Dr. Bassett's pastorate services began to be in the English language, and stoves were introduced.

In 1806 the erection of a new church building was proposed, and Abram Witbeck, Douw H. Fonda and Dirk Clute were appointed a committee, and, after some discussion, the church was erected in 1807. The building was 40 x 50 feet, located on a pleasant spot, with a pine grove near it, on the road which is now the western limit of the city of Cohoes.

Rev. Robert Bronk became pastor in 1814, and also ministered to the church of Washington and Gibbonsville. He resigned his charge in 1823, having been pastor nine years.

June 28, 1824, a call was given to Rev. John B. Steele, and in February, 1833, he was dismissed, having been pastor nine years.

In 1825 it was ordered that D. A. Fonda and Martin Van Olinda conduct the singing, and that the precentors should stand before the pulpit.

Rev. Cornelius Bogardus was called as pastor, July 6, 1833, and he remained until 1838, about five years.

Rev. William Pitcher was called, January 13, 1840, and during his ministry it was proposed to build a new church, and, after full discussion and several meetings, the present building was erected, in 1847. This ground had been given for a parsonage nearly a hundred years previous. The land on which the parsonage stands was a part of the old De Haas patent, now known as the Van Denberg patent. Eight acres were given to the church, and the old Patroon of Albany afterward gave twenty-five acres upon the south side of the Manor line. That land was sold some years ago. There are about the present parsonage relics of the old parsonage which was built a hundred years

ago. When the new church was about to be erected at the Bogbt, in 1847, a disagreement among the members as to the site resulted in the dismissal of twenty-two, who were organized as the Church of Rensselaer, and in the same year erected a church building in the south part of the congregation, at Van Vranken's Corners.

Mr. Pitcher's pastorate closed in 1854, after fourteen years of service. Rev. John Dubois was called in 1857, and continued pastor until 1859.

In 1860 Rev. John W. Major became pastor. He resigned in ill health, 1864, and died soon afterward.

In March, 1864, this church united with the church of Rensselaer in calling a pastor, and on the 20th of June Rev. Henry A. Raymond was called, who continued until 1871, when he resigned, and the following year the church was supplied by the Rev. C. P. Evans. The Rev. George I. Taylor was called, October 29, 1873, and began his services in the Bogbt and Rensselaer churches, January 1, 1874, and is the present pastor, having served ten years. Anniversary exercises commemorating the centennial of this church were held in the afternoon and evening, April 14, 1884. The church for the occasion was beautifully decorated with floral designs, an old Dutch Bible, and on one of the side walls was the old Dutch motto, "*Eendracht maakt macht,*" "Unity makes might." The exercises were varied, and were made doubly interesting by the many ministers who contributed their valuable services. The centennial sermon and discourse were delivered by the pastor, Rev. George I. Taylor, to whom the writer is indebted for much of the history of this church, taken by permission from the author's sermon, which was kindly furnished.

The first consistory of the Bogbt Church was: Elders, David Fero, Isaac Fonda. Deacons, Abram A. Fonda, Gerret I. Lansing. The present officers are: Elders, Jacob L. Van Denbergh, James H. Van Vranken, Benjamin Reamer. Deacons, Jesse A. Fonda, Nicholas I. Clute, Henry W. Fellows. The names of those who constituted the original church are appended, as showing who were residents of this neighborhood at that time: Francis Lansing, Gerrit, Evart, Mans, Wynant, Peter, Petras, Cornelius C., Cornelius 3d and Nicholas C. Van Denbergh, Gerrit Wendell, Luycas Witbeck, Jacob Van Olinda, Johannes Lansing, Rutgers Lansing, Johannes Clute, Isaac Fonda, Isaac H. Fonda, Timothy Hutton, Henry Fero, Christian Fero, David Fero, Jacob I. Lansing, Dirck Heemstraat, Charles Heemstraat, Isaac Onderkerk, Andrew Onderkerk, Johannes Fonda, Gerrit Clute, Isaac J. Fonda, Francis Cramer, Hendrick Wendell, Abram A. Fonda, Noah Gillet, Gerrit I. Lansing, Abraham H. Lansing, Jacob Lansing, Dirck Clute, Hendrick Fonda, Jacob D. Fonda, Abraham L. Witbeck, Abraham Onderkerk.

Ministers—Revs. John Demarest, 1790 to 1805; John Bassett, D. D., 1805–11; Robert Bronk, 1814–23; John B. Steele, 1824–33; Cornelius Bogardus, 1833–38; William Pitcher, 1840–54; John Dubois, 1854–59; John W. Major, 1860–64; Henry A. Raymond, 1864–71; George I. Taylor, 1874, present pastor, who reports 24 families, 35 members, 55 Sunday-school scholars, 6 teachers; contributions for the past year, $500.

The first officers of the Rensselaer Church were: Elders—Martin Van Olinda, E. J. Lansing, A. W. Van Denbergh. Deacons—Obadiah Van Denbergh, Nicholas V. V. Van Denbergh, Henry Van Alstine. Present elder, Jacob Osterhout. This congregation is composed of 12 families, the same number of communicants; Sunday-school scholars, 40; teachers, 7; contributions $500.

The Reformed Church of Lisha's Kill has no long history. The people of this neighborhood attended the old Niskayuna Church for Sabbath services until the second year of Rev. Goyn Talmage's ministry, 1852. At that time the church building at Niskayuna needed extensive repairs, and the ways and means were discussed, in which the people of Lisha's Kill did not give assent, but concluded to establish a church for their better accommodation at Lisha's Kill. This view was encouraged by Rev. Mr. Talmage and other leading men who moved in its favor. Application was made to the Classis of Schenectady by forty-eight members of the church of Niskayuna to be organized into a Reformed Dutch Church of Lisha's Kill. This application was made November 16, 1852, and was granted. The meeting for the organization was held in the upper school-house, district No. 8, Watervliet, December 5, 1852, at which time the organization was effected and the following persons were elected and ordained the consistory: Elders—Abraham V. P. Lansing and Jeremiah B. Ketchum; Deacons—Joseph Consaul and Cornelius Lansing. The church membership at this time consisted of forty-nine members. The next year, 1853, a church building of brick was erected, and dedicated March 30, 1854. In 1859 the parsonage was built, and in 1868 fifteen feet were added in length, and six feet additional for the pulpit recess; the whole interior was remodeled and refurnished, and dedicated March 18, 1869.

The pastors have been Rev. Goyn Talmage as a supply. Rev. Cornelius L. Wells was called in the summer of 1855, and after serving the church faithfully for two and a half years resigned in the spring of 1858. Rev. John A. DeBaun succeeded Mr. Wells in October, 1858, and continued pastor of this church and Niskayuna for 14 years; resigned his charge to accept a call from the church of Fonda.

The present pastor, Rev. Edward A. McCullum, was called to succeed Mr. DeBaun in 1883. The pastor reports 92 families, 154 communicants, 210 Sunday school scholars, 22 teachers, C. A. Lansing, superintendent. Total amount contributed for church purposes, $1,200. The church edifice is brick, with basement, has parsonage, and sheds for teams, will seat 300, and estimated value, $8,000.

The present officers, 1884, are: Elders—Charles Stanford, Cornelius A. Lansing, Abram G. Lansing, Simeon Fairlee. Deacons—George Stanford, Andrew Keenholtz, Jacob Spoore and Henry Lansing.

The above history of Lisha's Kill Reformed Church is largely compiled from an historical sermon by the Rev. John A. DeBaun, D. D., written in 1876, and kindly loaned by Daniel D. Ostrom, to whom thanks are due.

In the year 1859-60 John M. Newton, an enterprising citizen and resident of Newtonville, donated a lot of land, upon which was erected a church building of brick, for the use of a Baptist society. R. M. Pease was engaged in missionary efforts here, which was the origin of the Baptist organization. Other ministers who served as pastors of this congregation were Rev. John Reynolds, Rev. Dr. B. T. Welch, who died here, and his remains are in Albany Rural Cemetery, and Rev. William Arthur, father of Chester A. Arthur, late President of the United States. The society has been abandoned since 1869, and the property passed from the society by sale.

Other religious societies in the town are a Congregational Church, on the Shaker road, also a Methodist Church, on the Albany and Schenectady turnpike, south of Lisha's Kill, a Presbyterian Church and society on the same road, north of West Albany, and a Roman Catholic Church, at West Albany, erected in 1884.

The first records of the Congregational Society and Church of Watervliet, are dated in May, 1859, and the trustees were: Van Buren Lockrow, President; John Frost, Peter Steers, James Cramer, Daniel P. Sigourney and Henry Woolley, Secretary, Rev. James G. Cordell, Pastor. The church building was burned on the night of May 25, 1865. It was rebuilt the same year, and on December 20, at a meeting held in the school-room of the church, a motion was made by William Grounds and seconded by Norman Dings, "that the society assume the name of the Presbyterian Society of Pine Grove," while was unanimously carried.

February 5, 1867, this church and congregation were accepted by the Presbytery of Albany, and named the "Pine Grove Presbyterian Church of Watervliet," and March 29, it was organized as such by the Rev. Wm. H. Carr, who served for some time as pastor; the elders were Van Buren Lockrow and Daniel P. Sigourney. There was no regular pastor after Mr. Carr's services ended, and the pulpit was supplied by transient preachers until, in 1878, Rev. Robert Ennis was appointed stated supply and continued his services for about three years, or until 1880; after this no regular preaching until January, 1885, when Rev. Josiah Markle assumed charge and is now pastor. The society report 30 families, 23 members, with a sabbath school of 35 pupils. The church edifice is a frame building, and will seat 200. Present trustees J. T. Worth, Lewis Knapp, John Frost.

A union Sabbath-school is maintained at Loudonville, and a mission school at Menand's.

The cemeteries and grave yards, or old burial grounds, are numerous through the township. In the early settlement a custom prevailed in which each land holder reserved or appropriated a portion of his farm for family burial purposes, and the free interment of those who were destitute of enough of earth for their last resting place. Often the church lot was a grave yard. At the present time many of these once hallowed grounds have fallen into disuse, and neglect marks the spot where molder the dust of forgotten ancestry.

With the progress that marks this age of human plans, there is a higher estimate given to this matter of the final resting place for the dead, and now a better and more enduring system is adopted, by corporations or associations organized in accordance with statute laws, for the purchase and perpetual maintainance of cemeteries, these to be sacredly used and carefully guarded, forever, for the burial of the human race.

The most important incorporated cemetery grounds located in this town are: the Albany Rural Cemetery, the St. Agnes, and the Anshe Emeth, which are north of Albany City about three miles, on the line of the Watervleit Turnpike and Horse Railway, and Delaware and Hudson Canal Companies Railroad. For a full notice of these cemeteries, see history of Albany City. The Evangelican Lutheran Church has a cemetery on the Sand Creek road (this is now within the city line), and St. Patrick's Catholic Church has one on the Albany and Schenctady Turnpike.

The Shakers have a cemetery, in which none but members of their society are interred. In this plain and unadorned inclosure, Mother Ann Lee was buried.

THE HOME FOR AGED MEN.—The ladies who conceived this charity, and who were instrumental in pressing its claims upon the attention of the public, were: Mrs. Elizabeth McClure, Mrs. William B. Gourlay and Mrs. Cornelius Ten Broeck; and through the persistent personal efforts of William Sawyer and other friends, who became interested in the benevolent project, the founding of this institution was accomplished. This is one of the fruits of Christianity; for no home for the aged, for orphans, no hospital for the poor was ever seen in any but in a Christian nation. After sufficient interest was manifested, a public meeting was held in its behalf in November, 1874, in the Second Presbyterian Church, and an eloquent sermon, appropriate to the occasion, was preached by Rev. Ebenezer Halley, D. D., to a large and interested audience. At the conclusion of the exercises it was announced that at a previous meeting an organization had been effected and officers elected.

Subscriptions continued to be solicited and made in aid of the charity, which gave assurance that success would finally crown these patient exertions.

During the autumn of 1876, subscriptions amounted to about $18,000, and on the fifth day of October, 1876, the articles of incorporation were effected, and the society duly and legally organized, with name and object as follows: "We, the undersigned residents of the County of Albany, do hereby associate ourselves together for the purpose of forming a benevolent and charitable society, the name of which society shall be, 'The Home for Aged Men,' and its particular object shall be the relief, care, culture and support of needy or dis-

tressed old men and their wives, of the said County of Albany."

The following gentlemen were named trustees in the certificate of incorporation: Messrs. John Taylor Cooper, Maurice E. Viele, William Sawyer, S. Visscher Talcott, Dudley Olcott, Ebenezer Halley, William M. Van Antwerp, Benjamin W. Arnold, James H. McClure, James B. Jermain, Jeremiah Waterman and David A. Thompson.

Upon the organization of the board of trustees, John Taylor Cooper was elected President, James B. Jermain and Jeremiah Waterman, Vice-Presidents, Dudley Olcott, Treasurer, and David A. Thompson, Secretary.

On the 16th of November, 1876, the trustees purchased the residence and grounds of Mrs. Harriet Day Perry, situated between the Watervliet turnpike and railway on the east, and the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad on the west, a short distance south 'of Menand's road. The distance from the north city line is less than two miles, and is reached by the horse or steam cars.

The price paid for the dwelling and about four acres of land was $11,000, and the total cost of the alterations, additions and necessary improvements amount to $20,000.

The location is high and commanding, with an extensive view up and down the Hudson River, and over a large tract of beautifully diversified country. The original buildings were of antique structure, with high rooms and high ceilings, which gave evidence of comfort and repose. The old mansion—built in 1781—has been remodeled to correspond to modern architecture and meet the design of its purposes in all its appointments. The grounds were graded and tastefully arranged; a clean, attractive lawn surrounds the buildings.

The "Home" was dedicated March 28, 1878, and has accommodations for thirty persons. "The object of the Home is to provide for respectable men, who at an advanced age are left helpless and alone in the world, and whose poverty is due to misfortune rather than to idleness or vice."

Every applicant must furnish satisfactory testimonials of good character, and must implicitly obey all the rules and regulations of the society or trustees.

The associate officers of the patronesses of the Home are: Mrs. Howard Townsend, President; Mrs. William Barnes, Vice-President; Miss Mary G. Rice, Treasurer; Miss Susan Dunlap, Matron in charge.

EDUCATION.—SCHOOLS.

In the early settlement of this township, difficulties, almost insurmountable, operated for many years to retard every effort for the advancement of popular education. The facilities were only within reach of the few, and these were not eager to avail themselves of the private means that were required for other and more immediate purposes. The want of means and opportunity were the great obstacles these people had to contend with in their mental and spiritual training; being distant from the centers of social and intellectual culture, they were dependent upon local and simple expedients for first principles in elementary education. These were improved as best they could, and in time their means were concentrated and pupils were collected in private schools; these were imperfectly organized, and not until after the revolution did the schools assume much importance, when State authority gave them aid and encouragement, and they were incorporated in a system that has really educated the children of the State. The effect of this change is to insure to all the advantages of a common education, and a free discussion of questions that concern a higher education; and at the present time, a knowledge of the elements of general science and the laws of mechanics and industrial art, and the philosophy of natural sciences in their relation to the laws under which we live, and which concern the immediate welfare and usefulness of every individual.

The great design of popular education should be to develop and train the faculties for the useful pursuits of life, in connection with mental culture, for the scientific investigation and study of sciences and philosophy, practical mechanics, and manual industries for the development of human skill. Are sudden and novel changes of method or system always attended with success? Do the improved educational systems give better results for the full comprehension of important discoveries that will enable the pupil to appreciate theories as truths that contain real wisdom? Systems of moral and mental progress, theories of religious revelations and political traditions are problems yet to pass the ordeal of modern science and revealed truth.

At the time Watervliet was formed as a township, the schools had no system or organization, and were conducted by private or individual enterprise. It is evident that results from this imperfect method could not be of a high order, as only the more favored children could enjoy the benefits derived from the limited means offered.

There seems to have been very little interest manifested in the education of the children in the rural districts, until 1795, when the State gave Albany County £1,590, equal to $3,975, for school purposes, of which the townships then organized received their proportion. This was the first step toward our free school system, which has developed to such magnificent results, and grand practical returns have followed the wise legislation of the State in securing popular education to the masses.

In September, 1813, Watervliet divided the township into 12 school districts, giving each a certain number of families, and the only geographic boundary was the division line of the farms owned by occupants mentioned, and this condition exists with many of the districts at the present time.

It is well to note the marked difference in the schools of the rural districts, and contrast their inefficiency with those of the city. Graded systems and methods can only be taught successfully and with the best results by teachers who introduce a system, and by personal supervision through a

continuous term of several years, thus introducing an arrangement or specific plan of instruction, that can be followed from grade to grade and class to class, without breaking the order or introducing *new* or widely different methods.

If the schools in the rural districts have a lower standard of efficiency or usefulness than the city district schools, the fault can be attributed in a great measure to the mistakes of trustees, who from economy, custom or some petty cause change teachers at every term, thereby retarding progress in studies and losing time in reorganizing. This constant change demoralizes the school for many weeks of the term, and in the end the teacher is pronounced a failure, and the pupils have made very little progress, for nothing is learned of value by continuous changes.

Watervliet at present is divided into 27 districts, and during the school year which closed August 20, 1884, fifty-nine teachers were employed in these schools.

A table is given of the condition of these schools for the above school year, which shows a marked contrast for the past and present.

The number of school districts September 30, 1869, was 28, employing 59 teachers. Number of children of school age, 14,076; number attending school, 7,400; amount expended for school purposes, $67,292.03. This, perhaps, includes schools of Cohoes.

No. of District.	Persons of School Age.	Number Attended School.	Valuation of District.	Amount of Receipts.	Amount Paid Teachers.	Paid Teacher for Winter Term.	Paid Teacher for Summer Term.
1	1,115	496	$1,155,400	$5,118 69	$3,085 31	$14 00	$14 00
2	1,032	556	697,666	4,596 29	2,585 00	.....	.....
3	22	16	162,361	486 77	340 80	10 00	9 00
4	27	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5	58	35	198,249	439 54	296 20	8 00	8 00
6	68	42	223,502	386 56	286 80	10 00	8 00
7	48	22	160,672	290 17	241 60	9 00	8 00
8	54	16	204,700	266 53	237 00	12 00	12 00
9	1,317	210	430,000	1,555 65	1,100 00	10 00	8 50
10	77	40	228,742	345 40	286 50	6 00	4 00
11	185	88	374,296	1,186 06	840 00	10 00	7 00
12	81	48	129,250	297 00	240 66	8 00	7 00
13	61	36	128,850	430 93	264 00	.....	.....
14	34	28	215,900	259 89	206 25	.....	.....
15	200	95	384,358	1,467 34	897 90	.....	.....
16	39	34	247,574	300 09	240 00	.....	.....
17	109	72	108,497	377 87	306 00	8 50	8 50
18	54	45	185,500	433 50	278 50	7 00	9 00
19	230	154	996,897	2,180 66	1,215 00	33 75	33 75
20	843	500	1,047,015	4,085 07	2,250 05	.....	.....
21	80	62	76,860	546 43	321 00	10 00	7 00
22	277	62	1,726,514	754 80	485 90	12 50	12 50
23	1,283	898	1,738,640	10,562 94	6,560 10	12 50	15 50
24	76	53	107,603	450 77	255 00	.....	.....
25	84	44	112,740	466 66	288 00	9 00	6 00
26	83	64	197,853	460 11	335 00	8 00	6 00
27	40	23	113,117	1,004 03	309 76	.....	.....
Totals,	7,651	$3,755	$9,848,757	$38,726 75	$23,743 23		

SOLDIERS.

During the Revolutionary war, soldiers and munitions were transported along the London road from Albany to Saratoga. No battles were fought on the soil of the *Vlakte*, yet Morgan's men encamped for the winter in the northeast part of the town, and his men quartered on the farmers in the vicinity of the Bogh. Here the Indians and Tories held council and plotted mischief against their neighbors, and gave aid to the British. The deeds and service rendered by Gen. Schuyler, and the active part which he so patriotically performed in the struggle of the colony for liberty, will be found in the County history and in the history of West Troy.

Henry Ostrom, who settled on the Capron farm, was a captain of militia. Served under Gen. Van Rensselaer in the Mohawk valley, about the time of Burgoyne's surrender. Jacob and Gerret Lansing were soldiers in this war that gave us independence from the rule of Great Britain.

In the war of 1812, Watervliet furnished a large quota of volunteers and drafted men, among whom were Henry Runkle, Frederick Roff,* John G. Lansing, John Van Aernum, Lansing Fonda, John Cory, David Turner, Jacob Lewis, William Campbell, Jacob Turner, John Steenbergh and brother, Timothy Hodgeman, Stephen Culver, Jeremiah and Gerret Clute, Wynant Van Denbergh. The following entry is copied from records in the Town Clerk's office: "Andrew Chadwick enlisted as a soldier, September, 1812, and died on the 13th of

*Since the above was written, Peter Shaver, of Guilderland, has died, aged 90 years. He was drafted at the same time with Frederick Roff, and assigned to the same company.

December, 1812, in the service at Champlain. Benjamin Burdsall, Captain United States Volunteers." Frederick Roff, now 90 years old, in good health and memory, yet deprived of eyesight and partially deaf, was drafted and sent to Long Island in 1814. Peace was declared soon after, and he returned to his home after three months' absence. He served under Captain Van Wie, of Bethlehem. Mr. Roff receives a pension, and is the only living soldier of the war of 1812 the author met in the five townships visited by him.

In the war of the Rebellion, Watervliet furnished her quota of officers and volunteers, and the record bears a favorable comparison with that of other townships of the county. The first act of hostility roused the loyalty and patriotism of the people to prompt action, and the zeal and devotion for the preservation of their country as a free and united nation awoke within their hearts the spirit of self-denial, and the loyal youth and mature manhood were ready to enlist; to exchange the comforts of home for the tented field and ensanguined battle ground; to give their lives, if needs be, for the safety of that freedom bought aforetime with the blood and treasure of their ancestors.

The patriotism so nobly manifested at the outbreak of this war was at no time allowed to cool, although many reverses and sad experiences fell to the lot of some. Those who lived to return from this horrible war proved themselves worthy of the cause—deserve lasting gratitude and generous remembrance for all time for their faithful services and sacrifices.

It were well if these officers and soldiers had a carefully prepared record in the archives of the township for future reference and inspection by those who, in after years, could learn the names and deeds, fate and sufferings of those who will soon be forgotten. There seems to have been a degree of indifference in this matter by the authorities, as the Legislature of 1865 enacted a law for this very purpose. At the present time such a record would be difficult to compile or obtain, yet the work should be attempted in some satisfactory way.*

CORPORATIONS, ASSOCIATIONS, RAILROADS, TURNPIKES, ETC.

Surprising changes followed the declaration which secured independence to a people who had long been under the rule of colonial taxation, and burdens that operated with severity against freedom of enterprise; these removed, men were ready to extend the bounds of settlement, and open new fields of enterprise, manufactures and trade. Men of means saw the necessity of greater facility of transportation of goods and crops, and set to work to obtain them.

To obtain this, in 1792 the "Northern Inland Lock and Navigation Company" was chartered, by which goods and merchandise were forwarded from the central part of the State and Lake Ontario by way of the Mohawk River to Schenectady, and thence to Albany by wagon. From here merchandise was sent to New York by river craft. A road to communicate with Cherry Valley, Utica and Rome had been in use for many years, and in 1798 an act was passed to establish a "Turnpike Corporation" for improving the State road. This act was afterward repealed, and March 15, 1799, an act was passed to establish a "Turnpike Corporation" for improving the State road from the house of John Weaver in Watervliet to Cherry Valley. The capital was two hundred shares at ten dollars each. This was the western turnpike. The incorporators were William North, John Taylor, Abram Ten Eyck, Charles R. Webster, Calvin Cheeseman, Zenas Penio, Ephraim Hudson, Joseph White, Elihu Phinney, Thomas Machin.

December 21, 1801, a bill was prepared and presented to the Legislature with this preface: Whereas, Goldbrow Bangor, Abraham Ten Broeck, Abraham Ten Eyck and others have entered into an association to form a company for making a turnpike road between the cities of Albany and Schenectady, March 30, 1802, etc. A bill was passed constituting John Lansing, Jr., Stephen Van Rensselaer, Stephen Lush, Dudley Walsh, Garret W. Van Schaick, Daniel Hall, John Tayler, Abraham Oadthout and Joseph C. Yeates, a body corporate and politic, by the name of "The President, Directors and Company of Albany and Schenectady Turnpike." The above incorporators were the first directors, with John Lansing, Jr., President; Barent Bleecker, Secretary and Treasurer; Garret Clute, Surveyor; the capital stock was $200,000; length of road, sixteen miles, commencing on Lodge street, up State to Washington street, and thence to Schenectady, in a straight line; the width of the road, four rods; roadbed, two rods wide, filled with stone, covered with sand or gravel; the ditches to be made wide enough for sleighs. This new road was not to interfere with the old State road between these two cities. During the construction of this road, $118,610 was expended, or about $8,472 per mile, and at its completion was considered the best road in the country.

The increased travel with heavy loads soon made an impression into the yielding material, and the company then made a roadbed of cobble stone brought from the Mohawk River, which was covered with gravel and held from spreading by stone curbing, and a thick flag stone was put on the roadbed for the wheels to run upon. This has proved of great utility, and the improvement cost the company $61,810, or about $4,415 per mile.

In 1803 the company commenced planting ten thousand Lombardy poplars along the sides of this road; only a few remain.

The construction of this road, as an internal or public improvement, was at the time one of great magnitude, and for many years was a financial success to the company; but upon the completion of the Erie Canal, that water-way at once secured the bulk of merchandise and produce for transportation, and the wagon road lost its source of its

* The original returns of the census of 1865, preserved in the New York State Library, contain (nominally, at least) lists of soldiers furnished by each town in the State for this war.

income; then followed, a few years after, the construction of the Mohawk and Hudson Railroad, which reduced the turnpike road to accept what travel it could command between the cities, from farmers, business men and local traffic. The boundary of the City of Albany has absorbed several miles of this road, and at Albany it now commences at the terminus of Central avenue.

In 1803 there was upon the line of this road, between the two cities, twenty-eight taverns or inns; among these were those of Vroman, Lansing, Winne, Billsen, Truax, De Camp and C. Stanford. The present directors and officers are Norman Dings, President; Stephen Kimball, David I. Boyd, Joseph W. Russell, Peter E. Sanders, Charles Sanders, Abram Van Vechten, John D. P. Douw and Hamilton B. Brown, Secretaries and Treasurers, to whom the writer is indebted for much valuable information.

An act for establishing a turnpike road from opposite the village of Troy to the City of Schenectady, passed April 2, 1802: "Be it enacted that George Tibbits, Ephraim Morgan and Abraham Oothout and their associates are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic, by the name of 'The Troy and Schenectady Turnpike Company.' Capital, 350 shares of $50 each. The roadway to be four rods wide; the roadbed to be 25 feet wide and made of gravel or other hard substance, and the ditches on the sides, where practicable, to be of proper width for a good road for sleighs." The conditions of this road were similar to those of the above, the Erie Canal and railroads taking traffic and travel.

An act to incorporate the Watervliet Turnpike Company, passed March 31, 1828: Thomas Hillhouse, Jeremiah Schuyler and Robert Dunlap, and their associates, to make a good and permanent turnpike road from the north boundary line of the City of Albany to the upper ferry opposite the City of Troy, by the corporate name of "The Watervliet Turnpike Company." The stock of said company shall consist of nine hundred shares, of one hundred dollars per share, and Robert Dunlap, Jeremiah Schuyler and Nathan Dauchy are hereby appointed to receive subscriptions for said stock. The roadway to be four rods wide, and 33 feet of this width shall be excavated at least 24 inches deep, this to be filled with hard gravel 12 inches deep, then a bed of solid stone-work upon the gravel 12 inches deep, this to be filled in and covered over with pounded stone to form a smooth surface. The arch of the roadbed to be raised 8 inches, and the sides to be well secured by a solid curbstone not less than 14 inches in breadth, set on edge, and sunk into the ground at least 7 inches. For many years this was the great thoroughfare for pleasure drives.

An act to authorize the Watervliet Turnpike Company to construct and maintain a railroad on their present road, and to extend the same into and through the villages of West Troy and Cohoes, and the town of Watervliet and the City of Albany, and to increase the capital stock, and to alter the corporate name of said company to the "Watervliet Turnpike and Railroad Company," was passed April, 1862, and cars began running the next year. This road passes through North Albany, near Menand's and the cemeteries, the fair grounds, Old Men's Home, Island Park, and other places of interest. Y. P. Way, treasurer and secretary; M. C. Foster, superintendent.

The Erie Canal, a portion of which passes through this town, was opened in 1825, and the first boat passed through October 26.

An act to incorporate the "Visscher's Ferry Bridge Company" was passed April 19, 1828, for 30 years.

The first railroad that passed through a portion of this town was the Mohawk and Hudson, from Albany to Schenectady, which was begun in August, 1830, and cars were carrying passengers over a portion of it in September, 1831, when the famous excursion was made. The first train over the whole line was made in May, 1832.

Other railroads that pass through the town are the Troy and Schenectady, the New York Central, and the Northern Division of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company.

A plank road, commencing on the Watervliet turnpike and extending through Loudonville to Newtonville, is kept in good repair. This road, and the boulevard which branches from it, is largely patronized for its fine drives and beautiful rural scenery, and carries the pleasure seeker past the mansion of J. K. Emmet (Fritz) and other fine residences, up to the cemeteries.

Pleasure Island and Park Island, above Albany, east of the Watervliet turnpike and railway, are places of resort for entertainment, amusement and horse trotting.

Pleasure Island is controlled by a corporate company, with a capital of $65,000. An association of gentlemen have made Park Island very attractive with improvements and a fine race course.

"Watervliet Mutual Insurance Association" was organized August 1, 1860. The first officers and Directors were Abram V. P. Lansing, President; Abram Pease, Samuel Waterman, Peter Van Vranken, Vice-Presidents; Harmon V. Strong, Cornelius Vedder, John P. Capron, Vischer Lansing, Daniel D. Ostrom, Secretary and Treasurers.

The present Directors and officers are: Peter Van Vranken, President; Cornelius A. Lansing, Vice-President; Abram J. Lansing, Vischer Lansing, George W. Stanford, John J. Lansing, Garret Freleigh, John J. Spoore and Daniel D. Ostrom, Secretary and Treasurer. The number of policies in 1884 was 200, which represented $300,000 of property insured.

Attention may be turned to records of purely local events, and to details of the town's individual importance, for these have in the past decades been invaded by the spirit of modern progress, both public and private, and the introduction of steam to the application of so many of man's necessities, the railroad, telegraph and telephone, irresistibly remind the observer of days before these things were brought into use as adjuncts to material wealth and personal comfort.

William Burton

To-day the shriek of the locomotive whistle has effectually drowned the cheery blast of the stage-coach horn, once sweet music in the ears of travelers passing over the stony roads that traversed the town 60 years ago; but the order of things has changed since those days of primitive journeying, and the numerous inns which provided entertainment for the weary traveler and provender for the jaded horses have disappeared. The uncomfortable coach, and the great lumbering wagons with their four or six horses, are things of the past; the palace car, with its rich and gaudy furnishings, comforts and luxuries, the elegant carriages, with other improved vehicles for ease and pleasure in traveling, have taken their place, and may now be enjoyed at a small expense.

The public roads of the town are under the supervision of a commissioner elected by the people, and he appoints a citizen as path-master for each road district, who is authorized to keep the same in repair, to notify all taxable inhabitants of his district to perform his or her allotted number of days' service as assessed in the district, or collect from those who choose to commute a certain specified sum for each day assessed.

WILLIAM BURTON.

William Burton, son of John and Catharine Burton, was born in Schenectady, New York, March 29, 1809. His farther, John Burton, son of Josiah Burton, was born in the town of Amenia, Dutchess County, New York, the 14th of September, 1764. Subsequently he removed with his parents to Albany, where, on the 2d of June, 1795, he married Miss Catharine Eights, eldest daughter of Abraham Eights, of that city. Abraham Eights was grandson of William Eights, of Amsterdam, and Mary Van Dyck, of Rotterdam (Holland), and only son of Abraham Eights, a shipmaster of New York City.

To John and Catharine Burton were born twelve children, the eighth being the subject of this sketch.

William Burton, in the 14th year of his age, went to learn the trade of house carpenter and joiner with the late John Boardman, master builder, of Albany, in whose family he resided for eight years. After completing his apprenticeship, he labored at his trade some years in New York City. Returning to Albany, he formed a copartnership with his brother, James Burton, in the manufacturing and sale of looking-glasses. In March, 1840, he was induced to remove to Cohoes, New York. January 12, 1842, he married Miss Eunice Payn, daughter of Benjamin Hawley Payn and Sophia Sill, his wife. Miss Payn was born in Fort Miller, N. Y., August 19, 1817. In 1826, she came to Albany with her parents, where she resided until the date of her marriage. As the fruit of this marriage there were several children, all of whom died in infancy except two sons, William E. Burton and Benjamin P. Burton, both of Waterford, N. Y., and successors to their father's business.

When Mr. Burton came to Cohoes the place was a mere hamlet with a population of only 1,850. Since there he has been associated with its enterprising citizens in the development of its manufacturing, educational and business interests, and closely identified with its progress until it has become the foremost manufacturing city in the Empire State, with a population of over 20,000.

One of Mr. Burton's first business ventures was in company with John M. Tremain, manufacturing veneers, their establishment being located in the upper story of what was known as the Wilkinson Machine Shop. In 1844, he bought Mr. Tremain's interest, and also the machinery and fixtures of Levi Silliman, who had succeeded Hawer & Baker in the sawing business, thus securing a monopoly in that branch of manufacture.

The firm of William Burton & Co. was formed, a sawing and veneering mill erected that year on Erie street, and for nearly four decades it was prominent among the successful establishments of the city.

Besides developing his business, Mr. Burton added materially to the substantial buildings of Cohoes. In 1855, he built the fine residence in Seneca street known as the "Burton House;" in 1857, he erected the Halcyon Knitting Mill, now changed to the Ranken Mill, and in 1865, he built the Erie Knitting Mill, which for many years was occupied by Moore & Hiller, and subsequently by Wm. Moore, both ranking among the best in that line of manufacture.

Mr. Burton was always recognized as a representative citizen, and although he was not ambitious

John Lundergan

for official distinction, his business qualifications and sterling integrity made his services frequently in demand in places of trust and responsibility, and there have been but few intervals during his residence in Cohoes when he was not in the service of the public. Commencing as a trustee in the first Village Board, 1848, he was re-elected in 1849, 1854 and 1859. In the Board of Education he was a representative in the years 1851 and 1870, and in the Water Board was a Commissioner for six years, 1858–1864.

In April, 1851, the Cohoes Savings Institution was established, with Mr. Burton as one of its incorporators, and he has since been one of its trustees, and has held the position of President since 1878. In 1862, he was chosen director in the bank (now national) of Cohoes, which position he still retains. Whatever Mr. Burton has undertaken, whether in the conduct of his private interests, or in the gratuitous service of the public, has been well done, a fact that indicates his excellent executive ability and public spirit, while it accounts for his being so often chosen to serve his fellow citizens in important trusts.

As becomes every true citizen, Mr. Burton, though not what may be termed a politician, has positive convictions as to a citizen's duty. He has been an ardent and honest Republican from the formation of the party, and has given its principles his hearty support. He has been frequently solicited by his party to accept office, but except in local affairs, as stated above, he has chosen to promote its welfare by his personal influence.

MR. BURTON'S RELIGIOUS CONNECTIONS.

Early in life he became interested in the study of the Bible, and in religious themes. In February, 1826, he united with the Second Presbyterian Church of Albany, then under the charge of its first pastor, Rev. John Chester, D. D.; subsequently, on the 2d day of February, 1829, with fifty-four others, he participated in the organization of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Albany, the first pastor of which was Rev. E. N. Kirk, D. D.; of the fifty-five persons comprising the members of this church at its formation, but one, besides Mr. Burton, so far as it is now known, survives. In December, 1840, he transferred his connection to the Presbyterian Church of Cohoes, where he is still a worthy member. In May, 1843, he was chosen and ordained a ruling Elder in this church, in which office he has continued till the present time. As an Elder, he has always been faithful and efficient, watching the spiritual interests of the church as one who must give account. He was Superintendent of the Sabbath School in its earlier years, and afterward leader of a class in Bible study. He has also been serving as a trustee in this church several terms, and has been willing to fill any responsible position as far as he had ability, deeming any service in this direction an honor rather than a burden or an irksome duty. He has also in church matters shown a liberal hand, contributing regularly and largely as occasion seemed to require and as he has been prospered. Thus he has made a record in religious matters which for length and completeness would be a credit to any citizen. At the present writing, April, 1885, he is living in retirement at his residence on the Waterford Road, one mile north of Cohoes.

JOHN LUNDERGAN.

This gentleman is markedly a self-made man, and his success has been a triumph of well-directed endeavor over adverse circumstances and frowning fortune. He is a son of William Lundergan, and was born in Tipperary, Ireland, March 16, 1821. At the age of five years he came to America with his father's family, landing at Quebec and locating at Montreal. When he was eleven years old his mother died of the cholera which swept the country in 1832, and soon thereafter his father brought his family to the State of New York, and the boy found a home in the family of Mr. James Fisk, who lived near Albany, and whom he helped about his farm work. Mr. Fisk soon died, and at the age of sixteen young Lundergan began to work out for the farmers round about. He was employed one year by an Englishman named Mallons, and the succeeding three years by Samuel Gale.

He was frugal almost beyond belief, and succeeded in saving a small sum of money, and in partnership with another young man who had also worked for Mr. Gale, he rented a little land and engaged on a small scale in market gardening for the Albany trade. Two years later his friend withdrew from the enterprise and Mr. Lundergan continued it another year alone, and at the end of that time found himself in possession of $150 as his three years' gains. He was at this juncture induced to go down the river to a point in Westchester County opposite Yonkers, to enter the service of a man named Provinst who he supposed had a country seat there, as overseer of a farm, his employer not being a practical agriculturist and being, presumably, engaged in some business in New York. He met Provinst in New York, and before they started up the river Provinst persuaded him to lend him all of his slender savings except the small amount he had used in coming from Albany. This sum was the scant reward of many long days of hard work, work early and late, in the rain and under the rays of the scorching sun; it was the young man's all—his hope for future prosperity rested upon it. It was understood that the loan was for only a short time, and young Lundergan parted with the money somewhat reluctantly, and chiefly with the idea of conciliating one to whom he must now look for employment. Arrived at the farm, he found that it was worthless and could be productive of no profit, and soon discovered that it was rented at that, and that Provinst owed even for the necessary supplies and facilities for cultivating it. Several times he demanded the return of his money, but its payment was avoided by Provinst upon first one specious pretext, then another. Finally a New Yorker who had a mortgage upon all Provinst pos-

sessed foreclosed it, utterly breaking him up in the midst of the season. It is needless to add that young Lundegan never received either his loaned money or his wages. It was a bitter disappointment to find himself again penniless after his years of hard struggle and self-denying frugality.

Returning to Albany, he found employment at different places and at different kinds of work. The following year he worked by the month for a farmer named Edward Tucker, and the two years following for Peleg Noyes. In 1848, he sought his fortune in California, where he remained two years, making the trip out via Cape Horn and returning by the Panama route. Fifteen months of this time he passed in the "diggings," and with such success that he brought back a limited capital. In 1850, he leased land for five years, of the Van Rensselaer tract, and again engaging in market gardening, succeeded, and was enabled in three years to purchase of Thomas Hillhouse a part of his present farm. The next year he bought of Jacob Gale an addition, on which was a dwelling house. Later he bought thirty-six acres, the site of the fair ground for a time. In 1873, he sold it for use as such, but took it back on account of non-payment of purchase money, in 1877.

Mr. Lundergan is a Democrat, but has never taken any active part in politics, and has never been an aspirant for any public office. He was married, in 1855, to Caroline Forster, of West Troy, and has two sons and two daughters. He is a quiet, unassuming and unobtrusive, but valuable citizen, interested in the public welfare and liberal in his support of education and religion.

LATHAM CORNELL.

Latham Cornell was born in Newport, R. I., January 18, 1781, a son of Gideon and Susannah (Bernett) Cornell. He came of a family noted in successive generations for robust health, longevity, great business capacity and success, and was one of several brothers, all of whom amassed large fortunes and outlived most of their cotemporaries.

When Mr. Cornell was two years of age, his parents moved to Easton, Washington County, N. Y., where he received a good common school education and passed the earlier part of his life as a very successful farmer. He was married, February 4, 1808, to Sarah B. White, who died about 1850. In 1815, he removed to Lansingburgh, and thence, after a few months' residence, to Troy, where he was destined to take rank among the most prominent manufacturers and business men of his time. He became the pioneer in the manufacture of stoves, as is attested by the following extract from Judge Sylvester's "History of Rensselaer County, N. Y." "The first stove whose manufacture was accredited to Troy was known as the 'Saddle-bag.' William T. James, of Union Village, N. Y., its inventor, formed a partnership with Latham Cornell, of Troy, and among the several factories advertised was '275 River street, Troy.' These stoves were, however, mostly made in Philadelphia, sent to Troy in pieces and there put together and sold." This stove, introduced by Mr. Cornell's enterprise, was very familiar in the days gone by. As his business increased he opened branch establishments in New York, Boston and Philadelphia, amassing, as a consequence, much wealth. He was a man of industry, perseverance and keen insight into business affairs. He had the sagacity to stand forth very prominently among those earliest to supply a pressing demand throughout the country, and his enterprise was crowned with its legitimate reward. He retired in 1841, relinquishing his business to others.

Mr. Cornell was the great-uncle of Ezra Cornell, the founder of Cornell University, and was connected with others who were prominent in various walks of life. He was often solicited to accept office, and, at one time, was strongly urged by the best citizens to become a candidate for Mayor of the City of Troy; but he always declined, though his interest in municipal and national affairs was deep and intelligent. During most of his life he voted and acted with the Whig party, but from the formation of the Republican party until his death he was a member of that organization. Of Quaker ancestry, he inclined to the religious faith of his forefathers. The latter part of his life was passed in retirement, and though a contributor to many public charities, his efforts were principally directed to the relief of individual cases of want which came to his notice. December 9, 1856, he married, as his second wife, Mrs. Louisa Everts, of Troy, who survives him. He died April 17, 1876.

We take pleasure in making mention of the following citizens, who, by their guaranteed support, have helped to insure the publication of this valuable work: L. D. Collins, T. Van Volkenberg, A. W. Freligh, Peter F. Witbeck, C. H. Witbeck, S. H. Pitts, Solomon Phillips, Charles W. Phillips.

Thomas H. Lansing has been living upon a farm, since 1864, in Watervliet.

Hiram C. Abrams, M. D.—This gentleman was born at Rensselaerville, Albany County, October 12, 1857; was brought up on a farm, and attended district school until the year 1870, at which time he entered the boys' academy at Albany. After his course was completed at this institution he entered the Albany Medical College and graduated from there in 1882. After this he located and commenced practice at Newtonville, Albany County, where he at present resides.

L Cornell

HISTORY OF THE CITY OF COHOES.

Compiled by Rev. WM. M. JOHNSON, D. D.

CHAPTER I.

EARLY MENTION.

ANY history of Cohoes will be incomplete if it fail to refer to the visit of the celebrated poet, Thomas Moore, in the year 1804. It is, therefore, mentioned here, and the following is the poem which was the result of that visit:

LINES WRITTEN AT THE COHOS, OR FALLS OF THE MOHAWK RIVER.

From rise of morn till set of sun
I've seen the mighty Mohawk run,
And as I marked the woods of pine
Along his mirror darkly shine,
Like tall and gloomy forms that pass
Before the wizard's midnight glass;
And as I viewed the hurrying pace
With which he ran his turbid race,
Rushing, alike untired and wild
Through shades that frowned and flowers that smiled,
Flying by every green recess
That woo'd him to its calm caress,
Yet, sometimes turning with the wind,
As if to leave one look behind!
Oh! I have thought and thinking sighed—
How like to thee, thou restless tide!
May be the lot, the life of him,
Who roams along thy water's brim!
Through what alternate shades of woe,
And flowers of joy my path may go,
How many an humble, still retreat
May rise to court my weary feet,
While still pursuing, still unblest,
I wander on, nor dare to rest!
But, urgent as the doom that calls
Thy water to its destined falls,
I see the world's bewildering force
Hurry my heart's devoted course
From lapse to lapse, till life be done
And the last current cease to run!
Oh, may my falls be bright as thine!
May heaven's forgiving rainbow shine
Upon the mist that circles me,
As soft as now it hangs o'er thee!

The reader notices at once the spelling, Cohos, at the head of this poem. There are many variations in the name of Cohoes, as Chahoos, Cahoos, Cahhoos, Kahoos, Chohos, Cohoez and Cohoz. These are all doubtless derived from the old Mohawk Indian dialect, Gahaoose. The meaning of the name has naturally been sought for, because Indian names were generally so significant. One interpretation is "a canoe falling." Another is "overshoot," referring to the passage of the water over the rocks. Another is "parting of the waters." Another is "a shipwrecked canoe." This generation will not know, positively, what the Indians meant when they named Cohoes Falls. They certainly had no thought of giving the name to a large, thriving, manufacturing city.

The visit of the celebrated poet Moore is not the first on record. The place is only nine miles from Albany, following up the west bank of the Hudson, and the south branch of the Mohawk River, and citizens of Albany, as well as travelers through that city, frequently sought and found the wild and romantic spot known as Cohoes Falls. One of these visitors was the Rev. Johannes Megapolensis, who settled in Albany in 1642, and was the first minister of the gospel there. He wrote to his friends in Holland a description of the habits and manners of the Mohawk Indians, in which occurs this passage:

"Through this land runs an excellent river, about five hundred or six hundred paces wide. This river comes out of the Mahakas country about four miles north of us. There it flows between two high rocky banks, and falls, from a height equal to that of a church, with such a noise that we can sometimes hear it with us."

An account of the visit of Adrian Van Der Donck in the year 1656 is preserved in the New York Historical Collections. The reference to Cohoes Falls is as follows:

"The other arm of the North River runs by four sprouts, as we have related, to the great falls of the Magnas Kill (Mohawk River), which the Indians name the Chahoos, and our nation the Great Falls, above which the river is again several hundred yards, and the falls we estimate to be one hundred and fifty or two hundred feet high. The precipice of firm blue rock. * * * *

"The Indians, when they travel by water and come to trade, usually come in canoes made of the bark of trees, which they know how to construct. When they come near the falls, they land, and carry their boats and lading some distance below the falls, and proceed on their voyage; otherwise they would proceed over the falls and be destroyed."

CHAPTER II.

FIRST WHITE OWNERS AND INHABITANTS.

Far back in the history of New York State there is an account of a military road from Fort Orange (Albany) to Fort William Henry and Fort Ticonderoga. This road crossed the fords of the Mohawk below the Falls. Here, in later days, the American forces were encamped, under Generals Schuyler and Gates, before the defeat of Burgoyne at Saratoga, and ruins of the earthworks then thrown up have been seen until quite a recent date. The falls and the fords of the Mohawk here were the first centers of attention and settlement. The first white owners of this region were Kiliaen Van Rensselaer and Mrs. Illetie Van Slyck Van Olinde. The latter was, however, a half-breed, her mother being a Mohawk (Indian) woman. Her husband was Pieter Danielse Van Olinde. Her land was given to her by the Mohawk Sachems in 1667. The south line of her possessions was the Manor avenue road of to-day, which extends west from the Falls to the Boght. South of this road were the lands of Van Rensselaer, the original patroon or proprietor of the "Colonie of Rensselaerwyck," "who in 1630, and subsequently, purchased land, which, in 1637, formed a tract twenty-four miles in breadth by forty-eight in length, extending from the immediate vicinity of Fort Orange over the great part of Albany, Rensselaer and Columbia counties."* The original village of Cohoes, and indeed nearly the whole settlement in this vicinity, was, therefore, within the domain of Van Rensselaer. On the north side of the Mohawk was the Halve Maan (Half-Moon) patent. The islands at the mouth of the Mohawk not long after came into the possession of Capt. Goosen Gerritse Van Schaick. He died in 1676. Subsequent occupants of that part of the present city were Guert Hendrickse Van Schoonhoven, Harmon Lieverse and Roeloff Gerritse Van Der Werken. Mrs. C. V. S. Baldwin, at present residing on the island, is a lineal descendant of the Capt. Van Schaick just mentioned. Commencing at the north line of the Rensselaerwyck (Manor avenue), the colonists under the patroon were Heamstreet, Onderkirk, Lansing, Fonda, Clute. But it goes to show the great foresight of the patroon that he reserved quite a strip of land on the west side of the river, below the Falls—land which is at present of very great value for manufacturing purposes.

North of the Manor avenue was the Van Olinde estate, a part of which has been sold for city lots, and more is in the possession of Mr. James Morrison. There is also a part of this estate in the hands of heirs of the late Isaac D. F. Lansing. In the deed of the lands next north of the Manor avenue, by Daniel Van Olinde (who was of the first generation after the original owners, who obtained possession from the Indians), to Walran Clute, there was granted a privilege to build one or more saw-mills and a grind-mill. The date of this deed was 1720. This was probably the beginning of mills in a town to be greatly noted thereafter for its many wheels and spindles. The honest Dutch farmers soon saw that there was wealth in the Cohoes Falls, as well as in the rich soil they had commenced to till. The account of the Cohoes mills, from the first grant of a mill privilege, in 1720, till the present time, will form later chapters in this history, and such as will appear more important than all the rest, in a temporal point of view.

NOTE.—The writer must here acknowledge his indebtedness to Masten's History for many facts.

* American Cyclopedia.

CHAPTER III.

COHOES INCORPORATED.

In 1830 Cohoes contained about twenty houses. In 1848 the time had arrived to incorporate the thriving village. The following resolution was adopted at a citizens' meeting:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting it is expedient that we take the necessary steps to incorporate the village of Cohoes.

On motion of Egbert Egberts, Esq., that a committee of five be appointed by the Chair to take the necessary steps for the incorporation, the Chair appointed as such committee Egbert Egberts, Wm. N. Chadwick, John Van Santvoord, Jeremiah Clute and Henry D. Fuller.

It was moved and adopted that the chairman, Chas. A. Olmsted, be added to the committee, and that the committee have discretionary power to determine on the boundary of such charter, and also to call further meetings.

A vote of the electors was taken for and against the measure, June 5, 1848, which resulted as follows: 346 in favor of a village charter, 26 against.*

The first charter election was held June 12, when 521 votes were cast, and the following trustees were elected: Alfred Phelps, Joshua R. Clarke, George Abbott, Henry D. Fuller and William Burton.

Joshua R. Clarke was chosen President.

The assessors chosen were Henry En Earl, John P. Steenberg and Wm. H. Hollister.

The other officers chosen were: Treasurer, Chas. A. Olmsted; Collector, John B. Harrison; Clerk, John Van Santvoord; Pound Master, Isaac F. Fletcher; Fire Wardens, Jacob Upham, Henry Van Auken, John McGill, Wm. Osterhout and Abram Ostrom.

The following is the list of the village presidents in the order of their election: Henry D. Fuller, Wm. F. Carter, N. W. En Earl, Wm. N. Chadwick, Henry L. Landon, Sidney Alden, George H. Wager, Murray Hubbard, Augustus Ellmaker. Some of these were re-elected.

At the time of the incorporation the area of the village was $1,603\frac{22}{100}$ acres.

The bill incorporating Cohoes as a city passed the Assembly April 15, 1869, and became a law May 19 of that year.

The first election, held April 12, 1870, resulted in the choice of Charles H. Adams for Mayor, and

*Masten's History.

the following Aldermen: David J. Johnston, Egbert Lansing, George Campbell, Moses S. Younglove, Bartholomew Mulcahy, Walter Witbeck, Charles F. North and Charles Hay. At this election the following School Commissioners were chosen: Frank Reavey, Daniel Simpson, Wm. Burton, E. N. Page, A. M. Harmon, Jonathan Hiller, Wm. Travis, Wm. S. Crane.

Under the new administration the following officers were appointed:

Excise Commissioners—Henry D. Fuller, Edwin Hitchcock and George H. Wager.

Superintendent of Streets—Norris North.

Superintendent of Cemetery—D. F. Manning.

Water Commissioners—Henry Brockway, John Clute, Abial M. Harmon.

Chamberlain—Leonard Cary.

City Physician—C. E. Witbeck, M. D.

Trustee of Sinking Fund of Water Loan—H. B. Silliman.

Pound Master—Alexander Brown.

Sealer of Weights and Measures—Charles Egan.

Fire Wardens—William Clough, Wm. Doty, E. S. Gregory, Richard Shannon.

The several Mayors of the city succeeding Mr. Adams have been: David J. Johnston, 1872; Henry S. Bogne, 1874; David J. Johnston, 1876; William E. Thorn, 1878, 1880; Alfred LeRoy, 1882–1884.

CHAPTER IV.

COHOES MANUFACTORIES.

As already mentioned, a deed from Van Olinde to Clute, dated in 1720, gives the privilege of erecting one or more "Saw Mills or Grind Mills, and to Ly Dams." We must consider this the very initial of Cohoes manufactories. In 1740 the Lansing family owned a saw-mill near the Cohoes Company's dam. "A grist-mill was afterward built just south of the saw-mill, and the two establishments were run in partnership by Gerret Clute and Rutger Lansing for some years. On the Clute farm a grist-mill was also erected, which was located a short distance above the falls." (Masten's History).

"Another grist-mill, which was afterward converted into a carding mill, was located on the Heamstreet farm, on the flats just opposite Simmon's Island."

The first extensive attempt at manufacturing was made by the Cohoes Manufacturing Company in the year 1811.

This company purchased sixty acres of land, extending from the bridge south to a point some distance below the present site of the Episcopal Church, and being between Mohawk street and the river. A wing dam was built, and a screw factory was soon in operation. The employees were mostly from New York. Several wooden tenements were built for their accommodation, a little east and north of the present residence of Mr. H. B. Silliman.

A page from Spafford's *Gazetteer* of New York State, under the title Watervliet, will be of interest here: "About three miles north of Gibbonsville (West Troy) there is a bridge across the Mohawk, a short distance below the Cahoos Falls. Since the above was written, a manufactory of screws of iron for wood-work, erected on the lower sprout of the Mohawk near the Cahoos bridge, has got into successful operation. Works are about to be added for drawing the wire from which the screws are formed, when the iron will be taken in the bar and manufactured into screws, now made of foreign wire. The machinery is all driven by water, and is said to be very ingenious, the invention of a self-taught artist, Mr. Wm. C. Penniman. Some samples of the screws which I have seen appear to be well formed, and they are cut with great dispatch. These works are owned by an incorporated company with a sufficient capital, and are situated directly opposite Lansingburg, and about two miles below Waterford."

This company was ahead of its time. Its plans were too extensive to survive; the factory was burned in 1827; the corporation failed in 1829, and the property was sold to the Cohoes Company.

While the screw factory was in operation, a new industry was started near the falls. The manufacture of writing paper was commenced in Garret Clute's mill. This building, used at first as a grist-mill, had been afterward employed as a flannel factory on a very small scale. The proprietor of the paper mill was Elisha Sheldon, and a Mr. Ensign was superintendent. Previous to the organization of the Cohoes Company, part of the property of the Cohoes Manufacturing Company fell into the hands of the De Milt brothers, of New York, who erected a small cotton factory. They also had a small factory for the manufacture of shovels and other tools, conducted by Collin & Jones.

THE COHOES COMPANY.

This association was incorporated as a hydraulic manufacturing company, March 28, 1826. Its original incorporated capital was $250,000, which was increased, April 26, 1833, to $500,000. The trustees were: Peter Remsen, Charles E. Dudley, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Jr., Francis Olmstead, Canvass White, Henry J. Wyckoff and David Wilkinson.

Mr. Canvass White appears to have been the originator of this company. He had served as an engineer during the construction of the Erie Canal, and thus first was enabled to appreciate the value of Cohoes Falls as a manufacturing point. He was made the first president of the Cohoes Company, with Mr. Van Rensselaer as vice-president, and Mr. Wyckoff as secretary. This company commenced practical operations by buying a large tract of land of I. D. F. Lansing, for $12,495. Mr. Lansing reserved from the mill privilege, which the above sale included, enough water for four run of stone. Other lands were purchased on the Waterford side above and below the Falls, and also below the Falls on the south side of the river. The company now owns the entire water-power of the river from half a mile above to one mile below the Falls, with a total fall of 120 feet. In the

year 1831 the company built a wooden dam across the river, above the Falls, which was carried away by ice, January 10, 1832. Another dam was immediately constructed below the site of the first, which was partially destroyed by ice in 1839, and rebuilt the same year. The present stone dam, which is the most costly and substantial structure of its kind in the world, was built in 1865. The gate-house, with its head-gates, was completed the year following. The latter edifice is substantially built of brick, and measures 218 feet in length, including its wings and towers. The front tower measures 31 feet in height, and the main tower 43 feet. This dam is 1,443 feet in length, and is built directly below and in connection with the old dam, thus acquiring additional strength. The cost of this dam, with its appurtenances, was $180,000. The engineer of this great work was Wm. E. Worthen, of New York City, assisted by Mr. D. H. Van Auken, the engineer of the company. The contract for its construction was fulfilled by Mr. John Bridgford, of Albany, Mr. T. G. Younglove being the agent of the company at that time. By means of this dam, the entire waters of the Mohawk can be diverted from their natural channel and impressed into the service of the manufacturers. The water runs into and is used from five successive canals. The first of these canals was constructed in 1834, and is one and three-quarters miles long, with a fall of 18 feet. The second, which consists in part of the old Erie Canal, was excavated in 1843, is one-third of a mile long and has a fall of 25 feet. The third is a half a mile in length, with a fall of 23 feet, and was in part constructed in 1843, and part taken from the old Erie Canal and brought into use the same year. The fourth and fifth canals are half a mile each in length, with 20 feet fall, and were completed in the year 1880. As these several canals, occupying different levels, are all connected together, it will be seen that the same water is used six different times. The water is leased by the company at $20 per horse-power per annum, with a quantity of land proportioned to the power taken. That the price charged here is much less than in any other large manufacturing district, is evidenced by the fact that the expenses from this source of some of the largest knitting mills scarcely exceeds $1,000 per year. The available power of the company is estimated at 10,000 horse-power, as used and to be used upon the successive levels and falls above stated. All the manufactories of Cohoes are supplied with water-power by the Cohoes Company, this being the only motor used in the city. For some time after its organization, this company manufactured extensively, in addition to supplying power to others; but, as the industrial interests of the place commenced to develop, the association gradually relinquished manufacturing, and finally confined itself entirely to the furnishing of power.

The present officers are as follows: President, Charles C. Birdseye, of New York City; Treasurer, Wm. E. Thorn, of Cohoes; Secretary, David H. Van Auken.

The office of agent was abolished in 1875, at the end of Mr. T. G. Younglove's term; the business of that office passing into the hands of Mr. Wm. E. Thorn, treasurer, who has the control and management of the affairs of the company at the present time.

NOTE.—The above history of the Cohoes Company was prepared by Mr. D. H. Van Auken, the present secretary.

CHAPTER V.

THE HARMONY MILLS COMPANY.

This company was incorporated in 1836, under the name of the "Harmony Manufacturing Company."

Peter Harmony, a Spanish gentleman of wealth and enterprise, was the founder and the first President of the corporation, and from him the corporate name was taken.

Associated with him were Henry Plunket, Peter Remsen, Francis Olmstead, H. J. Wickoff, P. H. Schenck & Co., Jas. Stevenson, Joseph D. Constant, Wm. Sinclair, Van-Wyck Wickes, Eliphalet Wickes, Le Bron & Ives, Teunis Van Vechten, Joab Houghton, Chas. O. Handy, Francis Griffin, Jacob H. Ten Eyck, Ellis Winne, Jr., Hugh White, Henry Dudley, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Jr., and Benj. Knower, who were among the prominent business men of their time. None of them now survive.

The company bought a tract of land, about a quarter of a mile south of the Cohoes Falls, and in 1837 erected a substantial brick building, 165 feet long, 50 feet wide and four stories high, which, complete, with water-wheels, flumes, etc., cost $72,000.

Three brick blocks were built at the same time, just west of the mill, and divided into tenements, for the use of the operatives.

The mill was equipped with the best cotton machinery then in use, and the manufacture of cotton cloth began under the most favorable circumstances.

The visions of the projectors of the enterprise were colored with anticipated large returns for their investment; but either from bad management or other cause not known to the writer, their bright dreams were dispelled by the bald fact that the balances were invariably on the wrong side of the ledger. Indeed, the only year between 1837 and 1850 when the receipts exceeded the expenditures was in 1838.

Several changes occurred in the ownership, and spasmodic attempts were made to turn the tide of fortune in the right direction until 1850, when, at a compulsory sale, the property was purchased by Garner & Co., of New York, and Alfred Wild, of Kinderhook. The annual product of the mill then was 1,500,000 yards of print-cloth; 700 bales of cotton were consumed and 250 hands employed.

The new proprietors at once placed the entire management of the mill in the hands of Mr. Robert Johnston, who had been in charge of

Nathan Wild's mill at Valatie, New York, for a number of years previous. Mr. Johnston, with a large practical knowledge and a rare intuition, at once grasped the causes of disaster to his predecessors, and began to bring order out of chaos.

His nervous energy and tireless zeal soon banished the sleepy indifference of employers and employees, and a new life became apparent from the beginning of his administration.

The history of the Harmony Mills has stamped upon it the indelible marks of a master mind, and cannot be divorced from the history of Robert Johnston's life work.

He was born in Dalston, England, four miles from Carlisle, near the Scottish border, February 1, 1807. At the age of seven years, Mr. Johnston began working in Dixon's cotton mills at Warwick Bridge, Northumberland, for sixpence a week. In those days the first process, or "opening" of the cotton, was done by women with forked sticks, and when "they had become weary with beating and to sing the cotton, would produce a tinder-box and pipe, strike a light and smoke," without leaving their work-bench." Strange to say, he does not remember a fire resulting from such carelessness. Mr. Johnston was employed in various mills, having become an expert in mule spinning, until 1830, when he came to this country and obtained employment in the Providence Steam Mill, spinning on hand-mules. They had never seen warp spun properly on a mule until he showed them. He afterward worked in a small mill near Providence, where one pair of mules did the work for the mill. While working in this mill, he says, Samuel Slater, the father of American cotton spinning, would sit at the end of his (Johnston's) mules and watch him spinning for hours together. In 1834 he moved to Valatie, Columbia County, New York, and during the 16 years following he had the management of Nathan Wild's cotton mill. While there, in 1838, Mr. Johnston made the first muslin-de-laine ever made in this country; the warps, number 40, being prepared in Mr. Wild's mill, and the worsted (filling) was imported from England in the skein. In Valatie the best wages paid female help at that time in the spinning department was $1.25 per week. Good board was to be had for 75 cents per week.

In 1858 he accepted the offer of Alfred Wild and came to Cohoes, and since that date the prosperity of the Harmony Mills has been wonderful. To-day, 1883, it is the largest and most complete cotton manufacturing establishment in America. Mr. Johnston early associated with himself his son, Hon. D. J. Johnston, who entered the company's office as clerk, at the age of sixteen, and became one of the proprietors in 1866. In 1853 an addition was built on the north end of the old mill, 340 feet long, 70 feet wide and four stories high, with an attic, having a capacity of 30,000 spindles, and employing 500 hands. This, with the old mill, is now designated No. 1. In 1857 the mill known as No. 2 was built about half the size of the original plan, and, after running 20,000 spindles for five years, was extended and enlarged to a capacity of 48,000 spindles, and employing 800 hands. In 1844 the Cohoes Company erected a cotton mill near the south terminus of their hydraulic canal, No. 3, 200 feet long and four stories high, and in 1846 built a similar structure 60 feet north and parallel with the first. These two mills were afterward connected by a central tower 60 x 70 feet, and six stories high, making a building 500 feet long, with a capacity of 32,000 spindles. This mill, now know as the "Ogden," or No. 4, passed through various hands until 1860, when it was purchased by the Harmony Mills Company. It was overhauled and its capacity increased, which, with the original cost, represented an outlay of $450,000. The "Strong" mill, or No. 5, stands at the intersection of Mohawk street and Canal No. 3. The original mill was built in 1849 by Wm. N. Chadwick, father of Remsen and Joseph Chadwick, at present proprietors of the Ontario Knitting Mill.

Mr. Chadwick, as proprietor, ran the mill for about ten years, with varied success, when it passed into the hands of the Suarez family, Spaniards, and successors to the estate of Peter Harmony. The Harmony Mills Company purchased the mill in 1865, and remodeled and enlarged it at a cost of $100,000. In 1873 it was further enlarged to a capacity of 13,000 spindles.

The north wing of the "Mastodon," or No. 3 mill, was built in 1866–7. In excavating for the foundation at the north end, a large "pot hole" was found in the bed of what had once been a stream of water. The "pot hole" was very deep, filled with peat, and at its bottom, 60 feet below the surface of the street, was found the almost perfect skeleton of a mastodon mammoth of a former age. The bones were carefully exhumed and presented to the State. They are now mounted and on exhibition at the Geological Hall in Albany. The south wing of the mill was built in 1872. The whole comprises a large central tower surmounting and connecting the two wings and forming one continuous building, 1,185 feet long, 76 feet wide and five stories high, with a mansard roof. The central tower is eight stories high and terminates in four smaller towers, 128 feet in height. There are four smaller towers, each 128 feet in height, equidistant on the wings. The main entrance is through a massive stone arch under the central tower. This tower or connection between the wings is 70 x 76 feet, and is absolutely fireproof, no wood having been used in any part of the construction except the floors. The entire mill is constructed of the best material, and in the most substantial manner. For its foundation, 25,000 cubic yards of rock were excavated, and 7,000 yards of stone used. In the superstructure there are 9,000,000 bricks, 6,000 yards of sand, 35,000 bushels of lime, 900,000 feet of pine timber, and 1,800,000 hemlock, 800,000 feet Georgia pine flooring, 500,000 feet pine ceiling, 1,100 kegs of nails, 1,000 tons of cast and wrought iron, 13 miles of steam and gas pipe, 5 miles of shafting, and 13 miles of belting. The machinery is driven by five turbine wheels, each sixty inches in diameter, and aggregating 2,100 horse-power, and weigh-

ing, complete, with main pulleys, jack shaft and gears, 136 tons. Three of the wheels drive the machinery in the north wing, and the other two that in the south wing. Five cast-iron cylinders, eight feet in diameter, convey the water from the bulkhead to the wheels, with a fall of twenty-one feet. Snow's Automatic Governor, built at the Cohoes Iron Foundry and Machine Shop, regulates the supply of water. The wheels and their appurtenances were built by the Ames Manufacturing Company, Chicopee, Mass. The immense belts which connect the jack shaft with the main line on each floor are double, and two feet wide. The longest belt, reaching to the fifth floor, is nearly 200 feet long. Two large rotary pumps are so placed in each wheel pit that, by a slight movement of the gears, they can be set in motion and distribute water to every part of the mill at the rate of 156,000 gallons per hour. The mill is filled with the latest improved and most perfect cotton machinery in the world. The self-acting mules, of which there are 110, and all the carding machinery, from the "openers" to the "speeders," are of English make.

The looms, 2,700, were made at Stockport, N. Y. Of the warp spinning frames, 351 in number, 161 were built at Whitinsville, Mass.; 55 at Taunton, Mass.; 55 at Rhinebeck, N. Y., and 80 in England. The yarn is "sized" in six improved "slashers," or dressing frames. Two of them can each dress two beams at once, and were made in England. The other four, together with others in the different mills, were built by the Cohoes Iron Foundry and Machine Company. This department of cotton manufacture has made rapid strides in improvement during the last thirteen years.

When the Harmony Company purchased the "Ogden" mill, in 1860, the dressing was done on the "Reynolds" frame, and the number of frames necessary to dress this yarn for 400 looms occupied the whole of the attic story of the mill. The average day's work then was about 90 cuts. To-day, six frames, occupying a space about 75 x 75 feet, dress all the yarn necessary to keep 2,700 looms in operation. The frames can average on standard work, 56 x 60, a cut of fifty yards every minute. This immense mill contains 130,000 spindles, produces 100,000 yards of cloth every sixty hours, and is the most complete in all its appointments of any cotton mill in the world.

In 1872 the company purchased the paper mill just south of No. 2 mill, which Chas. Van Benthuysen & Sons had operated for many years. It was enlarged, a mansard roof placed over it, and a fine tower built at the south end, making a building 250 feet long, 60 feet wide and four stories high. It is now filled with machinery and engaged in the manufacture of seamless cotton bags. Under this mill, there is an artesian well, 2,100 feet deep, sunk by the Van Benthuysens, to get pure water for the manufacture of white paper. They did not find the water. The company also operated for a number of years, up to 1872, a small mill, at the head of Remsen street, on canal No. 4. It was known as the Egbert mill, and was owned by Charles H. Adams. In the year above stated, the machinery was taken out and removed to the Strong Mill. In 1871 the company began the manufacture of jute sacking for the baling of cotton; but it did not prove remunerative, and the machinery was sold and removed to Akron, Ohio. The Harmony Company has been remarkably fortunate in the item of loss by fire. Every safeguard is employed to prevent disaster in this direction; the mills are thoroughly equipped with appliances to cope successfully with this dreaded enemy. The Providence Steam and Gaspipe Company are now engaged in placing Grinneld's automatic fire extinguishers in every room in the mills, at a cost of over $30,000. These extinguishers release the water at a temperature of 155°. Twelve large boilers, from 80 to 100 horse-power each, located in the different mills, furnish the steam for drying the yarn in summer and heating the mills in winter. About 3,500 tons of egg coal are consumed. Large repair shops for machinery, carpenter work, painting, etc., employ an army of operatives, in keeping in first-class condition the efficiency of the large corporation. Two large storehouses are located on the leading lines of railroad entering the city, which have a storing capacity of 6,000 bales of cotton. The cotton consumed yearly by the six mills will aggregate 25,000 bales, from which 80,000,000 yards of cloth are produced.

Garner & Company also operate mills in the following places:

Rochester Steam Mill, Rochester, N. Y.; 9,800 spindles, 231 looms.

Newburg Steam Mill, Newburg, N. Y.; 20,000 spindles, 500 looms.

Pleasant Valley Mill, 70 looms, 3,020 spindles.

Franklindale Mill, at Wappingers Falls, N. Y.; 10,000 spindles, 200 looms.

Reading Cotton Mills, Reading, Penn.; 15,000 spindles, 600 looms.

Little Falls Cotton Mill, 5,600 spindles, 220 looms.

They also run the large print works at Wappingers Falls and Rockland, N. Y., operating in both places forty printing machines, one-seventh of all there are in the country, and capable of printing 150,000,000 yards a year. The aggregate number of spindles operated by Garner & Co. is about 380,000, and 7,400 looms, which will produce in standard cloth, 56 by 60, 375,000 yards every ten hours, or 116,250,000 every year; 33,000 bales, or 17,000,000 lbs. of cotton, are consumed. In a niche on the front of the central tower of No. 3 mill, seventy feet from the ground, is a colossal bronze statue of the late Thomas Garner, the founder and principal stockholder of the Harmony Mills Company. It was cast by the Ames Manufacturing Company, of Chicopee, Mass., from a model made by Millmore, the celebrated artist of Boston. Mr. Garner died, October, 1867. As an evidence of the perfect confidence he had in the management of the mills, it may be stated that his visits to Cohoes were very rare, not averaging once a year during his ownership. He was not here at any time while No. 3 mill was building, and all that he

ever saw of that magnificent result of his money and enterprise were the photographs taken when the building was finished. Mr. Garner was born in England, in 1805, and came to this country in 1832. He was a poor boy and, when very young, labored in the coal mines, at New Castle. He was succeeded in the presidency of the company by his son, William T. Garner, a young man who inherited, to a marked degree, the business talent of his father. His business career came to a sudden and terrible end, June 20, 1876, by the capsizing of the yacht "Mohawk," when Mr. and Mrs. Garner and three other persons were drowned. In 1867 Alfred Wild retired from the company, and was succeeded as agent by Wm. E. Thorn, of New York, who also became one of the proprietors and a resident of Cohoes.

After the death of William T. Garner, Samuel W. Johnson, his brother-in-law, and one of the firm, was elected to the position of president, residing at Wappingers Falls, where the print works are located. Samuel W. Johnson, Wm. E. Thorn and John Lawrence were the executors of William T. Garner's will. The will devised all of Mr. Garner's property in trust to his three daughters, the eldest of whom, Florence, is now 16 years of age. December 9, 1881, while S. W. Johnson was duck-shooting on Long Island, he received injuries from the premature discharge of his gun that resulted in his death, four days later, December 13, 1881.

John Lawrence, of New York, was elected president of the company, May, 1882, and still occupies that position. One thing that has contributed largely to the success and prosperity of the Harmony Mills is the interest that has always been manifested in the moral and physical welfare of their employees. During the years 1866–7–8, nearly $300,000 was expended in erecting tenement houses, grading streets and sidewalks, planting shade trees and making other improvements that have transformed what was a grainfield in 1865 into a thriving village of 6,000 people in 1869. The streets are 80 feet wide, with a 40-foot roadway, macadamized. The sidewalks are of asphalt, 10 feet wide, with a bit of turf or a bed of flowers, inclosed by a neat picket fence, between the houses and the walk.

A person once speaking of the care exercised by the Harmony Company said: "Cleanliness seems to be epidemic here." And it is true both in the mills and out. No refuse matter or garbage is permitted to be thrown in the streets or alleys. Men are constantly employed, each one having a special district under his care, cleaning the streets and removing the garbage. There is a complete system of drainage by which every cellar, vault and hydrant well is drained.

There are 700 tenements, with from four to ten rooms each. The rents range from three to eight dollars per four weeks. The tenements that the company rent for eight dollars would be in demand at twenty dollars per month if outside parties were permitted to rent them. No family is allowed to reside in any of the tenements that is not in the employ of the company. The rent is collected at the office by deducting the amount from the pay of the employee.

Located over the office is a commodious hall, the finest in the city, 40 x 100 feet, with a seating capacity of 800. It is nicely frescoed and furnished with pictures, maps, and an excellent organ. At 9 A. M. every Sabbath the Harmony Union Sunday School meets in this hall. The school was established twenty-eight years ago as a mission school, and still retains that distinctive feature, the teachers and scholars coming from all the denominations in the city. Mr. David J. Johnston is now and has been the superintendent of this school most of the time since its organization. The last report of the secretary gives the following statistics: Number of members admitted during the year, 184; present number of members, 548; whole number admitted since organization, 4,492.

Everywhere about the works order prevails, and the company maintain in the mills, in the shops, and indeed throughout the whole corporation, the discipline of a well-trained army corps. There are 4,000 hands employed by the company in Cohoes; and it is safe to say there are as many at home as there are at work, so that at least 8,000 persons get their support directly from labor performed in the Harmony Mills.

Since 1879 the print-cloth trade has been laboring under a severe depression, and during a part of that year, and for the two years following, the company barely paid expenses. In April, 1882, with cloth at $3\frac{7}{8}$ cents per yard, and cotton at $12\frac{1}{4}$ cents per pound, two weeks' notice was given that from April 24 there would be a reduction of 10 per cent. in the wages. The hands resolved to resist the reduction, and on April 26, when the bells rang, no one appeared to go to work. For eighteen weeks the whirr of the spindles and the click of the looms were silenced, with the exception of a few days, when spasmodic attempts were made to resume. The hands finally returned to work on the company's terms. It is a noticeable fact that, during the stoppage of the mills, the volume of print-cloths in the market increased from 200,000 to 700,000 pieces, and when the mills resumed operations cloth was lower and cotton higher than when they shut down. The hands lost, during the stoppage of eighteen weeks, $340,000 in wages. The mechanics and laborers were kept at work, and many improvements were made. The most serious loss to the company by the strike was the scattering of disciplined help to other manufacturing places in the country. However, the majority who went away found the rose-colored statements of phenomenal wages were not true, and in six months after the resumption of work in the mills here every spindle and loom was in motion again.

In February, 1881, the hands made a demand for 10 per cent advance and one hour for dinner. The demand was refused, and on the 26th they struck. After remaining out ten days the company offered fifty minutes for dinner and 10 per cent. advance. The offer was accepted, and the

hands resumed their work, March 8. The strike of 1862 was the only serious disagreement that has ever occurred between the Harmony Company and their employees. Differences have always been adjusted directly between the hands and the management. Outside parties have been listened to, and politely dismissed, with the assurance that the company were perfectly competent to manage their business.

The present officers of the company are: President, John Lawrence; Agent, Wm. E. Thorn; General Manager, Robert Johnston; Superintendent, D. J. Johnston; Paymaster, W. S. Smith.

The New York office is at No. 6 Worth street.

NOTE.—The above sketch of the Harmony Mills Company was made for this History by Mr. Silas Owen, at the request of Mr. David J. Johnston.

CHAPTER VI.

COHOES KNITTING MANUFACTORIES.

The father of the knitting business in this country was Mr. Egbert Egberts. While living in Albany, N. Y., in the year 1831, he became interested in the progress of making knit goods. Here he made his primary experiments in the construction of a knitting frame to be operated by power. But he needed a more practical mechanic to make the work a success. A certain Dr. Williams, of Albany, suggested to Mr. Egberts that young Timothy Bailey was a person who had the necessary ability for such work. Mr. Bailey was then working in a manufacturing establishment in Albany. Mr. Egbert secured the services of young Bailey, who soon saw what was needed. He built, first, a wooden frame which, when turned by hand, accomplished in a small way what Mr. Egberts desired. The knitting machine had already been invented. One was purchased in Philadelphia by Mr. Bailey and brought to Albany, and his contrivance was applied, so as to produce knit goods by turning a crank. The next step was for Egberts & Bailey to remove to Cohoes. About this time (1832) Mr. Joshua Bailey became interested in the new invention. The new machine was arranged to run by water-power. Soon eight of these machines were constructed by Mr. Timothy Bailey and set in motion. The next step was to commence carding and spinning, thus preparing their own yarn. In this way the foundation was laid for the extensive knit-goods business, which is no longer confined to Cohoes, but is an industry of great importance to the whole country.

For some time the new invention was kept a secret. The doors were fastened by spring locks. Even Gen. George S. Bradford, who ran the mill by contract, was compelled to make an agreement that he should not enter the knitting room. Timothy Bailey and the foreman who worked with him were the only persons who understood the machines. The mill where this work first began was on the ditch just north of the present Erie Mill, and then it was removed to the building near the one now occupied by the Troy Manufacturing Company.

The next knitting mill erected was by Mr. Egberts, on the corner of Remsen and Factory streets, in the year 1850. By this time the success of this business was fully assured and recognized.

In 1852 Thomas Fowler placed knitting machinery in the building formerly occupied by Timothy Bailey, and in the same year Mr. Egberts transferred his mill to Charles H. Adams. Mr. Bailey organized a manufacturing company about the same time; so that in 1853 there were three knitting mills in Cohoes, employing 750 hands and producing 45,000 dozen goods annually. Mr. Adams occupied the "Watervliet Mill" till 1862, when he leased the building to Alden, Frink & Weston, and built on Ontario street. But time and space would fail to tell of all the new enterprises and changes in the knitting business of Cohoes from the advent of Egberts & Bailey until now. At present there are 25 knitting mills in operation in the city, with 177 sets of cards, 595 knitting cylinders, and 4,140 operators. The following is believed to be a complete list, at the date of this writing, December 1, 1883:

The Ranken Knitting Company, Henry S. Ranken, treasurer, has 16 sets of cards and 23 knitting tables. The goods manufactured are shirts and drawers, 16 to 24 gauge, white, with 400 employees.

J. H. Parsons & Co. 15 sets of cards, 25 tables of knitting machinery, producing ladies' and children's shirts and drawers; 425 employees.

Tivoli Hosiery Mills, established by Josiah G. Root in 1855. In 1863 the firm became J. G. Root & Sons. From 1869 to 1874 the firm was J. G. Root's Sons; from 1874 to the present time the firm has been The Root Manufacturing Company. There are 18 sets of machinery, 72 knitting cylinders, 470 employees. The yearly product is worth from $900,000 to $1,000,000. Andrew J. Root, treasurer.

The Star Knitting Company. 9 sets of cards, 12 knitting tables, or 24 cylinders, producing ladies' and gentlemen's all wool and merino shirts and drawers, 16 to 24 gauge; 175 employees.

Empire Mill, J. A. Nuttall, proprietor. 7 sets of cards and 11 tables of knitting machinery, making shirts and drawers, 16, 18 and 20 gauge; 125 employees.

Globe Mill, LeRoy & Lamb, proprietors. 10 sets of cards, producing shirts and drawers for ladies and gentlemen, 16 and 20 gauge, white; 27 knitting cylinders, 190 employees. Yearly product, 46,000 dozen. This firm commenced operations in 1872. Mr. Lamb died in January, 1885.

Standard Hosiery Mill, Newman & Adams, proprietors. 3 sets 60-inch cards, producing scarlet shirts and drawers, wool, for ladies and gentlemen, 14, 16, 18 and 20 gauge.

Atlantic Mill, Horrocks & Van Benthuysen, proprietors. 6 sets of cards, 9 tables of knitters, 19 cylinders, 120 employees. Makes ladies' white vests and pants, 20 gauge.

Ontario Knitting Mill, Chadwick & Co., proprietors. 6 sets of cards, 7 tables of knitters, 15 cyl-

inders, 200 employees; makes men's shirts and drawers.

Egbert's Woolen Mill, run by Mr. Charles H. Adams from 1863 to 1870. Mr. Adams still owns the building and machinery. The mill was operated by Mr. John Wakeman from 1870 to 1881. Present proprietors, Neil & McDowell. 6 sets of cards, 21 knitting cylinders, 140 hands; yearly production, 35,000 dozen; fine underwear; 20-gauge goods; monthly pay-roll, $4,500; value of annual production, $125,000.

Troy Manufacturing Company, J. V. S. Lansing, treasurer. 10 sets of cards and 14 tables of knitting machinery, 28 cylinders, 250 employees; makes shirts and drawers, merino and all wool, white, 16 to 20 gauge.

Elk Mill, A. Paul, proprietor. Mr. Paul buys his yarn; has six knitting tables and 13 cylinders, 50 hands; makes ladies' and gents' white shirts and drawers, 16 and 20 gauge.

Riverside Mill, H. S. Bogue, proprietor. 10 sets of cards, 24 knitting cylinders, 200 hands; makes white shirts and drawers, wool, cotton and merino, principally 20 gauge.

Granite Mill, Wm. Moore, proprietor. 8 sets of cards and 12 tables of knitters; makes ladies' and gents' white shirts and drawers, 18 and 20 gauge; 150 employees.

Pacific Hosiery Mills, Clark & Holsapple, proprietors. 4 sets of cards, 7 tables of knitters, 16 cylinders, 70 employees; make merino shirts and drawers, 12 to 19 gauge, white.

Kensington Mills, Root & Waterman, proprietors. 7 sets of cards, 11 tables, with 22 cylinders, 150 employees, producing ladies', gents' and children's wool and merino white shirts and drawers, 12 to 22 gauge.

Erie Mill, M. E. Moore & Co., proprietors. 6 sets of machinery, 8 tables, with 18 cylinders, and 150 employees, producing merino shirts and drawers, white, 20 gauge.

American Hosiery Mill, Gregory & Hiller, proprietors. 6 sets of cards, 18 cylinders, 90 employees; gents' merino, white and mixed, shirts and drawers, 14, 16 and 18 gauge.

Crown Knitting Mill, Thompson & Lefferts, proprietors. This firm buys its yarn; they have 3 tables of knitting machinery and 6 cylinders and 40 employees; make ladies' white merino vests, 16 gauge.

W. H. & D. Aiken have 3 sets of cards, 9 knitting cylinders and 60 employees; they make white vests and pants, 20 gauge.

Anchor Hosiery Mill, C. F. North & Doyle, proprietors; has 6 sets of cards, 13 tables, 28 cylinders, with 160 employees, producing ladies' and children's white underwear, 18 gauge.

Eclipse Mill, Wood, Pierce & Co. This firm buys the yarn to run 4 tables and 8 cylinders; they have 60 employees, making ladies' white underwear, 20 gauge.

Enterprise Mill, John Scott & Son, proprietors. 10 sets of cards, 14 knitting tables, 30 cylinders, 235 hands; makes ladies' and gents' white underwear, 16 and 20 gauge.

Brockway & Knott have 2 sets of cards and 11 cylinders, and produce ladies' and gents' all-wool scarlet underwear, 18 gauge.

Victor Knitting Mills Company, Brooks, Silliman & Aiken, proprietors. The mill is owned by the estate of Henry Brockway, who ran it from 1860 to 1880; the machinery is owned by the present proprietors; there are nine sets of cards and 24 knitting cylinders, operated by 250 employees; the monthly pay-roll is $8,000; the yearly product amounts to about $750,000.

This knitting industry is one of the chief elements in the prosperity of Cohoes. About $1,600,000 are paid out here annually to employees in this branch of business, and every year shows a marked increase in the amount of the product, as well as in the quality of the goods manufactured. In 30 years the number of mills has increased from 3 to 25 in Cohoes alone, and the number of hands employed has increased in the same time from 750 to 4,140.

CHAPTER VII.

OTHER MANUFACTORIES.

* *Cohoes Axes and Edge Tools.*—Just fifty years ago the foundation for the present extensive manufacture of axes and edge tools in Cohoes was laid, and one year later the first establishment was in successful operation. The business has gradually developed, until it forms one of the most important branches of the manufactures of Cohoes. Daniel Simmons, the pioneer in the business, began life as a blacksmith, and had a forge in the lower part of the City of Albany, where he commenced making axes by hand for an occasional customer, using for the cutting edges German or blister steel, which was then supposed to be the only kind that could be successfully welded to iron. About 1825 it was found that, by the use of refined borax as a flux, cast steel could be made to answer the purpose, and Mr. Simmons promptly took advantage of the discovery, being one of the first to put it to practical use. His axes soon became favorably known, and the demand for them was so increased that greater facilities for production became necessary. Accordingly, in 1826, he removed to Berne, Albany County, where he secured a small water-power, erected rude buildings and put up trip-hammers and other machinery. In time these accommodations proved insufficient, and Mr. Simmons came to Cohoes, where he founded the establishment, one of the earliest in the country, which, under successful management, became known through all parts of the globe.

The second ax and edge tool factory was started in 1843 by White, Olmsted & Co. This establishment continued until the failure of Miles White, in 1857. The business was then closed out, and the buildings in which it was conducted were destroyed by fire on the 8th of May, 1858.

The third ax and edge tool establishment was started in 1863 by Alden, Frink and Weston, under

* Prepared by Mr. James H Masten.

the firm name of W. J. Ten Eyck & Co., a building erected by Jonas Simmons on the site of the present rolling mill having been purchased by them. This concern was extensively enlarged in 1864, and continued in operation until 1866, when Alden, Frink and Weston failed. On the suspension of this firm, a new company was organized, known as the "Ten Eyck Manufacturing Company," with the following officers: David Cowee, president; George R. Seymour, treasurer; R. H. Thompson, secretary, and W. J. Ten Eyck, superintendent. This company closed business in 1872, and in the following year the factory was taken by Williams, Ryan & Jones, and they were soon after succeeded by Sheehan, Jones & Ryan. In January, 1873, the factory was consumed by fire. John L. Thompson, of Troy, lost on buildings $20,000, of which $9,000 was insured. The loss of the firm was from $6,000 to $8,000 on manufactured goods.

Messrs. Sheehan, Jones & Ryan moved into the pipe factory building on Saratoga street. Mr. Sheehan withdrew from the firm, and Jones & Ryan continued. July 1, 1874, there was still another change in the firm, which was then styled M. H. Jones & Co. This firm name continued until shortly before the death of Mr. Jones. Since then A. G. Peck & Co. have carried on the business, which is very extensive and constantly increasing.

The fourth venture in this line of manufacture was by the second Ten Eyck Manufacturing Company, established in February, 1876, with a capital of $30,000, with the following partners: Abram, Albert, and Jonas S. Ten Eyck; and D. H. Clute, Cohoes; George Carrigan, Bayonne, N. J.

Their works were located on Saratoga street, near the extreme southern boundary of the city, and consisted of a building 100 x 32 feet, containing forge shop and polishing shop; and two wings, each 60 feet long, containing tempering shop, blacksmith shop, etc. The works were run by a 40-horse-power steam engine. The firm continued business until October, 1877, when it suspended, and their works remained idle until March, 1880, when the Cohoes Ax Manufacturing Company, a new firm, was formed, composed of George Campbell, John Clute, J. H. Parsons, Wm. S. Gilbert and Ethan Rogers. The new company brought energy, skill and the necessary capital into the concern to make it successful, and it now ranks among the most prosperous establishments of the kind in the country.

Cohoes Rolling Mill.—In 1856 the Cohoes Rolling Mill was erected to make iron and steel for the ax factory of D. Simmons & Co. In 1863 Jonas Simmons and E. N. Page formed a copartnership, and constructed one single puddling furnace and one heating furnace. The puddling furnace was soon doubled, and the capacity was 12 tons finished iron in 24 hours.

March 11, 1865, James Morrison bought out Mr. Simmons, and the present firm of Morrison, Colwell & Page was formed. Under the new management the works rapidly grew until the fire of January 5, 1883, when they had ten double puddling furnaces, one scrap furnace and four heating furnaces; also, six ax-poll machines. These ax machines and the royalty thereon cost $65,000. They were bought in 1867, and they have a capacity of 3,000 ax-polls in ten hours. The works were reconstructed immediately after the fire, in the early summer of 1883, from sections of the main Centennial building, Philadelphia, all iron and glass. The finishing and ax-poll department is 280 feet long and 180 feet wide. The main columns are 35 feet high; truss roof.

The puddle mill is 70 by 250 feet, with wing 80 by 70. The shear shop is 30 by 60 feet, two stories high.

The new mill has been arranged with special reference to convenience in handling the iron as it passes from process to process. They have now twelve double furnaces, two scrap furnaces, seven heating furnaces, one 20-inch roll-train, 25 feet fly wheel; one 16-inch roll-train, 20 feet fly wheel; one 10-inch roll-train, 16 feet fly wheel; one 20-inch roll-train, 23 feet fly wheel.

The principal motor power used is water, supplemented by a 100-horse-power steam engine, which drives two large Sturtevant fan blowers, which convey blast to the furnaces; also a 25-horse-power engine which drives the ax-poll machines, shears, shafting, etc.

The capacity of the mill now is from 25,000 to 30,000 tons of finished iron annually, using 60,000 tons of coal (bituminous), about 20,000 tons pig iron, 5,000 tons scrap iron, and large quantities of ore, fire brick, fire sand, etc. These are received on Delaware and Hudson Canal Company Railroad and by Champlain Canal, which delivers at the rolling mill docks.

The iron used is principally from Port Henry, Hudson River and Pennsylvania. The iron made is of very superior quality, principally intended for making axes, adzes, butts, hinges and axles. They also supply the Cohoes tube works with a superior grade of skelp iron for making gas, water and steam pipe.

E. N. Page, the superintendent, was born in Birmingham, England. His experience in a rolling mill was with E. Page & Sons, at Rolnay, England. He came to America in 1848, being twenty-two years of age, and received his training here with Horace Grace & Co. at South Boston, and Glendon Iron Company, East Boston.

He then became mill manager for Wm. E. Coffin & Co., Pembroke Iron Works, Maine. He remained there eight years. Then he became superintendent of Burden's steam mill, Troy, N. Y., where he remained one year. He then formed a copartnership with Mr. Simmons, as above stated. Mr. Page is, without doubt, one of the best iron makers in this country. The present firm consists of James Morrison, Thomas Colwell and E. N. Page.

Manufactory of Wrought Iron and Galvanized Pipe.—In January, 1872, B. T. Benton and James Morehead, of Brooklyn, A. B. Wood, of New York, and James Morrison and Thomas Colwell, of Troy, N. Y., formed a copartnership, under the

name of the Empire Tube Works, for the purpose of manufacturing wrought iron pipe. During the summer and fall of that year they built the mill located on the west side of North Saratoga street at its junction with the Mohawk River. Their plant consisted of three butt-weld furnaces and one skelping furnace, with all the latest improved machinery and appliances for making wrought iron pipe, and cost $52,000. They commenced making pipe in the winter of 1873, but were hardly well started when Mr. Benton died. The company then rented the mill to Albert Smith, of New York, and James Morehead, of Brooklyn, who formed a copartnership under the firm name of Albert Smith & Co., and immediately began manufacturing. Owing to the depressed condition of the pipe business at this time, they were only moderately successful, and they dissolved partnership May 1, 1874, Mr. Morehead retiring. Aberdeen G. Curtis, of Troy, N. Y., at this time bought an interest in the firm and assumed charge of the manufacturing department. They continued the business with good success until May 1, 1876. At that time a wrought iron pipe combination was formed, which succeeded in renting the mill from its owners for the purpose of closing it, to prevent competition.

The firm of Albert Smith & Co. immediately sought a new location, and July 13, 1876, Mr. Curtis bought the lease of the ground formerly occupied by the old Ten Eyck ax factory, directly west of the Cohoes rolling mill, and with characteristic energy commenced building their new mill. He was materially assisted in its construction by E. N. Page, of the rolling mill, and by their united efforts, continuing the work day and night, it was finished, and pipe making began just three months after the purchase of the lease. The new plant embraced two butt-weld furnaces and one skelping furnace, and although apparently of less capacity than the other, was really larger, as the mill was arranged much more conveniently, and a great saving of labor was caused by this. From this time until January 16, 1880, the business was carried on with only moderate success. All branches of the iron business were extremely depressed. At this point James Morrison, of the rolling mill, bought out the interest of Albert Smith, and the firm became known as A. G. Curtis & Co. By this change new life was infused into all departments of the business, favored by the returning prosperity of iron trade, and with increased capital and experience, the business began to grow with rapid strides. A third welding furnace was built on a new and improved plan, the other two were remodeled and all the machinery improved and put in the best possible order. A great many new machines were added. The pipe made by the firm became noted for its quality, and rapidly gained a preference in the market over all others. The iron used is made by the Cohoes Rolling Mill with special reference to pipe making, and is noted for its excellence.

On the 25th of January, 1883, Mr. Curtis died at Palatka, Florida, where he had been in the habit of going in the winter for his health. His death was a great loss to the firm.

This event made it necessary to reorganize the firm, and it took the present name of Curtis & Co., and consists of James Morrison, Henry Aird and Mary M. Curtis. Mr. Aird became connected with the firm, January 1, 1878, as foreman. He soon mastered the entire details of the business, whether financial or pertaining to the process of manufacturing, and was better prepared to take the entire charge after the death of Mr. Curtis than any other man. The annual product of the mill is now in excess of $500,000, using about 9,000 tons of skelp iron, 5,000 tons of Lehigh coal, and large quantities of other raw material annually. In addition to their manufacturing department, they are large jobbers of wrought iron pipe of sizes larger than they manufacture; also a full line of malleable and cast iron fittings, globe valves, etc., etc. They also manufacture large quantities of nipples, employing nine Sander's pipe-cutting and threading machines in this department alone. Any thing needed by gas-fitters or steam-heating companies can be found in this department. The aim of this firm is to make the very best grade in the market, and they have thus far succeeded in accomplishing their purpose. Prepared by Mr. Henry Aird.

Machine Shop of Campbell & Clute.—The firm of Campbell & Clute was formed January 1, 1863, by Mr. George Campbell and Mr. John Clute, both practical and enterprising mechanics. They commenced business opposite the Harmony Hotel, where they still remain. They now occupy a very commodious building, four stories high, erected by themselves in 1873.

Their specialty is knitting machinery. They employ fifty-five men, and their monthly pay-roll is $2,500. Their annual production is valued at $100,000.

Mr. Clute has lately perfected a machine for knitting silk, making a beautiful and durable fabric; also a machine for knitting worsted, producing a grade of cloth which may properly be used for outside garments, and both partners of this firm are having handsome overcoats made, which were knit by their own hands and with their own machinery.

Cohoes Iron Foundry and Machine Company.—These works were commenced in 1868 by William T. Horrobin, in a building erected for the purpose east of the Saratoga Railroad, where they are still located. In 1877 the business came under the control of Mr. Robert Johnston, who is the present proprietor.

Mr. Warren J. Kellogg is the general manager. This establishment makes cotton machinery, and specially, machinery for dressing cotton warps, elevators, water-wheel governors (Snow patent), portable forges (Kellogg patent), shafting, pulleys, etc.

At these works 150 hands are employed. The monthly pay-roll is $5,000.

The annual production is $150,000.

Tubbs & Humphreys' Machine Shop and Foundry.—This business was established in 1873 by Tubbs & Severson. Mr. Severson retired in 1878. J. W.

Tubbs then carried on the business alone two years. The firm then became Tubbs & Humphreys. They occupy a large building on Cortland street, east of the Miller House. This building was erected by Harris Brothers in 1868, and was used by them for the manufacture of pins. Mr. Tubbs bought the building in 1877. Tubbs & Humphreys manufacture knitting machinery and burrs, shafting, hangers, pulleys, patent elevators, brick sanding machines and brushing machines, and do general machine work; they employ 40 hands, with a monthly pay-roll of $1,600. In the same building there is also a needle shop, Dawson & Lennox, proprietors, employing 10 hands. There is also in this building a reed and harness shop, Friel & Cosgro, proprietors, employing 6 hands. Luke Cavanaugh has a burr shop in the same building. Thompson & Lefferts' knitting mill is also in this building.

John McCreary's Machine Shop, established in 1874, is located in Campbell & Clute's building, Mohawk street. He makes pin machinery, brushing and napping machines, lubricators, sewing-machine attachments, and does general machine work; he employs 8 men, and has a monthly pay-roll of $450.

Paper Box Factories.—1. Cohoes Paper Box Factory, established August 1, 1864, Isaac Clute, agent, employs 60 hands; monthly pay-roll, $1,500; annual product, 950,000 boxes; in Campbell & Clute's building, Mohawk street.

2. Paper Box Factory of C. F. North, formerly conducted by D. M. Morris, employs 35 hands; in North's building, Mohawk street, opposite Harmony Hotel. This factory was established in 1865.

3. Paper Box Factory of M. A. Pennock, established 1868, employs 17 hands; on Factory street, near Post-office; makes all kinds of paper boxes; also carries on large business at Pittsfield, Mass.

4. John Leggett, Paper Box Factory, Ontario street, Van Schaick's Island; does a large business, both in Cohoes and Troy.

Sash and Blind.—Abner J. Griffin commenced business in Cohoes in 1858; he occupies the building, erected by himself, at the junction of Mohawk and Remsen streets; he makes sash, blinds, doors, moldings, etc., and employs 12 hands; B. R. Peck is the foreman; the annual product is $30,000.

Furniture Factory.—In Mr. Griffin's building, J. & G. Fisher carry on a furniture factory, and employ 12 hands.

Bobbin Shop.—Also in the same building, D. W. Dodge has a bobbin shop, and employs 5 hands.

Knitting Needle Factory.—In the same building as above, Jones & Goynes manufacture spring knitting needles and points, and also temper burr wings.

The American Soap Company.—This business was established in Cohoes, in 1861, by M. E. Wilson & Co., of Troy. The building is east of the Saratoga Railroad, on Oneida street.

Cotton Batt Factories.—Walker & Williams manufacture cotton batts on the Mohawk, east of the Strong Mill. The business was commenced in 1874; they have 2 cards, 7 pickers and 2 Garnett machines, and employ 25 hands; monthly pay-roll, $600; they make 15,000 pounds of batts per week and 12,000 pounds of Garnetted stock, wool, for knitting mills.

D. Lowenthal also has a Cotton Batt factory, same location as above. He runs 3 cards and 3 pickers, employs 6 men, and makes 15,000 pounds a week.

P. Carroll, in the same vicinity, also makes cotton batts, with four cards. He commenced business in 1880. He employs five men and turns out about 3,500 pounds a week.

Lamp Black Factory.—This is a branch of the Glenwood Chemical Works, Troy; established in Cohoes, 1883; James A. Eddy, proprietor. Mr. Eddy erected the building, 40 x 50 feet, three stories high, north of the Strong Mill, and gives the whole business his personal supervision.

CHAPTER VIII.

CHURCHES.

St. John's Episcopal Church.—On Monday, May 2, A. D. 1831, a meeting of churchmen was held in the school-house of District No. 5, at which the parish of St. John's was organized. David Wilkinson and Hugh White were elected Church Wardens, and Hezakiah Howe, Otis Sprague, Albert S. Wilkinson, James Faulkner, John Vanderwerken, Matthias Williams, Samuel H. Baldwin and Luther M. Tracy were chosen Vestrymen. On the 12th of May, fifth Sunday after Easter, the new church building, the first of any name in Cohoes, was consecrated by the Right Rev. B. F. Onderdonk, Bishop of New York. The building stood on the south side of Oneida street, between Mohawk and Remsen streets. The ground was 100 feet square and was given by the Cohoes Company. For the first ten years, the services were supplied by the rectors of Waterford, Mr. Clark and the Rev. Cyrus Stebbins. The first rector of St. John's was the Rev. David I. Burger. He was succeeded the same year (1841) by the Rev. E. G. Edwards, who was succeeded, in 1844, by the Rev. John Breckenridge Gibson. Mr. Gibson's rectorship is made especially noteworthy, by the building, at his own expense, of a school-house and the establishment of a parish school in 1846. Mr. Gibson was succeeded by the Rev. John Shackeford in 1848, and he by the Rev. James Adams in 1850, who was succeeded by the Rev. Theodore Babcock, in 1853. Mr. Babcock resigned in November, 1857, and the rectorship was vacant until February, 1859, when the Rev. Alpheus Spor entered upon the duties. The church was enlarged the same year. In January, 1863, the Rev. J. H. H. Brown was called to the rectorship, and in April of this year, a committee was appointed to take into consideration the erection of a new church. The corner stone of the new church was laid by the Right Rev. Wm. Crosswell Doane, Bishop of Albany, on the 9th day of June, 1870, and the building was opened for divine

service, June 18, 1871, all seats therein being free. The church is situated at the intersection of Canvass and Mohawk streets, and is built of gray stone. Its interior dimensions are: Length from east to west, 96 feet; breadth, 62½ feet; of this, the nave occupies 75 x 62½ feet, and the chancel 21 feet deep by 29½ wide. The organ chamber, on the north side of the chancel, is 16 x 21 feet, and possesses a fine three manual organ, by Hook, of Boston. The south side of the chancel opens into a chapel 31½ x 18 feet, and this connects with the rectory on the south. All the buildings are of stone, under a continuous roof, and form a very handsome pile of an early English style of architecture. There are many beautiful stained windows in church and chapel. One thousand worshipers can be comfortably seated. A school-house extends half way under the church on the east end. The architect was Richard Upjohn, Jr., of New York. The entire cost was about $60,000. In December, 1875, the Rev. J. H. H. Brown resigned the rectorship, having been elected Bishop of Fond-du-Lac, Wisconsin. He was consecrated, December 15, in St. John's, Bishop Potter being the consecrator, assisted by Bishops Doane, Paddock, Wells, Bissell, Niles, and Scarborough. March 2, 1876, the Rev. Walker Gwynne entered upon the rectorship of the parish. The statistics of the parish in 1882 showed 370 families and 500 communicants. The present pastor is the Rev. F. S. Sill.

Reformed Church —The Reformed Dutch Church of Cohoes was organized under the auspices of the Classis of Washington on the first Wednesday in November, 1837, with twelve members, viz.: Nicholas Lighthall, Rosetta Lighthall, James Safely, Janet Safely, John Schoonmaker, Gitty Schoonmaker, Abram Weidman, Elizabeth Weidman, John Van der Werken, Daniel Simmons, William Renwick and Isabella Renwick.

On the 19th of November the consistory was constituted by the ordination (by Rev. Elbert Slingerland) of John Van der Werken, Abram Weidman and Daniel Simmons as Elders, and Wm. Renwick and James Safely, Deacons. In May, 1838, this church, in connection with the church of Waterford, united in a call for the services of the Rev. Wm. Lockhead, who continued as pastor until December 24, 1837, when the relation was dissolved. The corner stone of the first house of worship was laid September 4, 1838, by Hon. Teunis Van Vechten, Mayor of Albany, and prayers were offered by Rev. Drs. Yates, of Schenectady, and Vermilyea, of Albany. The building was completed in 1839. In January, 1840, the church made a call to Rev. John Van Buren for his undivided services. He remained as pastor until June 25, 1841. The Rev. Gilbert M. P. Myer was ordained and installed as pastor on November 1, 1841, and continued to fill that relation until his death, July 26, 1846. December 1, 1846, the Rev. John Gray entered upon the pastoral office of the church, and continued to fill it until September 22, 1848. October 3, 1849, the Rev. Charles N. Waldron was ordained and installed pastor of the church.

In April, 1859, the edifice used for worship was taken down, preparatory to erecting on the same site a larger house of worship. The corner stone of the new edifice was laid by the Rev. Dr. Gregory, of West Troy, with appropriate services, June 22, 1859, and the house was completed and dedicated to the worship of God on Wednesday, April 11, 1860. The sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Rogers, of Albany, and the prayer of dedication was offered by the Rev. Dr. Wyckoff, of Albany. The building, which is 98 by 74 feet, and capable of seating 900 persons, was erected at a cost of $30,000. The architect was L. A. Gooch, of Yonkers. The building committee were Egbert Egberts, S. A. Becker and Jacob I. Lansing. A fine organ, costing $6,000, was placed in the church in 1866, a gift from three members, Egbert Egberts, John V. S. Lansing and D. J. Johnston.

The Rev. Charles N. Waldron, D. D., after a pastorate of thirty years, resigned in 1879. In September, 1879, the Rev. J. Paschal Strong was called to the pastorate of the church, and is still the pastor of the congregation. The church has a parsonage next to the church building, and a sexton's residence in the rear of the church edifice. The present membership is 397, and there are 270 families in the congregation. A large Sabbath School, Young People's Association and Ladies' Missionary Society are connected with the church. The Reformed Church of Cohoes is indebted in a great measure to the taste and liberality of Mr. Egbert Egberts for their beautiful house of worship.

First M. E. Church.—The First M. E. Church Society was organized in the month of May, 1839. Rev. Elias Crawford was the pastor, and Rev. Charles Sherman, Presiding Elder of the district. The boundaries of the circuit are not wholly defined, but as accurate, perhaps, as most circuits were when Methodism was in its infancy. There are twenty names upon the oldest list of members now to be found, and among them the following: James Hempstreet and wife, Joseph Mudge and wife, Mrs. Timothy Bailey, James Shannon, Jonas Simmons, Sr., and wife, Silas Owens, Sr., Battheus Simmons, Mrs. Catharine Fuller, Joseph Gould, Sr., and wife, Gideon Longley and Wheeler Rhodes.

Having no church edifice, the society held meetings in private dwellings and in a school-house located on Oneida street, near where the old depot is now situated. The pastor, Rev. E. Crawford, was a man of great fortitude, good preaching ability, and devoted to his work.

In the year 1840 the Methodist people commenced the work of building their first house of worship, locating it on the west side of Remsen street, where the Clifton Mill now stands. It was built of wood, at a cost of $550, and had a seating capacity of about two hundred. The church was completed in 1841, the dedication sermon being preached by Rev. Jesse T. Peck, D. D.

At the session of the Troy Conference, held in 1841, Rev. Oliver Emerson was appointed to the charge. He was eminently successful as a preacher,

and of good executive ability. The preachers who succeeded him on the circuit while Cohoes continued within its bounds were: In 1842–3, Benjamin Pomeroy; in 1844, Thomas Armitage, with Gardiner S. Tubbs as his colleague; in 1845, George C. Wells. In 1845 the circuit was divided and Cohoes was made a station by itself, with 149 names upon its roll of membership, and one local preacher.

The following is a complete list of the preachers who have been identified with the church as pastors since its independent existence, and their term of office: In 1846–7, Cicero Barber; in 1848–9, Jacob Leonard; in 1850–51, Lewis Potter; in 1852–3, Timothy Benedict; in 1854–5, Myron White; in 1856–7, Robert Fox; in 1858–9, Wm. R. Brown; in 1860–1, Ensign Stover; in 1862–3, Henry L. Starks; in 1864, John W. Carhart; in 1865–6, R. R. Meredith; in 1867–8, H. C. Sexton; in 1869–70, L. Marshall; in 1871–2–3, Horace L. Grant; in 1874, C. R. Hawley; in 1875–6–7, Wm. H. Meeker; in 1878–9, S. M. Williams; in 1880–1–2, Wm. J. Heath; in 1883, D. W. Dayton was appointed, and is the present pastor.

In 1850 it numbered 175 members; in 1860 it had 250 members and 107 probationers; in 1870, 300 members, and in 1880, the pastor reported to the Annual Conference 520 members and 25 probationers.

The statistics of the Sunday schools recorded in the Conference minutes are: In 1841, Sabbath schools, 2; superintendents, 2; officers and teachers, 24; scholars, 120; volumes in library, 300. In 1845, when Cohoes was made a station, we find the following report: Sunday schools, 1; officers and teachers, 21; scholars, 80; volumes in library, 240; amount raised for Sunday school, $24.36. In 1850: Sunday schools, 1; officers and teachers, 34; scholars, 207; volumes in library, 450. In 1860: schools, 1; officers and teachers, 43; scholars, 350; volumes in library, 650. In 1870: schools, 1, officers and teachers, 35; scholars, 400; volumes in library, 750; S. S. *Advocates* taken, 40; conversions, 15. In 1880: schools, 1; officers and teachers, 43; scholars, 375.

The Conference reports show that the following amounts have been contributed for benevolent purposes: In 1845, $27.24; in 1850, $51.33; in 1860, $205.35; in 1870, $466.55; in 1880, $233; and in 1881, $161.35.

In the year 1848 a new house of worship, built of brick, was completed and dedicated, on the east side of Remsen street, at a cost of $12,000. The deed of the land was given by the Cohoes Company (to quote its language) "to the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, for the consideration of one dollar, November 20, 1847; and is known and distinguished on the map of the village of Cohoes by numbers 20, 22 and 24."

The gift was a very generous one, the lot being located in the very heart of the city.

During the years that followed, there was a steady growth in the membership of the church, with occasional revivals of religion, and in time the congregation demanded a more commodious house of worship.

At a meeting of the trustees of said society, held May 28, 1859, it was voted to take down the old church, preparatory to the erection of the building of a new one on the same lot, and a committee was appointed to proceed and execute the work. The building enterprise assumed a definite form under the pastoral care of Rev. Wm. R. Brown. He labored untiringly; he threw his whole soul into the work, and eventually the present edifice was completed; and, on February 22, 1860, the church was dedicated. Rev. Gilbert Haven, D. D., editor of *Zion's Herald*, preached the opening sermon in the morning, and in the evening a sermon was preached by the Rev. Wm. P. Corbitt, of New York City. The subscriptions taken during the day amounted to $2,500. Like other church enterprises of like character, it has involved years of toil and sacrifice on the part of the people. The church is a substantial brick structure, of plain exterior, and yet quite imposing in its appearance. Its extreme length upon its outside is 80 feet, with a corresponding width of 60 feet, and will accommodate about 800 people.

The annual statistics of the society, as reported to the Conference by the pastor, April 18, 1883, are as follows: Members, 360; probationers, 4; local preachers, 2; number of scholars in Sunday school, 300; officers and teachers, 36; probable value of church edifice, $17,000; probable value of parsonage property, $3,500; paid for church improvements, $2,000; pastor's support, $1,550; presiding elder, $98; conference claimants, $68; bishops, $10; incidental expenses, $700; for various benevolent contributions, $145.60; total financial disbursements, $4,561.60.

The following constitute the present Board of Officers of the church: Trustees, W. T. Dodge, L. Vandenbergh, R. Wilcox, A. M. Harmon, W. Miller, N. Shaver, J. Orelup, J. W. Ablett and John Dunlap. Stewards, N. Frost, H. G. Steenbergh, G. A. Austin, C. Spanwick, G. E. Brockway, W. Carroll, S. Owen, J. Kline and A. Murray. Leaders, A. Van Arnam, J. Mincher, W. Miller and the pastor. Sunday School Superintendent, Joseph Wood. Local Preachers, Jacob Travis and Robert Watt. Pastor, D. W. Dayton. Presiding Elder, Thomas A. Griffin.

First Baptist Church.—As early, certainly, as the year 1838, Baptist meetings were held in this place, with occasional preaching by Rev. F. S. Parks, then pastor of the Baptist Church in Troy. Regular prayer meetings were begun in the summer of that year. January 20, 1839, John Duncan, a licentitate of the Stillwater church, was secured as a regular preacher, and his efforts were so successful that a call for organization as a church was issued for April 29. At this meeting officers were chosen, and a council of churches in the Saratoga Association was invited to consider the propriety of recognizing the newly constituted body as a regular Baptist Church, and also of ordaining John Duncan, their pastor-elect, as a minister of the gospel. The council met May 25, 1839, Rev. Isaac Westcott, Moderator, and approved the action of the church. The recognition services were held the

next morning in what is now a part of Harmony Mill No. 1, Rev. B. J. Fletcher, of Saratoga Springs, preaching the sermon. The ordination services followed in the afternoon, with a sermon by Rev. Isaac Westcott. At this time the church had twenty-four members. Ebenezer Bartlett and Alanson Cook were its first deacons.

During most of this year public worship was held in the dining-room of the Harmony boarding-house; then a new place of worship was secured in a building on Mohawk street, below Oneida. By January, 1840, it was settled that the church must have a meeting-house of its own. The use of land belonging to the Cohoes Company was obtained, and a wooden structure erected, at a cost of $521. Here the church worshiped for ten years, until the land was required for the erection of a knitting mill, what is now the southern portion of Parson's Mill, on the northwest corner of Factory and Remsen streets. Compelled thus to seek new quarters, the erection of a second meeting-house was begun in 1850. This was of brick, and situated on land belonging to the Cohoes Company, on Mohawk street, facing White street. The lease this time was made perpetual, so long as used for a Baptist church. Until the basement of the new house was ready the church worshiped first in the old Presbyterian meeting-house, then in the old Methodist Episcopal house. Rev. D. Round was especially active and energetic in helping forward the new building. Rev. Ira E. Kenny succeeded, to find the church staggering under a debt of $1,200, already incurred. How could this be paid, and the edifice be completed? The whole property controlled by members of the church was estimated at less than $10,000. In this emergency one of the women of the church was invited to undertake the work of raising the necessary means. Altogether she secured subscriptions to the amount of $2,285.17, of which some failed to be collected, but nearly, if not quite, $2,000 were received. The name of this willing and working Christian woman deserves to be perpetuated. It was Mrs. S. H. Allen, afterward Mrs. Corwin. She is still (1883) living at Clifton Park, ready to do good in any and every way possible. With this aid the meeting-house was finished, and it was dedicated April 28, 1852, J. G. Warren, D. D., of Troy, preaching on the occasion. The total cost of this house was about $6,000, all of which was provided for except $500. The property of the church underwent no change from this time until 1866, when the erection of a brick parsonage was begun, and the present comfortable building was finished in the spring of 1870, at a cost of toward $5,000. A debt of some $800 remained on it. Meanwhile, beginning with the pastorate of Rev. W. H. Maynard, the growth of the church became more rapid, and especially so with the coming of Rev. L. S. Johnson to the oversight of the church. It was also the period of most rapid growth in the population of the village, now become a city. Hence, in 1872, the meeting-house was found to be inadequate to the wants of the church. It was thought that, by an expenditure of $10,000, it might virtually be made into a new house. This was done. An organ was purchased and put in the church, in 1884, at a cost of $2,100.

Seventeen persons have successively been pastors of this church up to December 1, 1883, a period of about forty-five years. Their names are as follows: John Duncan, H. Rounce, J. Eastwood, E. Dwyer, M. Cameron, B. F. Garfield, S. Wilder, D. Round, Ira E. Kenney, Robert Thompson, David Corwin, W. H. Maynard, A. J. Bingham, C. D. Gurr, C. A. Johnson, L. S. Johnson, W. R. Wright. The following persons have served as deacons: Ebenezer Bartlett, Alanson Cook, Stephen Slocum, Thomas Lansing, Benjamin F. Clarke, William Nuttall, Selba Archibald, J. H. Masten, Walter Hume, P. S. Holsapple. In 1881 two deaconesses were chosen, and since then one has been elected each year, but only two persons have filled the office, Mrs. Mary Shaw and Mrs. Susan Holsapple. The church was incorporated, under the law of May 15, 1876, in the year 1877.

The present officers of the church are: Pastor, J. P. McCullough; Deacons—B. F. Clarke, Wm. Nuttall, Selba Archibald, J. H. Masten, P. S. Holsapple, Mrs. Mary Shaw and Susan Holsapple.

Trustees—President, Jona. Hiller; Secretary, J. H. Masten; Treasurer, P. S. Holsapple; Wm. Nuttall, B. F. Clarke, P. G. Tymerson.

Clerk of the church—John A. Nuttall.

Superintendent of the Sunday School—P. S. Holsapple.

A Young People's Union was organized in February, 1883, which has attained a membership of about 120. It has been a very successful organization. Thos. Peverly is its President; Miss Hattie Patrick, Secretary.

A Woman's Missionary Society was also organized in March, 1883, with Mrs. P. S. Holsapple as President and Miss Cornelia Teachout as Secretary.

History of the Presbyterian Church.—The First Presbyterian Church of Cohoes was organized on the 10th day of August, 1839, by a committee from the Presbytery of Troy (Old School). Rev. Wm. Snodgrass, D. D., preached, and fourteen persons assented to the Westminster Confession of Faith, and solemnly covenanted with God and with one another to sustain a Presbyterian Church in this place. Of the original members, only one is now living in Cohoes, Mrs. Clarissa Silliman. The other original members were Mr. Levi Silliman, Timothy Bailey, Joshua Bayley, Sr., Joshua Bailey, Jr., Almira Bailey, Asahel Goff, Lucy Goff, Augustus J. Goff, Melinda Goodell, Maltby Howell, Mary Howell, Eliza Ann Tremain, Fanny A. Hamilton.

At the organization two Elders were chosen, Levi Silliman, and Timothy Bailey; and one deacon, Maltby Howell. The church was organized in the house of Mr. Silliman, on Saratoga street, and services were held there for some time. The society next worshiped in a building which stood where Gregory & Hiller's factory now stands. The society then removed to their first church building, northeast corner of Remsen and Factory streets. The building which the church now oc-

cupies was erected in 1849, and enlarged in 1869. The lecture room was built in 1865, and enlarged by the two-story addition in front in 1877. This addition was the gift of H. B. Silliman. The organ was built in 1876 by Hook & Hastings, of Boston. The first stated supply for the pulpit was Rev. Mr. Chamberlain, of Hebron, New York. At the end of six months his health failed, and he died soon after. The names of subsequent pastors and stated supplies, also the names of elders and deacons, will be given below. The parsonage, adjoining the church on Mohawk street, was purchased in 1865. The church has been greatly prospered and blessed from the first by the presence of God's Spirit, and by the accession of devoted members. There have been many precious revivals of religion, and the membership has grown from fourteen to over four hundred. An important feature of this church has been, from the first, the Ladies' Benevolent Society. This society was organized November 13, 1839, the first officers being as follows:

President, Mrs. Clarissa Silliman; Vice-President, Mrs. Eliza Ann Tremain; Secretary, Miss S. M. Beals.

This society has been very active in maintaining the interests of the church. The fortieth anniversary was celebrated, November, 1879, with much enthusiasm.

The Sunday school of this church was organized in 1840. The first Superintendent was Levi Silliman. Wm. Burton, Dr. A. Giles, E. D. Gill, Edward Doty, Demas Goff and Mr. Holmes also acted as Superintendents in the order given above. H. B. Silliman became Superintendent in 1856, and still holds the office. The other officers are: Mr. H. Babbitt, Assistant Superintendent; Secretary, D. M Sutherland; D. C. Hakes; Treasurer and Librarian; Robert Campbell, Assistant Librarian; Organist, Henry Aird.

The church has a Home and Foreign Missionary Society which makes annual contributions to both these causes. The pastors of this church who have been installed are as follows:

Rev. John Gray, installed October 22, 1841; dismissed July 19, 1842.

Rev. R. P. Stanton, second pastor, installed February 9, 1848. Served 5 years.

Rev. Stephen Bush, D. D., installed February 1, 1855. Served 7 years.

Rev. F. W. Flint. Labors commenced April 19, 1864. Served two years.

Rev. Wm. Melancthon Johnson, D. D. Labors commenced October 1, 1867. Installed September 22, 1868. Is still pastor, November 25, 1883.

The following clergymen have also served the church as stated supplies: Rev. Mr. Chamberlain, 1839; Rev. L. H. Pease, 1843–1845; Rev. D. Frost, 1846–1847; Rev. V. D. Reed, D. D., 1860–1861; Rev. H. G. Blinn, 1862–1863; Rev. H. Pattengill, D. D., 1866.

The full list of elders in this church from the first is: Levi Silliman, Timothy Bailey, Albert Giles, Wm. Burton, Jacob W. Miller, Ira Terry, John R. Bullock, Isaac Quackenbush, Thomas Duncan, H. B. Silliman, Francis E. Pennock, Abram Peck, Horace A. Babbitt, George Dixon, John Hay, George Bortell.

The full list of deacons from the begining is: Maltby Howell, Reuben White, John Hay, Jehiel W. Himes, Sr., Alexander K. Dixon.

Under the present pastor 596 persons have been received to membership in this church.

St. James M. E. Church.—A church was organized, at a point west of the old Cohoes Cemetery, in the year 1876. This church was known as the Park Avenue M. E. Church.

It had twenty-nine members at the time of the organization. Rev. H. Blanchard and Rev. T. D. Walker and Rev. A. C. Rose were the pastors.

During the term of service of Rev. A. C. Rose, the church was disbanded, March 29, 1881, and a new church was organized, April 6, 1881, called St. James M. E. Church, and a new edifice was erected, corner of McElwain avenue and Walnut street, June, 1881. The present membership is 118. Rev. J. K. Wager was appointed to this charge, April, 1883.

History of St. Bernard's Roman Catholic Church.—St. Bernard's Roman Catholic Church has its origin among the very oldest of the public institutions in this city.

Its first pastor was the Rev. Bernard Van Reath, a native of Belgium, who came to Cohoes as early as 1847. Under his pastorate the Catholics of Cohoes first worshiped in a dilapidated house, subsequently in a carpenter shop, which still stands, and which is now used as a dwelling. Father Van Reath, on his arrival, commenced the excavation for the foundation of the first Catholic church ever built here. The dimensions of the lots on which the church was to be built were one hundred by fifty feet. This ground was generously given to the Catholics of Cohoes by the Harmony Company.

On November 18, 1847, the corner stone of this edifice was laid, with solemn ceremonies, by the Right Rev. John McCloskey, D. D., Bishop of the diocese of Albany, now the Cardinal-Archbishop of New York. A year later the church was finished and dedicated to the worship of God.

Besides erecting the first Catholic church in this city, this first resident pastor established Catholic schools here, which have been maintained without interruption. The Rev. Bernard Van Reath remained in Cohoes six years, then returned to his native land, where, only recently, he passed to his reward.

The Rev. Thomas Daily, afterward pastor of St. John's Church, Utica, N. Y., succeeded Father Van Reath, and remained pastor of St. Bernard's Church, Cohoes, only about eighteen months.

Then came the Rev. Thomas Keveny, in 1855, who continued as pastor of this congregation up to the time of his death, which occurred March 31, 1882. Soon after his arrival here, the lots directly west of the church were purchased for twelve hundred dollars, and a pastoral residence built on them, which cost four thousand dollars. This residence was commenced in 1856 and finished in the following year.

The congregation shortly afterward added three adjoining lots to their property, which cost them eight hundred dollars a lot.

The attention of the church was next directed toward securing a cemetery. Up to this time the Catholics of Cohoes were obliged to go as far as Troy and West Troy to bury the dead, there being no Catholic cemetery nearer. This purchase was made in 1857, and, with improvements on the cemetery, cost twenty-six hundred dollars.

Owing to the constantly increasing numbers of children in the parish schools, the duties of the Rev. pastor toward this tender portion of his flock became daily more important. He accordingly resolved to secure more Christian instructors for his schools than those who, up to this time, had been there. For this purpose application was made, in 1859, to the Mother House of the Sisters of St. Joseph, in Carondelet, Mo., for members of that community to come and take charge of the schools. The sisters soon came, and a residence was purchased for them on Mohawk street.

During this time the congregation also was increasing fast, so that it was deemed necessary to provide larger and better church accommodations. In due time lots were purchased directly opposite the old church, and the work of building a new church speedily commenced. The corner stone was laid, August 15, 1863, by the same Right Rev. Prelate who laid the corner stone of the old church. When the new church was ready for divine service, the old one was remodeled into a commodious school building, with a large hall above for the use of the Young Men's Library Association, and other societies attached to the church.

It was next thought advisable to provide the sisters teaching in the schools with a more suitable residence. With this end in view, the house occupied by the pastor was improved and the sisters transferred to it. Then, to the rear of the sisters' house, an academy for the education of young ladies of the congregation was built, and, at the rear of the new church, an elegant house for the clergy.

When the foregoing work was successfully completed, an accident occurred to St. Bernard's church, which required the pastor and people to stop, for a time, the course of new improvements. February 2, 1876, will not soon be forgotten by the people of Cohoes, certainly not by the members of St. Bernard's congregation. Early on the morning of that day, a gale which was felt more or less over the whole State passed over Cohoes with a terrible force. Besides the damage done in other parts of the city, St Bernard's suffered a most serious loss. The wind fell on this edifice so violently that, as quick as thought, the steeple was torn from the roof, and thrown like a reed to the ground. The beautiful chime of nine bells, which hung in the tower, fell with the rest, and only one bell escaped destruction. Through the energy of the pastor, and the co-operation of his flock, St. Bernard's church was crowned, in the following year, with a tower and steeple higher, stronger, and grander than the old. This new spire measured two hundred and ten feet in height, and is surmounted by an illuminated cross, which is one of the striking features of the city. The cross, itself, is eight feet high, made of cast iron, and set with innumerable glass prisms; within the cross there is a number of gas jets which may be lighted at night by means of a galvanic battery placed in the church tower; one large bell, weighing 4,000 lbs., now replaces the chime which was destroyed.

The new church is a model in architectural beauty and design. It is built of brick, cruciform in shape, and without galleries; it is capable of seating over fifteen hundred people; it is lighted with gas and heated by steam. The interior of the edifice is very imposing, and everything arranged according to the strictest ecclesiastical taste. This church cost about one hundred thousand dollars, and was dedicated to the service of God by the Right Rev. Bishop of the diocese on the first Sunday of November, 1866.

There are four hundred children attending St. Bernard's schools. The number of sisters employed in teaching is eight; one of these is exclusively engaged in teaching music.

The number of souls belonging to this mission is about four thousand, and there are two priests attached to the church.

The Rev. Thomas Keveny was pastor from 1855 to 1882; with the exception of the building of the old church, all the work accomplished in this parish has been accomplished within these years.

Father Keveny was born in the county Sligo, Ireland. He came to America in 1838, and pursued his studies for the ministry in Fordham College, an institution conducted by the Jesuit fathers. He was ordained a priest by the late Archbishop Hughes, of New York, and sent to take charge of the Hogansburgh mission, in the northern part of this State. After remaining in Hogansburgh about four years, he was transferred to Cohoes.

St. Joseph's (French) Church.—On the 23d of August, 1868, Rev. L. H. Sangon, a worthy French priest, was sent to Cohoes by Mgr. Conroy, then Bishop of Albany, to rally the French Canadians together and build them a church. On the 9th of October the corner stone was laid for the first French Church of Cohoes, on Congress street, above Columbia. Bishop Conroy officiated. On the 12th of December, 1869, the building was opened for divine service, under the name of "St. Joseph's Church of Cohoes." The founder, Rev. L. H. Sangon, died on the 19th of December. The first mass in the new church was celebrated by Rev. Thomas Keveny, pastor of St. Bernard's Church. Father Sangon was succeeded by Rev. J. O. La Salle, formerly of Champlain, N.Y., Christmas day, 1869. In 1871 a pastoral residence was finished.

It soon became apparent that the church edifice was far from meeting the needs of the congregation. The weakness of the foundation and the unsubstantial condition of the superstructure made the people constantly fear a catastrophe, to avert which the edifice was demolished, June, 1874.

On the 23d of August of the same year Bishop McNeirney laid the corner stone of the second French

Catholic church in Cohoes. The sermon on this occasion was delivered by Rev. R P. Francis Van Campehondt, from II Chron., vii, 16. Four years were occupied in the construction of this building. The fatigue and anxiety of this work undermined the health of Father La Salle, and in less than a year from the time the new church was opened he died. At his funeral Rev. L. M. Dugast said: "His zeal for the house of God had consumed his life."

This building has a basement, ten feet high, of stone-work, devoted to chapel purposes. The main auditorium measures 70 x 100 feet, with nave, aisles, sanctuary, sacristies and adjoining vestibules. The superstructure is of pressed brick, with cut stone dressings. The style is decorated Gothic. The interior is very ornate, finished in plastic, with bold arch molds and foliated capitals. The tower and spire are placed on one corner, and rise to a height of 185 feet. A gallery runs across the front, extending on both sides about three-quarters the length of the aisles. The interior is finished in ash, trimmed in black walnut. The five altars are very beautiful, being handsomely decorated in colors. The architect was Mr. Charles A. Nichols, of Albany.

The Rev. L. M. Dugast assumed the pastorate of this church, March 19, 1879. His administration has been very successful. In less than five years he cleared off the entire debt on the church. While paying off the debt he had to meet the expenses of finishing the upper story of the pastoral residence, putting in the pews and doors of the church edifice, constructing the galleries and the railings around the sanctuary, purchasing ornaments, and the introduction of steam-heating apparatus, and numerous other improvements. When Father Dugast arrived in Cohoes, about sixty children of the parish attended a French school taught by a single lay teacher. At his request the Sisters of St. Ann's, of Lachine, near Montreal, established themselves in the parish. On the 4th of September they came, three in number. At the present writing there are ten sisters, comfortably located in a fine brick convent, the cost of which was $17,000, where they impart instruction to more than 400 pupils. This institution opened November 22, 1882, and was dedicated by Very Rev. L. A. Marechal, Vicar-General of the Diocese of Montreal, Canada. At the prize distribution the first Sunday of July, 1883, Rev. Father Dugast decided on commencing the building of a commercial college for boys. This edifice, now completed, is built of brick, three stories high, measures 48 x 49 feet, and accommodates about 200 scholars, under the care of five ecclesiastical and lay teachers. The benediction of this institution took place, November 11, 1883, with imposing ceremonies. It is called the "Commercial College of the Sacred Heart, of Cohoes, N. Y." It is managed by the Rev. A. Velleneuve, formerly of Montreal. The present pastor has founded many societies in the church, such as the "Sodality of the Children of Mary," for young ladies; "The Congregation of the Sacred Heart," for young men; "The Congregation of the Dames of Charity and St. Ann," for married women.

The object of these societies is to aid in the practice of Christian virtues and give relief to the sick and poor.

Father Dugast also devoted much care to the two conferences of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, for men

Quite recently beautiful stained glass windows were put into this church.

The French population of Cohoes, instructed by priests of their own nationality, numbered at the last census, 1882, 5,635 souls.

Church of St. Agnes (*Roman Catholic*).—First pastor of this church was the Rev. John F. Lowrey, who still remains in full charge of the church. He was appointed to his position by the Right Rev. Francis McNeirney, Bishop of Albany, by letter of September 17, 1878. The first mass was celebrated in the engine house on Johnston avenue, near the bridge leading from Harmony Hill to Fifth Ward. The first church building (temporary) was erected, October, 1878, and opened for divine worship on the 3d of November of the same year. A new parochial residence, at a cost of about $14,000, was erected soon after, and the vacant lots opposite purchased for a site for the permanent church edifice.

Afterward, the Sheehan farm of twenty-four acres was purchased for a cemetery, and solemnly dedicated by the Bishop of the Diocese, September 26, 1883. There is no debt on the property, and the congregation have on deposit about $10,000 as a building fund. The temporary church building was burned, December 3, and the society will have a few thousand dollars insurance to add to the above fund. The parsonage was saved, though it was three times on fire. About 500 children attend the Sunday school, and the number of adults belonging to the congregation is about 2,500. Several large societies attached to the church are in a flourishing condition, and a parochial library for the use of the congregation is always open and in charge of the young men's sodality.

NOTE.—The compiler is indebted to the several pastors for the above facts concerning the churches.

CHAPTER IX.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF COHOES.

Cohoes Post-Office.—The first post-office was located at Mr. Waterman's, near the junction. It was moved thence to a store on the canal bank, near the bag mill; thence to a building opposite the site of the Harmony Hotel; thence to Mohawk street, between Oneida and St. John's alley; thence to a building on Oneida street, east of Remsen; thence to St. John's alley, near Mrs. Terry's store; thence to Dr. Cheesebro's drug store, Remsen street; thence to a building on the site of Music Hall block; thence to Roger's block; thence to Music Hall, northeast corner; thence to the rooms now occupied in Harmony Hotel, Factory street.

The following is a list of the postmasters up to January 1, 1884 : Frederick Y. Waterman, appointed 1832; Hezekiah Howe, 1833; Peter F. Daw, 1854 ; George H. Wager, 1855; I. W. Cheesebro, 1861; James H. Masten, 1865; Samuel D. Trull, 1866; James H. Masten, 1867.

Cohoes Public Schools.—As stated elsewhere, the first school-house in this region was located at the Boght, about 1813. The next school-house, or the first one within the present city limits, was near the corner of Oneida and Mohawk streets, on the site of the residence of the late M. S. Younglove. The first teacher was a man named O'Neil. Soon after this a second school-house was built on the site of what is known now as the slate yard school-house. Supply F. Wilson was one of the early teachers.

In 1828 a new school-house was located in a building which had been used as a boarding-house, standing on Oneida street, near the old freight-house. The next was a brick school-house on the corner of Canvass and Oneida streets, erected in 1847. According to the act of 1850, school trustees were elected as follows: S. H. Foster, Jacob Travis, William Burton, George W. Miller, Abram Lansing, William Binns. A school was kept in the basement of the Reformed Church, in addition to those already mentioned. In 1855 there was a school on the East Harmony, one on the West Harmony, and one on Columbia street. There are now fine large school buildings in each of these localities. In 1870 the White Street School-house was erected. The Pleasure Ground School-house was erected in 1873, corner Bowery and Elm streets. The Lincoln Avenue School-house was built in 1875, and the school-house on Van Schaick's Island in 1882.

There are now nine school buildings in Cohoes, nearly all of them quite commodious.

The Egberts High School was established by the munificence of Mr. Egbert Egberts, as a trust in the hands of the Protestant pastors of the city. He gave them the large building now occupied by the High School on White street, which had been used as a boarding-house. He gave them also in trust the first and second tenement houses on Remsen street, north of Egberts' Hall, the rent of which was to be used to help sustain the high school, named in the trust as Egberts' Institute. The income from these tenements not being found sufficient to maintain the Institute, the trustees rented it to the Board of Education in August, 1868, the Board agreeing to keep a school at the same grade as the Institute, and in accordance with the bequest of Mr. Egberts. The Board also obtained the privilege to use the lower stories of the Institute building for younger scholars.

The teachers of the Institute were : Rev. Alex. B. Bullions, 1864–5; Mr. Chas. P. Evans, 1865–6; Rev. A. J. Bingham, 1866–8.

The principals of the High School have been: W. H. Nellis, Robert Hardie, E. H. Torrey, Oliver P. Steves, A. J. Robb, George E. Dixon.

In 1856 Truman G. Younglove was elected chairman of the Board of Education ; re-elected in 1858. Then followed George H. Wager in 1860; James H. Masten, 1862; Samuel H. Foster, 1864. Mr. Foster was succeeded by Murray Hubbard in 1869, and he by Isaac Hiller in 1880.

Beside the free public schools, there have been a number of select schools connected with the churches.

The Board of Education established some years ago a system of free night schools for working children, which have accomplished much good.

Cohoes Fire Department.—The first fire engine in Cohoes was a small rotary hand engine, called Excelsior, No. 1, purchased in 1835 by subscription. The next was a hand engine, which had been used by the Albany Fire Department, obtained in 1847. In 1848 the village purchased an engine, hose carriage and hose, at a cost of $675.

Parmelee Engine Company was formed, and the Cataract Engine Company. Luke Bemis was chief engineer. The first engine house is that near the Methodist church, occupied by the Campbell Hose, erected in 1848. Mohawk Engine Company was formed in 1851, and they had an engine house just south of the Miller House.

The Adams Steamer Company was formed in 1867—president, H. B. Silliman; chief engineer, S. G. Root. Charles H. Adams presented the steamer which bears his name as an expression of his personal interest in the welfare of the community. The building on Oneida street, east of Canvass, was erected for this steamer. Charles Cronk is now engineer and Samuel Ray captain.

The Harmony Company also purchased a steamer in the same year, which is always in readiness for use when needed in any part of the city. The first president of the Harmony Steamer Company was Robert Johnston, and the chief engineer was John A. Link.

The Alden Hose Company was formed in 1860; Johnston avenue, corner Garner.

The Geo. H. Wager Hook and Ladder Company was formed in 1865; Oneida street. W. E. Simpson is now captain.

The Daniel E. McIntosh Hose Company was formed in 1867; Oneida street.

Edwin Hitchcock Hose Company, formed in 1869; Main street, near Columbia.

The Howarth Engine Company was formed in 1870; disbanded 1873.

The Nolan Steamer Company is now known as Eagle Hose, No. 3, and is located near the Stone Bridge.

The John McCreary Steamer Company, No. 3, was the latest organized. It has quarters on Johnston avenue, near the bridge over the railroad; has 25 men. William Williams is the engineer.

Since 1879 the Fire Department has been managed by a Board of Commissioners, as follows: D. J. Johnston, C. F. North, J. Hiller, J. V. S. Lansing and the Mayor, now Mr. Le Roy. R. S. Calkins is chief engineer for the city, and the whole department is remarkably complete and efficient.

Cohoes Police.—Until 1865 Cohoes had a system of village constables to preserve order.

July, 1865, the Capitol Police Law went into effect, including the Albany and Troy Divisions, Cohoes being in the latter division, but being a precinct by itself.

The station-house was in Hayward's Building, and the first sergeants were Wm. Buchanan and John McDermott. May 6, 1870, a new bill was passed, giving Cohoes a separate police force and commissioners.

The captains have been: M. Redmond, Francis S. Staats, Henry Genore, M. Weidman. Police sergeants: F. S. Staats, M. B. Smith, Martin Delaney, Kendall Hodgson. The Mayor is Commissioner *ex officio*. The other Commissioners have been Geo. Z. Dockstader, Wm. Bamerick, Amos T. Calkins, John Slavin, Edwin Hitchcock, G. Carter, John Simpson, J. Tubbs.

Telegraph.—The first telegraph business in Cohoes was on an independent line from Cohoes to Troy. There was a stock company, and the stockholders were all Cohoes men—president, Daniel E. Simmons; secretary and treasurer, E. W. Fuller; directors, H. L. Landon, Ira Terry, Joseph Chadwick.

The first office was in the building now occupied by A. K. Dixon for a grocery store, Remsen street. H. E. Lasell was the operator, and the first dispatch was sent August 31, 1857. The office was soon removed to the store of H. R. Grant & Co., now occupied by E. S. Gregory, Johnston block, Remsen street. Mr. Grant acted as operator, also Mr. Le Roy, present Mayor. The income at first was about ten dollars a month. After about two years the Western Union ran a line to Cohoes, and Mr. Le Roy became manager and operator. The old line was abandoned. The stock was worthless. The Western Union gave the Cohoes office half the receipts up to fifty dollars and ten per cent. above fifty dollars. Mr. Le Roy was succeeded as operator by Geo. A. House, and he by Mr. A. F. Hurd, in 1883, with Harry Carpenter, assistant.

Cohoes Gas Light Company.—This company was incorporated in 1853, with a capital of $50,000. The first president was Mr. T. G. Younglove. The works were located on Sargent street, and the capacity was equal to the production of 50,000 cubic feet of gas daily. The present works are located on the Champlain Canal, and have a producing capacity of 250,000 cubic feet daily. The present officers are: D. J. Johnston, President; Wm. E. Thorn, Secretary and Treasurer; D. H. Van Auken, Superintendent; Charles H. Van Auken, Engineer. The Directors are: D. J. Johnston, Wm. E. Thorn, D. H. Van Auken, Stephen Bush, Samuel W. Johnston, Harmon Pumpelly, David F. Lamb.

The Cohoes Water Works.—The Cohoes Water Works Company was incorporated in 1855. The following were named as commissioners: Charles M. Jenkins, Hugh White, Alfred Wild, Egbert Egberts, James Brown, Joshua Bailey, Wm. N. Chadwick, Wm. Burton, Henry D. Fuller, Andrew D. Lansing, Jenks Brown and Truman G. Younglove. The capital stock was $50,000, which might be increased to $250,000. This plan failed of execution, and the next year an act was passed "To provide for a supply of water in the village of Cohoes." The new commissioners were: Alfred Wild, Charles H. Adams, Henry D. Fuller, Wm. F. Carter, Joshua Bailey and Truman G. Younglove. They were empowered to issue the bonds of the village to an amount not to exceed $60,000 and thus take steps to secure an abundant supply of water. A reservoir was constructed on Prospect Hill, and the water pumped from the Cohoes Company's canal No. 1. The first reservoir has a capacity of 3,000,000 gallons. It covers two acres of ground; 1,200 feet of pipe carried the water from the pump-house to the reservoir, delivering 35,000 gallons per hour. The pump (a Geyelin) was driven by water with a 45-horse-power wheel. Five miles of sheet iron and cement pipe were laid through the city. In 1869 steps were taken to enlarge these water works. A new reservoir was built covering three and one-quarter acres of land, with a capacity of 8,000,000 gallons. This reservoir is 190 feet above the central portion of the town. A new pump was placed in the pump-house, having a Jonval turbine water wheel of 100 horse-power. The pipes were also extended. In 1883 the water works were still further enlarged, by laying 8,000 feet of new iron pipe in Mohawk and Remsen and Main streets; 2,500 feet of this new pipe is 24 inches in diameter, 4,000 feet is 16 inches in diameter and the remainder is 12 inches. At the same time two new Flander's pumps, with capacity to lift 6,000,000 gallons every 24 hours, were placed in the pump-house. The whole expense of the improvement in 1883 was $60,000. The whole length of the city water pipes is now about fifteen miles. About 2,000,000 gallons are used daily by the citizens. The present commissioners are: Wm. E. Thorn, President; Mayor Alfred Le Roy, *ex officio;* P. E. Marshall, John Clute, Robert Weir, John English, W. R. Benedict. The superintendents have been: Fred'k Upham, John Doyle, Sheffield Hayward, H. R. Grant, E. R. Gilman, John Donlon, Albert Kniffin.

BANKS.

In 1859 measures were taken for the establishment of a bank, an institution much needed, and one long talked of. The stock was $100,000, which was nearly all taken by citizens of Cohoes. The first officers were: President, Egbert Egberts; Cashier, James M. Sill; Directors, Egbert Egberts, Daniel Simmons, T. G. Younglove, Wm. Orelup, Jr., Wm. G. Caw, W. F. Carter, J. G. Root, John Sill and C. H. Adams. This institution became a national bank, May 31, 1865. Its capital was increased from $100,000 to $250,000, August, 1872. Murray Hubbard was chosen cashier, March, 1862, in place of Mr. Sill. After the death of Mr. Egberts Mr. Adams became president, March, 1869.

In April, 1851, an act was passed incorporating the "Cohoes Savings Institution." The corporators were: Charles A. Olmstead, Truman G. Younglove, Egbert Egberts, Hugh White, Daniel

Simmons, I. D. F. Lansing, H. D. Fuller, W. F. Carter, Abram Lansing, Joshua Bailey, Wm. N. Chadwick, Teunis Van Vechten, Andrew D. Lansing, Harmon Pumpelly, Edward E. Kendrick, Wm. Burton, Joshua R. Clark, Jeremiah Clute, Miles White. August 15, 1853, this institution commenced business, and received deposits at the office on Remsen street, in the store now occupied by Wm. Bell. Egbert Egberts was the president, T. G. Younglove the treasurer, and Edward W. Fuller, assistant treasurer. This institution has now on deposit over $800,000. Wm. Burton is president, and G. H. Vermilyea is treasurer.

March 21, 1872, the Manufacturers' Bank of Cohoes was organized, with a capital of $100,000. President, Wm. E. Thorn; Vice-president, J. V. S. Lansing; Cashier, N. W. Frost; Directors, Wm. E. Thorn, J. V. S. Lansing, D. H. Van Auken, George Campbell, J. W. Himes, Jacob Travis, D. J. Johnston, N. J. Clute, Wm. Moore, Alfred Le Roy, P. R. Chadwick. This institution was opened for business at 70 Oneida street, July 8, 1872. J. V. S. Lansing is now president; W. T. Seymour, cashier.

The Mechanics' Savings Bank was incorporated March, 1873. It commenced business in May of the same year, in the rooms of the Manufacturers' Bank. The following were the first officers: President, Robert Johnston; First Vice-president, John Clute; Second Vice-president, Wm. Stanton; Secretary, Wm. S. Smith; Treasurer, Abner J. Griffin; Assistant Treasurer, Leonard J. Groesbeck. This savings bank, like Cohoes Savings Institution, has enjoyed continuous prosperity from the first. The deposits are constantly increasing. The present officers are: President, Robert Johnston; First Vice-president, John Clute; Second Vice-president, Wm. Stanton; Treasurer, A. J. Griffin; Secretary, Le Roy Vermilyea.

HISTORY OF NEWSPAPERS THAT HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN COHOES.

The Cohoes Advertiser (Whig). — First issued February 9, 1847, by Alexis Ayres and William H. S. Winans; A. Ayres, editor. Continued one year, when Alexis Ayres retired and Isaac D. Ayres took his place.

The Cohoes Journal and Advertiser (Whig) succeeded the *Advertiser*, February 9, 1848; Ayres & Winans, publishers; W. H. S. Winans, editor; continued to January 1, 1849, when it was succeeded by

The Cohoes Cateract (Rep.), Chauncy Stow, Horace B. Silliman and Stephen C. Miller, publishers, under the firm name of Stow, Silliman & Miller, proprietors; Silliman and Miller, editors. This firm continued until March, 1849, when Mr. Stow retired, and the firm became Silliman & Miller. These gentlemen continued the business until September, in 1851, when they disposed of their interest to J. H. Masten, who published the *Cataract* (with the exception of an interval of two years and five months, during which it was under the control of A. F. Onderdonk and A. S. Baker & Co.) to July 15, 1871, when he sold the office to William Bean, who, with A. C. Stone, were the proprietors until its suspension, December 31, 1881. Its publication was resumed, October 20, 1883, by William Seaport.

Cohoes Weekly Democrat (Dem.) commenced January 27, 1866, Michael Monahan editor and proprietor. It was published four months and then suspended.

Cohoes Weekly Democrat (Dem.)—The second paper of the name was first issued September 17, 1870, by D. Cady, a resident of Lansingburgh, assisted by John H. Atkinson. Mr. Cady continued until the following November, when his interest was purchased by James F. Kelly, and the copartnership of Atkinson & Kelly was formed. On the 29th of August, 1873, the firm was dissolved by the retirement of Mr. Atkinson. Mr. Kelly continued its publication until the destruction of North's block, where it was located, February 21, 1879. It then suspended.

The Cohoes Independent, a weekly paper of small dimensions, was started July 4, 1872, by Robert Johnston and Charles S. Pease, and was continued six months.

The Advertiser, semi-monthly; Johnston & Pease, proprietors. This was started April 12, 1873, and the last number was issued April 24, 1873.

The Cohoes Daily News (Rep.)—The first number of this paper, the first daily paper started in Cohoes, was issued September 22, 1873, by Edward Monk, from the office of Clark & Foster, in Granite Hall. Mr. Monk continued its publication alone until June 1, 1874, when Samuel Sault was admitted as partner. The firm continued until July 22, 1879, when J. H. Masten purchased the interest of Mr. Sault. Mr. Monk retired from the establishment April 2, 1881, and J. H. Masten has since been sole proprietor.

The Cohoes Daily Bulletin (Dem.), the second daily paper in Cohoes, was commenced June 1, 1875. It was Democratic in politics, and was conducted by J. H. Atkinson, formerly of the *Democrat*, and J. Barlow Luddy. This was continued until December 13, 1875, when it suspended.

Journal Des Dames (literary), a weekly paper published in the interest of French Canadian ladies, and edited by Mlle. Virginie Authier. The first number appeared September 24, 1875, and the last February 16, 1876.

L'Avenir National (Dem.)—Another French paper, the publication office of which had formerly been in Troy, New York, removed to Cohoes, and the first number was issued October 15, 1875, under the management of Louis G. Le Bœuf. The paper was discontinued August 11, 1876.

The People's Railway Guide.—Semi-monthly; Charles S. Pease, proprietor. Established October, 1875; is still in existence.

The Cohoes Daily Eagle (Dem.)—This paper succeeded the *Daily Bulletin*, January 22, 1876. David Williams was the proprietor and J. Barlow Luddy, editor. Its publication was discontinued May 26, 1876.

La Patrie Nouvelle (Rep.), a French paper that succeeded the *Journal des Dames*, appeared February 16, 1876, under the editorial management of Authier Brothers. It was Republican in politics, and is still issued.

The Northern Herald (Dem.)—A Sunday morning paper established by Williams & Egan, and first issued September 3, 1876; suspended publication April 30, 1877.

Journal De Cohoes (Dem.)—This was a French paper, started January 3, 1877, by Pierre Lucas, proprietor, and Arthur E. Valois, editor. It was continued but a few months.

The Cohoes Daily Courier (Dem.)—The first number of this paper appeared July 10, 1877, under the management of William Keeden, who retained possession until October, 1877, when he was succeeded by James F. Kelly, who published it in connection with the *Weekly Democrat.* On the first of April, 1878, Mr. Kelly withdrew from the proprietorship of the *Courier*, having disposed of his interest to William Webb, who had been his foreman, and to John Spence, who had acted as local editor. They continued it until February 15, 1879, when the office again passed into the hands of Mr. Kelly, and on the 21st of the same month the establishment was partially destroyed by the fire in North's block. The material that was saved was removed to what is now known as Tubbs & Humphrey's machine shop, and the publication of the *Courier* was resumed March 24, but it finally suspended May 17, 1879.

The Parish Record.—Quarterly; Rev. Walker Gwynne, editor; devoted to the interest of Saint John's Parish, Cohoes. The first number was issued October, 1877.

Sunday Regulator (Ind.)—Established March 2, 1879; Williams & Webb, proprietors, and John Spence, editor; August 14, following, Samuel Sault purchased the interest of Mr. Williams, the firm became Webb & Sault, and John Spence withdrew from the position of editor. Samuel Sault withdrew from the concern in November, 1880, and William Webb continued its publication until his death in the fall of 1881. Alexis Wager took his place as publisher, and purchased the establishment January 1, 1882.

Cohoes Daily Times (Dem.)—This journal made its appearance from the office of the former *Democrat*, August 4, 1879; James F. Kelly, Dr. O. H. Clark and John Scott, proprietors; Dr. Clark and Lucius Maynard, late of the Oswego *Herald*, editors. The latter retired on the 1st of September following, and the paper suspended November 5, 1879.

The Daily Eagle (Ind.)—A penny daily—the second of that name—started September 12, 1879, by Lucius Maynard, who had withdrawn from the *Times* as its local editor. It suspended after the issue of a few numbers.

The Cohoes Leader (Ind.)—A Sunday paper; made its first appearance September 14, 1879; Spence & Aitkin, proprietors; John Spence, formerly of the *Regulator*, editor. Its publication was suspended the latter part of June, 1880.

Weekly Register (Dem.)—The first issue was published November 29, 1879. Clark & McNiren, proprietors, and O. H. E. Clarke, M. D., editor. Suspended March, 1880.

Weekly News (Rep.)—Its first issue appeared April 10, 1880, and its publication continued one year. Monk & Masten, proprietors.

The Daily Regulator (Ind.)—Started April 19, 1880, in connection with the *Sunday Regulator*, by Webb & Sault. Its last issue was made November 3, 1880.

Cohoes Sunday Republican (Rep.)—A. Craig and A. K. Miller, proprietors; A. K. Miller, editor. Its first issue appeared June 27, 1880, and its last number in November of the same year.

Cohoes Daily Dispatch.—1884; W. E. Seaport, publisher and proprietor. Continues with large circulation.

Cohoes Sunday Globe (Ind.)—Patrick White, editor and publisher. The first number appeared August 21, 1881, and it suspended six weeks later.

The Cohoes Daily Herald (Ind.)—Appeared May 20, 1882, under the direction of Monk & Duffy, editors and proprietors, and suspended January 27, 1883.

NOTE.—This account of the newspapers of Cohoes was prepared by Mr. James H. Masten, postmaster of Cohoes, and editor and proprietor of the *Cohoes Daily News*.

CHAPTER X.

CIVIC SOCIETIES OF COHOES.

**Post N. G. Lyon, Grand Army of the Republic.*—Post N. G. Lyon was organized September 19, 1867, at the Cohoes Hotel. The first officers were as follows: A. T. Calkins, Commander; Silas Owen, Senior Vice-Commander; Malachi Weidman, Junior Vice-Commander; Le Roy Vermilyea, Adjutant; George Van Der Cook, Quartermaster; Albert Carpenter, Chaplain; Wm. Buchanan, Officer of the Day; Stevens V. Trull, Officer of the Guard. These, with the following, constitute the charter members: A. S. Baker, Thos. F. Gaffney, Isaac Shaw, George W. Torrey, Van Olinda Gordon, Jacob F. Bradt, John B. Schwartz, George F. Fonda, James F. Hill, Lyman Miller, Albert Brown, Rosen J. House, Frank Hanton, Myron Van Benthuysen, Wm. Watson, Joseph C. Van Der Werken, Nelson Cranse, Daniel M. Adams, Lorenzo Carpenter. This society is composed of the survivors of that Grand Army of the Republic which stood for four long years, shoulder to shoulder, from the Potomac to the Rio Grande, a living wall between treason and the Union. In its ranks can be found members of some twenty different regiments, men who have been in all branches of the service—infantry, cavalry, artillery, sailors and marines. The post was named after Capt. and Acting Brig.-Gen. N. G. Lyon. The motto of the organization is "Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty." Fraternity and charity to maimed and crippled soldiers, and charity to the widows and orphans of those who fell in the war. Loyalty to our country and flag. The members of

*This account of Post Lyon was furnished by Mr. Van Olinda Gordon.

the post are now engaged in an effort to arouse public sentiment in favor of a soldiers' monument in this city. The present officers are: Commander, Lucius K. Smalling; Senior Vice-Commander, Thomas A. Gaffney; Junior Vice-Commander, Joseph A. Helmrick; Adjutant, Lee Johnson; Quartermaster, John MacGuire; Chaplain, Albert Sammons; Surgeon, Samuel Peters, M. D.; Officer of the Day, James E. Stevens; Officer of the Guard, Charles O. Gilman; Sergeant-Major, Charles McCullough; Second M. Sergeant, Thomas Rain. The following members have died since the organization: Peter Butler, William Buchanan, Samuel Hall, J. N. L. Cranston, John E. Silcox, Moses McLuckey.

SYMBOLIC MASONRY.

Cohoes Lodge, No. 116, of F. and A. Masons, was organized under dispensation from Grand Master John D. Willard, of the Grand Lodge of F. and A. M. of the State of New York, on the 21st day of October, 1846, and chartered by the Grand Lodge of New York, February 5, 1847. The following are the first officers: Ebenezer Wadsworth, W. M.; George Abbott, Sr. Warden; John B. Harrison, Jr. Warden; Wm. Orelup, Jr., Secretary; Reuben White, Treasurer; George C. Griffin, Sr. Deacon; Elbridge G. Mussey, Jr. Deacon; Stephen H. Dotey, Tiler.

The rooms of the Fraternity were first located in the second story of the building on the northeast corner of Mohawk and Oneida streets, then owned by John McDougal, and afterward they moved to Lansing's building, corner of Mohawk and Factory streets, and still later to Sillaman's building, on Remsen street.

During the year 1871 Johnston's block, on Remsen street, was rebuilt, and rooms were fitted up for the Fraternity by Mr. Robert Johnston, and about August first of the same year the Fraternity took possession, and still occupy the rooms.

The first candidate that petitioned for and received the degrees was Henry N. Pettis, a man well known by the old residents of Cohoes and its surrounding villages and cities.

Since the date of organization they have received to membership 383 members; have lost by death and other causes 220 members, leaving a membership at this date, November 1, 1883, of 163 members.

The present officers are as follows: Alexander S. Eccles, W. Master; Charles F. Doyle, Sr. Warden; Arthur W. Adams, Jr. Warden; M. R. Van Dervort, Secretary; Martin Gillmore, Treasurer; George Adey, Sr. Deacon; William P. Leffers, Jr. Deacon; George W. Howarth, Tiler.

The following have served as Masters and Wardens:

YEAR.	MASTERS.	SR. WARDENS.	JR. WARDENS.
1847.....	Ebenezer Wadsworth.*	George Abbott.*	John B. Harrison.*
1848.....	John B. Harrison.*	" "	Isaac F. Fletcher, Sr.*
1849.....	George Abbott.*	John J. Frisbey.*	Wm. Orelup, Jr.*
1850.....	" "	Isaac F. Fletcher, Sr.*	" " "
1851.....	" "	Wm. Orelup, Jr.*	Henry Enearl.*
1852.....	" "	" " "	George Hastings.*
1853.....	William Orelup, Jr.*	Henry Eneral.*	John Eastwood.*
1854.....	" " "	John Eastwood.*	Elbridge E. Mussey.
1855.....	" " "	" "	Philo B. Fergison.*
1856.....	" " "	Wm. Leckey.*	Henry L. Landon.*
1857.....	Philo B. Fergison.*	Augustus G. Goff.	Joseph Chadwick.
1858.....	" " "	Wm. Leckey.*	Benjamin R. Peck.
1859.....	" " "	" "	" " "
1860.....	Wm. Leckey.*	William J. Wheeler.*	R. G. Smith.
1861.....	Philo B. Fergison.*	" " "	Alonzo Malindy.
1862.....	Wm. J. Wheeler.*	Alonzo Malindy.	Henry S. Bogue.
1863.....	" " "	George H. Billings.	Oscar O. Finney.*
1864.....	Oscar O. Finney.*	A. A. Osterhout.	Elija T. Dixon.
1865.....	" " "	John M. Spencer.*	Lorenzo D. Sanborn.
1866.....	John M. Spencer.*	Benjamin Coveney.	J. W. Van Steenburgh.*
1867.....	Oscar O. Finney.*	Lorenzo D. Sanborn.	Charles S. Longley.
1868.....	L. D. Sanborn.	Charles S. Longley.	Joseph C. Dodge.
1869.....	" " "	Joseph C. Dodge.	James W. Brooks.
1870.....	" " "	George H. Plantz.	John Horrocks.
1871.....	Charles S. Longley.	" " "	Albert Ten Eyck.
1872.....	" " "	John Horrocks.	Charles Alerdice.
1873.....	John Horrocks.	Albert Ten Eyck.	Charles S. Travis.
1874.....	" "	" "	" " "
1875.....	Albert Ten Eyck.	Charles S. Travis.	Richard Cristtle.
1876.....	" "	" " "	" "
1877.....	Benjamin Coveny.	Charles H. Disbroe.	Thomas A. Murphey.
1878.....	Charles S. Travis.	James Aitken.	Anson Tabor.
1879.....	" " "	" "	" "
1880.....	James Aitken.	Anson Tabor.	Richard S. Clarke.
1881.....	Richard S. Clarke.	Wm. T. Dodge.	Alex. S. Eccles.
1882.....	Anson Tabor.	H. E. Bottum.	Henry Hinchcliff.
1883.....	Alex. S. Eccles.	Charles F. Doyle.	Arthur W. Adams.

* N. B.—Those marked with star are dead.

CAPITULAR MASONRY.

Watervliet Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, organized under dispensation from the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of New York, on the 27th day of March, 1857, and chartered by the Grand Chapter, Peter P. Murphy, G. H. P., under the style and name of Cohoes Chapter, No. 168, Royal Arch Masons, of Cohoes, N. Y., February 4, 1858. The following comprise the charter members: *H. L. Landon, A. J. Goffe, R. G. Smith, Joseph Chadwick, *P. B. Ferguson, E. T. Dixon, *John Eastwood, B. R. Peck, *John Van Demark, T. R. Howard, James McGee, George Jackson, *Wm. Orelup, Jr., *Isaac Fletcher, and *Wm. Ferrell. The first elected and appointed officers were as follows: H. L. Landon, H. P.; A. J. Goffe, K.; R. G. Smith, S.; T. R. Howard, Treasurer; John Van Demark, Secretary; Joseph Chadwick, C. of H.; P. B. Ferguson, P. S.; E. T. Dixon, R. A. C.; B. R. Peck, M. 3d V.; Wm. Ferrell, M. 2d V.; John Eastwood, M. 1st V.; J. McGee, Tiler. The following members have occupied the position of H. P. since organization: H. L. Landon, 1857; A. J. Goffe, 1858–1859; H. S. Bogue, 1860–1864; E. T. Dixon, 1865; Benjamin Coveny, 1866–1867, 1872, 1874–1875; W. H. Akin, 1868–1869; George Waterman, Jr., 1870–1871; L. D. Sanborn, 1873; David W. Gould, 1876; John MacNiven, 1877, 1879; Isaac Clute, 1878, 1880; James Aitken, 1881–1883. The chapter since organization has occupied the same hall as the F. and A. M., their present quarters being specially arranged for Masonic purposes. The total membership since organization is 200; of this number 112 have been lost by death or otherwise, leaving the present membership 88. The present officers are as follows: James Aitkin, High Priest; Thomas A. Murphey, King; Alonzo Malendy, Scribe; Martin Gilmore, Treasurer; R. S. Clark, Secretary; William P. Lefferts, Captain of H.; Edward R. Gilman, P. S.; Joseph H. Eccles, R. A. C.; John McCreary, M. 3d V.; Joseph Mincher, M. 2d V.; Charles H. Smith, M. 1st V.; Rev. William J. Heath, Chaplain; Otis R. Greene, Organist; George Higgins, Tiler.

ODD FELLOWSHIP IN COHOES.

The first institution of a lodge of Odd Fellows in Cohoes was March 14, 1882, under the title of Spartan Lodge, No. 62, with the following charter members: G. H. Wheeler, J. R. Taylor, James Crost, Asa Spaulding, H. L. Palmer, Abraham G. Lansing, J. C. Hitchcock, W. King, E. J. Higgins and E. L. Stoddard. The charter was granted at a meeting of the Grand Lodge, February 17, 1882, held in New York City. On January 5, 1879, occurred the first installation. This lodge numbered about two hundred, and its lodge rooms were in Silliman's block. In 1847 a breach occurred in this lodge, which gave cause for the formation of a new lodge, called Champion Lodge, No. 360, to which a charter was granted, December 18, 1848, by the Grand Lodge of Southern New York, with the following charter members: John Van Dermark, Jacob J. Lansing, William Osterhout, Augustus J. Goff, Julius Robbins, Alexander Hay, Sr., Daniel Doncaster, A. C. Spencer, George Jackson and Daniel Goff. The records of Champion Lodge are lost. The last report was made to the Grand Lodge December 31, 1849. They survived about three years. The dues of Spartan Lodge, No. 62, were four dollars per year, and initiation fee eight dollars. The last record of officers was given March 30, 1860, and was as follows: I. W. Chesbro, N. G.; Peter Schoomaker, V. G.; J. W. Miller, R. S.; Malachi Ball, P. S.; H. R. Grant, Treasurer; Harvey Clute, Grand Lodge representative. Some time during 1861 Spartan Lodge surrendered its charter, and this ended the first chapter in the history of the order. The lodge had for its members the oldest and most influential of our citizens, but few of whom are living to-day. They were the founders of this city, and represented the wealth and influence of the people. Spartan Lodge was reinstated under the jurisdiction of the State of New York, March 11, 1879, and was numbered 210, at which date the following officers were installed: Harvey Clute, P. G., N. Y.; Daniel McIntosh, P. G., V. G.; A. C. Spence, P. G., Treasurer; William Moore, P. G. On January 10, 1869, the lodge left the rooms in Silliman's block, on Remsen street, where meetings had been held for nearly twenty-seven years, and leased rooms in Adams' block, on same street. May 11, 1880, the lodge leased rooms in North's block, on Mohawk street. Owing to the large membership, it became necessary to have more commodious quarters. Larger rooms were prepared in the same block, and the lodge occupied their new quarters on January 10, 1883. The lodge meets every Tuesday. The initiation, with degrees, costs $16.75; dues, $5.20 per year, and the sick benefit is $4 per week. The present membership is 130, and the following are its officers at the present time: C. T. Rain, N. G.; W. McCullough, V. G.; W. H. Holbrook, R. S.; George Dean, P. S.; Samuel Horrocks, Treasurer; F. W. Grant, P. G.; Joseph Wood, Chaplain; S. Swatling, Organist; Jonathan Hiller, Nathan Shaver and L. E. Sessions, Trustees.

Cohoes Encampment, No. 71, I. O. O. F., was instituted June 6, 1872. October 1, 1883, the membership was 106, with the following officers: F. W. Grant, C. P.; E. E. Vischer, H. P.; Charles Davis, S. W.; Isaac Whitwell, J. W.; Bernard Tabor, Treasurer; M. E. Platz, F. S.; Oscar Fodder, Scribe. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, in Odd Fellows' Hall, North's block.

Prospect Rebekah Degree Lodge, No. 57, I. O. O. F., was instituted May 6, 1875. The following officers were installed: P. G. Tymerson, N. G.; Alice J. Shaver, V. G.; Lizzie Moulthrop, Secretary; C. E. Simons, Treasurer. January 1, 1883, this lodge numbered 83 members, with the following officers: Jonathan Hiller, N. G.; Ellen C. Cain, V. G.; Isaiah Fellows, Jr., Secretary; Alice J. Shaver, Treasurer; Charles Williams, W.; C. T.

*Deceased.

Rain, I. G.; Mary E. Nary, Organist, and Miss F. Baker, Chaplain.

Cohoes Uniformed Degree Camp, No. 5, I. O. O. F.—From the Cohoes Encampment, No. 11, emerged a number of patriarchs, under the title of "Jonathan Hiller Uniformed Patriarchs," who were organized April 3, 1882, with the following members: P. G. Tymerson, F. W. Grant, Isaac Whitwell, James Maxwell, Alex. Hay, E. E. Richmond, B. Tabor, M. E. Platz, E. E. Vicher, George A. House, Charles H. Davis, William Beattie, Charles Williams, Samuel Lee, H. C. Spencer, P. B. Swartout, J. E. Clarke and Charles Gildea.

The Friendly Society of the Sons of Scotia.—This society was organized February 12, 1869. The first officers were: Wm. Whitehall, President; John McEwan, Secretary. The society now numbers eighty members. It is composed of Scotchmen and sons of Scotchmen. It is a funeral benefit society. Wm. Ross is now President; John Hay is Treasurer; Robert Lennox is the Financial Secretary, and Thomas Callender is the Recording Secretary. This society helps to keep alive in every Scotchman the love of home and sweet remembrances of Caledonia.

HON. GEORGE CAMPBELL.

Hon. GEORGE CAMPBELL was born in Montreal, Canada, November 17, 1829, and was educated in an English common school at Cornwall, Canada. In 1847 he located in Cohoes; but he later went to Waterford, Saratoga County, to enter upon a three years' apprenticeship to the machinist trade. Having acquired his trade, he worked eleven years as journeyman and foreman, when he formed a copartnership with Mr. George Gage, which existed five years.

Returning to Cohoes in 1863, Mr. Campbell, in partnership with John Clute, under the firm name of Campbell & Clute, established the machine business, which they have since continued, now having been in it about twenty-three years. Probably the most interesting period of Mr. Campbell's life, from a purely historical point of view, was that embraced in the years 1861 and 1862, when he was associated with Prof. John La Mountain in his aeronautic enterprises in behalf of the United States Government at Fortress Monroe, Washington and elsewhere, devising and putting in operation a machine with which gas was generated for inflating the baloon. In the exploits of Prof. La Mountain, which form one of the most novel and exciting chapters of the history of our late civil war, Mr. Campbell bore no unimportant part, and his reminiscences of that time would make a valuable and interesting addition to the literature of the great rebellion.

Mr. Campbell long since identified himself with the best interests of Cohoes, as well as of the county at large, and came to be regarded as one of that city's most enterprising and public spirited citizens. When the city was chartered, he was chosen to represent his ward as alderman, and served two terms, from 1870 to 1874. In 1880 he was elected to the Assembly by a plurality of 451, his opponents being James Duffy (Democrat) and Peter L. Fitzpatrick (Greenbacker), though the Republican plurality in the previous year had been only 157. This clearly demonstrated his personal popularity in the city and the balance of the Fourth Assembly District of Albany County, which comprises the Ninth Ward of the city of Albany, Cohoes and the town of Watervliet. In 1884 he was a delegate to the Chicago Convention which nominated Mr. Blaine to the presidency.

In 1851 Mr. Campbell was married to Miss Sarah J. Teachout, of Waterford, who died in 1863. In 1865 he married Mrs. Anna M. Howe, of Cohoes. He has three children living by the second marriage. For twenty years he has been vestryman of St. John's Episcopal Church, and he has always been a liberal supporter of religious and charitable institutions.

We take pleasure in making mention of the following citizens, who, by their guaranteed support, have helped to insure the publication of this valuable work: J. U. Haynes, Samuel Peters, Bernard Egan, J. H. Mitchell, Isaac Hiller, J. F. Crawford, Henry A. Strong, George Campbell, E. DesRoseers, George E. Dixon, D. J Johnson, W. E. Thorn, W. S. Smith, Andrew J. Root, George T. Carter, M. Hayden, Marcus Kennedy, R. S. Calkins, T. S. Keveny, Murray Hubbard, Kendall Hubbard, W. P. Adams, J. F. Lowery, Neil Moris, Charles Poincel, D. H. Van Auken, John Griggs, Mrs. H. R. Grant, John Larkin, Thomas McDermott, Rev. Stephen Bush, William Burton, A. J. Griffen, Sisters of St. Joseph, C. Houlehan, Patrick Conboy, J. H. Masten, Charles F. Doyle, E. W. Fuller, Joseph Ballock, William J. Fonda, J. P. Weber, J. E. McLean, Silas Owen, J. W. Moore, George H. McTamany, P. G. Falardean, J. D. Featherstonough, G. A. Peltier, John McDermott, P. G. Tymerson, Joseph Delahanty, A. Venderbergh, M. Brauet, John Lambert, J. M. Futhier, W. E. Seaport, Lewis Hills, Amos C. Orlop, Benjamin Reamer, Mrs. A. G. Curtis, Mrs. E. Brockway, Mrs. Ira Terry, E. W. Lansing.

HENRY A. STRONG, an attorney and counselor at law, came to Cohoes, September, 1874; was appointed city attorney in the spring of 1879, and has since held the office. His home originally was Colchester, Conn. Graduated at Yale College in 1873, and at Albany Law School in 1874.

JOHN N. HAYNES, M. D., was established here a physician in 1873; was graduated with honor from Albany Medical College in 1872, taking first prize for excellence of examination in obstetrics. His grandfather and father were medical practitioners in Nassau, Rensselaer County, from 1820 until 1880.

WM. S. SMITH is a resident of Cohoes, and is at present paymaster of the Harmony Mills, of that place; these mills were established in 1861.

SAMUEL PETERS, M. D., is a physician at present practicing in Cohoes. He commenced to practice in 1846 in Saratoga County. His son,

Frank S. Peters, also a regular physician, died in 1883, from an injury of the spine.

Mrs. M. M. CURTIS (Curtis & Co.) resides in Cohoes, and carries on the manufacture of wrought-iron pipes. This business was established in 1870, and at this date furnishes employment for one hundred and twenty-five (125) men.

JOSEPH DELAHANTY was born in the town of Stalybridge, Lancashire, England, in 1845; is at present residing in Cohoes and carrying on a business agency on Vliet street. He has also been School Commissioner for four years. He is a member of the Labor Organization of the State of New York, and is an executive member of the same. Was elected member of Assembly from Fourth District in the fall of 1882. Introduced and had passed a bill for the better supply of pure water for the city of Cohoes.

JAMES WALLACE is engaged with Wm. E. Seaport in publishing the *Dispatch*, a paper established in Cohoes August 23, 1884, at which time the *Cataract*, a weekly paper published from the same office, suspended publication.

HISTORY OF THE VILLAGE OF WEST TROY.

By V. J. OOTHOUT.

THE village of West Troy is located on the east bank of the Hudson River, and directly opposite to the city of Troy, Rensselaer County.

This village and the village of Green Island are within and comprise a part of the town of Watervliet, Albany County, and are the only incorporated villages within the town. The northern portion of the village of West Troy is located on the Mohawk River, as the most southern of the many mouths, or "sprouts," of this river empties into the Hudson River at this point, and in so doing forms the island called Green Island.

The land upon which these villages are located is a part of the land owned by Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, of the manor of Rensselaerwick.

The village of West Troy was incorporated as a village by an act of legislature, passed April 30, 1836, and by this act it took within its corporate limits what had theretofore been known as the villages of Port Schuyler, Gibbonsville and West Troy.

None of these villages, except Gibbonsville, had ever been incorporated. Port Schuyler was that part of the present village which lies south of the lands now owned and used by the United States as an arsenal, and was originally a part of the farm of John Schuyler and Peter Schuyler, and was purchased in 1827 of the said Schuylers, by Willard Earl, Jabes Burrows, Abijab Wheeler, David Wheeler, Enoch Burrows, Gilbert C. Bedell and Jonathan Hart. These purchasers were called and known as the Port Schuyler Company. After the purchase of this land by these parties, they caused the same to be laid out into building lots, with streets and alleys, and called the same Port Schuyler.

Previous to the time of the purchase of this plot of ground by the Port Schuyler Company and naming the same Port Schuyler, this locality was known as the village of Washington. The date of the settlement of the village of Washington was previous to 1814, for in that year the first church located in this vicinity (Reformed Dutch Church) was organized at a meeting held in a school-house situated in the village of Washington, as appears from the records of this church.

Gibbonsville was that part of the present village of West Troy which lies between Port Schuyler, on the south, and Buffalo street, on the north, and was originally the farm of James Gibbons, a merchant of the city of Albany, and was by Mr. Gibbons laid out into building lots, with streets and alleys, and named Gibbonsville.

The village of Gibbonsville proved to be quite a thriving settlement, and in the year 1824 was duly incorporated as a village, and remained as such until the year 1836, when the act of its incorporation was repealed by the provisions of the act which incorporated the village of West Troy.

West Troy (previous to 1836) was that part of the present village which lies north of Buffalo street (the north boundary of Gibbonsville) and south of the present boundary line, which is the northern corporate limits of this village, and is the old line that divided the farms of John Bleeker and Volkert Oothout.

This West Troy was originally the farm of John Bleeker, and in the year 1823 was purchased of him by a number of capitalists, who called themselves the "West Troy Company." The deed which conveyed this parcel of land was executed on November 12, 1823, by John Bleeker and Elizabeth, his wife, and conveys about 400 acres of land, and excepts therefrom the Troy and Schenectady turnpike (now Genesee street), and lands occupied by the canal, and a parcel of land of about $\frac{2}{10}$ of an acre which then belonged to Thomas Schrimpton. This deed conveyed this land to George Tibbetts, Nathan Warren and Richard Hart, of Troy, and Philip Schuyler, of Saratoga, as trustees, and states that the above-named parties, together with Esaias Warren, Stephen Warren, Jacob Merritt, George Vail, Samuel Gale, Ebenezer Wiswall, Elias Pattison, Philip Hart, Jr., John D. Dickinson, John P. Cushman, John Pain, Theodore F. French and William Hart, have formed an association for the purpose of improving the premises, etc.

The consideration price named in this deed is $45,000. The eastern part of this parcel of land (the part which lies east of West street) was laid out into building lots, with street and alleys, and the western part was made into large lots, called "farm lots," which contained from 10 to 20 acres each. At present the greater part of these farm lots have been divided into building lots, and are covered with buildings. At the date of the purchase of this land by the West Troy Company, the only building thereon of any importance was a small two-story wooden tavern. This tavern had a piazza along the front and was located on the west side of the road, now known as Broadway, a short distance south of what is now called Central avenue (formerly Canal street), and stood upon the same plot of ground which is now occupied by the row of brick stores which are owned by Mr. Thomas Rath, and called "Rath's Block." This tavern, as early as 1824, was a very old building, and was probably erected at the time of, or previous to, the Revolutionary War. In 1830 this tavern was kept by one Samuel Ford.

Previous to the date of the incorporation of this village, the villages of Gibbonsville and West Troy were rivals, and although they lay side by side, they laid out their streets and named them without regard to each other, and consequently what is now known as Broadway was then called Water street, while within the limits of Port Schuyler and Gibbonsville; but when this street ran into West Troy, it was called Broad street. What is now called Washington street was then known as Washington street only in Gibbonsville, and in West Troy it was known as Rochester street. Of course, this created much confusion, especially with strangers.

By the Act of Legislature, in 1836, which incorporated the village of West Troy, all real and personal property which then belonged to the then village of Gibbonsville became the property of the village of West Troy; and by this act the village was divided into four wards, and the inhabitants residing in such wards, and duly qualified to vote, were directed to meet on the first Tuesday in May, 1836, at some proper place in each ward, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, pursuant to a proper notice to be given and signed by the Trustees of the said village of Gibbonsville, and to then and there elect by ballot, in each of these wards, two trustees, who shall be electors and freeholders. Alva W. Rockwell, David D. Abrams and Albert S. Blackman were appointed by this act to attend and preside as inspectors of election of the First ward; Isaac Chapman, Martin Witbeck and John C. Green, in the Second ward; Samuel E. Ford, John T. Van Alstyne and Andrew Meneely, in the Third ward, and Abel W. Richardson, Abraham Van Arnam, Jr., and Alexander S. Lobdell, in the Fourth ward. All of the above-named persons were at this time among the most prominent business men of the village, but all are now deceased. These inspectors were directed to declare the persons receiving the greatest number of votes in their respective wards duly elected. This act also directed the said electors at the same time to elect a president for the said village.

Although the village of West Troy has grown very much since the time of its incorporation, and has in fact for some years past overrun the corporate limits, still the present corporate limits and the number and boundaries of the respective wards remain the same as designated in the charter of 1836. After the incorporation of this village it grew quite rapidly, although it was a thriving town before that time. The United States had, in 1813, purchased and located an arsenal in Gibbonsville, and the Erie Canal had run through the place since 1823, and was then (1836) being enlarged. The United States purchased the land upon which this arsenal was located from James Gibbons and Esther, his wife. This purchase comprised a plot of about twelve acres, fronting upon the Hudson River. The deed describes it as commencing at a point in the north line of Beaver street, at low water mark in the Hudson River, and conveys the land

lying south of the north line of Beaver street, and between the Hudson River, on the east, and Albany street, on the west. There are now no maps that show this street called Beaver street; but by this deed it included and conveyed said street, which then ran in a westerly direction from the river. This deed conveyed this land in fee to the people of the United States, and to its successors or assigns, but reserved the right of a ferry privilege upon the river, and forbade the purchasers or their successors or assigns from ever maintaining a ferry from this parcel of land; it also reserved the right to said Gibbons to use the bed of a certain creek which ran through this land as a bed for a canal which was then proposed to be constructed (the Erie Canal). It was the intention of Mr. Gibbons that this creek be used for a canal and as a means of access for boats from the canal to the river, and *vice versa*. This creek was never used for such purpose, but at a point about half a mile further south, and in the then village of Washington, or Port Schuyler, such a canal was constructed, and is now know as the "lower side-cut." In the year 1828 the United States purchased of Esther Gibbons, as executrix of James Gibbons, deceased, another parcel of land which contained about thirty acres, and adjoined the land purchased in 1813 on the south and west. This last mentioned parcel of land Mr. Gibbons had contracted to sell to the United States, but died before the purchase was consummated. The purchase price of the first mentioned twelve acres was $2,585.00, and that of the other thirty acres was $9,622.00.

The village of Gibbonsville was laid out into village lots, with streets and alleys, in the year 1828, by Evert Van Allen, a civil engineer, although a portion thereof must have been mapped out as early as 1813, as appears by the deed of Gibbons and wife to the United States, which mentions the street called Beaver street, also a street called Albany street.

The original owners or proprietors of the villages of Port Schuyler, Gibbonsville and West Troy had large ideas as to the future greatness of these villages. They intended making them great commercial centers for the transfer and storage of all commodities to be carried on the canals and river. The proprietors of West Troy constructed a canal, in connection with the Erie Canal, which commenced at the south side of the side-cut at Union street, and midway between Broadway and the Erie Canal, which ran from this point south to the north side of Genesee street, where it then turned and ran into the Erie Canal; at the point where it ran into the Erie Canal was constructed a dry-dock, which was so constructed that boats would run on to a submerged platform, and then the boat and platform were raised out of the water by means of large screws, which connected with the platform and were worked with long levers. This canal was filled up several years ago. The proprietors of West Troy also contemplated and made provision for another canal in laying out the streets of the village. This proposed canal was to begin at the west side of the Erie Canal, at Union street, and then run through Union street until it reached West street; then run south through West street until it reached the south side of Genesee street, where it was then to turn to the east and run into Burlington street; and thence through Burlington street south to Canal street (now Central avenue); and thence east through Canal street to the Erie Canal. This canal was never constructed, and this is the reason why Union, Burlington and Canal streets are now so much wider than the other streets of the village.

In the village of Gibbonsville there was constructed a short canal or basin, which ran midway between Washington street and the canal, from the south side of Ferry street to the north side of Schenectady street. This basin was called the "Gibbonsville Basin," and was connected with the Erie Canal by means of a short cut or opening which ran along the south side of Ferry street. This basin was filled up within a few years after its construction.

VILLAGES OF GIBBONSVILLE AND WEST TROY.

The Legislature of the State of New York, on April 23, 1824, passed an "act to vest certain powers and privileges in the freeholders and inhabitants of the village of Gibbonsville," which act was shortly thereafter amended, and, on the first Tuesday of May, 1825, in accordance with the provisions of said acts, an election was held for the purpose of electing five trustees and one treasurer and collector. The persons elected were as follows:

Trustees, Julius Hanks, Elijah Ranney, Isaac Chapman, Edward Learned and Isaac Frink; Treasurer, Gerrit T. Lansing; Collector, Nathan Robbins. At the first meeting of the trustees they proceeded to choose one of the members of their body to be President of the Board, and the choice fell upon Julius Hanks. At a subsequent meeting of this Board they adopted certain village ordinances and ordered "that the same be published by affixing to the house of Abraham Van Arnam, with the President's name thereto affixed, together with the seal of the corporation."

At the annual meeting held in the said village of Gibbonsville, in 1826, the following persons

were elected trustees: Edward Learned, Abijah Wheeler, William G. Groesbeck, Thomas H. Dyer and Isaac Chapman. At this same meeting it was moved and carried that the trustees be empowered to raise seventy-five dollars, by tax, for the purpose of procuring fire hooks and ladders; for the construction of pumps and repairs thereof; for the erection of a pound (should such be required), and the surplus to be appropriated toward contingent expenses of the village.

The trustees of Gibbonsville, elected each succeeding year, were as follows, the first named in each instance being chosen as president at the first meeting of the Board:

1827—Elijah Ranny, Edward Learned, Isaac Chapman, James T. Morrison, Moses Tyler.

1828—Amos Larcom, Moses Tyler, William G. Groesbeck, David Morrison, Isaac H. Williams.

1829—Daniel T. Wandell, Isaac Chapman, David Wheeler, Moses Tyler, Charles Learned.

1830—Jonathan H. Dyer, Hiram M. Hopkins, Levi Lincoln, Moses Tyler, James T. Morrison.

1831 —Isaac Chapman, Ephriam Baldwin, Hiram M. Hopkins, William P. Hall, David Wheeler.

1832.—William G. Groesbeck, Moses Tyler, Smith Ballou, Jonathan H. Dyer, Zachariah Craver.

1833—Isaac Chapman, Henry Thalhimer, Zachariah Craver, John Tisdall, Leonard Hannum.

1834—Isaac Chapman, Charles Learned, John B. Chollar, Eben Jones, Benjamin Brown.

1835—Edward Learned, Martin Witbeck, David Morrison, John C. Green, Jonathan H. Dyer.

At a meeting of the last-named trustees, held March 16, 1836, they adopted a resolution praying the Legislature to grant the act which incorporated the village of West Troy, and which was passed April 30, 1836; and in pursuance of this act these trustees called an election for May 3, 1836, at which the first trustees and president of the village of West Troy were elected. The whole number of votes polled at this election was 476. The following named officers were duly elected at this date: President, Edward Learned; Trustees, First ward, Thomas Evans, Jonathan Hart; Second ward, Isaac Chapman, Hiram M. Hopkins; Third ward, Samuel E. Ford, Henry Kimberly; Fourth ward, Abram Van Arnam, Jr., Joseph Twist. The presidents elected in each succeeding year were as follows: 1837, Martin Witbeck; 1838, Miron R. Peak; 1839, Andrew Meneely; 1840, Martin Witbeck; 1841, Samuel Wilgus; 1842, Miron R. Peak; 1843, Andrew Meneely; 1844, Albert T. Dunham; 1845, Albert Richards; 1846, Archibald A. Dunlop; 1847, Albert T. Dunham; 1848. Daniel C. Stewart; 1849, Heman Mather; 1850, Daniel C. Stewart; 1851, Samuel Crawford; 1852, Morgan L. Taylor; 1853, Lorenzo D. Collins; 1854, George B. Fraser; 1855–56, Martin Witbeck; 1857, Samuel H. Waterman; 1858, James Roy; 1859, James Brady; 1860, George R. Meneely; 1861, William Oswald; 1862, Peter A. Rogers; 1863, James Duffy; 1864–65, Francis Beebe; 1866–67, James Hamil; 1868, William B. Williams; 1869, Terrence Cummings; 1870–71, Perry Robinson; 1872, Joseph M. Lawrence; 1873, Terrence Cummings; 1874–75, Michael Riley; 1876–77, Patrick Lane; 1878, Robert P. Tunnard; 1879–80, Joseph McLean; 1881, George B. Mosher; 1882, John H. Hulsapple; 1883, William E. Cox; 1884, Patrick Lane; 1885, Terrence Cummings. The term of office being for one year.

CANALS.

The Erie Canal, which runs through this village, was authorized by an act of the Legislature of this State, passed April 15, 1817, and the work of construction was commenced July 4, 1817, and completed October 26, 1825, at a cost of $7,143,789.86.

The enlargement was authorized by an act of Legislature, passed May 11, 1835, the work of enlarging being commenced in August, 1836, the cost of which was $36,495,535.00.

The Champlain Canal, which extends from Lake Champlain to its junction with the Erie Canal, a short distance north of this village, was authorized by an act of Legislature, passed April 17, 1817, the work of construction being commenced June 10, 1818, and completed to the village of Waterford, Saratoga County, November 28, 1822, and fully completed on September 10, 1823, at a cost of $875,000, exclusive of the cost of the feeder at Glen's Falls.

At the date of the completion of the Erie Canal, in 1825, it was very small in comparison with its present size; it was then only forty feet wide and four feet deep; boats when loaded could not draw more than three and a half feet of water. The boats were also very small, being about eighty feet long and fourteen and a half feet wide, and could only carry about one-fourth as much freight as the largest boats in present use.

In 1837 the enlargement of the Erie Canal was made in this village; its depth was increased to seven feet, by means of removing eighteen inches of earth from the bottom, and raising the banks the same number of inches; the width was also increased to seventy feet, by removing thirty feet of earth from the east side of the original bank. In the early years of the canal the principal business done thereon was the carrying of passengers, the boats being provided with large cabins at both ends for their accommodation, the center portion being used for freight and baggage. These boats could only carry about forty or fifty tons of freight. At this time nearly all the boats were owned and run by capitalists, who formed themselves into companies, called "lines." At this time the passenger travel was very large, as this mode of traveling was much pleasanter and cheaper than by stage coach. None of the line boats carried horses on their boats, but were towed by horses, kept at convenient points along the canal where each line had its stables and horses for that purpose. It was no uncommon sight to see a whole family, with their household effects, load the same upon a boat and take passage for the west, whither they were

emigrating; also, large parties of foreign emigrants, bound for the west, would pass through this village on board these passenger boats, and they would sit upon the decks, with different musical instruments, which they had brought with them, and play and sing their native melodies as they passed through the village. As a general rule, all first-class passengers going to or from the city of Albany did not pass through this village, but would leave or take the boats, as the case might be, at the village of Schenectady, there being a regular line of stage coaches that ran from Albany to Schenectady for that purpose; the reason being that the route was much shorter, besides much time was lost in locking the boats through the several locks between this village and the village of Cohoes. Among the first boats run upon the canals were the boats called bateaux, which had formerly run upon the Mohawk River between Schenectady and Utica and intermediate points, for carrying freight; these boats were pointed at both ends, and were about sixty feet long and nine or ten feet wide. Prior to about the year 1840 many of the canal boats that ran upon the Hudson River were provided with movable masts, rigging and sails, which would be set up after the boat had been locked into the river.

The business of towing canal boats upon the Hudson River, by means of steam-tugs or boats, was not introduced until about the year 1845. Previous to this date it had been the general custom to transfer the freight from the canal boats, either at Troy or Albany, to large boats called barges, and in that manner take all freight to New York and intermediate points upon the river; the barges being towed by steam tow-boats. The first regular line of canal boats that ran through from Buffalo to New York City was established and run by William C. Rice, of Troy, in 1845.

In 1825 the place for weighing canal boats, called the Weighlock, was located on the south side of Union street, a short distance west of Broadway. The weighlock building was a small wooden structure, and the mode of ascertaining the weight of a boat was to run the same into a large stone reservoir, or lock, which was connected with the canal by means of a gate, and then close the gate, when the water which was then in this large reservoir or lock was drawn off into a small reservoir, located below the level of the large lock, and the water thus drawn off was measured, and from the measurement thereof the weight of the boat and cargo was ascertained. This mode of weighing did not prove a success, as it was very inaccurate, and a few years thereafter it was abandoned and the mode of weighing by means of scales was adopted; by this last-mentioned mode, when the water was drawn from the lock, the boat rested upon a framework made of timber which was suspended upon heavy chains, and these chains were connected to an iron beam, which ran overhead from the lock into the office or building, where it was connected with a platform, upon which were placed iron weights, the beam being so balanced that a weight of $31\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. upon this platform represented the weight of one ton upon the frame in the lock upon which the boats rested. In weighing a boat by this last-mentioned mode, it was necessary to put on or take off these heavy iron weights used upon the platform, according to the weight of the boat and cargo, if loaded, and in some cases, in the weighing of one boat, it was necessary to handle seventy or more of these heavy weights.

This mode was more accurate than the former method, but it required much time and labor on account of the necessity of handling the heavy weights; this mode remained in use until 1853, when the present weighlock was built, at the northern terminus of this village, and the present easy mode of weighing by means of weights sliding upon scale beams was introduced.

Although the Erie Canal was not fully completed from Buffalo to Albany until October, 1825, yet as early as October, 1823, it was so far completed as to allow the running of boats from this village to Rochester, as is shown by an account of the same published in *The Troy Sentinel* of October 10, 1823, as follows:

"The opening of the Erie Canal on Wednesday, the 8th of October, 1823, was celebrated by the people of Troy in the following practical manner. When the procession of boats from the junction of the western and northern canals had passed on to Albany, according to the order of arrangements previously made, the *Trojan Trader*, a western freight boat, came down to the bridge near the Gibbonsville (West Troy) basin, opposite this city, and took on board the first load of merchandise sent from the Hudson west on the Erie Canal. The goods had been purchased several days and were only waiting for the navigation to be opened. As the occasion was new and interesting to us here, our merchants took some little pains to manifest their gratification. As the side-cut into the river opposite to Troy was not yet done, and as the junction canal, though completed and filled with water, could not yet be opened, so as to permit the *Trojan Trader* to come around by Waterford, down the Hudson, to be loaded at the wharf, it became necessary to transport the goods on wheels across the river to the place of embarkation on the main trunk of the canal. Accordingly, in the morning, this necessity being intimated to the carmen of Troy, with an alacrity highly honorable to their public spirit, they volunteered their services with one accord, to take the goods over. After loading their teams, they proceeded in two divisions to the two ferries, and being, through the liberality of Mr. Vanderhyden, the proprietor of the two ferries, taken across in his horse boats, toll free, they had the goods all on the bank of the canal by twelve o'clock. Several of our citizens lent their assistance to load the boat, and at two o'clock, the *Trader* having on board upward of twenty-five tons of merchandise, with her flag flying, and amid the cheers of assembled Trojans, started for the west. The *Trojan Trader* is commanded by Captain Brace; she is bound for Rochester, and on her flag are painted the following words: '*From Troy; the first western boat loaded at Hudson River.*'

There were between eight and ten tons of merchandise which the *Trader* could not take; these were put on board *The Troy*, another western boat, owned at Auburn."

The side-cut opposite to Troy, and known as the upper side-cut, was completed on Saturday, November 15, 1823. In the afternoon the locks were in readiness, the water was let in, and the packet-boat *Superior*, with a large party of citizens on board, passed through and crossed the river to Troy. Two freight-boats followed the *Superior*, and unloaded their cargoes at the river wharves of Troy, one being laden with staves, and the other with wheat.

Another very interesting event in connection with the Erie Canal took place in this village in 1824, this being a visit, or rather the passing through this village, of General La Fayette on Saturday, September 18, 1824, at the time of his memorable visit at Troy, and is thus described in *The Sentinel* of September 21 of that year: "*Reception of La Fayette in Troy.*—On Saturday last Troy had the happiness to receive La Fayette. The day was uncommonly serene, and the ceremonies were appropriate and interesting. Indeed, considering the uncertainty that existed until Friday concerning the time of the General's arrival and stay among us, the committee are entitled to very emphatic praise. The General, accompanied by his suite, the Governor of the State of New York and his suite, and the Mayor and Corporation of the City of Albany, came up from Albany on the canal, in the packet-boat *Schenectady*. He was expected as early as ten o'clock, but it had been found impossible by the Albany Committee to depart from their city sufficiently early for that purpose. At half-past one, however, the cannon at the United States Arsenal in Gibbonsville (West Troy) announced his approach in a national salute, and at two o'clock he reached the side-cut. There he was met by a deputation from the Troy Committee of Arrangements, and the packet-boat *Schenectady*, with all on board, was taken down through the locks into the river. Near the mouth of the side-cut, eight boats were waiting to tow the *Schenectady* across to the city. The boats were each fitted with a mast, on which was hoisted the national flag; each was furnished with four strong oarsmen, and in the stern of each, to guide the movement, sat the master of the sloop to which the boat belonged. The boats, being arranged in line and connected by hawsers, took the *Schenectady* in tow, and pulling out into the river far enough to clear the point of the shoal that stretches along the south side of the channel leading from the lock, they turned with a graceful sweep down the river, and gave to view the beautiful line in its whole length. After the General with his retinue had passed the United States Arsenal on his way to the side-cut, five beautiful uniformed companies from Albany, who had escorted him from that city, crossing at the ferry, united with the military of Troy, and the whole were paraded in Ferry street to wait his landing."

FERRIES.

At the time of the incorporation of this village (1836) there were two ferries—one at the foot of Ferry street, called the Gibbonsville Ferry; the other at the foot of Canal street (now Central avenue), called the West Troy Ferry. Previous to about this date, this last-mentioned ferry was owned by one Derrick Y. Vanderheyden, of Troy, and was called the Vanderheyden Ferry, and was purchased by the West Troy Company about this date from Mr. Vanderheyden. The ferry-boats were then propelled by means of horse power, the horses being on the boats and created the power which moved the paddles. These boats had no cabins or other covering, and only a few wooden benches for the accommodation of passengers. They could carry about six teams of horses, with their wagons. The rates charged were twelve and a half cents for single horse and wagon; nineteen cents for team of horses and wagon; passengers, three cents each. During the winter months these rates were doubled in case the boats were able to run. These horse-ferry-boats which for many years plied between this village and Troy were first placed upon the river in May, 1819, and the first boat introduced and used is referred to in the *Troy Budget* of June the first, as follows: "The Horse-Boat invented by Mr. Langdon has been in operation at Mr. Van Derheyden's ferry in this city during last week. The machinery is built upon a common scow. The boat crosses the river, which is less than a quarter of a mile, in four minutes. It is confidently expected that for the purpose of dispatch and on the ground of economy this boat will be in high repute and general use throughout the United States."

The ferry above referred to as the West Troy Ferry was established by Derrick Van der Heyden, but at what date cannot be ascertained, but it is supposed to have been soon after he purchased the land or farm upon which the City of Troy is now situated, which was in 1707; and in the year 1794 this ferry was being conducted by his son, Jacob D. Van Derheyden. This ferry at the present time is principally owned and conducted by Mr. George Mark, of the town of Watervliet, and from papers in his possession, which contain a sworn statement made by Cornelius Marshall, it appears that in 1777 the American troops which took an active part in the battle at Stillwater between the American troops under Gen. Gates and the British troops under Gen. Burgoyne crossed at this ferry. The troops were ferried across by means of lashing together flat-boats, called bateaux. Mr. Marshall was at this time employed at this ferry, and was 14 years of age.

In 1807 Daniel T. Wandell, of Troy, established and ran a ferry, called the "Middle Ferry," which ran from a point in this village, then Gibbonsville, near Buffalo street, to a point on the Troy side of the river, a short distance south of Division street, at the homestead of Mr. Wandell. In the year 1810 Mr. Wandell sold this ferry to Derrick Y.

Vanderheyden, who thereupon discontinued it. For several years previous to 1834 Mr. Wandell was the general superintendent of the West Troy Ferry and the Gibbonsville Ferry, they being at that time the only ferries running. The first ferry-boat run by steam power was run at the West Troy Ferry by Mr. Wandell about the year 1833, but it did not prove a success, and was soon abandoned. Soon after the purchase of the Vanderheyden Ferry by the West Troy Company this company also purchased the Gibbonsville Ferry, and discontinued it, the object of the company being to compel the travel to come further up town, and thereby build up and increase the value of the real estate owned by this company.

At the present time there are three steam passenger ferries running between this village and the City of Troy, the oldest of these ferries being the one heretofore referred to as running from the foot of Central avenue, and is now commonly called the "Mark Ferry;" another, running from the pier or extreme southerly point of Green Island, near the foot of Union street, in this village. This ferry is owned and run by Messrs. Thomas Rath, John Reily and Joseph McLean. The other one, running from a point a short distance north of North street, near the United States Arsenal. This ferry is now owned and run by Messrs. Clark W. Delano and Frederick T. Hathaway.

The large highway iron bridge, which connects this village with Troy, running from the foot of Genesee street in this village to the foot of Congress street in that city, was erected by the Troy and West Troy Bridge Company. This company was incorporated by a special act of legislature, passed April 23, 1872; the work of construction was commenced on the 12th day of September of that year, and the bridge completed October 1, 1874; the total cost of bridge and approaches being $350,000.

SAILING VESSELS ON THE RIVER.

Previous to 1850 the greater portion of the freight carried upon the Hudson river was by sailing vessels, which were called "sloops," "schooners," or "scows," according to their size and manner of construction. The business of carrying passengers by sailing vessels was abandoned as early as 1836. A very large business in the transfer and sale of lumber was carried on at this village from 1832 to 1845, the lumber coming down the canal on canal boats, and being unloaded here it would then be reloaded upon the sailing vessels for shipment down the river. About one hundred and thirty vessels were engaged in this business at this village. The river docks where they were loaded were north of Genesee street and south of Buffalo street; the river front lying between these two streets was not at that time filled in and docked so that boats could load and unload therefrom.

This village was the home of many of the owners and captains of these sailing crafts, of which the following were the most important:

Sloops—American Banner, Capt. Thomas Rafferty; Active, Capt. Butler Hubbard; Burlington, Capt. Silas Betts; Samuel Brewster, Capt. Andrew Hitchcock; Belvedere, Capt. Peter Hicks; Commodore Rogers, Capt. James Warford; Clarissa, Capt. George Collins; Clinton, Capt. Robert Robinson; Currier, Capt. Thomas Anderson; Conveyance, Capt. Stephen Washburn, Sr.; David D. Crane, Capt. Asahel W. Gilbert; Don Ramone, Capt. Harlow Rhodes; Fox, Capt. Stephen Washburn, Sr.; Henry Gage, Capt. William Lobdell; Highlander, Capt. Wm. Crawford; James North, Capt. William Foot; Juno, Capt. John Silliman; Kinderhook, Capt. James Warford; Leader, Capt. William Wood; Jane McCoy, Capt. Andrew Foster; Martha Ann, Capt. James Hardy; Minerva, Capt. John King; William Mayo, Capt. Meneely Hitchcock; Mechanic, Capt. Isaac Hubbard; North America, Capt. Daniel Curtis; Miriam, Capt. Isaac R. Getty; Pilot, Capt. John King; Ranger, Capt. David King; Peter Ritter, Capt. Charles Mead; Superior, Capt. Isaac R. Getty; Shepherdess, Capt. Patrick Lamb; Senator, Capt. Isaac Hitchcock; Pierre Van Cortlandt, Capt. Jacob Young; Robert Wiltsey, Capt. William Harvey; John Ward, Capt. Alfred Mosher.

Schooners—Thomas H. Benton, Capt. John Garrahan; Ballston, Capt. William Wood; Cadmus, Capt. Andrew Hitchcock; Eleanor, Capt. John Evertsen; Isaac Merritt, Capt. James Wood; Mary Anna, Capt. Asahel W. Gilbert; Meridan, Capt. Henry Evertsen; Miller, Capt. Medad Wood; Commodore Porter, Capt. Richard McLaughlin; Regulator, Capt. Henry Finch; Andrew Stewart, Capt. Asahel W. Gilbert; David Smith, Capt. James Farrell; Stranger, Capt. Edward Lane; Ann S. Salter, Capt. Asahel W. Gilbert; Caleb Wright, Capt. Jonathan Patridge.

Scows—Grampus, Capt. Washington Mowry; Hercules, Capt. James Hitchcock; Ohio, Capt. Hiram Tinslar; United States, Capt. Stephen Washburn, Jr.; Globe, Capt. James Hillis.

Of the captains above mentioned only a few now remain residents of this village, the greater number having died, while a few have removed; and of those now living and residing here may be mentioned Isaac R. Getty and Asahel W. Gilbert.

Captain Getty was born at Lansingburgh, Rensselaer County, N. Y., November 24, 1807, and began to run upon the river when 17 years of age, and came to this village to reside in 1838. He followed the river for fifty-five years, and is now the oldest river captain residing in this village. At different times during the period of 55 years which he was upon the river he was master of seven different sailing vessels and eleven different steam vessels.

Captain Gilbert was born in Troy in 1819, and followed the river from 1829 to 1870; he came to this village to reside in 1845. During the time he followed the river he was at different periods captain of ten different sailing vessels and five steam vessels. He also built and sold a number of sailing crafts.

LOCAL NAMES IN THE VILLAGE.

By common consent of the inhabitants of this village, different localities in the village have obtained local names, such as "Port Shad," "Temperance Hill," "Shanghai," and "Durinsville."

"Port Shad," being the extremes outherly part of the village, obtained the title a number of years ago by reason of the large number of shad that was caught there.

"Temperance Hill" is that part of the high ground in this village which lies west of the Erie Canal and between the United States Arsenal and Buffalo street. About the year 1838 there was a great temperance movement in this village, and a temperance society formed with about 1,700 members. This society decided to give a grand Fourth of July picnic, and selected this hill as the place to hold it. The picnic was a great success, and at the dinner one of the prominent members, Mr. Lewis Rousseau, proposed that the hill upon which they were holding the entertainment should be called "Temperance Hill," and thereafter, by common consent, this name was adopted by the residents of this village. At the time of the holding of this picnic that part of the village west of the canal was vacant ground, there being only about a half a dozen buildings erected west of the canal.

"Shanghai" is the name of that part of this village which is west of William street in the vicinity of Union street. This name originated several years ago from the fact that one Daniel Carthy, who owned considerable property, and resided in this vicinity, was very fond of fancy poultry, and he introduced and raised the first Shanghai roosters in the village, and they were a great curiosity to the residents, who transferred the name of the fowl to the locality.

"Durinsville" is that part of this village which lies west of and in the vicinity of the Erie Canal, at the extreme northern part of the village. This name originated several years ago from the name of a family called Durin, who resided in that vicinity.

Another local name, which is now only a matter of history, is that of "Stone Hook." This name was given to a group of rocks which stood on the bank of the river at and near the foot of Buffalo street. These rocks were not very large, but were very prominent by reason of their being the only rocks or high ground for some distance upon the west bank of the river. They were removed a number of years ago. The residence of Mr. John I. Winne, upon the southeast corner of Broadway and Buffalo street, now called the "Rock House," is built upon one of these rocks, and thus obtained its name. This group of rocks was also called "Steen-Hoeck" and "Stony Point" as well as "Stone Hook." This name was in use as early as 1675, and was used as a point of locality in conveyances of real estate on the opposite bank of the river. Stonehook Creek was the original name of the creek which runs through this village, and now called Dry River.

CHURCHES.

The first church ever organized and located within the limits which now comprise this village was the "Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Washington and Gibbonsville," organized by the Classis of Albany in the year 1814. The first record of this organization reads as follows: "At a meeting held in the school-house in the village of Washington, agreeably to notice, for the purpose of electing elders and deacons to manage the concerns of a church to be organized, Peter S. Schuyler was chairman, and Volkert D. Oathout clerk. Peter S. Schuyler and Volkert D. Oathout were elected elders, and Samuel Phillips and Stephen Conger deacons. Dated March 19, 1814." The consistory of this church united with that of the Reformed Dutch Church, located on the Bogbt, in the town of Watervliet, and called the Rev. Robert Bronk, who preached alternately in these churches—the services here being held in the old school-house. This building still stands on the rear of the lot of Mr. James Forsyth on Broadway, near the present brick school-house. The actual organization of this church dates from Sunday, March 22, 1814, when, immediately after divine service, held in the old school-house, upon which occasion Rev. Mr. Bradford, of Albany, preached, the above-named persons were ordained, according to the forms of the Reformed Dutch Church. The salary of the Rev. Mr. Bronk as pastor of this church was $300, to be paid semi-annually. Mr. Bronk continued his labors as pastor of these two churches for about ten years, when he resigned his charge of the church at the Bogbt, and devoted his whole time to this church until 1834, when he resigned on account of ill health. Directly after the organization, this congregation made a move to build a church, and on July 10, 1816, the first church was dedicated, the corner-stone having been laid in April, 1815. This edifice was erected upon a plot of ground now occupied by a brick dwelling owned by Mrs. Mansion, located on the west side of Broadway, about three hundred feet north of North street, and cost $5,568. This plot of ground was donated by John Schuyler, Jr., and James Gibbons. The Rev. John Woods became the next pastor of this church, but remained only a few months. The services were irregularly conducted by different ministers until the spring of 1838, when the Rev. Oscar H. Gregory, D. D., became pastor. Owing to the fact that the greater portion of the congregation of this church were residents of that portion of the village north of the United States Arsenal, it was decided to build a new and more convenient house of worship. In 1838 a lot on the northwest corner of Washington and Buffalo streets was selected as a site for the new church. In August, 1839, the corner-stone for the new church was laid by Rev. Oscar H. Gregory, D.D., and the next year the new church was dedicated, the sermon at the dedicatory service being preached by Rev. Dr. Wyckoff, of Albany. The cost of this edifice was $12,922. For a few years ser-

vices were held in the old church, commonly called the "South Church," in the morning, and in the afternoon and evening in the new church, commonly called the "North Church." In 1844 the parish was divided, and the old church, on account of financial embarrassment, was sold by order of the Court of Chancery, and was purchased by Hon. Clarkson F. Crosby, and thus ended the original organization known as the "Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Washington and Gibbonsville."

On the 18th day of June, 1884, the "South Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in the village of West Troy" was organized, with Philip S. Schuyler, Robert Dunlop and John C. Schuyler elders, and David Moore and Stephen C. Dermott deacons, with thirty-six other members, and the old church was then sold by Mr. Crosby to the new organization. In 1840 the "New Church," or "North Church," as it had been theretofore known, changed its name and corporate title to the "North Reformed Church of West Troy," and these churches thereafter became separate and distinct organizations, the Rev. Dr. Gregory remaining as the pastor of the North Reformed Church.

Trinity Church (Episcopal) was organized and incorporated in 1834. For two years previous to that time the Rev. Dr. David Butler and his assistant, of St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Troy, held mission services in a small wooden school-house on the west side of Burlington street, a short distance north of Union street; but two families formed the nucleus of the congregation, being those of Raymond Taylor and James Lobdell. The first vestry of Trinity Church was made up as follows: Rector, the Rev. James Tappan; Wardens, James Lobdell and A. S. Blackman; Vestrymen, Raymond Taylor, John Mason, Glover Blackman, Edgar Botsford, Gilbert C. Bedell, Thomas Evans, John Worthington and Jonathan Hart. The Rev. Mr. Tappan commenced his work here in June, 1834, and held service in Port Schuyler, Gibbonsville, and West Troy, the parish having no regular place for holding services. Mr. Tappan resigned in May, 1836, and in December of that year the Rev. William C. Cooley became rector, but only remained about ten months, during which time (1837) the first church edifice was erected. This was a brick building and was located on the west side of Salem street, between Middle and Spring streets. This church was consecrated on June 4, 1837, by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Onderdonk. In October, 1837, Rev. Mr. Lewis became rector of this parish, and remained as such until November, 1838.

Owing to the great distance and trouble of reaching the church edifice on Salem street, the people in the northern and central part of the village organized and incorporated a new church or parish, called St. Luke's, on November 19, 1838, and called the Rev. Washington Van Zandt as rector, who remained as such for the short time which this new parish remained a separate parish. In 1839 the Rev. Aliva T. Twing became rector of Trinity parish, and through his influence the parish of St. Luke's was abandoned and became again a part of Trinity parish. Dr. A. T. Twing remained two years, and was succeeded by Rev. William H. A. Bissell, who, on January 1, 1841, became the rector of the united parishes of Trinity Church and St. Luke's Chapel. The Rev. Mr. Bissell divided his time between Trinity and St. Luke's, the services of the latter being held in a building erected by St. Luke's parish, and situate on the north side of Canal street (now Central avenue), between Broadway and the Erie Canal. In 1844 the church edifice on Salem street was sold, and a few years afterward was destroyed by fire. After the sale of the church, all services were held at St. Luke's Chapel. In September, 1845, the Rev. Joshua Weaver became rector of the parish, and on January 10, 1848, the present church edifice was consecrated by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Alonzo Potter, of Pennsylvania. In April, 1851, Rev. Mr. Weaver resigned, and in May of the same year the Rev. Philander K. Cady became rector. During Mr. Cady's rectorship a parish school was established, which was successful during his rectorship, and for a number of years thereafter. Mr. Cady remained rector for six years, and was succeeded by Rev. Charles W. Homer, who remained until July, 1858.

On November 1, 1858, the Rev. George W. Hathaway became rector, and remained until July, 1863. On November 1, 1863, the Rev. Joseph S. Saunders became rector, and during his rectorship the three-story brick rectory, north of the church edifice, was built. In May, 1867, Mr. Saunders resigned. In August, 1867, the Rev. John Townsend was installed as rector, and after a service of six and one-half years, he resigned in February, 1874. In May, 1874, the Rev. Henry H. Oberly was installed as rector, and in 1879 resigned. In June, 1879, the Rev. George F. Breed became rector, and remained as such until January, 1883, when he resigned, and was succeeded in March by the Rev. E. Bayard Smith, the present incumbent. In 1875 a mission chapel in connection with this church was erected on Groton street, in the southern part of the village, and called St. Gabriel's Chapel. In 1878 a mission chapel in connection with this church was erected on Ford street, in the northern part of the village, and called St. Andrew's Chapel.

The present church edifice, which was erected in 1848, is a wooden building, which cost about $10,000. In 1865 this edifice was enlarged by adding a wing on the south side, and increasing the seating capacity about 100. In 1877 this edifice was still further enlarged by the addition of an organ chamber on the southeast corner.

In 1882 the present chapel was built, which is a two-story wooden building, and is situated upon the rear of the church lot, the second floor of this building being used as a chapel and Sunday school room, the first floor being divided into rooms for guild room, vestry room, etc. This chapel, with furniture, cost $2,000. The Sunday school of this parish is divided into three parts,

being the parish school, which holds its services in the church chapel, Mr. Wm. Hollands, Superintendent; St. Gabriel's Mission Sunday school, which holds its services at St. Gabriel's chapel, Mr. Edmund S. Hollands, Superintendent; and St. Andrew's Mission Sunday school, which holds its services at St. Andrew's chapel, Mr. John H. Hulsapple, Superintendent.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church of this village was organized in 1839, and the lot upon which this church was erected in 1840 was purchased April 20, 1839, and is located on the southwest corner of Union and Burlington streets. The first service held in this church was a mass, on Christmas day, 1840.

This church was organized by, and built under the supervision of, the Rev. John Shannahan, the priest then in charge of St. Peter's Church of Troy, N. Y.

The first priest in charge of this church was the Rev. James Quinn, who, at the time of its organization and building, was an assistant at St. Peter's Church, under the Rev. John Shannahan. The Rev. James Quinn was placed in charge of this parish as soon as the church was completed, and continued until June, 1845, when he was succeeded by the Rev. Thomas Martin, who remained in charge until May, 1848. The Rev. Father Martin was succeeded by the Rev. John Corry, who remained until February, 1849, when he was succeeded by the Rev. William McCallion.

In February, 1850, the Rev. Thomas A. Kyle was installed, and in or about this year he organized the church in the southern part of this village known as St. Bridget's Church.

The Rev. Father Kyle was succeeded in June, 1855, by the Rev. Thomas Daly, who remained until November, 1855, when he was succeeded by the Rev. William Fennelly.

The Rev. Wm. Fennelly remained until October, 1868. The present priest in charge of this parish, the Rev. William F. Sheehan, succeeded the Rev. Father Fennelly in October, 1868. The Rev. Father Sheehan is at present assisted in his labors by two assistant priests, the Rev. Francis Cunningham and Rev. Patrick Harrigan. The trustees of this church in 1843 were: Thomas Riley, Thomas O'Connor, Patrick Fitzsimmons, Michael Develin, James Keenan, Sr., James McGrath, James Brady and Michael Roe. In connection with this church is a parish school for boys, the teachers being the Sisters of Mercy. This school is conducted in a brick school-house, which adjoins the church edifice on the west.

The North Reformed Church of West Troy, as the reader has before learned, was built and organized in 1840, the corner-stone having been laid in August, 1839, the dedicatory sermon having been preached by Rev. Dr. Wyckoff, of Albany, and for a few years thereafter services on the Sabbath being held in the old, or South Church, in the morning, and in this church, which was then called the new, or North Church, in the evening.

In 1844 the Rev. O. H. Gregory discontinued holding services at the old South Church, and devoted his time exclusively to this church, holding services regularly each Sabbath. From 1844 to 1865 this church used as a consistory room a small wooden building, originally built for a seminary, which was located on the east side of Washington street, about fifty feet north of the Meneely Bell Foundry.

In 1865 the present brick chapel was erected, which adjoins the church edifice on the north. In 1854 the steeple of this church was blown off, and the bell broken, by a severe gale of wind.

The Rev. O. H. Gregory, D. D., became the pastor of this church from the date of its organization, and continued as such until the year 1870, when, by reason of his failing health, he was compelled to resign. In June, 1871, the Rev. Alfred J. Hutton became the pastor of this church, and remained as such until April 1, 1879, when he resigned. On December 1, 1879, the Rev. John G. Lansing became the pastor of this church, and remained such until August 1, 1884, when he resigned to fill the chair of the professorship of Hebrew at the Theological Seminary at New Brunswick, New Jersey.

The church edifice of this organization is the oldest in this village, and in 1882 it was thoroughly repaired, several alterations made, and an addition built on the west end for an organ loft, a new organ purchased, and the interior entirely refurnished, at an expense of $13,000.

The present pastor, the Rev. John Walter Beardslee, was installed December 1, 1884.

The South Reformed Protestant Dutch Church for its first pastor called the Rev. Theodore F. Wyckoff on July 25, 1844, and he remained until December 18, 1854. On May 16, 1855, the Rev. Garret L. Roof became pastor of this church, and remained until January 23, 1865, when he resigned. On May 10, 1865, the Rev. Jacob S. Wyckoff was installed, and continued as the pastor of this church until October 28, 1869. On the 16th day of March, 1870, the Rev. Selah W. Strong was installed as pastor of this church, and continued as such until the time of his decease, which occurred at the church parsonage on the 6th day of November, 1884, after the long pastorate of over fourteen years.

In the year 1871 this congregation found that the "old church" edifice was entirely unfitted for the demands of the growing congregation, and while the officers were debating as to the best plans to be adopted to obtain a more suitable edifice, the Hon. James B. Jermain sent to the consistory a communication, whereby he proposed to erect for the congregation, at his own expense, a church edifice upon the following among other conditions:

1st—A change of site, including the purchase of ground on the part of the congregation.

2d—The furnishing of the building, when completed, with all necessary furniture, including organ, etc., by the congregation.

3d—The edifice to be a "memorial building," in memory of Sylvanus P. Jermain (the father of Mr. James B. Jermain) and of his family.

This proposition was immediately accepted by the consistory, and the present site, on the northwest corner of Groton and Middle streets, was purchased for $6,000.

The ground was broken for the new church June 28, 1872, and it was completed in November, 1874, and dedicated December 30, 1874. This new church edifice or "memorial building" (now occupied by this congregation) is of stone, and of the style of architecture called the "early decorate Gothic," and cost about $100,000. This building is by far the finest church edifice in this village.

During the year 1874 the present elaborate tower was added to this building. In the year 1878 the present chapel, situated on the lots north of the "memorial building," was erected, which is a Gothic building of brick and stone, and cost, exclusive of furniture, $6,350, and was opened with appropriate services on Sunday evening, December 22, 1878. The parsonage, which is now located in the rear of the church, was erected upon the site now occupied by the "memorial building," and was moved westward some seventy feet, and enlarged and repaired at the time of the building of the "memorial building."

The Sunday school in connection with this church was organized in 1844, with twenty members, the exercises being held in the church until 1859, when a wooden chapel on the south of the old church edifice on Broadway was erected. The following is a list of those who have served successively as Superintendents of the School:

Miss Gertrude Ten Eyck, Clarkson F. Crosby, John M. Fort, Lewis Taylor, Adrian Winne, Lorenzo D. Lawrence, Rev. Jacob S. Wyckoff, Lorenzo D. Lawrence, James Campbell, Jr., John J. Clute, Rev. S. W. Strong, Edmund W. Johnson. During the year 1869 the infant department of this school was organized by Mrs. Stephen R. Schuyler and Miss Anna R. Jermain.

This church, in 1885, by a vote of a majority of its members, severed its relations to the Reformed Church, and became connected with the Presbytery of Albany.

St. Bridget's Catholic Church.—This church was built in 1850, under the supervision of Rev. Thomas Kyle, the priest then in charge of St. Patrick's Church of this village. This church is located on the northwest corner of Salem and Mansion streets. The Rev. William Cullinan was the first priest in charge of this church and parish, in the spring of 1854, and remained in charge until May, 1883.

The present priest in charge of this parish, the Rev. James A. Curtin, succeeded the Rev. Father Cullinan in May, 1883, and, in the following November, began to make extensive improvements in the church edifice, by the addition of a sacristy on the west, thereby doubling its seating capacity, and by purchasing a bell, and making several other improvements, at a cost of $18,000. In the fall of 1883 this church purchased the property on the southwest corner of Salem and Mansion streets, known as the "Sague property," the dwelling on the corner being at present used as a rectory, and the adjoining buildings on the south being used as a school and residence for the Sisters in charge of the school. This school is for the instruction of boys and girls in the ordinary English branches, and is under the charge of the Sisters of St. Joseph, and has an attendance of about 250 scholars. The Rev. James A. Curtin is assisted in his duties, as priest of this parish, by his brother, Rev. Daniel F. Curtin.

The Washington Street Methodist Episcopal Church.—This church was organized in April, 1831, the first trustees being Daniel T. Wandell, William Tucker, William P. Hall, Ammon Hammond and David I. Dutcher. Mr. L. Brown was elected clerk and Ammon Hammond treasurer. At this meeting it was resolved that the said trustees and their successors in office should forever thereafter be called and known by the name and title of the "Trustees of the Gibbonsville Station of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the town of Watervliet." The trustees of this church then purchased of Ebenezer Prescott a lot on the northwest corner of Washington and Ferry streets, and thereupon erected a small one-story wooden edifice, thirty-five feet front and forty-five feet deep. In 1840 this was enlarged by adding twenty feet in the depth, and by the erection of galleries. In 1841 a small wooden vestry was erected on the same lot on the north. This building was used as a Sunday school room until about 1857, when it was converted into a parsonage. In the spring of 1857 the old wooden church was sold and removed, and the corner-stone of the present church was laid, and it was completed so that the first service therein was held in January, 1858. This edifice cost about $9,000, and the furniture about $4,000. A steeple, bell and town clock were added to this edifice in 1883, and the parsonage enlarged and greatly improved, at a cost of about $8,000.

The old wooden church, which was removed in 1857, was purchased by Mr. John M. Jones, and by him taken down and removed to his carriage works, on the corner of Berlin and Circle streets, where it was re-erected, and is now used as a machine shop in connection with the Jones Horse Car Works. In the year 1849 a number of the members of this church, residing in the upper part of this village, organized a new church, known as the "Ohio Street Methodist Episcopal Church," and thereafter this church dropped the name of "Gibbonsville Station of the Methodist Episcopal Church," and became the "Washington Street Methodist Episcopal Church." In connection with this church is a Sunday school in prosperous condition. The infant department, being an important factor, was organized in 1843, and in that year Mr. James D. Lobdell became the superintendent, and continued in the office until the date of his decease in 1879. The present pastor of this church is the Rev. H. C. Farrer.

The Ohio Street Methodist Episcopal Church.—This church was organized, in the spring of 1849, by Alexander S. Lobdell, Ashael Potter, Edward Mallory, R. E. Gorton and Otis Wood. On June 5, 1849, the trustees of this church purchased the church property located on the southwest corner of

Ohio and Ontario streets in this village, known as the First Presbyterian or Congregational Church, and commonly called the "Bethel Church." This church edifice was a small wooden structure, and on November 19, 1849, was totally destroyed by fire. The first preacher assigned to this congregation was the Rev. I. F. Yates. Immediately after the destruction of the "Bethel," this congregation took action to rebuild the church, and in the following spring (1850) the corner-stone of the present church edifice was laid, and the building was completed soon after, which is a two-story brick structure, the auditorium being on the second floor and the Sunday school and class rooms on the first floor. For about thirty years this church was the only Protestant church in the northern part of this village. In 1881 the brick parsonage, which adjoins this church on the south, was erected. The present pastor is the Rev. H. Van Decar.

The "First Particular Baptist Church and Society of Gibbonsville and West Troy," commonly called the First Baptist Church, was organized at a meeting held March 14, 1827, at the residence of Thomas Shrimpton, which was located on the northwest corner of Broadway and Buffalo street, and was composed of seventeen members; the first trustees being Edward Learned, Thomas Shrimpton, Jonathan Caulkins, Hiram M. Hopkins and Cyrus Kenney. The first real property owned by this society is the same upon which the church and parsonage are now located, being the plot of ground situate on the northeast corner of Ohio street and Central avenue, and comprises four village lots. This land was given to the Society by Philip Schuyler and others, as trustees of the West Troy Company, by a deed dated July 4, 1827, upon the condition that the premises conveyed should be only used for church purposes by this society or its successors. The first church edifice was erected upon this plot of ground in 1829, and was a small wooden structure, which was used until 1842, when it was decided to erect a large edifice, and this building was removed and sold, and converted into a French Catholic Church. The second church edifice was erected in 1842, and was of brick, with a basement. This building fronted on Canal street, and cost about $1,000. It was used by this society until 1870, when it was torn down, and the present edifice was erected, which is of brick, and fronts on Ohio street. This building is of two stories, the auditorium being on the second floor, and the lecture room, study, etc., on the first floor. This edifice, with the furniture, cost upward of $20,000. Adjoining the present church edifice on the east is the parsonage, which was erected in 1847. The first pastor of this church was the Rev. Ashley Vaughan, who became such in July, 1830, and served for four years. This church has had several pastors, among them being the Rev. William Arthur, the father of ex-President Chester A. Arthur, who served as pastor from April, 1853, until April, 1856. The present pastor, the Rev. A. M. Prentice, was installed in September, 1877.

The Sunday school in connection with this church was organized in 1828, the first superintendent being Jonathan Caulkins, and the following persons having thereafter served successively as superintendents, viz.: Isaac I. Fonda, ——— Stearns, Merritt Potter, Miron R. Peak, Edwin S. Johnson, Miron R. Peak, Edwin S. Johnson, Henry C. Kelsey, Andrew G. Coats, David H. Simmons.

In the summer of 1867 this Sunday school organized a Mission Sunday school in the southern part of this village (Port Schuyler), the pastor of the church, the Rev. Edward Mills, being the superintendent, and, in 1868, was succeeded by Albert Tayer. This Mission school continued until 1875, when it was disbanded.

In the year 1869 the Sunday school of this church organized a Mission Sunday school in the village of Green Island, Edwin S. Johnson being the superintendent. This school continued as a mission school until 1873, when it became an independent organization. This school is now in a flourishing condition, and holds regular meetings at its rooms on the corner of Market and George streets, and retains the name of "The Baptist Mission."

The First Presbyterian Church.—This church was first organized at a meeting held in the schoolhouse which was located on the west side of Burlington street, a short distance north of Union street, on the evening of February 12, 1834, and was presided over by the Rev. Marcus Smith (he being the first pastor of this church), and it was resolved that it be known by the name of the Presbyterian or Congregational Society of the village of West Troy. Hiram M. Hopkins, Horace L. Dann and Henry Kimberley were elected trustees. On the 27th of the same month this society organized itself into a "Congregational Church," this form of church government being preferred to that of the Presbyterian. On or about the first of September of this year the first house of worship of this congregation was completed, and was situated on the southwest corner of Ohio and Ontario streets. It was a small wooden building, and cost about $650. This edifice was familiarly called "The Bethel," this congregation making a special effort to secure the attendance and interest of boatmen, and when meetings were to be held at the church a flag was hoisted from its cupola as a signal to the boatmen. In 1835 the form of church government was changed from the Congregational to that of the Presbyterian, and the name of the "First Presbyterian Church of West Troy" was adopted. A year or two thereafter, this society again changed their form of church government to that of the Congregational. On the 26th of August, 1839, it was decided by this society to withdraw from the Congregational association and return to the Presbyterian, as organized in 1835, and unite with the "New School Presbytery of Troy, N. Y.," to which they were admitted on October 11, 1840. This society retained a regular pastor until July, 1845, but thereafter had no regular preaching or pastor (until reorganized in 1875),

having services and preaching when temporary supplies could be obtained. This society, finding that it could not struggle on and maintain the church and a pastor, held a meeting on March 7, 1849, and decided to sell the "meeting house" and lots; and, on June 5 thereafter, this property was sold to the trustees of the Ohio Street Methodist Episcopal Church. This church or society remained dormant until 1872, when it was revived; but owing to the failure to properly elect trustees during the time the society remained dormant, it became necessary to reincorporate the society, which was formally accomplished on February 24, 1872. In the year 1875–76 the present church edifice, which is located on the north side of Union street, a short distance east of Ford street, was erected. This new church edifice is a two-story brick building; the total cost, including site, edifice and furniture, was $15,500.

The present pastor is the Rev. Charles G. Mattison.

The Church of the "Holy Heart of Mary" (French Catholic), corner of Stafford and Buffalo streets, was organized by the Rev. Eugene Rey, a native of France and member of a religious society or order of that country called the "Eudistes." The corner-stone of the church edifice was laid September 11, 1881.

Upon the front of the edifice was placed two stone tablets, which bore the following inscriptions: "Consécration de Jésus et Marie dite les Eudistes." "Eglise du Saint Cœur de Marie." Upon the corner-stone was inscribed as follows: "Pierre angulaire, posée le Septembre, 1881." In 1883 the Rev. Louis Leduce became the priest in charge of this church. On April 2, 1885, the church edifice was totally destroyed by fire, at a loss of $18,000.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The public schools of this village are what are known as the "District Schools," each of the four wards of the village being a distinct district and having its separate schools and buildings.

These districts are comprised within, and compose a part of the district school system of the town of Watervliet, the system being first established and organized in 1813, and has continued ever since. The districts within this village are designated as follows: First ward, District No. 1; Second ward, District No. 2; Third ward, District No. 20; Fourth ward, District No. 9. At the time of the organization of these school districts, the school-house for District No. 1 was located at the village of Washington, afterward know as the village of Port Schuyler; the school-house for District No. 2 being located at the village of Gibbonsville; and the school-house for District No. 9 being located in the country. District No. 20 was not organized until some years afterward, and was created from a portion of District No. 2.

TURNPIKE AND PLANK ROADS.

The Troy and Schenectady Turnpike.—This turnpike road was incorporated in 1806, and in May of that year was surveyed and laid out by Lawrence Vrooman. The charter granted the construction of a road from Ferry street, Troy, to the village of Schenectady. This road was constructed and owned by a company composed of the principal merchants of the City of Troy, and was built for the purpose of diverting from the City of Albany the extensive grain traffic which it then had from Schenectady. This road ran through the land upon which this village now stands, and in laying out the village this road was called Genesee street within the village limits. The road was abandoned and surrendered to the town of Watervliet a number of years ago.

Watervliet Plank Road Company.—This company was incorporated and the road constructed in 1850, running from Buffalo street north through Broad street, now Broadway, in this village, to Auburn street, where it crossed over to the west side of the canal, and thence to the village of Cohoes. This road never paid any dividends to the stockholders, and after an existence of ten years was abandoned and the charter surrendered.

Broadway of this village was originally a post road or turnpike, and was known as the Whitehall Turnpike, also as the Northern Turnpike. Along this road from the City of Albany to Whitehall were placed mile-stones; the stone known as the seven-mile stone was located in this village, at a point a short distance south of Genesee street, this point being seven miles distant from State street, Albany.

OLD RESIDENTS.

Of the original settlers of this village, there are at present only three now living and residing in the village, namely: Messrs. Samuel S. Wandell, Henry Kimberly and Morgan L. Taylor.

Mr. Samuel S. Wandell came to this village (then Gibbonsville) to reside in 1828; previous to that date he had resided in the City of Troy, where he was born in the year 1800, at the home of his father, known as the Wandell homestead, which was located on the bank of the river near what is now known as Division street. Mr. Wandell is a painter by trade, and for more than 30 years previous to 1862 kept a store for the sale of paints, oils, etc., in this village, and also worked at his trade. Mr. Wandell is now the oldest person living that was born in the City of Troy.

Mr. Henry Kimberly was born in Troy, on February 20, 1806. He learned the trade of a blacksmith in the City of Albany, and in the spring of 1827 came to West Troy to reside, and opened a blacksmith shop, which was located on the southwest corner of Broadway and Ontario streets. At that time there were only three other buildings on Broadway; a large wooden building used as a store, on the southwest corner of Broadway and Union streets, which was conducted by the firm of Pattison & Hart; a small wooden dwelling a short distance south of this store, and an old tavern near the ferry.

Mr. Kimberly, by his industry, prudence and honesty, has become one of the largest real estate owners of this village. In 1836 he was elected a Trustee from the Third ward of this village, being

one of the first trustees after its incorporation in that year.

Mr. Morgan L. Taylor was born at Ballston, Saratoga County, May 18, 1806, and came to this village to reside in 1828; and for a greater part of the time that he has resided here his business interests have been closely connected with the canals and river. For a number of years previous to 1878 he and Hiram Holbrook, under the firm name of Holbrook & Taylor, owned and carried on the canal boat dry dock in this village, known as the West Troy Dry Dock, which is located at the southern terminus of Washington street. Mr. Taylor was elected to the office of President of this village in 1852, and held the same for the term of one year.

PUBLIC MEN.

Lorenzo D. Collins was elected Member of Assembly for the year 1859, and re-elected for 1860; and in November, 1865, was elected State Senator for the years 1866–7.

Waters W. Braman was elected Member of Assembly for the year 1874, and re-elected for 1875, and again elected for the year 1879; and in November, 1879, was elected State Senator for the years 1880–1.

Peter A. Rogers was elected Surrogate of Albany County in November, 1871, and entered upon the discharge of the duties of the office on January 1, 1872, and, at the expiration of his term of office, was re-elected and continued to the office until January 1, 1884.

POLICE.

The first police force in this village was organized, under an act of the Legislature, in 1865, and was known as the "Capital Police District." This district comprised the cities of Albany, Troy and Schenectady, the villages of West Troy, Green Island, Lansingburgh, Cohoes and Greenbush, and certain portions of the towns of Watervliet and North Greenbush. The district was divided into two divisions, known as the "Troy Division" and "Albany Division," this village being embraced within the Troy Division. The first Deputy Superintendent of the Troy Division was John M. Landon. The West Troy Precinct was located at 38 Broadway. The first officers and patrolmen were as follows: Captain, Lansing Clute; Sergeant, Abram E. Lansing; Patrolmen, C. Spencer Loomis, Richard Crooks, Martin V. B. Jones, James Smith, Charles H. Cary, John W. Decker and Patrick Rogers.

In 1870 the present police force of this village was organized by virtue of an act of the Legislature of that year; this act repealed the Capital Police District act or law, in so far as it related to this village, and gave the electors of this village power to elect four Police Commissioners, who had power to organize and maintain a police force in this village. The first Commissioners elected under this act were Ebenezer Scoville, John I. Winne, William C. Durant and Isaac R. Getty. These Commissioners in that year organized a police force, and appointed James O. Wood, Captain, and Sylvanus K. Jefferson, Sergeant, who have held the respective positions ever since such appointment.

CIVIL WAR.

Monday, July 1, 1861, was an eventful day in the history of this village, it being the day of the last visit of Co. A, 34th Regiment, New York State Volunteers, prior to their departure for the seat of war in the war of the late rebellion. This company was composed of volunteers who were residents of this village; the company being formed by the efforts of William L. Oswald, who was at this time president of this village. On this day the company came from the barracks at Albany, and were met at the train by the citizens and members of the fire department and escorted to the North Reformed Dutch Church, in front of which had been erected a large platform, over which hung a large American flag. The Rev. G. W. Hathaway, on behalf of the "Ladies' Volunteer Association," welcomed the company, and presented them with two large boxes of useful articles for camp and hospital use. The Rev. O. H. Gregory then addressed the soldiers, and, on behalf of the Watervliet Bible Society, presented each officer and private with a bible, upon the inside of the cover of which was fastened a slip which bore the United States flag and the words "To the Defenders of Our Country."

A beautiful national ensign, made of silk, a gift of the citizens of this village, was next presented to the company, George R. Meenely making the presentation address. After that the company made a short parade through the village and then took the train for the camp, many of the members never to see this village again. This company was composed of the following named citizens: Captain, William L. Oswald; Lieutenant, Elijah R. Brown; Ensign, Benjamin H. Warford; Orderly Sergeant, Luther A. Hill; Second Sergeant, George H. Swartwout; Third Sergeant, John Oothout; Fourth Sergeant, Martin Gorman; First Corporal, Abram E. Lansing; Second Corporal, John McIntyre; Third Corporal, Joseph Andrews; Fourth Corporal, Edward Hoffman; Henry L. Witbeck, Daniel Cassidy, Edgar Lorman, Thomas Cary, Henry Gilman, Alonzo Hills, James McCormick, Anthony Kelly, Daniel M. Becker, Louis Hoffman, John B. Amsden, James A. Britton, William Campbell, Robert H. Hartley, Richard Rapson, George Porter, Patrick Horan, Edward Donohue, Martin Troy, Thomas F. Colligan, Sidney Hockridge, Patrick Keenan, James Anderson, William Traver, Levi Colwell, Henry White, George Hecock, Martin Luckey, John Walsh, John Tottie. Edward Thompson, John Morey, James M. Shoemaker, William H. Bartlet, John Dailey, Riley C. Witmarsh, Spencer Hoffman, John Cunningham, Martin Buck, John Barnett, John McMullen, Peter Ost, James Dongan, Henry Lorman, Thomas Kelley, William J. Cary, Peter Van Patten, Jacob C. Forman, Charles Dorn, Alexander Hannah, John Dolan, Charles Mitchell, James P. Allen, James Redden, Charles Traver, David Flanagin, Frank Hayden, Albert W. Houce, John Loan, William Kirk, Henry W. Price,

Alphonzo Dubois, David Cary, James Donohue, Patrick Welsh. On the 2d day of July, this regiment, under Col. Ladue, left for the seat of war, embarking on the propeller *Henry Adams* and a barge from the city of Albany, the place of their encampment.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The present organized fire companies of the fire department of this village consist of four hose companies and one hook and ladder company. They are as follows: Oswald Hose Company No. 1, organized 1859; Michael Kelly Hose Company No. 2, organized 1870; Thomas McIntyre Hose Company No. 3, organized 1873; Protective Hose Company No. 4, organized 1878; S. J. Gleason Hook and Ladder Company No. 1, organized 1872. In 1864 the first steam fire engine of this fire department was purchased, and company organized and named James Roy No. 1. In 1867 another steamer was purchased and company organized and named James Duffy No. 2, and in 1873 another steamer was purchased and company organized and named Martin Tierney No. 3. These steamers remained in active service until 1878, when the system of public water works, at that time introduced into this village, was deemed sufficient to extinguish all ordinary fires, and the steamers stored for use in case of emergency, and the respective companies were disbanded.

The old fire department of this village of twenty-five years ago consisted of three hand-engines and two hook and ladder companies, and were as follows: Rip Van Winkle Engine Company No. 1, Protection Engine Company No. 2, and Conqueror Engine Company No. 3; Hercules Hook and Ladder Company No 1, and Spartan Hook and Ladder Company No. 2. All these old companies were disbanded twenty years or more ago, but at what dates it cannot be ascertained.

From the organization of this village until 1881 the control of the fire department was vested in the village Board of Trustees. In the last-mentioned year, by act of the Legislature, the control was taken from the trustees and vested in a Board of Fire Commissioners, which was created by said act, and who were to be appointed by the said village trustees.

RAILROAD.

The first steam railroad which ran through this village was constructed in 1852 by the Albany and Northern Railway Company (now leased and run by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company). The builders of this railroad intended to construct the roadway through this village, along or near the bank of the Hudson River. To this the inhabitants strongly objected, as it would necessarily impair the value of the most valuable property of the village, besides greatly interfere with our most important business interests; consequently, the road was constructed through the extreme western part of the village, and a station located at Genesee street. This depot being so far from the central part of the village, Mr. Samuel Hill ran a stage for passengers from the West Troy Ferry, at the foot of Canal street, to the depot.

After a few years the railroad company decided to give better accommodations to the public, and therefore erected a small wooden depot on the north side of Canal street (now Central avenue), a short distance west of Erie street, the cars being backed down to the depot by means of a short track constructed through this street to the main track, and connected therewith by means of a switch, called a Y. This depot had a small bell hung in a tower upon the roof of the depot, which was rung when the trains were being "backed down" to the depot. For a number of years Mr. Lorenzo E. Abbott filled the position of ticket agent at this old depot.

In the fall of 1864 this depot and short branch track were abandoned, the location of the depot being transferred to the original location at Genesee street.

FRATERNAL SOCIETIES.

Evening Star Lodge (Masonic), No. 75.—The first Masonic lodge located in the town of Watervliet was known as Clinton Lodge, No. 202. The date of the charter of this lodge was December 12, 1811. It became inoperative somewhere about 1818.

A lodge known as Evening Star, No. 466, was organized in that part of this village which was called Gibbonsville, and a charter or warrant granted, June 10, 1826. The following named brethren were its first officers: Joseph Hayward, Master; Ira Holdridge, Senior Warden; Obediah D. Brown, Junior Warden. This lodge went out of existence, date unknown, and was revived by authority of the Grand Lodge on January 31, 1840, John D. Willard, Junior Grand Warden, installing its officers as follows: Jacob Gingrich, Master; Jonathan Hart, Senior Warden; Luther M. Tracy, Junior Warden; Wm. P. Lansing, Secretary; Jacob Clute, Treasurer. At this installation Mr. Joseph Hayward, its first Master, was present.

On the 4th of June, 1840, the Grand Lodge changed the "lodge number" of this lodge to 75. On April 12, 1854, this lodge surrendered its warrant, pursuant to a resolution adopted at a meeting held for that purpose, the brethren having been duly summoned. The officers at this time were as follows: Daniel E. Stewart, Master; George B. Frazer, Senior Warden; Lorenzo D. Collins, Junior Warden; John E. Glass, Secretary; Morgan L. Taylor, Treasurer; Wm. McClellan, Senior Deacon; John W. Fisher, Junior Deacon, and John Christie, Tyler.

The present organization of this lodge dates from March 4, 1864, at which time Grand Master Clinton F. Paige issued a dispensation to the brethren at West Troy to form a lodge, to be known as "Evening Star," and subsequently received a warrant, dated June 17, 1864. The following were its first officers: Daniel W. Talcott, Master; Wm. Andrews, Jr., Senior Warden; Geo. F. Milliman, Junior Warden; Alexander McAllister, Treasurer; John H. Fitchett, Secretary; R. G. Smith, Senior

Deacon; Charles H. Fort, Junior Deacon, and William Fox, Tyler.

The Grand Lodge in June, 1864, adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Evening Star Lodge, U. D., be permitted to receive and work under the dormant warrant of a lodge once known as Evening Star Lodge, No. 75, and to be hereafter hailed and known as such number.

This lodge has been in successful operation since the date of its present organization, March 8, 1864. This lodge has been unfortunate, as in June, 1865, its lodge room, with all furniture and records, were destroyed by fire, and again, in December, 1870, its lodge room, together with all its elegant furniture, etc., met the same fate.

In connection with the Evening Star Lodge, in 1871, was organized a chapter of the Royal Arch Masons, known as Hudson River Chapter, No. 262, the first officers being as follows: Albert Tayer, High Priest; Alfred W. Richardson, King; Charles L. Mather, Scribe; Geo. B. Mosher, Treasurer, and Henry C. Kelsey, Secretary. This chapter is still in successful operation.

Laurel Lodge, No. 24, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.—This is the first regular lodge of this order organized in this village. This lodge was first organized and charter granted on January 21, 1846, and given the lodge number of "209." The persons petitioning for the charter, and to whom the same was granted by the Grand Lodge, were as follows: Alexander S. Lobdell, L. D. Lawrence, Samuel Wilgus, James H. Marshall, E. F. Hitchcock, Stephen F. Washburn, George A. Shields, Joseph Schwikhardt, Lewis J. Williams, Robert Kilby, S. Greenman, Robert I. Moe, George B. Fraser, Isaac R. Getty, James E. Dorman, James Cook, Robert Robinson, E. I. Higgins and Ariel Wager.

When the State of New York was divided into two Grand Lodges, "Northern" and "Southern" New York, this lodge joined the Northern New York division, and was given No. 39 for its lodge number. In 1866, when the two jurisdictions came together, this lodge was given the number of "24," which it now retains.

Although Laurel Lodge was the first regularly organized lodge in this village, yet in or about the year 1838 there was a lodge in this village which was called "Watervliet Lodge, No. 20," and held meetings at a private residence of one of the members, on Broadway, south of the United States Arsenal. This lodge was expelled by the Grand Lodge as illegally organized, not having received a charter from the same.

BANKS.

The first bank located in this village was organized and incorporated in 1836, and called the "Watervliet Bank." The officers were as follows: John C. Schuyler, Jr., President; Edward Learned, Vice-President; Egbert Olcott, Cashier; Gerrit T. Witbeek, Teller, and George M. Wheeler, Clerk; the capital stock being $100,000. The banking house was located in the brick dwelling house situated on the southwest corner of Broadway and Buffalo street. This bank failed in 1841.

"*The National Bank of West Troy.*"—This bank was first organized and incorporated, under the laws of this State, in February, 1852, and commenced business May 1, 1852, under the name of "Bank of West Troy;" the capital stock being $200,000, divided into 2,000 shares. John Knickerbacker, James Van Schoonhoven, James Roy, E. Thompson Gale, John Cramer, Joseph M. Haswell, William Sands, George H. Cramer and Ferdinand J. Suydam were the original incorporators and constituted the first board of directors; the officers being as follows: Ferdinand J. Suydam, President; George H. Cramer, Vice-President; Albert C. Gunnison, Cashier. In 1853 Ferdinand J. Suydam became Cashier, and Mr. G. B. Wilson became Discount Clerk and Bookkeeper. In 1858 Mr. Suydam resigned his position as cashier, and in May of that year Mr. G. B. Wilson became his successor and held the position for about nineteen years. In 1877 Mr. Benjamin McE. Schafer became cashier and held the position until his decease, in 1880, when his successor, the present incumbent, Mr. Arthur T. Phelps, was appointed.

In 1853 Mr. Dillon Beebe was elected president, and held the office until 1856, when Mr. Joseph M. Haswell became his successor. Mr. Haswell held this office until the date of his decease, in 1871.

Mr. James Roy was elected as the successor of Mr. Haswell and held the office until 1876, when Mr. Thomas A. Knickerbacker, the present president, was elected.

The banking house used by this bank, and situated on the southwest corner of Washington street and Central avenue, was erected in 1852, for the use and occupation of this bank, by Mr. Ebenezer Wiswall.

This bank was converted into a National Banking Association in 1865, and the name changed to the "National Bank of West Troy;" the capital stock being $250,000, divided into shares of $100 each. In 1877 the capital stock was reduced to $150,000, and in 1883 was still further reduced to $100,000, which is the amount of the present capital stock. On the 21st day of May, 1885, the corporate existence of this bank was extended until the close of business on the 24th day of May, 1905, by order of H. W. Cannon, Comptroller of U. S. Currency.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Corporation Hall.—This is the only public building in this village. It is a three-story brick building, situate on the east side of Broadway, midway between Central avenue and Buffalo street, and was erected in 1864 by the village corporation at a cost of $20,000. The first and second stories are occupied by the Fire Department and meeting room of the Board of Fire Commissioners; the third story as a meeting room or council chamber for the Board of Village Trustees.

NEWSPAPERS.

The first newspaper of any importance published in this village was the *West Troy Advocate*, the first publication being in September, 1837. This paper was printed and published weekly by William Hollands, who continued its publication until his decease, in January, 1853, when his son, William Hollands, Jr., continued the publication until its discontinuance, in July, 1864. Mr. Hollands is now one of the leading lawyers of this village.

The next newspaper which was published in this village was a weekly, called the *Albany County Democrat*, which was first published in January, 1860, and was edited by Mr. Allen Corey, who continued to publish this paper until July, 1884, when he sold it to the publisher of the *Watervliet Journal.*

The next newspaper of any importance published in this village was a weekly, called the *Watervliet Journal.* This paper was first published by James Treanor in May, 1880, and continued until July 5, 1884, when Mr. Treanor purchased the *Albany County Democrat*, and merged these two papers into a paper called the *Journal and Democrat*, which is now published by the firm of Treanor & Hardin.

About the year 1832, there was published in West Troy a newspaper called the *Palladium.* This paper was edited and published by two young men, who were brothers, under the firm name of Warren Bros. In connection with their printing office they also kept a stationery and book store, which was located on the northeast corner of Canal street and Broadway, on the site now occupied by the Collins House.

SCHUYLER MANSION.

Located on the bank of the Hudson River, a few rods from the present southern limits of this village, stands the oldest building in this vicinity. This building is a brick structure, two stories, with high gable roof. It is now owned and occupied by Richard P. Schuyler, Esq., as his family residence, and is known as the "Old Schuyler Mansion." This building was erected about the year 1768, and was built to replace the original mansion that was, at about that date, destroyed by fire. It stands upon the foundation of the original mansion. The date of the erection of the original mansion is unknown, but it was probably erected some time previous to the year 1700.

In 1672, Philip Schuyler, the father of Col. Peter Schuyler, purchased a large tract of land from Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, which included the lands to the south of this village, and known as the "Flats," and also included the land upon which the southern portion of this village is located. The flats were occupied for agricultural purposes as early as 1642, as from that year until 1660 they were occupied by Arent Van Curler, and after him by Richard Van Rensselaer.

On September 14, 1691, Peter Schuyler, son of Philip Schuyler, and afterward known as Col. Peter Schuyler, married Maria Van Rensselaer, the sister of Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, the patroon; and in April, 1711, located his residence at the Flats, in the mansion; at this date and until about the year 1806 the main road from Albany ran along the bank of the river, and passed here between the mansion and the river. At about the date that Col. Peter Schuyler took up his residence at the Flats the public safety began to be greatly endangered by the insidious wiles of the French Canadians and the hostilities of the Indians, and the Colonel became a person of much importance by reason of his influence with the friendly Indians, he being their true friend and a person in whom they placed much confidence.

About the year 1708 it was thought advisable to send some of the chiefs of the friendly tribes to England upon a visit, so as to attach them to that country, and that they might see the sovereign of the English nation, and to counteract the false statements of the power and wealth of that nation which the French Canadians had been circulating among them; but it was no easy task to get them to consent to the proposal. At last, however, they consented, upon the condition only that Col. Peter Schuyler would accompany them, as he had never been known to tell a lie, or to speak without thinking. The Colonel consented, and the adventure succeeded beyond his expectations. The chiefs were much pleased with the attention shown them and with the kind and gracious manner of Queen Anne. She was also much pleased with the Colonel, and desired to knight him, but he respectfully and positively refused, stating as his reason that it would not be in keeping with the simple manners and habits of his life and surroundings. In 1719 Philip Schuyler, the eldest son of Col. Peter Schuyler, married Catalina Schuyler, his cousin, whose father had for a number of years been the Mayor of the City of Albany. Catalina was a person of superior character, and was known during the latter part of her life as "Madame Schuyler."

Philip, at the decease of his father, became the owner of the Flats and mansion, and became a person of great importance in the public affairs of the country, being a member of the Colonial Assembly, also a Colonel, and being the first person who raised a corps in the interior of the province of New York, which fought in the French and Indian War.

Col. Philip died in February, 1758, and was survived by widow, the "Madame," and, as he left no children, he devised his property to his widow during her life, and thereafter to his great-nephew, Peter Schuyler, who was at that time an orphan, and resided with him. The remains of Col. Philip were interred in the family burying-ground, which is located a short distance from the mansion, and over the grave is erected a handsome monument, which still remains as placed there in 1758. This old mansion has always remained in the Schuyler family and been occupied by the descendants of the original owner, Philip Schuyler.

WEST TROY GAS LIGHT COMPANY.

The West Troy Gas Light Company was incorporated in January, 1853, under the provisions of

the general act of the Legislature for the formation of gas light companies. The original incorporators were: Richard S. Lobdell, A. V. Barringer, Morgan L. Taylor, Albert Richards and E. H. St. John; the capital stock being $100,000.

Previous to the date of the incorporation of this company, and in October, 1852, John Lockwood and A. V. Barringer, under the firm name of Jno. Lockwood & Co., obtained the exclusive privilege, from the president and trustees of this village, to lay gas mains through the streets and alleys of this village, and to erect and maintain gas works, etc.; and in November, 1853, John Lockwood and A. V. Barringer assigned their rights and privileges to the West Troy Gas Light Company. In July, 1853, this company obtained from the president and trustees of the village of Green Island the exclusive right and privilege of laying pipes through the streets of said village, and supplying it with illuminating gas. On the first day of February, 1853, this company elected Albert Richards, President; Morgan L. Taylor, Secretary, and Richard S. Lobdell, Treasurer.

On April 1, 1854, Wm. L. Oswald was appointed superintendent of this company, and continued to hold this position until the spring of 1862. In June, 1862, Edwin A. Smith was appointed superintendent, and held the position until the fall of 1864, when he was succeeded by Richard S. Lobdell. Mr. Lobdell held the position until March, 1879, when he was succeeded by the present superintendent, Richard F. Hall. Mr. Albert Richards remained the president of this company from the date of its organization to 1866, when he was succeeded by James Roy, who held the office until 1876, when he was succeeded by E. Thompson Gale, of Troy, N. Y. In March, 1879, the present president, George W. Chapman, succeeded Mr. Gale. In 1876 the manufacturing of gas by this company was discontinued, the company taking its supply of gas from the People's Gas Light Company, of Albany; but this did not prove a success, and, in 1879, this company commenced to manufacture gas at their own works, which are located on the northwest corner of West and Geneva streets in this village.

WATER WORKS COMPANY.

The West Troy Water Works Company was incorporated in 1876, under the provisions of the general act of the Legislature of this State, of 1873, for the formation and incorporation of water works companies, the water being introduced into the village in the early part of 1877. The first Board of Directors of this company were as follows: George R. Meneely, Alfred Mosher, George M. Wiswall, Jesse C. Dayton, Lorenzo D. Collins, John Reiley, George Tweddle, William B. Williams, Richard S. Lobdell and George B. Mosher. The water supplied by this company is obtained from the Mohawk River, at a point near Niskayuna, and is carried from this point, where it is pumped from the river, to a large storage reservoir located on the hill, about a mile west of the U. S. Arsenal, from whence it flows into the mains which run through the streets of this village. In 1877 this company introduced the water into the village of Green Island by extending their mains through the village streets. The expense or cost of construction of this system of water works was about $275,000, the village of Green Island being supplied with twenty hydrants and this village with ninety hydrants, which are used for extinguishing fires by the village fire department. This company has in use about sixteen miles of pipe, and supplies the water to consumers at a pressure of about seventy pounds to the square inch.

MANUFACTORIES AND BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS.

The mills which are located in the southern part of the village, and commonly called the Roy Mills, were established by Mr. James Roy about the year 1847. These mills are two separate establishments, one being conducted by the firm of James Roy & Co., and the other by the firm of Roy & Co., James Roy & Co. being engaged in the manufacture of shawls and woolen cloth suitable for clothing for men and women. Roy & Co. are engaged in the manufacture of butts, hinges and several other articles of builders' hardware, which are made from iron, steel and brass. The firm of James Roy & Co. in 1870 became a corporation, pursuant to the laws of this State, and took the name of "Messrs. James Roy & Co," the capital stock being $500,000, and the incorporators and trustees being James Roy, Benjamin Knower, John Knower and John F. Roy. This manufactory has three mills, two located at this village and one at Schenectady, N. Y., and gives employment to 700 operatives, and produces annually manufactured goods to the value of $800,000. These mills are also called "Watervliet Mills." The firm of Roy & Co. also became a corporation in 1871, under the name of "Roy & Co.," with a capital stock of $150,000, the incorporators and trustees being James Roy, John Knower and Peter Roy. This manufactory has an annual production of about $350,000 worth of manufactured stock, and employs about 350 operatives.

The founder of these large manufactories, Mr. James Roy, was a native of Scotland, and was born near Sterling. He learned the trade or art of a brewer of beer, and came to America in 1835, and was employed in a brewery at Pittsfield, Mass., and in a few years afterward came to this village and became the manager in the brewery of Archibald Dunlop, which was then located on the northwest corner of Spring street and Broadway; and while in the employ of Mr. Dunlop, Mr. Roy, together with Mr. John Knower, became the proprietors of the woolen mill and commenced the manufacture of woolen shawls, they sending to Scotland for a number of their employees that had been employed in the shawl factories in that country. Mr. Roy resided in this village and did much for its welfare and growth, and after a life of much usefulness, died at his residence in 1878, being survived by three daughters: Anna, wife of Capt. A. H. Sweny; Mary, wife of Capt. G. A. Sweny; and Alice, an unmarried daughter. Mr. Roy's only

son, James, was accidentally drowned at Richfield Springs in 1869, aged 23 years.

The Meneely Bell Foundry was established in 1826 by Andrew Meneely, upon the present location of this foundry. Mr. Meneely learned the trade of a brass founder and mathematical instrument maker of Mr. Julius Hanks, who kept a small shop or foundry, which was then located on the west side of Broadway, about one hundred feet south of Buffalo street, in what was then called the village of Gibbonsville. Mr. Meneely commenced business as a manufacturer of civil engineering instruments, and also the manufacturing of church bells and town clocks. This business steadily increased, and in 1835 he took Jonas V. Oothout into partnership with him, the firm name being Meneely & Oothout. This firm continued to exist until 1841, when Mr. Oothout withdrew, and Mr. Meneely continued the business alone until 1849, when he took his son Edwin A. in the business as a partner, the firm name being Andrew Meneely & Son. In 1851 Andrew Meneely died, and this business was thereafter conducted by his two sons, Edwin A. and George R., under the firm name of Andrew Meneely's Sons; and a few years thereafter changed to E. A. & G. R. Meneely. Soon after the decease of Mr. Andrew Meneely, his successors discontinued the manufacture of civil engineering instruments (Mr. Meneely having discontinued the manufacture of town clocks previous to his decease), and gave their exclusive attention to the manufacture of church bells and chimes of bells, fire-alarm bells, etc. In 1874 Mr. George R. Meneely withdrew from this business, and thereafter the present firm name of Meneely & Co. was adopted, the present members of the firm being Edwin A. Meneely and his sons, Andrew H. and George K. This foundry has a world-wide reputation, having for many years sent bells of its manufacture to all parts of the world. The proprietors of this foundry have from time to time made several improvements in the form of the bells and the manner of hanging them, so as to make the labor of ringing as easy as possible.

FACTORIES.

The Brass Foundry of George R. Meneely & Co. was established in 1874 by Mr. George R. Meneely, for the manufacture of a patent journal bearing for steam cars, locomotives, etc. This firm has another foundry, which is located at Atlanta, Ga., where the same patent bearing is manufactured. The firm carries on an extensive business, supplying most of the principal railroads with journals of their manufacture.

The Meneely Hardware Company is a private manufacturing corporation, which was incorporated in 1882, the incorporators and trustees being George R. Meneely, Charles D. Meneely and John Gibbons, the wares manufactured by this company being harness, rope and chain snaps, also rope goods for horses and cattle, many of the wares being the inventions of Mr. John Gibbons above mentioned.

The Covert Manufacturing Company was organized in the City of Troy, N. Y., in 1873, the original members of the firm being James C. Covert, Madison Covert, Henry Wakeman and Scudder Wakeman. In 1879 this establishment removed from Troy to this village, and soon afterward the Messrs. Wakeman withdrew from the firm, leaving the Messrs. Covert the sole proprietors.

The goods originally manufactured by this firm were harness snaps, rope goods and saddlery, hardware specialties. In 1883 the Messrs. Covert added to the manufacture of the class of goods above mentioned the extensive manufacture of all kinds of wrought iron chains, from the lightest to the heaviest grades.

POTTERY.

The manufactory of earthenware, commonly called "The Pottery," which he located on the southwest corner of Washington and Schenectady streets, was established in 1831 by Mr. Sanford S. Perry, the factory at that date being located on Champlain street, fronting the Erie Canal, a short distance above Buffalo street. This pottery was purchased of Mr. Perry in 1845 by the firm of Porter & Fraser (Nathan Porter and Robert H. Fraser), and by this firm in that year removed to its present location. About a year afterward Mr. Fraser died, and his brother, George B. Fraser, succeeded him as a member of the firm. This firm continued for eighteen years, when it was dissolved, each of the members retiring from active business, and the pottery and business being sold to Mr. George H. Seymour, of Troy, N. Y., and thereafter conducted by him, and now conducted by the firm of Shepley & Smiths.

Mr. Nathan Porter, who is now one of our oldest citizens, was born in Brookfield, Mass., in 1809, and came to this village to reside in 1839.

Mr. George B. Fraser was born at Athens, N. Y., and came to this village in 1845, and remained a resident until his decease in 1884, aged 78 years.

JONES' CAR WORKS.

J. M. Jones' Sons Horse-Car Works was first established as a manufactory of wagons and carriages in 1839 by Messrs. Henry W. Witbeck and John M. Jones, under the firm name of Witbeck & Jones. This firm continued to manufacture wagons and carriages until 1863, when Mr. Witbeck withdrew from the business and Mr. George Lawrence took his place; and upon the advent of Mr. Lawrence, the firm's attention was first directed to the building of horse-cars in connection with their regular business, and the manufacture of wagons and carriages was soon afterward abandoned for the manufacture of horse-cars only. In 1864 Mr. Lawrence was obliged to withdraw from the business on account of ill health, Mr. Jones purchasing his interest and associating his sons in the business with him, under the firm name of J. M. Jones & Co. In February, 1882, Mr. John M. Jones died, and his sons, John H. and Walter A., continued the business, under the firm name of J. M. Jones' Sons.

The cars manufactured by this firm have world-wide reputation. Cars of its manufacture are now being used in South America, East Indies and other foreign countries, besides in all parts of the United States and Canadas.

In January, 1879, these works were removed to Schenectady, but remained there only for a short time, having returned to West Troy in 1883. Mr. John A. O'Haire, the superintendent of these works, has been continuously employed there since 1854. Mr. Robert Waugh, the superintendent of the painting department, has been an employee of these works for more than forty years.

PLANING AND SAWING MILLS.

The James Kerslake Planing, Sawing and Molding Mill was originally erected by Mr. Kilgour in 1852, and he was succeeded by Messrs. Ufford & Latham, and Mr. Kerslake succeeded Messrs. Ufford & Latham in 1873, becoming the sole owner of the entire mill property. Mr. Kerslake continued to conduct this mill until his decease, July 9, 1882, and since that date the business has been carried on by his widow. The entire establishment is in charge of and under the control of Mr. Waters W. Braman, the general manager.

The Rousseau & Harrington Planing Mill was established by Mr. Lewis Rousseau, the senior member of this firm, in 1834, and he thereupon entered into copartnership with Mr. Easton, the firm name being Rousseau & Easton. This copartnership continued for twenty-eight years, when Mr. Easton withdrew from the business. Mr. Rousseau always remained interested in this business since its establishment. The present junior member of this firm, Mr. Arvin W. Harrington, is a son-in-law of Mr. Rousseau. Mr. Rousseau was born in Troy, September 24, 1804, and lived there for the first thirty years of his life, when he removed to this village in 1834. He was also the founder of the Watervliet Bible Society.

Mr. Rousseau died very suddenly, at this village, on July 2, 1884.

The Dry Goods and Wall Paper establishment of James D. Lobdell's Sons was established by James D. Lobdell in 1847, and he continued to carry on the business until his decease, January 18, 1879, when his sons, Messrs. William, Edward and James, succeeded to the business, and carried on the same under the above mentioned firm name.

On February 1, 1884, Mr. James Lobdell withdrew from the firm, and the business is now carried on by Messrs. William and Edward Lobdell under the same firm name.

In 1829 Mr. James Lobdell, the grandfather of the present proprietors of this establishment, opened a dry goods store in West Troy, and ever since that date the Lobdells have conducted the principal dry goods establishments of this village.

GREEN ISLAND.

The village of Green Island is located upon, and derives its name from, the island called Green Island. The corporate limits of this village include the whole of this island, together with the small island lying east of it, and called Center Island. Green Island is bounded by the Hudson River on the east and the Mohawk River on the west—one of the many mouths or "sprouts" of the Mohawk River, and known as the sixth sprout, running along the west bank of this island and emptying into the Hudson River at the southern point thereof.

This island was originally owned by Col. Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, the patroon, and comprised a portion of the manor of Rensselaerwyck. This island, together with the island called Jan Gownsen Island, and the land lying opposite to it on the west bank of this sprout of the Mohawk River, and extending back therefrom the distance of one-half of an English mile, comprised the farm, or "Bowery," called "Turkee." This farm, or bowery, which included this island, was sold and conveyed, by Kiliaen Van Rensselaer to Col. Peter Schuyler, by an indenture, which is written upon parchment, and dated May 6, 1708; and in this conveyance this island is mentioned as "the island called Green Island." This conveyance also mentions the fact that Maria, the wife of said Col. Peter Schuyler, is the sister of said Kiliaen Van Rensselaer; also that said Schuyler and his heirs and assigns are to yield, pay and deliver to said Van Rensselaer one-tenth part of the annual crops of said farm, or bowery, each and every year. On the 8th day of June, 1713, Col. Peter Schuyler, and Maria, his wife, sold this farm, or bowery, called Turkee (which included Green Island), to one Hendrick Oothout, of the City of Albany, a carpenter, for the sum of £850, current money of New York. This island remained in the possession of Hendrick Oothout and his descendants until the early part of the present century, when Mr. Geo. Tibbitts became the owner of the northern part, which contained 262 acres, the whole island containing 387 acres. The island was of no importance as a place of residence until 1835, when the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad bridge was completed, the bridge making a public highway between the island and the city of Troy. The railroad company, after completing this bridge, also constructed the wooden bridge over the sprout of the Mohawk to West Troy, and opened the road or highway, which runs across the island, from one bridge to the other, and now called Albany avenue, this being the first public street opened on the island. The railroad bridge was, at the time of its construction, considered a very important piece of engineering and mechanical skill; its length being upward of 1,600 feet, and resting upon eight massive piers of hewn stone, and having a draw of sixty feet at the eastern end for the accommodation of the river craft. Seventeen hundred thousand cubic feet of timber were used in its construction. On Tuesday, October 6, 1835, the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad was completed, and the trains crossed the bridge for the first time on that day. On the arrival of the cars at the approach to the bridge from this island, the locomotive was detached and horses were substituted, which drew

the cars across the bridge and down River street, in the city of Troy, to the Troy House, the terminus of the road. This mode of conveying the cars across the bridge was continued until 1854, when a second bridge, adjoining the original, or old bridge, was constructed for the purpose of using locomotives instead of horses, and thereafter all trains were drawn across the bridge by locomotives. The rails of the old track were removed and the bridge thoroughly repaired, and that part used by teams and pedestrians. On the 10th day of May, 1862, the eastern half of this bridge was destroyed by fire (that part which extended from Center Island to Troy), and was immediately replaced with another wooden structure. In 1879 the western half of this bridge was removed and replaced by an iron structure. In 1884 the eastern half of this bridge was removed, and also replaced by an iron structure.

STATE DAM.

The dam which extends across the Hudson River from the eastern bank of this island to Troy, and called the "State Dam," was built by the State, and completed in 1823. The completion of this dam and the sloop lock at its eastern end was honored by the citizens of Troy and vicinity on September 1, 1823, by a public celebration and the firing of artillery. The length of the dam was eleven hundred feet; height, nine feet.

The inside length of the sloop lock was one hundred and fourteen feet, the width thirty feet, height twenty-five feet, and lift nine feet.

The cost of this dam was $92,270. Previous to the time of the construction of this dam, there was a dyke, which extended from this island in an easterly direction to the channel of the river; but it was removed and replaced by this dam.

STATE BASIN.

The original form of this island has been much altered, by reason of the construction of a dyke at the northern point, which connects it with the city of Cohoes, and a pier at the southern point, which connects it with the village of West Troy. The object of the construction of the dyke and pier was to convert the sprout of the Mohawk River, between these two points, into a large basin to be used for canal boats and river craft.

The dyke at the northern end of this island was so constructed as to cut off and turn the natural flow of the water in this sprout of the Mohawk into the Hudson River; while the pier at the southern point of this island acted as, and in fact is, a dam, which holds the water back, and raises its natural level several feet. At the southern end of this pier there was constructed a "lock," by means of which boats were enabled to obtain access to the Hudson River and return.

The dyke and pier were constructed by the State of New York, the work being done by Messrs. Daniel Hartnett, James Brady and Ephriam Baldwin, contractors, all of whom were residents of West Troy; the work was commenced in 1849 and completed in 1852.

Along the east side of this island, and extending from the approach to the railroad bridge to the southern point of the island, was a sudden rise of ground, or bluff, of about 8 to 10 feet high.

This bluff or gravel bank was removed by the contractors, and used to fill up and make the pier. In removing the bluff, there were found quite a large number of human bones and skulls, which were very much decomposed; also a few brass buttons, which were evidently military buttons, but they were so corroded that it was impossible to ascertain with any certainty to whom they once belonged. It is probable that, at some time during the French and Indian war, a battle took place on or near this island, and this bluff was made a place of burial for those killed in the affray. The finding of these human remains created quite a sensation at the time, and a number of persons from Albany and other places came to examine them. The portion of this island lying south of Albany avenue was, previous to 1849, in a wild and uncultivated state, and was used as a picnic ground by the residents of West Troy and vicinity; and for a month or two during the warm weather, a few of the St. Francis Indians and their families, from Canada, would come and camp on this part of the island and sell baskets and other articles made by them to the residents of Troy and West Troy. These Indians would always leave the island at a time unknown to the residents in the vicinity, and after they had gone it would be noticed that the earth about this bluff had been disturbed; but if questioned about it, they would deny all knowledge of the fact. After the discovery of these human remains, it became evident that these Indians had knowledge of the fact, and they were slowly digging up the remains and taking them to some other locality for interment or preservation.

RAILROADS.

In 1840 the construction of the Troy and Schenectady Railroad, which crossed this island, was commenced, and the first trains began running about the first of November, 1842. This railroad is now owned and run by the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company.

VILLAGE OF GREEN ISLAND.

The village of Green Island was first incorporated, or chartered, by an order of the Court of Sessions, held in the County of Albany at the City Hall of Albany, on the 5th day of April, 1853, the Hon. Albert D. Robinson, County Judge, presiding. Under the provisions of this charter the inhabitants of this village assembled on the 18th of June, 1853, and elected village officers as follows, viz.: five Trustees, two Assessors, a Collector, Treasurer, Clerk, Street Commissioner, Poundmaster and two Fire Wardens.

On the 27th of the same month the Trustees met and organized; their names were as follows: Stephen Viele, Jacob Yates, Robert Bogardus, Warner Groat and Alexander Morrison. They chose Alexander Morrison as President.

On May 12, 1869, this village was duly chartered by a special act of the Legislature, the former laws under which this village was organized not being adequate to the wants of the village. By this new charter the Board of Trustees were given several powers which they did not have under the former charter. The Presidents of this village from the first organization have been as follows, viz.: 1853, Alexander Morrison; 1854, James Remington; 1855, Stephen Viele; 1856, James Remington; 1857, Charles M. Parker; 1858, James Torrence; 1859–60–61, Thomas Stantial; 1862, Jonas Clute; 1863–64, William M. Strong; 1865, John Miller; 1866–67, James Glass; 1868, William E. Gilbert; 1869–70, Henry S. Marcy; 1871–72–73, James Glass; 1874, Edgar Gardner; 1875–76–77, Benjamin F. Manier; 1878, William M. Torrence; 1879, William E. Keating; 1880, William Bliss; 1881, Thomas H. Richardson; 1882, James Torrence; 1883–84–85, Joseph Hines.

Although this village is a distinct municipality, yet, in fact, it is a suburb of the city of Troy; the land upon which it is built was owned and laid out into village lots, with streets and alleys, by residents of that city. The car shops of Messrs. Eaton & Gilbert, being the first manufacturing interest of any importance established in this village, were built in 1853, while they were residents of Troy. At the present time the majority of the resident laboring classes are employed in Troy, while many business men, and other persons employed in that city, reside in this village; and thus the interests of this village are closely allied with those of that city.

HOTEL.

The first hotel located in this village was erected in 1850, on a triangular lot of land on the corner of Albany avenue and Washington street, directly opposite to the approach to the railroad bridge, and was called the Green Island Hotel. This hotel was conducted under the management of Mr. John J. Goddell until 1864, when it was converted into railroad offices and depot, and since that date has been occupied as such.

OLDEST INHABITANT.

The oldest resident inhabitant of this island is Mr. Matthew E. Hyde, who removed from the village of West Troy to this island in the spring of 1842. At that time there were located upon this island six dwelling houses, two buildings used as bowling alleys or restaurants, some repair shops of the railroad company, a small wooden building used as a school-house, and a sawmill, located at the State dam, which was built in 1836.

Goose Egg Island was the name of a very small island about 200 feet south of the south point of Green Island. This island was incorporated in and became a part of the above-mentioned pier at the time of the construction of the State Basin.

NEWSPAPERS.

The first newspaper edited and published in this village was a weekly edition, called *The Green Island Review.* This paper was published and edited by Mr. Henry L. Gilbert from January, 1879, to September 26, 1884, when Mr. Gilbert disposed of it to W. A. Cole and L. H. Weeks, who continued to publish the paper under the name of *The Albany County Herald.*

POLICE.

The first police force of this village was what was known as the "Capital Police," this village being within the same precinct as that of the city of Cohoes. This police organization was succeeded by the Green Island Police Force, which was organized in June, 1871; the Legislature, by an act passed April 20, 1871, giving the Board of Trustees of this village power and authority to appoint Police Commissioners, who were duly empowered to organize a police force for this village, and to fully control the same.

CHURCHES.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of the Village of Green Island.—This church was organized in the year 1853, the congregation being composed mostly of members from the North Second Street Methodist Episcopal Church of the city of Troy. The meetings and services of this congregation were first held in a small school-house which was located on or near the corner of George and Swan streets. During the same year this society commenced the erection of the present church edifice, which is located on the east side of Hudson avenue, a short distance north of the railroad bridge. This edifice was completed in the spring of 1854, and was dedicated on the 9th day of May of that year. Its total cost, together with furniture and lots, was about $4,000. The first pastor of this congregation was the Rev. J. L. Cook, and the congregation consisted of thirty-five members. The first class leaders were Hinkley Davis and Joshua Coleburn; Stewards, C. L. Bogardus, C. A. Crawford and E. B. Winne. In the summer of 1863 the church parsonage was erected, which cost $2,000.

In 1875 the church edifice was enlarged by removing the whole of the front end of the building and reconstructing the same on the line of the street, thus increasing the length of the edifice; this new front was much improved by the addition of stained glass windows. The cost of the enlargement was about $2,200. The following named persons have been the successive pastors of this church in the order named, viz.: Revs. R. Gregg, D. W. Dayton, G. W. S. Porter, C. C. Bedell, Truman Seymour, J. W. Belknap, A. C. Rose, S. W. Coleman, B. B. Loomis, D. W. Gates, L. D. Sherwood, J. K. Wager, Wm. H. Washburn, L. N. Beaudry, Samuel Meredith, C. A. S. Heath, Edwin Genge, and the present pastor, the Rev. B. F. Livingston.

The First Presbyterian Church.—The organization of this church dates from April 18, 1853, when, at a meeting of the session of the Second Presbyterian Church of Troy, held in the session room of said church, a series of resolutions were

duly presented by Mr. Thomas Blatchford, M. D., which recommended the procuring a site and building a suitable house of worship in the village of Green Island. These resolutions were adopted by the session, and a committee appointed to carry the same into effect. This committee at once entered on the discharge of its duties, by purchasing a suitable plot of ground, which was located on the west side of Hudson avenue, a short distance south of Clinton street, and erecting thereon a small wooden house of worship, which was completed in the following winter and dedicated on the 28th of February, 1854, the dedicatory sermon being preached by Rev. Mr. Field, of Troy. This society duly organized on the day of the dedication of the church, with seventeen members, and James Remmington, George Beach and Stephen Viele were elected as elders. On the 16th of the following March, Messrs. James Torrence, William F. Adams, William H. Lansing, Fred. Kean and Joseph D. Hardin were elected trustees. The congregation continued to worship in this house until September, 1866, when it was sold and removed from the plot of ground upon which it stood, and in its place was erected the present handsome brick edifice at the cost of $19,800. The present membership of this church is 175. The following named persons have been the successive pastors of this church in the order named: Rev. Wm. E. Jones, from June, 1854, to January, 1857; Rev. Jacob G. Miller, from February, 1857, to June, 1859; Rev. V. A. Lewis, from July, 1859, to ———, 1862; Rev. David Edgar, from ———, 1862, to April, 1865; Rev. Richard Osborne, from April, 1865, to March, 1868; Rev. Stephen Bush, from March, 1868, to June, 1874; Rev. J. O. Fillmore, D. D., from ———, 1874, to ———, 1875; Rev. J. W. Whitfield, A. M., from February, 1876, to February, 1879; Rev. Charles Wood, from April, 1879, to April, 1880; Rev. J. N. Crocker, a supply for one year; Rev. Charles E. Havens, the present pastor, from May, 1881.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church.—This church was organized in 1869, and the present church edifice, which is located on George street, near Swan street, was erected at a cost of $5,000. In connection with this church is a very handsome parsonage and grounds, which cost $9,000. The first priest in charge of this church was the Rev. J. McManemy, who was succeeded by the present priest, the Rev. Thos. Connelly.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church.—This church was organized in November, 1865, mainly through the efforts of the Rev. Edgar T. Chapman, who was at the time the assistant rector of St. Paul's Church, Troy, and who became the rector of this church at the time of the organization. At the time this church organized, and until the church edifice was completed, services were regularly held in a room in the second story of a small wooden building owned and used by Mr. Uri Gilbert as a carriage house.

Immediately upon organizing, this congregation commenced the erection of the present church edifice and chapel located on the east side of Hudson avenue, opposite Clinton street, the church being consecrated on December 12, 1866, by the Right Rev. Horatio Potter, D. D., Bishop of the Diocese. The cost of the church and chapel was $17,000. In 1872 the Rev. Mr. Chapman resigned his rectorship, and from that date until 1874 the Revs. E. T. Johnson, J. S. Sharp and E. H. Sanders were the successive rectors of this church for short intervals. In June, 1874, the present rector, the Rev. R. Julius Adler, took charge.

In 1880 the chapel was enlarged and improved at a cost of $2,200. In 1883 the church grounds were greatly improved and enlarged by the erection of a stone wall upon the bank of the river at the cost of $1,150.

In 1884 the rectory which adjoins the church on the south was erected at the cost of $6,000, being the gift of Mr. Uri Gilbert.

ODD FELLOWS.

Green Island Lodge, No. 360, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.—This lodge was granted a charter in June, 1873, the charter members being Edward Whitney, Ira M. Husted, William Godfrey, James Delve, William B. Gardiner, John Heron, Albert McCoubry, Andrew S. Bassett, James Madden, James Glass, Edgar Gardner, Levi Coon, Frederick A. Stanley, John B. Chase and Samuel Edgerton.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The first public school of this village was the town district school, this island constituting the district known as No. 23. On November 17, 1854, the inhabitants of this village voted that this district be reorganized and governed under the Union Free School law of this State; and, in accordance with said law, a board of education was elected, which consisted of Messrs. Jos. D. Eaton, Stephen Viele, James Glass, William C. Rodgers and Edmund J. Gilbert. At the present time, this school occupies two large brick buildings; school building No. 1, which is located on Hudson avenue and was erected in 1865, has seating capacity of 456 and is composed of seven departments; school building No. 2, which is located on the corner of West and Arch streets, was erected in 1879, and has the same seating capacity and number of departments as that of building No. 1.

The circulating library in connection with this school contains upward of 700 volumes of standard works. The estimated value of the school property of this village is $36,000.

RAILROADS.

In this village are located the large repair shops, freight houses, yards and offices of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, the lessee of the old Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad; also the freight houses, yards and offices of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, which last named railroad now owns and runs the old Troy and Schenectady Railroad.

The horse railroad which runs through George street in this village, and called the Troy and Cohoes Horse Railroad, was organized February 11,

1862, and the first car ran over the track of this road on Saturday, October 10, 1863, from the east approach to the railroad bridge to the Champlain Canal.

LETTER CARRIERS.

The letter carrier system for the delivery of mail matter to residents of this village was first introduced and took effect on August 1, 1882, and thereafter the Green Island post-office was discontinued; all mail matter for this village being transmitted to the Troy post-office, and there delivered to the letter carriers that distribute the same in this village; the mail matter and letter carriers being under the control of the postmaster of Troy.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The only public building in this village is Corporation Hall, which is located on the corner of George and Clinton streets. This building was erected in 1884, at a cost of $10,000, and is owned by the village of Green Island. It is of brick, and contains three stories; the portions of this building being used and occupied as follows, viz.: First floor, police station and lock-up; second floor, council chamber for the Board of Trustees; third floor, public hall.

The Fire Department of this village consists of two hose companies and one steam fire engine company. Previous to the introduction into this village of the system of water works by the West Troy Water Works Company, this village depended upon the fire department of Troy to extinguish all fires, in accordance with a contract made between these municipalities, this village paying a stated amount of money per annum, and the department of that city responding to all fire alarms in this village, which were given by means of the fire-alarm telegraph system of that city, which was extended into this village for that purpose.

In the spring of 1878 the village fire department was organized, which consisted of the two above-mentioned hose companies, which were named Wm. E. Gilbert Hose Company No. 1, and John McGowan Hose Company No. 2.

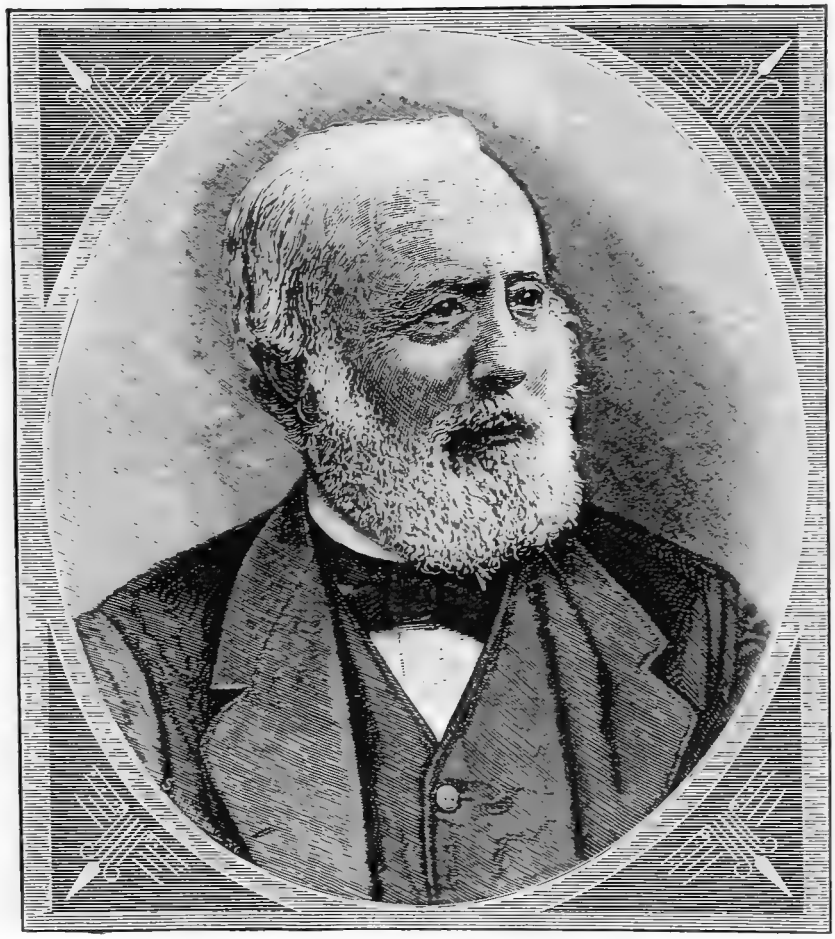
In the spring of 1884 this village discontinued the use of the water of the Water Works Company for the purpose of extinguishing fires, and purchased a steam fire engine, which was named Uri Gilbert Steamer Company No. 1, and also made several wells or cisterns at convenient points in the public streets for holding water for fire purposes; also building several docks or piers at convenient points upon the river bank, so that the steamer could stand thereon and pump water from the river.

The Green Island Malleable Iron Works.—This foundry was established in 1852 by William Torrence, now deceased. About five years after, Mr. John O. Merriam became a partner with Mr. Torrence, under the firm name of Torrence & Merriam. In 1869 Mr. Jones W. Lawrence became a member of the firm, the firm name being changed to Torrence, Merriam & Co. In 1871 Mr. Wm. Torrence died, and his son Wm. M. succeeded him, the firm name remaining unchanged. This foundry manufactures all kinds of the best malleable and gray iron goods; the capital invested in these works being $70,000, and employing on an average one hundred men.

The Pinkerton Iron Works.—These works were established by Mr. Robert Pinkerton in 1879, and manufacture steam boilers, bleachers, tanks and all other kinds of heavy sheet-iron goods.

The Blind Factory of Messrs. Crampton & Belden.—This manufactory was established in 1867 by this firm. This is one of the largest establishments of its kind in the United States, the machinery being propelled by water power, with the capacity of manufacturing 400 pair of window blinds per day. This firm also owns and runs a large factory for the exclusive manufacture of doors; this last mentioned factory is located near the junction of the Champlain and Erie Canals, and was built in 1883; has the capacity of manufacturing 375 doors per day. The firm also manufactures a superior class of metallic paint; the mines and mills being at Putman, Washington County, New York. They employ 200 hands and upward.

We take pleasure in making mention of the following citizens of West Troy and Watervliet, who, by their guaranteed support, have helped to insure the publication of this valuable work: Treanor & Hardin, C. L. Culver, Archie Cullen, J. C. Dayton, James Forsyth, George Mark, James O. Wood, Waters W. Braman, Alexander Shiland, Patrick Grogan, W. Hollands, Lewis W. Smith, John F. Roy, James Roy & Co., F. B. Durant, J. H. Harrington, T. W. Getman, Francis O'Brien, Joseph McLean, P. E. Fennelly, George M. Wiswall, S. S. Wandall, Henry Kimberly, John Riley, H. W. Steenbergh, John C. Hall, Joseph Hynes, J. L. Cory, S. B. Lanehart, F. Thompson, A. H. Babcock, D. Hoit, William M. Torrance, William Connelly, Edward Dwyer, Wm. H. Vanderwerken, Charles G. Witbeck, William Swatling, Isaac M. Haswell, Shaker Society, Abram N. Ladu, Daniel Whitbeck, William J. Miller, Thomas H. Lansing, Morgan L. Taylor, Thomas Knowlson, O. F. Cobb, W. G. Griffin, Clinton Robinson, George E. Lyon, John Lundergan, Edgar Littlefield, William Trimble, Robert Trimble, Daniel Knower, Nelson Hinman, R. P. Schuyler, John Perrigo, Robert Waugh, John A. O'Haire, John Gibbons, John S. Robinson, Mrs. R. Robinson, J. H. Harmon, Charles L. Mather, A. W. Gilbert, Edward Lobdell, Harry Fitchett, Abram L. Lansing, Mrs. John White, William M. Gaffers, John A. Hills, Isaac B. Pitts, Isaac Van Alstyne, Hiram C. Abrams, Aurelius Gove, M. L. Bradford, Mary Woollett.



Jonathan Pearson

To whom this History of Schenectady is respectfully dedicated.

HISTORY

OF THE

COUNTY OF SCHENECTADY,

N. Y.,

FROM 1662 TO 1886.

WITH PORTRAITS, BIOGRAPHIES AND ILLUSTRATIONS.

HOWELL. ❋ MUNSELL.

ASSISTED BY

LOCAL WRITERS.

NEW YORK:
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1886.

EDITOR'S PREFACE.

IN presenting this History of Schenectady County and City to the public, a few words of explanation and acknowledgment are due.

The preparation of so large an amount of historical, biographical and statistical matter as is contained in these pages was undertaken by the publishers in a spirit of enterprise and liberality that required no little financial risk. The Editor was induced to assume the compilation and editing of this work, because he believed there was much important historical and statistical matter that was not in print that ought to be preserved in some compact and convenient form, and because much published and unpublished materials for the work were generously and kindly put at his disposal by the authors and publishers.

Nearly everything of special interest and value connected with ancient Schenectady is already in print, most of which came from the pen of Prof. Jonathan Pearson, the highest authority in this section of the country, to whose nearly half a century of unrequited labor in antiquarian research, the State of New York owes a large debt of gratitude. We desire to make generous acknowledgment to him for the use of his published works and unpublished manuscripts, from which much material has been gleaned for this work.

It has not been convenient to make special mention, in connection with the various articles themselves, of those who have kindly prepared them, in part or whole, therefore, we wish to make the following acknowledgements: To the Rev. Wm. Elliott Griffis, D.D., who wrote the excellent article on Prof. Taylor Lewis; the History of the Dutch Church, Schenectady, is substantially the same as already published from material prepared by Prof. Pearson and Rev. Dr. Griffis; the History of the First Presbyterian Church, is principally a discourse by Rev. T. G. Darling, D. D.; that of St. George's Episcopal Church, by Rev. Wm. Payne, D. D.; that of the Methodist Episcopal Church, by Rev. Samuel McKean and Prof. L. Hoyt; that of the First Baptist Church, by Rev. H. G. Day; that of the Second Reformed Dutch Church, by J. J. Marlett; and the article on Temperance, by Peter Chrisler.

L. B. Proctor, Esq., the accomplished editor of the "New York State Bar," prepared most of the article on The Bench and Bar. For the history of Union College we are indebted to articles in print, by Prof. Pearson, Dr. F. B. Hough and Prof. Wm. Wells. Prof. S. G. Howe furnished valuable information contained in the article relating to the Schools of the City. Mr. Omie F. Vedder has rendered valuable assistance in gathering matter especially relating to the Official History of the County and City, and preparing it for the press. The Editor hereby acknowledges the kindness and courtesy of the above-named individuals, and also expresses thanks to the press; to the county and city officials for assistance in examining their records; to the pastors of nearly all the churches in the county for assistance in preparing their religious history; to the secretaries of the numerous lodges, societies and military organizations for data furnished; and to the many other persons who have rendered more or less assistance during the progress of this work.

It is hardly possible that in a work like this no errors will be found; but it is confidently hoped that if inaccuracies are discovered, the great difficulty of preventing their occurrence will be considered, and that they will be charitably regarded.

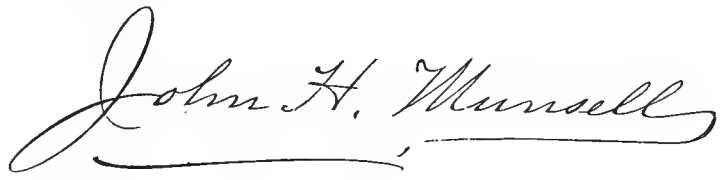
Some differences of opinion regarding some old historical facts have been discovered in published works, and have come to us by tradition in a few cases. All information has been duly weighed and preference given to what seemed to be correct.

The following works have been consulted: "The Schenectady Patent," by Prof. Pearson, edited by Major J. W. McMurray to whom we are also indebted for the use of plates from which some of the illustrations have been taken; "Sander's Early History of Schenectady," "History

of the Dutch Church" by Prof. Pearson and Rev. Dr. Griffis; "First Settlers of Schenectady," by Prof. Pearson; "Historical Collections of the State of New York;" "Annals of Albany," published by Joel Munsell; Gazetteers of the State of New York; Spafford's Gazetteer; "Memoirs of Dr. Nott," by Van Santvoord and Taylor Lewis; "Public Service of New York State;" and other minor publications.

The history of some of the towns of the county was prepared by the Rev. E. E. Taylor, who is accredited at the head of each. Many of the illustrations will be familiar to some, but new to most of the subscribers. The portraits with which these pages are embellished, coming as they do from the bureau of the most eminent engravers of the day, will commend themselves to all who see them, not only as admirable likenesses, but as choice works of art.

And now, after two years of labor, conscious that this, in a measure, falls short of what we had proposed at the outset, the Editor may well say, as did valiant Captain John Mason, in his introduction to the Pequot War, "I wish (this task) had fallen into some better hands, that might have performed it to the life. I shall only draw the curtain and open my little casement, that so others, of larger hearts and abilities, may let in a brighter light."



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HISTORY

OF THE

COUNTY OF SCHENECTADY,

1662–1885,

EDITED AND COMPILED

BY REV. J. H. MUNSELL.

INTRODUCTION.

EARLY in the seventeenth century, North America, east of the Mississippi, was claimed by right of discovery by four European nations: France, England, Spain and Holland. Although for fifty years there were but few colonists sent over, the whole continent was too small to hold them in peace. Jealousies and bickerings were rife; the French crowded the English, and the English crowded the Dutch, until finally the latter disappeared altogether, and the rivalry between the former continued one hundred years longer. It was as plain then as it is now that rival nations could not exist in the Mississippi Valley.

The French commenced the settlement of Canada in 1603. Their object was two-fold: the conversion of the natives to the Christian faith, and trade. The missionary and the trader, therefore, went forth together visiting every tribe in the valleys of the St. Lawrence and the Mississippi, and rendering to each other mutual aid and assistance.

No nation was ever more successful in winning the esteem and respect of the natives. The flexibility of the French character and the indomitable patience of their missionaries were the secrets of their success. The Iroquois, or Five Nations, alone resisted their influence. Their friendship was the salvation of the Province of New York. They claimed all the territory lying between the Hudson and the Maumee rivers, so that the French of Canada could never aim a blow at Albany or Schenectady without striking over the heads of the Five Nations. This celebrated confederacy, the terror of all surrounding tribes, was made up of the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas, five allied tribes, who acted as one nation; herein lay their influence.

During the long contest for dominion on this continent between the French and English, they held the balance of power, and were assiduously courted by both parties.

But after 1760, when the French influence ceased, their importance declined; rum and gunpowder had diminished their numbers, and the once powerful Mohawks had almost ceased to exist as a separate tribe.

During the Revolutionary war, large portions of the Oneidas and Tuscaroras favored the colonies, and for safety were transferred to Schenectady; while most of the Onondagas, Cayugas and the Senecas, the more numerous and westerly tribes, adhered to Great Britain and became an awful scourge to the frontier settlements in the Schoharie and Mohawk valleys.

SCHENECTADY.

The ancient township of Schenectady embraced a territory of 128 square miles, a portion of the Mohawk valley sixteen miles long and eight miles wide. The western half is an irregular plateau, elevated 400 or 500 feet above the Mohawk, a spur of the Helderberg, passing north into Saratoga County; the eastern half is a sandy plain, whose general level is 300 or 400 feet lower. The river, running through the middle of this tract in a southeasterly direction, forms the most beautiful and striking natural object in its landscape. At the western boundary, where it enters the town, it flows through a narrow valley, whose sides, though covered with foliage, are too steep for cultivation. From the hill Towereune, the valley widens gradually to *Poversen* and *Maalwyck*, where the hills sink down into a great sand plain. Until the river reaches the City of Schenectady, it is a constant succession of rapids, and its general

course is southeast; here it makes a great bend, and flows with a deep, sluggish current northeastward to the *Aal Plaats*, the eastern boundary of the town. The tributaries of the Mohawk within the town are small and unimportant streams; those at the west end, flowing from the slates, are nearly or quite dry in summer, while those at the opposite end, fed from the sand, are constant spring brooks. But of these streams, few are of sufficient size and constancy now to serve as motive power.

With the exception of a little limestone in the extreme western limits of the town, all the rocks found in place belong to Hudson shales, and consist of alternate layers of blue slate and sandstone, some of which are used for building purposes.

In the west half this geological formation is most abundant, and the soil there is a clayey loam, underlaid with clay or hard pan. The immediate valley of the river, where it breaks through the range of hills, is narrow and composed chiefly of drift of at least two elevations. The highest, called the "stone flats," raised twenty to thirty feet above the water, consists of coarse gravel and bowlders, and is chiefly found on the north side of the river. The opposite bank is a lower plain of sand and gravel.

The eastern half of the town has no hills worthy of the name; its general level is perhaps 100 feet above the Mohawk, and the prevailing soil is a fine sand, underlaid with clay, except in the extreme eastern limits, where the clay loam again prevails.

Besides this there is found in the bends and eddies of the river, and upon the low islands, an alluvial deposit which is enriched by the annual floods. This constitutes the widely known "Mohawk Flats," which, though cultivated by the white man for more than 200 years, have lost little of their unsurpassed fertility.

In the early period of the settlement no other land was tilled, hence they were called *the land*, arable land, or *bouwlandt*, all else being denominated woodland, and little valued. In addition to their fertility, these flats presented another advantage to the first settler; they were mainly free from wood, and ready for the plough and seed. For ages they had been the native's corn land, whilst the adjacent forests and river furnished him with flesh and fish.

The great sand belt which passes across the town from south to north was once covered with a heavy growth of pine, while the high lands lying north and west of it produced the usual varieties of hard woods. Nothing could have been more charming to the eye of the first white man traveling up the Mohawk to Ticonderoga (Fort Hunter) than the flats skirting the river banks, clothed in bright green of the Indian corn and other summer crops of the red man. In 1642 the kind hearted Arent Van Curler visited the Indian castles on an errand of mercy, to rescue some captive Frenchmen from the hands of the cruel Mohawks. On his return he wrote to the Patroon (Kilian Van Rensselaer) in Amsterdam, that a "half day's journey from the *Colonie*, on the Mohawk river, there lies the most beautiful land that the eye of man ever beheld." Who that has stood upon *Niskayunaberg* or *Schuylenberg* and looked west and north over the *bouwlandt* and the adjacent islands can wonder at the rapture of the enthusiastic Dutchman, or can fail to discern in his admiration the budding of that idea which twenty years after blossomed into the settlement of which he was the leader.

The site of the village of Schenectady was admirably chosen. No other spot in the neighborhood of the bouwland offered such facilities for a village. From the eastern end of the "Great Flat" there makes out from the sandy bluff which surrounds it a low, narrow spit, having upon the east, north and west sides the Mohawk River and Sand Kil. The extreme point, only about 1,200 feet wide, was chosen for the site of the future city, a warm, dry spot, easily fortified against an enemy, and sufficiently elevated to be safe from the annual overflow of the Mohawk River. This little flat contains but 175 acres, and it was the site of an earlier Indian village, which tradition says was a former seat or capital of the Mohawks.

FIRST SETTLEMENT OF SCHENECTADY.

If we may believe tradition, Schenectady had already been occupied by the white man many years when Van Curler first visited it in 1642; in fact, it has been claimed to be little, if any, junior to Albany.

That a few fur traders and *bosloopers* early roved among the Mohawks, married and raised families of half-breeds, cannot be denied; indeed, there are respectable families in the valley to this day, whose pedigree may be traced back to these marriages. But that the white man made any permanent settlement on the Mohawk west of Albany, before 1662, there is no good reason for believing, and in view of the opposition of Albany and the Colonie, improbable.

June 18, 1661, Arent Van Curler, the leader of the first settlement, made formal application to

Gov. Stuyvesant for permission to settle upon the "Great Flat" lying west of Schenectady.

The reply was as follows:

JUNE 23, 1661.

"The letter of Arent Van Curler being presented and read on the 18th June, containing in substance a request by him and a few other persons for the large plain situated to the back of Fort Orange, toward the interior, for the purpose of cultivation, and consent to purchase the same from the original proprietors and make a settlement there, etc., which, being maturely considered, the Director-General and Council resolved to consent to it; provided that the said lands, on being purchased from the native proprietors, be, as usual, transferred to the Director-General and Council aforesaid, as representatives of the Lords Directory of the Privileged West India Company; and that whatever the petitioners shall pay for the aforesaid lands to the original proprietors shall in due time be returned to them, or be discounted to them against the tenths."

Before the Governor's authority was received at Beverwyck a freshet laid the country for miles around under water. This was followed, a few days after (June 26), by an inundation much greater than the first, which forced the inhabitants to quit their dwellings and fly with their cattle for safety to the woods on the adjoining hills. Incalculable damage was caused by these irruptions. The wheat and other grain were all prostrated, and had to be cut mostly for fodder, affording scarcely seed sufficient for the next spring.

This visitation caused the postponement of the purchase of the "Great Flat" until the ensuing month, when the following deed was obtained from the Indian owners:

Compareerde voor mij Johannes La Montagne ten dienste van de Groet Westendische Compagnie door de G[l] en Raeden Van Nieu Ned[erlant] geadmitteert, Viers Direct[r] en Commies op de fort[ss] Orangie en Dorp Beverwy, eenige Oversten van t'Maquaes Lant genaempt Cantuquo, Sanareetse, Aiadane Sodackdrasse eigenaers van een seeckere stuck Landts genaempt Op duyts de Groote Vlackten Liggende achter de fort Orangie tusschen de selve en het Maquaes Landt de welcke Verklaeren gecedeert en getransporteert te hebben gelyck sij seedeeren en transporteeren by deesen in reele en Actuelle possessie en sijgondom ten behoeve Van S[r] Arent Van Corlaer Ret gemelde stuck Landts of groote Vlackten op Wildts genaemdt Schonowe (is) in syn begrip en circonferentie met syn geboomte en killen voor een seecker getal of Cargosoenen voor welck de transportanton bekennen sattisfactie van gehadt te hebben renonceerende voor nu en altyt op alle eygendom en pretensie die sij op het gemelde stuck Landts tot nutoe gehadt hebben, beloovende het te bevryden voor all pretensie die andere Wilden soude hebben konnen. Actum in de fort[ss] Orangie den 27[e] July A, 1661, in presentie Van Marten Mouris en Willem Montagne daertee versocht.

dit ist merck van CANTUQUO.

THE BEAR.

dit ist merck van AIADANE.

dit ist SONAREETSIE. merck van

In Kennisse van mij
La Montagne
V. D[r] en Commies
opt fort[ss] Orangie

M. MOU(RIS)

WILLIAM DE LA MONTAGNE.

(*Translation.*)

Appeared before me Johannes La Montagne, in the service of the Privileged West India Company, by the Director-General and Council of New Netherland admitted vice-director and clerk (*commies*) at Fort Orange and village of Beverwyck, certain sachems of the Mohawk's land named Cantuquo, Sonareetse, Aiadane, Sodachdrasse, owners of a certain piece of land named in Dutch the *Groote Vlachte*, and lying behind Fort Orange, between the same and the Mohawk's lands, who declare that they have granted, transferred, as by these presents they do grant and transfer, in real and actual possession and ownership to the behoof of Mr. Arent Van Corlaer, the said piece of land or Great Flat, by the Indians named Schonowe, in its compass of circumference, with its woods and kils, for a certain number of cargoes, for which the grantors acknowledge they have had satisfaction; renouncing henceforth and forever all ownership and pretensions, which they to said pieces of land heretofore have had, and promising to free it from all pretensions which other Indians may have. Done in Fort Orange the 27th July, anno 1661, in presence of Martin Mouris and Willem Montagne, hereto invited.

This is the mark × of CANTUQUO.
This is the mark × of SONAREETSIE.
This is the mark × of AIADANE.

M. MOU(RIS)

WILLIAM DE LA MONTAGNE.

Acknowledged before me,
La Montagne V. D., and
Clerk at Fort Orange.

Much difficulty was encountered in gaining possession, and in the allotment of the land among the Van Curler's Company. After a delay of two years, Governor Stuyvesant came to an understanding with the settlers, and the several

lots and farms were surveyed and conveyed to them by patents.

The description given in this deed was quite indefinite, and restricted the inhabitants to a comparatively small area.

At this time, and even for many years later, nothing was called *land* except the islands and alluvial flats bordering upon the river. Within ten years after the settlement commenced, all the tillable land was taken up, and it became necessary to look for more farther west. Hence originated another negotiation with the Mohawks, and the following deeds extinguishing the Indian title to the lands along the river to the present westerly limits of the county:

On this 28th May, 1670, Kennighke and Auroensie, both sakemakers of the Maquase, acknowledge to have thankfully received the remainder of the sewant, tubs [of beer] and gunpowder, according to the tenor of the accompanying contract, and free the aforenamed buyers henceforth from all claims, and promise never more from this date to make any new action.

In witness of the truth of which we have subscribed this with our own hands by our accustomed marks, at Schanechted, on the date as above, in presence of Robbert Sanders and Jacques Cornelise [Van Slyck], both called as interpreters hereto.

This mark was set by KENNIGHKE.

This mark was set by DOROWINGOESE.

This mark was set by AUROENSIE.

Robert Sanders.

These letters were ACKES set by *Jacques Cornelise.*

In my presence,

J. G. V. MARCKEN, Schout.

On this 3d day of July, A° 1672, appeared before mee John Garretsen Van Marken, admitted publ: nota: by the worshipful court of Albany and the Inhabitants of Schanhectade, together with a sartain Indian called Dohorywachqua and Crage, being the representative of ye foure Mohockx Castells, who declared and promised to hold firm and stable, and will cause to be held in full force and virtue all and whatsoever hee shall act or doe in ye sale of ye Lands Lying Neare The Towne of Schanhechtade, Within Three Dutch Myles in compasse on boath sides of ye River Westwards, which endes at Hinguariones [Towareoune] Where the Last Battell Wass between The Mohoakx and the North Indians; Provided That Jaackes Cornelisse [Van Slyck] Shall have the first flatts or playne, —Except ye Inhabitants of Schanhechtade will Restore unto said Jaaques Cornelisse Two Rundlets of Brandy and one hundred hand of Wampum, which being paid unto s^d Jaaques The said first Playne to Remaine to the Towne.

Whereupon Sander Leenders Gelen, being a former magistrate, and John Van Eps, and Sweer Teunisse [Van Velsen], being ye present magistrates of ye s^d Towne, did acknowledge and declare That They Weare Agreed with ye s^d Indians uppon ye purchase of ye Land for ye Summe or quantity of six hundred hands of good Wheyte Wampum, Six koates of Duffels, thirty barres of Lead and nine bagges of Powder, Which They doe promis unto ye s^d Indians in two Terms, viz.: The first as soon as The Sachems, or any person by Them authorized, shall Comme out of ye Country and Produce full Power from Theyre Inhabitants according to Theyre usuall manner, and have thereupon delivered unto ye s^d Indian as a present for The old man in the Mohawk Country a Rundlet of brandy,—To the end all Misunderstanding and Complaints May be Washt of and Removed.

To The trew performance of The premises The s^d parties have hereunto Set theire handes, and Wass Interpreted by Cornelis Viele in The Absence of Jaques Cornelisse,—In Schanhechtade, the date above written. (Signed)

With the Markes of followeth

The Marke of DOHORIWACHQUA.

The Marke of CRAGE.

SANDER LEENDERS GELEN,
JOHN VAN EPS,
SWEER TEUNISSE.

Attested by me,

J. G. V. MARKEN, Notar: publ:

(Coppy) This day the 13th of July is pay^d unto the Indians above mentioned in parte of ye purchaze foure hundred hands of Wampum, 30 barres of Lead 3 bagges of pouder. More for a present, 3 ankers good beere, one koatt of duffells, together with the above mentioned Rundlet of Brandy.

(Coppy Transl:) A°° 1672 the 13th day of July, Did the underwritten Indians appeare before us and do declare that They did confirm all and whatsoever the Above written Indians by Name Tohoriowaghque and Crage in the Annexed Instrument have acted, and doo by these presents prommise, with the Last payment to give all further assurances of the s^d Land, and That They and Theyre heires Shall desist from all further Claymes and pretences whatsoever.

In Witness whereof They have hereunto set Theyre handes, In Schanhechtade at the house of Gerritt Bancker and in the presence of Severall particular Indians The Day and Yeare Above written.

Signed with ye following markes.

The Marke of CANACHQUO.

The Marke of OCQUARRY.

The Marke of TOHORIOWACHQUE.

Attested by mee,
(Signed) J. G. V. MARCKE, Nota. pub.
Compared and found to agree with the prinsip: by mee.

LUDOVICUS COBES, secret.

By virtue of the foregoing conveyance from the Indian proprietors, application was then made to the Governor and Council for a patent, which reasonable petition was denied, the reasons for the refusal being that "leave from ye Governor to buy ye same" had not been first obtained, and that "full information of the premises" was not given.

To add to the difficulties of the case, the Mohawks were inclined to repudiate the sale of their lands, or at least demand a double compensation, as shown in the following minute of a council held by the Mohawks, before the Governor:

The Sachem spake for himself, That one Arent Van Corlaer bought all Schannectade and paid for it, but now there be some who have bought only Grasse, and pretend to the land allso; they say allso that they have bought the first flatt, but that is not so, for it belongs to Acques Cornelisse [Van Slyck], who is to have it, and none else, for he is of their [Mohawk] people, and it is his inheritance;—that there are writings made of a sale of land, but it was never sold, but only the grasse, tho' it may be some drunken fellows may have made some writing without their knowledge,—That they have only bought the Grasse and now are going to live upon it, but they ought to pay for the land as well as the Grasse, and that they had given some to that woman Hillah and another Leah, who have the property of it;—the others have only the Grasse;—That now he has declared this matter and desires notice may be taken of it; and says that shame shall never come upon him, or to be found in a lye.

Answer.

That it is the custom of the Government and amongst Christians when they sell the Grass to sell the land allso; and if they be not paid for the land they shall be, and that the people of Schannectade say that they sent Acques to purchase the land in the name of their Town, and that Acques bought in his own name; and they sent allso one Kemel to purchase it for the Towne, the Indyans told him that Acques had bought and paid some part of the payment, and they desired them to pay Acques the money back and the Towne should have it, which the Towne did and Acques was satisfied; it is the custom of this place to do justice among ourselves and if Acques have a better title than they for it he shall have it.

Whatever may have been the arguments used on this occasion, whether in the shape of "ankers of good beere," or a "rundlet of brandy"—potent reasons ever with the Indian—opposition ceased from this time, and the Governor and Council were brought to grant the inhabitants the following much-needed patent for the ancient township, afterward City of Schenectady.

PATENT OF 1684.

Thomas Dongan, Leiutenant and Governour and Vice-Admirall under his Royall Highnesse, James, Duke of Yorke, &c., of New Yorke and its Dependencyes in America, &c.

To all to whom these presents shall come, Sendeth Greeting, Whereas Tohorywachqua and Crage, Representatives of the four Mohake Castles, have for themselves, and Canachquo, Ocquary, and Tohoriowachque, true and Lawfull Owners of the Land within menconed, have by their certaine Writeing, or Deed of Sale, dated the third day of July Anno Dni 1672, Given and Granted unto Sander Lend^{rs} Glenn, John Van Epps, Sweere Teunesse, as being impowered by the Inhabitants of the Towne or Village of Schenectady and Places adjacent, a Certaine Tract or Parcell of Lands, beginning at the Maques River, by the Towne of Schenectade, and from thence Runnes Westerly on both sides up the River to a Certaine Place called by the Indians Canaquarioeny, being Reputed three Dutch Miles or twelve English Miles; and from the said Towne of Schenectade downe the River one Dutch or four English miles to a kill or creeke called the Ael Place, and from the said Maques River into the woods South Towards Albany to the Sandkill one Dutch Mile and as much on the other side of the River North, being one Dutch mile more, there being Excepted in the said Bounds all Corne and Sawmills, that now are or hereafter shall be erected Within the Bounds of the said Towne, that they be lyable to pay a perticular Quitt Rent for their Priviledges, besides what is herein sett forth, as shall hereafter be agreed for by the Inhahitants of the said Places, or owners of such Mills, with such Covernour, or Governours as shall be Appointed by his Royall Highness; and likewise that noe Timber or Wood be Cutt but within the Bounds aforesaid, the said Excepcon being agreed upon by Myselfe as by a Certaine Writeing bearing date the 7th day of August last Past, doth more perticularly Appeare:

Now know Yee that by virtu of the Comicon and Authority to me Given; by his Royall Highnesse James Duke of Yorke and Albany, Lord Proprietor of this Province, I have hereby Given, Granted, Ratifyed and Confirmed and by these Presents doe Give, Grant, Ratify and confirme, unto William Teller, Ryert Schermerhorn, Sweer Teunessen, Jan Van Epps and Myndert Wemp on the Behalfe

of the Inhabitants of the Towne of Schenectade and Places Adjacent aforesaid, Dependencyes thereon, there Associates, Heires, Successors and Assigns, all and Singular the before recited Tract and Tracts, Parcell and Parcells of Land, Meadow, Ground and Premises with their and every of their Appurtenancyes, together with all and Singular the Houses, Buildings, Messuages, Tenements, Heriditaments, Dams, Rivers, Runnes, Streames, Ponds, Woods, Quarryes, Fishing, Hawking and Fowling, with all Priviledges, Libertyes, and Improvements whatsoever, to the said Lands and Premises belonging, or in any wise appertaining, or accepted, reputed, taken or known as Part, Parcell, or Member thereof, with their and every of their Appurtenances; Provided Alwayes that this shall not anywayes make null, or void a former Grant or Pattent, bearing date the 30th of October last past made to Jacques Cornelisse of a Piece of Land lyeing within the Bounds heretofore mentioned of the Towne of Schenectade, (that is to say) the Land Lyeing and being betweene two Creekes, the one called the Stone Creeke to the Eastward, and the other the Plattè Creeke to the westward thereof, the Low Land lyeing along the River side on the South of the Maques River, and then to the north of the Land belonging to the Inhabitants of Schenectade, the same Containing Forty Morgen or Eighty acres of Land, as alsoe Forty Morgen, or Eighty Acres of Woodland or upland more, on the West side of the Plattè Creeke, adjoining to the arrable Land along the River side, which was wholly exempt by the Indian Proprietors, in the sale of this Land, as belonging to Jacques Cornelise——*To have and to hold* the aforesaid Tract and Tracts, Parcell and Parcells, of Land and Premises, with their and every of their Appurtenances, unto the said William Teller, Ryert Schermerhorne, Sweer Teunessen, Jan Van Epps and Myndart Wemp on the behalfe of the Inhabitants of the Towne of Schenectade and their Associates, their Heires, Successors and Assignes, unto the propper use and behoofe of the said William Teller, Ryert Schermerhorne, Sweer Teunessen, Jan Van Eps and Myndart Wemp, their Heires, Successors, and Assignes forever, to be holden of his Royall Highnesse, his Heires and Assignes in ffree and Comon Soccage, According to the tenure of East Greenwich, in the County of Kent, in his Maties Kingdome of England, Yielding and Paying therefor, Yearly and every Yeare, as a Quitt rent, for his Royall Highnesse use, unto such officer or Officers as shall be appointed to receive the same att Albany forty Bushels of Good Winter Wheat, on or before the twenty-fifth day of March.

Given under my Hand and Sealed with the Seale of the Province, at ffort James in New York, the first day of November Anno Dni 1684, and in the thirty-six Yeare of his ma^ties^ Raigne.

THO. DONGAN.

The importance of this grant will appear from the fact that it is the source of all legal titles to lands embraced within 128 square miles of territory given subsequently to the first day of November, 1684.

The five trustees therein named, or their survivors and successors lawfully appointed, thereafter became the grantees of all the public or common lands of the town. Previous to this date all lawful conveyances were in the first instance made by the Governor and Council.

Of the five original trustees, Myndert Wemp, Jan Van Eps, and Sweer Teunise Van Velsen were killed February 9, 169$\frac{8}{9}$, leaving only Reyer Schermerhorn and Willem Teller, survivors. The latter, then an aged man residing in Albany, took but little active interest in the management of the patent. In 1692 he removed to New York, where he died in 1700, from which time until the confirmatory patent of 1714 Reyer Schermerhorn was sole trustee.

By the destruction of the village in 1690 and subsequent wars with the French and their Indian allies, the inhabitants of Schenectady had lost all but their lands; in consequence of which Schermerhorn petitioned the Governor in 1698 for an abatement of the quit rent due—forty bushels of wheat yearly—according to the patent of 1684, but his request was not granted.

Making due allowance for water, there were about 80,000 acres of land in the patent of Schenectady—all under the charge and management of one trustee, save the few farms which had been heretofore granted. This one-man power was distasteful to the people, and it was urged against Schermerhorn that he disposed of the lands belonging to the village, without rendering any account of the same; they therefore petitioned for an enlargement of their privileges by a new charter which should give them power of choosing five trustees to hold office three years, who should account to their successors for the management of their trust.

As it had been charged that the first patent granted the lands to the patentees therein named, and to their *heirs, successors and assigns*, the second patent, given February 17, 1703, in response to their petition (after reciting the Dongan patent), conveyed the lands therein mentioned to Colonel Pieter Schuyler, John Sanderse Glenn, Adam Vrooman and John Wemp, jointly or severally to be trustees for managing the trust and estate aforesaid, together with the said Ryer Schermerhorn or by themselves. Schermerhorn paid no regard to the new charter, nor to his fellow trustees, but still continued to act as sole "trustee for the town in receiving the rents, issues and profits thereof, and in prosecuting suits of law in his own name only, without giving any account thereof."

All this too in spite of suspension from his office by the Governor. The secret of this stubborn persistence in the duties of his trusteeship was doubtless the fact that the first patent of 1684 was still binding, notwithstanding the granting of a second, and also to the further fact that in Schermerhorn, as the sole survivor of the trustees therein mentioned, was vested all the authority and power originally granted to said five trustees.

The fee of the land was in him, his "heirs, successors and assigns," and could only be alienated by death or release in due form. In consequence thereof, Colonel Peter Schuyler and Johannes Glen, two of the new trustees, petitioned the Governor for an amended charter, and were followed by the citizens asking for a *yearly* election of trustees and a more strict accountability to the people; whereupon the Governor granted their request in the charter of April 16, 1705, from which, after reciting both the former charters of 1684 and 1703, Schermerhorn's name as trustee is omitted.

Accompanying the petition was a list of lands sold and leases taken by Ryer Schermerhorn, for which he is said to have given no account to the inhabitants.

"A list of ye Lands and Income of the towneship of Schonhectady, viz:

Jacobus Peek, agreedt for his land.
Esias Swart, his land.
Jan Brouwer, his lands.
Phillip Groot, his land of ye Sixt plains [sixth flat], Phillip Groot has also ye fyft plains [fifth flat] in hiere.
Cornelis Slingerland, hows lott boght.
Johannes Myndertse, hows loot boght.
Claese Franse [van de Bogart], oplandt boght.
Symon Groot, oplandt bought.
Jonathan Stevens, oplandt bought and some cattle.
hendrik brower, opland bought.
Jellis Vonda, oplandt bought.
Jacobus peek, landt upon Earequiet of Erfpaght [quit rent].
Jan Landertse, Earequiet [quit rent].
Lewies Vielè, his Landt for ye fourth shalf of 4th Garf [the fourth sheaf].
Lewis Viele the Groet of his former Landt and some cattell and hoggs.
Arent Vedder, Earequiet [quit rent].
Claes franse [van de Bogart], Earequiet.
Carel Hanse [Toll], Earequiet.
Ryer Schermerhorn, Earequiet.
Tam Smith, Earequiet.
Martje Mastkraft, Earequiet.

These lands are given out. If any more wee cannott tell, nor what day Give.

These folling¬man [men] had last Jeare transports [deeds] for Great Rewards [of great value?] pretending for the town Juse.

Barent Wemp, Gysbert Gerritse [Van Brakel], Isack Swits, Jan Luycasse, Jan Vrooman, Jan batist [Van Eps], and others.

What ye above mentioned persons pays Jearely wee cannot tell by reason wee nifer had none of ye peapers, nor conditions.

On the 25th of May, 1714, Schermerhorn appeared before the Governor and Council, "and after a full hearing of all matters" against him, was suspended from "acting further as Trustee of the said Towne." But as he continued obstinate, disregarding the demand of the new Trustees for an accounting to them of his official acts, they commenced a suit against him in the Court of Chancery; Schermerhorn and his friends instituting counter-suits in the same court.

Of the several suits at law heretofore or subsequently commenced by the contending parties down to the death, in 1795, of the second Ryer Schermerhorn, grandson of the first, a period of nearly one hunderd years, no one was ever determined.

Tired and despairing of relief from litigation, the contestants resorted to negotiation and compromise, and failing of this as they always did, they reverted to the Colonial Legislature for redress, but all in vain. The first serious effort at compromise was probably made in 1708, when a futile attempt was made to induce Schermerhorn to transfer his title to the township to the then trustees elected under the charter of 1705.

Failing in this attempt at compromise, the same trustees on June 3, 1709, "in behalf of themselves and other the trustees and inhabitants of Schenectady," presented a petition to the Colonial Assembly to "bring in a bill confirming unto said inhabitants the Powers, etc., mentioned in Letters Patent granted to said town." On June 4th said bill was presented, on the 7th it was read a second time, referred to a committee with power to send for persons and papers and never more heard of.

The next step in this controversy was a power of attorney executed by the opponents of Schermerhorn and his party, to the then trustees elected under the charter of 1705, to demand of Ryer Schermerhorn, Barent Wemp, Johannes Teller, Johannes Wemp and Arent Bratt the books, deeds, bonds, etc., belonging to the town.

The strife and contention in respect to the management of the "common lands" of the township were put to rest for a time by Schermerhorn, in 1714. By lease and release, dated respectively Oct. 22d and 23d, he conveyed all his right and title to these lands to Willem Appel, innkeeper, of

the city of New York. In this conveyance, after reciting the Dongan Patent of 1684, the fact that all the trustees therein named were deceased save Ryer Schermerhorn, "only survivor whereby all the estate, right and title of, in or to all said lands * * not otherwise legally disposed are became solely vested in the said Ryert Schermerhorn in fee simple by right of survivorship, and that said Schermerhorn growing antient is desirous that said * * lands and premises should be conveyed to others together with himself and their heirs that the intent of the said Letters Patent may be duly observed," said Schermerhorn released and confirmed to Willem Appel and his heirs, all the aforesaid lands in "Special trust and confidence that he the said Willem Appel or his heirs will upon request to him made by the said Ryert Schermerhorn his heirs or assigns shall * * execute such conveyance and assurance in the law for the vesting of all the hereinbefore mentioned * * lands * * and all the right, title and interest thereunto hereby conveyed or mentioned or intended to be conveyed to the said Willem Appel, unto the said Ryert Schermerhorn, Jan Wemp, Johannes Teller, Arent Bratt and Barent Wemp * * their heirs and assigns forever, to the intent the same may be held and enjoyed according to the true intent and meaning of the said Letters Patent by the said Thomas Dongan."

On the 25th and 26th of October, said Appel by lease and release reconveyed said land to Ryer Schermerhorn and his said four associates for the purposes above mentioned.

And to confirm the above conveyance, the fourth and last patent was granted by Governor Hunter on the 14th November, 1714.

When New York at the close of the Revolution ceased to be a province of the British empire, many laws and legal customs of the mother country became obsolete, among which was the law of primogeniture. Up to this time Ryer Schermerhorn and his friends, acting under said law, had claimed that the common lands belonged of right to the eldest sons and heirs of the first settlers, or to their assigns, only from twenty-five to thirty of whom were then living in the township. But with the change of the laws, the number of the claimants to the common lands was greatly increased. In 1797 there were nearly 500 families in the township, descendants from the first settlers, who claimed in right of law that these lands belonged to them or their assigns and not to those interlopers, who had become citizens long subsequent to their forefathers.

And, as a recognition of rights, they claimed that these lands should be leased to them on durable leases, and at a nominal rent of from 50 cents to $7.50 per 100 acres.

These claims and demands of the "descendants" exasperated the other and later settlers, and led to protests and petitions, to the appointment of committees of conference, to consultations with legal authorities and to various reports and plans of compromise.

One of the most elaborate and well-digested plans for the management of the common lands was that of 1793, offered by a committee appointed at a town meeting, held October 1, 1792, a "respectable number of the inhabitants being present."

This committee consisted of John Van Petten, John Glen, Andrew Van Patten, John Sanders, Albert A. Vedder and Abraham Oothout, and made their report January 28, 1793.

Their recommendations were never carried into effect. In 1795 the old Board of Trustees, appointed under Arent Bratt's will, had been in power thirty years, many had passed away, the others had become aged, and it seemed proper and desirable that new blood should be infused into this body; therefore, on the 13th January, 1795, the following persons then seized in fee of the common lands, "as surviving trustees of the town in virtue of the Patent, 1714, and certain mesne conveyances and devises," to wit: Abraham Fonda, Harmanus Bratt, Isaac Vrooman, Nicholas Van Petten, Nicholaas Van der Volgen, Jacobus Myndertse, Samuel Bradt and Abraham Wemple, associated with themselves, as trustees, Nicholaas Veeder, Gerret S. Veeder, Jr., Abraham Oothout, John Sanders and John Glen, by conveying said Patent to Michael Tyms, who reconveyed the same to the above named persons as trustees. And, on the 15th day of March, 1796, certain of the above said trustees by reason of age resigned their trust, and a new board was appointed in their room; to accomplish which the trustees then in power conveyed the Patent to Joseph Mynderse, and he reconveyed the same to Abraham Wemple, Nicholaas Veeder, Gerrit S. Veeder, Jr., John Glen, John Sanders, Abraham Oothout, Abraham Swits, Andries Van Petton, Jellis J. Fonda, Rykert Schermerhorn and Adam S. Vrooman as new trustees, who executed a bond in the penal sum of £5,000 to the retiring trustees for the faithful performance of the duties of their office. These last mentioned trustees held and managed the common lands until 1798, when their powers ceased, being merged by

the first charter of the city of Schenectady in the mayor, aldermen and commonalty.

In furtherance of a compromise or settlement of the disputes in relation to the public lands, the inhabitants appointed a committee in 1795 to take legal counsel on the subject. This committee consisted of Andries Van Petten, Jelles Fonda and Maus Schermerhorn.

In accordance with the opinion obtained by the committee, the Board of Trustees recommended to the committee of the inhabitants to obtain a "proper power from said Inhabitants to transact the business of the town in a more perfect manner," which being done, the trustees appointed out of their number Abraham Swits, Jellis J. Fonda, Andries Van Petten, Adam S. Vrooman, Rykert Schermerhorn and Maus Schermerhorn, to act in connection with the committee of the inhabitants in "bringing the business of the common lands to a speedy settlement." And on the 10th of August (1795) this committee reported to the trustees that "there was a great prospect of a reconciliation of all disputes subsisting between the Inhabitants and Trustees," and asking for further time.

The acts and minutes of the Board of Trustees, from time to time, show quite clearly that they considered the common lands to belong to the descendants of those who were inhabitants of the township in 1684, the date of the Dongan Patent, or at least in 1714, the date of the confirmation of the same.

The other inhabitants were incensed that they had no voice in the disposal of these lands, and, on the 10th April, 1797, sent a petition to the Trustees that a committee from their number might be heard on this subject. This was signed by "Jno. Bpt. Wendell, Jacob Beekman, Joseph Shurtliff, Jno. Bpt. Van Eps, David Tomlinson, Jno. B. Vrooman, Alexander Kelly, Thomas V. Horn, Charles Martin."

On the other hand, on the 24th of the same month, a committee of the "Descendants" made and published the following reports:

The committee of the Descendents or legal Representatives of the Persons who were inhabitants of the Township of Schenectady in the year 1684, being the time when the Patent of said township was granted, or the year 1714, when the above Patent was confirmed:

Report that they have examined the state of the Business belonging to the Trustees of Schenectady Patent, and find that they have sold 8,097 Acres of land, being part of said Patent, engaged 941¼ acres of land to different persons, and 600 acres of land applied for; that it appears, from the accounts rendered, that there is the sum of £10,593 for Union College, Market House and other requisites expended, and a balance, consisting of obligations to the amount of £4,680–6–5, remaining in their hands. The Committee report that in their opinion five trustees, who shall have arrived at the age of twenty-five years, from among the descendants, should be elected annually by the male descendants, who are arrived at the age of twenty-one years, on the second Tuesday of June of every year, whose duty it shall be to render an account yearly and every year of their proceedings to their successors in office, or to any of the descendants who shall wish to have access and examine the same; and to have the deposit, care, trust and management of the Patent, lands, Books, Papers, Monies, Accounts, and other things belonging to the Trustees; and that the Trustees, when elected, or before they enter on the execution of their office, shall severally take and subscribe an oath before some justice of the peace, in the town of Schenectady, that they will well and faithfully perform the trust reposed in them. * * * The committee state that there are nearly five hundred of the descendants' families residing on said patent, and, from a calculation, about forty thousand acres of land unappropriated.

Therefore, Resolved, as the sense of the Committee * * * that it be recommended to the Trustees to lease the lands * * * for a durable term to the descendants, or their legal Representatives, for a sum not exceeding three pounds, nor less than fifty cents, annually per hundred acres, regarding to every descendant's family, or legal Representative, a proportion agreeable to equity, quality and local circumstances.

Given under our hands the twenty-fourth day of April, 1797.

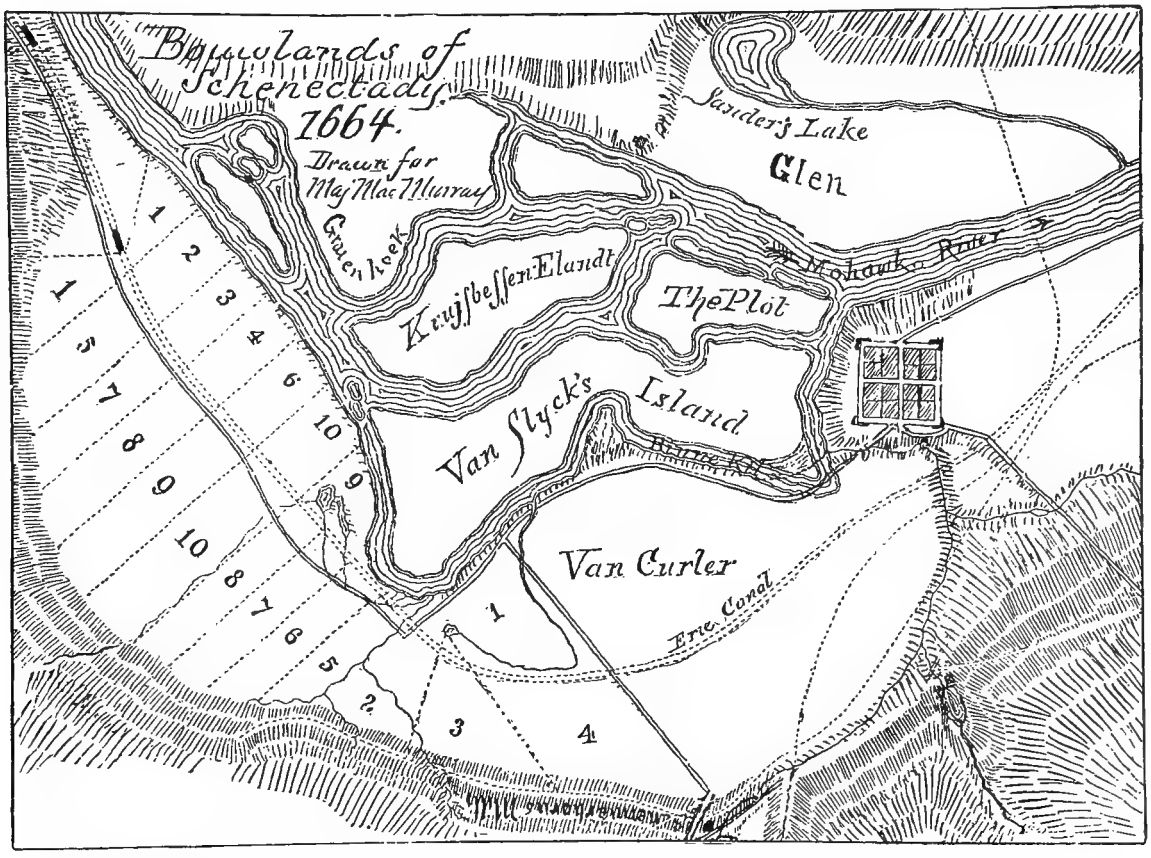
JOHN YATES,
PETER MABEE,
LAWRENCE SCHERMERHORN,
ABRAHAM DE GRAFF,
HENRY A. TELLER,
JELLES A. FONDA.

On the 9th September, 1797, the Board of Trustees appointed a committee to consult Abraham Van Vechten, Peter Yates and Joseph C. Yates in relation to a plan of "settlement with the inhabitants concerning the Common lands."

Finally, on March 26, 1798, an act was passed by the Legislature, with the assent and desire, not only of the other inhabitants of the township of Schenectady, but also of the surviving trustees, by which all their powers and duties in relation to the common lands were conferred upon the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of Schenectady. And to adjust all claims against said trustees, the Legislature passed an act the same day appointing a commission, consisting of Zephaniah Platt, Peter Cantine and Derick Lane, who finally determined said claims, and closed their accounts on the 10th August, 1798.

Even after this final transfer of the common lands to the corporation, there was a party who doubted its legality, contending for the resumption and management of them by the old trustees, then surviving.

Others, while reluctantly acquiescing in the transfer of these lands to the city authorities, objected to their being sold off as fast as the inhabitants demanded, and contended they should be held for the purpose of supplying the citizens with fuel and timber. Finally, in 1810 (?), the election of aldermen turned on this question; the whole city, then bounded by the ancient limits of the patent, was canvassed by active partisans of both parties, and after a close and heated contest it was decided that the common lands should be sold.



DIVISION OF LANDS.

HOW THE LANDS PURCHASED BY VAN CURLER FROM THE MOHAWKS IN 1661 WERE DIVIDED AMONG THE FIRST PROPRIETORS.

Four different allotments were made to each of the first settlers: First, a house lot in the village; second, a farm on the Great Flat, or islands; third, a pasture ground east of the village; and fourth, a garden lot in the low land (laeghte), west of Mill Creek and near the Binne kil.

First. *House Lots.*—The village plat, originally embracing mainly the land lying west of Ferry street, was divided into four blocks, or squares, which were again subdivided into ample house lots. For protection, this plat was early surrounded by stockades. As the population outgrew these narrow limits, house lots were assigned on the "Albany path" (now State street), so that, before 1690, it was sparsely built up as far east as Lange gang (Center street), and until about 1700 only the north side was occupied by houses. Front, Green and Union streets, east of Ferry street, used for cow paths to the pastures and woodlands, were not then built upon. The little church and graveyard stood at the junction of State, Church and Water streets, and the Dominie's house upon the site of the present church. Many of the original village lots were about 200 feet square—four to a block or square, but were early subdivided to meet the demands for residences within the stockades.

Second. *The Bouwland.*—The great tract of flat or bottom land, bounded northerly by the river and State street, southerly by the sand bluff, easterly

by Center street extended south, and westerly by the hills west of the first lock on the canal, embracing several hundred acres of arable land, was anciently called the *Groote Vlachte.*

It was mainly cleared land when the white man first occupied it in 1662, and had been the Mohawks' maize land perhaps for centuries. This and other parcels of like soil along the Mohawk formed the main inducement for the Hollanders to settle here; in them they recognized the *Polders* of fatherland. The bouwland was originally divided into twenty-three separate parcels and assigned to fifteen individuals, no one, with one exception, holding more than fifty acres.

The farm nearest the village, embracing twenty-four acres, was Van Velsen's, bounded by State street, Coehorn and Mill Creeks, as far west as or near to Church street. This, together with the water privilege, was granted in consideration of his building a grist-mill on Mill lane.

The second parcel, consisting of about forty acres of bottom land, anciently called "Gerrit Symonse's meadow," commenced at or near the Coehorn kil, at the south bounds of Van Velsen's land, and extended southerly to and including "Veeder's Mills." This parcel has been preserved nearly entire, and is mostly in the ownership and occupation of the Veeder family at the present time.

The third, the largest and most valuable farm, embracing 114 acres, was Arent Van Curler's, called the *first piece* of land, and after his death, *Juffrow's landt.* This was bounded northerly by the Binne kil, easterly by Van Velsen's farm (excepting a few gardens on the south side of Water street), southerly by "Gerrit Symonse's meadow" and by the sand bluff or hills as far as the Schermerhorn Mills, and westerly by farms Nos. 1 and 4, owned by Arent Bradt and Pieter Van Woggelum. The New York Central Railroad runs through the southern end of this valuable tract, and the canal nearly through the middle of it.

The fourth large parcel of the bouwland, called the *second* or *foremost* piece of land, to distinguish it from Van Curler's, which was called the *first piece,* lay next west. The east line of this tract ran along the west fence of the Schenectady car works yard, and so northerly to and around the east side of lot No. 1, belonging to Arent Bratt, following the small brook emptying into the Binne kil, a little east of the farm buildings of the late John Myers. The western line of this parcel was the *Poenties kil* and lot No. 10, belonging to Tunis Cornelise Swart. This *second piece* was divided into ten farms, including De Winter's or *Elias's Plantasie,* by northeast and southwest lines from the river to the sand bluff, and by easterly and westerly lines nearly coinciding with the river road and canal.

The fifth parcel of bouwlands, called the *hindermost* piece of land, commenced at the *Poenties Kil* and extended west to the hills near the first lock, and was divided into ten farms by northeasterly and southwesterly lines from the river to the hills, and by easterly and westerly lines nearly coinciding with the canal and river road.

The *second* and *hindmost* great lots of the bouwlands, including *Elias's Plantasie,* were subdivided each into ten parcels of about twenty-five acres, numbered from 1 to 10, beginning at the eastern and western extremities of these two parcels, and proceeding toward the *Poenties Kil,* on the west side of which lay the two farms numbered ten, united into one. So that persons to whom were alloted numbers 1, 2, 3, &c., of the *second* near the village, drew also numbers 1, 2, 3, &c., of the *hindmost* parcel at the western extremity of the bouwland, and only one person had all of his land in one place, to wit, Tennis Cornelise Swart, the fortunate holder of the double farm numbered ten. This ingenious plan of allotment was contrived to prevent any one person obtaining an undue advantage over his associates by selecting all his land near the village.

Two other parcels of arable land, separated from the Great Flat by the river, were also assigned at an early day, viz., Marten's or Van Slyck's island, comprising 82 acres, patented to Jaques Cornelise Van Slyck and Jan Barentse Wemp; and the flat lying west and south of the lake in Scotia, granted to Sander Leendertse Glen, estimated at 50 acres.

Finally, on the eastern side of the village, between Front street and the river, was a strip of land called the *Calver Wey,* which was allotted to the first settlers in parcels of 2½ morgens, the easternmost lot being that of Jellis Fonda. Adjoining Fonda's lot easterly was Hans Janse Eenkluy's bouwery of 18 morgens, which, on his death, became the property of the Dutch Church—a legacy for the benefit of the poor of Schenectady.

All lands lying outside of the palisades easterly of Ferry street, save the house lots on the north side of State street as far as Center street, were originally allotted to individuals in parcels of a few acres as woodland or pasture ground.

ORIGINAL OWNERS OF THE TWENTY FARMS INTO WHICH THAT PORTION OF THE GREAT FLAT LYING WESTERLY OF ARENT VAN CURLER'S BOUWERY WAS DIVIDED.

FARMS NO. 1.

Both farms numbered one were patented to Catelyn De Vos, widow of Arent Bratt, *the Norman*, June 2, 1682.

15 Aug., 1705. Former deeds being lost in 1690, Ryer Schermerhorn, only surviving trustee, gave a new deed to Arent Bratt, grandson and heir of Arent Andriese Bratt, for the *first* lot thirty-six acres and *aftermost* lot thirty acres.

27 Aug., 1713, Ryer Schermerhorn and Dirk Bratt conveyed to Samuel Bratt the *hindermost* farm No. 1, containing fifteen morgens and 467 rods.

FARMS NO. 2.

Were first owned by Philip Hendrickse Brouwer.

April 29, 1664, his administrators sold them to Cornelis Van Ness for Jan Dirkse Van Eps, son of Maritie Damen, his wife, for the sum of 1,287 guilders.

Feb. 4, 171$\frac{3}{4}$, Johannes Baptist Van Eps, eldest son and heir of Jan Dirkse Van Eps, deceased, conveyed to Arent Bratt the *hindmost* farm, No. 2, comprising twelve morgens.

FARMS NO. 3.

Were first granted to Sander Leendertse Glen, by Patent of date June 16, 1664.

Johannes Glen, by will, devised the remainder of *hindmost* farm, 26th September, 1706, to his younger brother Sander, comprising about twenty acres.

On the 4th June, 1711, Claas Van Patten conveyed to his son, Andries, the *foremost* lot.

Feb. 24, and Aug. 11, 1714. To rectify a disputed line, R. Schermerhorn and Andries Van Petten make a final settlement.

FARMS NO. 4.

Were granted to Pieter Adrianse Soegemakelyk, *alias* Van Woggelum, June 5, 1667, the first containing fourteen morgens, and the second twelve morgens.

Ap. 6, 1681, Van Woggelum reconveyed the same to Reyer Schermerhorn, who had married Otten's widow.

June 29, 1667, Governor Nicolls confirmed to Willem Teller the two farms, No. 5, which were first patented to him by Governor Stuyvesant, June 16, 1664.

Ap. 9, 1752, Willem Teller, son of Johannes, devised the *foremost* farm on the *Poenties Kil* to his son Willem, and the second or *hindmost* farm to his eldest son Johannes.

Gerrit Bancker, of Albany, received the patent for these farms No. 6, June 16, 1664, which patent was confirmed Ap. 27, 1667, by Governor Nicolls.

Although granted to Gerrit Bancker, Harman Albertse Vedder had a half interest in these farms from the beginning.

Evert, son and heir of Gerrit Bancker, sold the *foremost* lot to Isaac Swits, July 7, 1702, for £183 12*s.*;—it contained 22 acres.

Isaac Swits made his will Ap. 1, 1701,—proved Oct. 4, 1707,—and devised a portion of the *first* farm to his eldest son Cornelis.

The *hindmost* farm belonging to Harmen Vedder; he conveyed the southeasterly half to his son Albert, Mar. 12, 170$\frac{4}{1}$, for the sum of £91 16*s.* This moiety then contained ten acres.

Pieter Jacobse Bosboom *de Steenbakker* received a patent of farms No. 7, June 16, 1664,—confirmed May 9, 1668.

In 1702 the *foremost* lot belonged to Gysbert Gerritse Van Brakel.

Marten Cornelise Van Isselsteyn received a patent for farms No. 8, June 16, 1664,—confirmed by Governor Nicolls, April 13, 1668.

FARMS NO. 9.

Were first conveyed to Simon Volckertse Veeder, *de bakker*, by patent of date June 16th, 1664,—confirmed Jan. 15, 1667, by patent from Governor Nicolls.

Veeder made his will Jan. 8, 169$\frac{4}{7}$, bequeathing the *hindmost* farm to his son Volckert.

Volckert Veeder made his will Aug. 4, 1733, and left the *hindmost* lot to his four sons.

The double bouwery No. 10, was first patented to Teunis Cornelise Swart, June 16, 1664, and confirmed Jan. 16, 1667.

26th April, 1692. Wouter Uythoff (third husband of Elizabeth), Swart, widow of Teunis, and said Elizabeth his wife, for 540 beavers conveyed the whole bouwery No. 10, to Claas Laurense Van Purmerend (*alias* Van der Volgen).

The land in the immediate vicinity of the village,—the Great Flat and island,—were all taken up in 1662 by the fifteen first proprietors. Other persons followed the next and succeeding years, and finding no lands unoccupied, either bought up the rights of the earlier owners or pushed further into the wilderness, on both sides of the Mohawk river.

The south side was considered the safest from Indian attacks, and for that reason the Governor and Council at first discouraged settlements on the north side; this was but a temporary check, however. Before the year 1700 all the arable land on both sides of the river to and even beyond the western bounds of the town was taken up and sparsely settled.

These lands had a rich alluvial soil, formed by the annual overflow of the river, and were mainly found in the bends and eddys; excepting the Great Flat they were generally small, comprising but a few acres.

FLATS OR PLAINS ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE RIVER—POVERSEN.

Going west this is the first arable land lying on the south side of the river above the Great Flat. It commenced at the road running west from the first lock and extended up the river to the "stone kil," a dry creek next above the second lock. It was first purchased from the natives by Benjamin Roberts, who sold the same to Hendrick Lambertse Bont. The latter sold the easterly portion to Barent Janse Van Ditmars and the westerly portion to Douwe Aukes, who conveyed the same to

his [adopted] son Cornelis Vielè. In 1713 Vielè was then residing on this land between the two locks.

FIRST FLAT.

This flat or plain, consisting of about 80 acres of lowlands, is described in Jacques Cornelise Van Slyck's patent, granted in 1684, as "situated between two creeks, one called Stone creek, to the eastward, the other 'Platte creek,' to the westward, come to him in right of his mother, who was a Mohawk woman."

It has remained in the family to this day, passing from father to son by inheritance.

The eastern part of this flat, called "Hazlenut flat," was owned by Manasseh Sixbury, in 1709; he then made his will, leaving his property to his four children.

SECOND FLAT.

This farm, beginning at a little above "*Reghel brugse kil,*" was first taken up by Jacobus Peek and Isaac Du Trieux, about 1670, and patented to them in 1677.

Johannes and Jacobus, sons of Jacobus Peek, became the owners of the whole tract. It is now owned by John McCue on the west end, Abraham A. Bratt on the east end.

THIRD FLAT.

This flat lies about eight miles above Schenectady, and consisted anciently of about 127 acres of lowland; in 1864 it was computed at thirty morgens, or say sixty-three acres, and was then occupied—the upper or westerly part by Simon and Nicholas Mebie and Abraham N. Bratt, the lower or eastern portion by the Bratts.

It was taken up by Daniel Janse Van Antwerpen in 1670, and patented to him in 1680.

In 1706 he sold to Jan Pieterse Mebie the west half of the same, consisting of sixty-three acres and seventy-nine rods. The old Van Antwerp house was standing to the west of the Mebie house until a few years ago.

FOURTH FLAT.

The Fourth Flat, lying next west of the third, was granted in 1715, by the trustees of Schenectady, to Pieter Vrooman, who, in 1742, conveyed the same, or at least the western portion of it, to Jan Wemple and Arent Bratt. Johannes Veeder married a daughter of Pieter Vrooman, and inherited the eastern portion, now in possession of Myndert, grandson of said Johannes Veeder.

Jan Wemple's land extended to the *Zandig kil.*

DE WILLEGEN, OR WILLOW FLAT.

This flat commenced at Stone creek, below Port Jackson, and ran down the river thirty-four rods [4,188 feet], and contained thirty-three morgens, or sixty-six acres, 390 rods—also 200 acres of woodland.

It was first granted to Pieter Van Olinda and Claas Willemse Van Coppernol; Van Olinda holding the eastern half and Van Coppernol the western half, which he conveyed to Philip Phillipse in 1689 in exchange for the Sixth Flat, on the north side of the river.

FLATS OR PLAINS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE RIVER—CLAAS GRAVEN'S HOEK.

The first land settled upon west of Scotia was the *Hoek.* This farm was taken up by Claas Andriese De Graaf, the first settler. After his death, which took place before 1697, his widow, Elizabeth Brouwer, leased it to Jonathan Stevens and Daniel Mascraft.

In 1714 Gysbert Marcelis received a patent for six acres of land on the Hoek for a *hofstede,* he being then the owner of the neighboring island, called *Gyse's island.*

MAALWYCK.

Benjamin, or Bent, Roberts first purchased this farm of the natives, with the approbation of the magistrates of Albany—thirty-six acres of land, together with forty acres of woodland, which was confirmed to him July 1, 1669.

This bouwery lay opposite to Arent [Bratt] the Norman's *hindmost* lot of land. The farm is in the possession and occupation of a descendant of Carel Hansen.

SECOND FLAT.

The flat extends from Rector's easterly, and in 1864 was owned by Gerrit Barhydt, 17 acres; Frank Potter, 40 acres; D. D. Campbell, 30 acres. Total, with *upland,* 87 acres.

This Second Flat proper was originally taken up about 1678—the eastern half by Pieter Cornelise Viele, and the western half by Jan Janse Joncker, *alias* Rotterdam.

Reyer Schermerhorn, by will made 1717, devised this land to his son Arent; and Reyer Schermerhorn, grandson of Reyer Schermerhorn the first, in 1773, released said land to Abraham Schermerhorn.

After Joncker's death his share of this flat, being the western half, was divided among his five daughters.

FOURTH FLAT.

This flat extends westerly from Rector's to "Arent Mebie's kil," and was owned in 1864 by William Rector, 40 acres; Smith B. Walton, 3 acres; Adam Swart, 7 acres; Nicholas Swart, 7 acres; John Walton, 5½ acres. Total, with upland, 62½ acres.

In 1678 Sander Glen petitioned the Governor to grant the fourth flat to Lewis Cobes and his son-in-law, Johannes Kleyn.

In 1683 the Mohawk Sakemakers conveyed this flat to Arnout Cornelise Viele,—16 or 17 morgens—for services rendered as interpreter,—lying over against the [second] flat occupied by Jacobus Peek,—and by the Mohawks called *Wachkeerhoha.*

In 1684 the patentees of Schenectady conveyed it to Ludovicus Cobes and Johannes Kleyn, with a *lapie* (remnant—a gore), by it, on the other [north] side of the river, containing 17 morgens, 164 rods of land.

In 1714 Willem Marinus, who had married Baefie, youngest daughter of said Kleyn, united with his wife and conveyed her third share of three morgens to Pieter Clement and Anna his wife

(sister of said Baefie), and in 1716 said Pieter Clement conveyed to the trustees of Schenectady six morgens of land at the west end of said flat.

In 1725 Col. Stephanus Groesbeck owned the western portion of this flat, which "*hindmost* half" was the portion owned by Kleyn, and contained nine morgens.

FIFTH OR WOLF FLAT.

This flat, extending from "Arent Mebie's kil" west, is now in the possession and occupation of John Barhydt, and consists of about 85 acres of land.

In 1678 "the comissairies of Schanechtade made application to ye Go: that the fifth Plaine or Flatland on the other [north] side of the Maquaes river may be disposed of for a minister, reader, &c., —and also that the rest of the Plains or Flatts may be at the disposall of the Cort."

Jasaias Swart succeeded them as lessee, probably for another term of seven years, and in 1713 his lease was renewed for twenty years at a rent of £6–19–6.

In 1768 Pieter Mebie by will devised his land, being the whole of the fifth flat, to Jan Mebie, his son, who, in 1789, devised the same to his widow and two sons, Pieter and Simon, and they, in 1799, conveyed the same to David Lawyer, Jr.

The latter sold the same to John S. Barhydt, from whom it passed by inheritance to his son John.

SIXTH FLAT.

This flat begins just east of the seventh flat, from which it is separated by the *Droybergh, Verf* or color kil, *alias Tequatsera*. It was owned in 1864 by Aaron Swart.

It was first occupied by Philip Philipse De Moer, as a tenant of the trustees of Schenectady. In 1689 he exchanged his ownership in the same with Claas Willemse Van Coppernol for a portion of the *Willegen Vlachte*, and in 1708 Sander, his son, leased it for twelve years at a rent of £2 8s. It then consisted of five morgens, with an additional three morgens of woodland.

On the 2d September, 1714, Reyer Schemerhorn conveyed this flat, containing about seven morgens or fourteen acres, also ten morgens or twenty acres of woodland lying behind it, to the Dutch church. In 1770 Esaias Swart was in possession of this plain, which then was computed to contain seven morgens.

SEVENTH FLAT.

This flat lies near Hoffman's ferry, between the Droybergh Kil on the east and Van Eps' kil on the west.

In 1684 the trustees of Schenectady conveyed the western half to Carel Hansen Toll, reserving a rent of one skipple of wheat.

Reyer Schemerhorn owned the eastern half.

In 1705 Reyer Schemerhorn conveyed the eastern half of this flat to his son Jan; and, by his will, made 1717, devised the same to the children of his daughter Catalyntje, wife of John Wemp.

In 1733 the Wemps transferred their interest to Johannes Van Eps, owner of the other half.

CAMBEFORT'S PATENT.

In 1694 Gerardus Cambefort contracted to sell his patent to Carel Hansen Toll, land he had previously received of the Indians. In 1703 Lord Cornbury granted Cambefort a patent for twenty acres of land, "beginning from a place called *Kanquaragoone* [now Towereune], the western bounds of the patent granted to Schenectady, running up westward to limits of land formerly conveyed to Henry Cuyler, deceased." Immediately thereafter Cambefort conveyed the same to Toll. This land extends along the river westward from Towereune to Lewis Creek.

CLAES GRAVEN'S HOEK—CUYLER'S VLACHTE OR ADRIUCHA.

In 1686, "To Philip Wells, surveyor-general, about thirty acres of lowland and fifty of upland was granted, provided the said land be not already appropriated or disposed of."

Philip Groot, of Schenectady, early settled on this land and, after his death in 1716, was succeeded by his son Ludovicus (Lewis), who gave name to the creek forming the eastern bounds of this patent.

Adriucha is still in possession of the Groot family at what is now called Crane's Village.

ISLANDS.

GREAT ISLAND IN NISKAYUNA.

This is one of the largest islands in the river, containing about 80 acres. It was conveyed to Hilletie Cornelise, sister of Jacques Cornelise Van Slyck, by the Mohawks, June 1, 1667, and confirmed by Governor Nicolls, May 8, 1668. On the 4th March, 1669, and again on Feb. 6, 170$\frac{5}{6}$, Hilletie and her husband, Pieter Van Olinda, conveyed it to Johannes Clute, which sale was confirmed by the Governor and Council, Aug. 2, 1671.

Again, on June 25, 1707, it was transferred to Robert Livingston for £420, and lastly to said Livingston, August 9, 1707, for £706, together with 20 acres on the main land between the two creeks.

FIVE SMALL ISLANDS AT NISKAYUNA.

At a conference with the Five Nations at Albany, 19th July, 1701, they say:

"BROTHER CORLAER:—

"Wee have a small right in the Maquase river att Canastagiowne, to wit, five small Islands containing about five or six acres between Rosendael and Cornelis Tymes's, which wee give to Jan Baptist Van Eps and Lawrence Claese [Vander Volgen], the two Interpreters to be equally divided between them—John Baptist to have the uppermost halfe and Lawrence the lowermost—and that in consideration, because they take much pains in interpreting."

MARTEN'S, VAN SLYCK'S OR WEMP'S ISLAND.

This large island lying west of the city, and separated therefrom by the Binne Kil, was early granted by the Mohawks to Marten Cornelise Van Slyck *alias* Marten Maurits, a half breed, who dying in 1662, Governor Stuyvesant gave a patent for the same, November 12, 1662, to his brother and heir,

Jacques Cornelise Van Slyck, and Jan Barentse Wemp. Stuyvesant's patent was confirmed by Governor Nicolls, April 13, 1667; it then contained, including another small island separated by a creek, 82 acres.

A portion of the west end of the island was anciently called *Jan Pappen Leghten.*

KRUYSBESSEN (GOOSEBERRY) ISLAND.

This island lies northerly of Van Slyck's island, from which it is separated by a rapid called "Knock 'em stiff." January 2, 169⅝, the justice of the peace (Johannes Sanderse Glen), and *gemeen mannen* of Schenectady, conveyed to Gysbert Gerritse [Van Brakel] an island on the north side of the river, called *Kruysbessen* (Gooseberry) island, lying west of *Spuyten duyvel* [island]; consideration, 32 beavers at six guilders per beaver, to be paid within three years.

SPUYTEN DUYVEL.

Johannes Sanderse Glen bought this island of the trustees of Schenectady, together with a parcel of "*boslandt,*" in 170⅝, for £16–10.

It lies just opposite the old Glen [now Sanders] House in Scotia, and formerly contained several acres, but is now reduced to the fraction of an acre and quite valueless for tillage.

VARKENS, OR HOG ISLAND.

This island lies at the north end of Van Slyck's island, and is separated from it by an arm of the Mohawk River, which at the ordinary low water is a mere sluggish bayou.

It originally contained about three morgens or six acres. The eastern end next the Binne kil is called the *platt,* a low muddy islet of triangular shape, and at ordinary times scarcely separated from it. In early times this island was claimed by the owners of Van Slyck's island.

On the 9th November, 1670, Pieter Jacobse Bosboom received a patent "to confirm to him "a small island belonging to him, which hath "heretofore been given to him by the Indians, "lying in the river there next to the island of "Sweer Teunise and Akes Cornelise [Van Slyck] "containing about six acres or three morgens."

VAN EPS ISLAND.

This small island lies north of Varken's island, from which it is separated by a bayou nearly filled up.

A portion of this island was devised in 1800 by John Baptist Van Eps to his son John, after his wife's decease; another portion—an undivided sixth part—was conveyed in 1808 by Tobias H. Ten Eyck to Cornelis Vrooman.

DE LA WARDE'S, JORIS AERTSE'S, OR GUISE'S ISLAND.

This island lies on the northwesterly side of Van Slyck's island, and contained originally fifteen or sixteen morgens of land.

It was first owned by Jan De La Warde, who sold it to Joris Aertse Van der Baast.

The *hofstede* of this farm was on the mainland opposite, adjoining the land of Claas De Graff, and consisted of six acres. Nicholas De Graff, who owned the neighboring mainland, purchased this island of Gysbert Marselis, who bought it June 23, 1714.

FONDA'S ISLAND.

The situation of this island is best described in the patent to Simon Simonse Groot, of date Aug. 9, 1694, "to confirm to him a small island in the "Mohawk River within the town of Schenectady "possessed by him for twenty-seven years, to wit, "a certain small island in the Mohawk River "lying to the north of the *Hoek,* or point of Reyer "Jacobsen's [Schermerhorn], and the southward "of the island belonging to Joris Aertsen [now "Guise's], and to the westward of the island lately "belonging to Sweer Teunise, deceased—containing five morgens or ten acres."

Philip Livingston, of Albany, afterwards became its owner and sold it to Jellis Fonda, by whose will, made September 8, 1737, it was divided among his three sons, Pieter, Abraham and Jacob.

SASSIAN'S OR CLAAS VIELE'S ISLAND.

The next island above Guise's island is Sassian's or Claas Viele's island, containing between seven and nine morgens.

It lay opposite the "*hindmost* lot No. 1," of Arent Bratt, and belonged originally to Hendrick Lambertse Bont *alias* Sassian, by whom it was sold to Douw Aukes and then to his adopted son Cornelis Viele. The Vieles long possessed and gave their name to it.

BENTEN, OR BENT'S ISLAND.

This is the large island next above Sassian's island, lying on the north side of the river, and originally contained about ten morgens. It was first possessed by Bent Roberts, from whom it passed by his will to his two stepsons, Joseph and Pieter Clement. They sold the upper half to Carel Hansen Toll, and the lower half to Cornelis Viele.

To all Christian People to whom these Presents Writing Shall come Daniel Jans Van Antwerpen of the Township of Schenectady In the County of albany In the Provinice of New-york Yeoman Sends Greeting Viz, Know Yee that by Vertue of a Confirmation to me Granted by his Excellency Francis Lovelace In the Year of our Lord one Thousand Six hundred Seventy and one the then Governour Genll under his Royall Highness James Duke of Albany and the Teritorys thereon Depending, And for and In many other good Causes and Consideration him thereunto moving By Vertue of the above mentioned Confirmation, Hath Remised, Released and for Ever Quit Claimed And by these Presents for himself and his Heirs doth fully freely and Absolutely Remise, Release and for Ever Quit Claime unto Mr. Thomas Brouwer Minister, Leut. Garrit Simonson, Capt. Johanis Sanders Glen Mr. Volkert Simonson & Mr. Simon Swits Elders and Deacons of the Reformed Neithcir Dutch Church of the Town of Schenectady above said and their Successors for the only Use of the afore mentioned Neithcir Dutch Reformed Church In them and their Peaceable Possession & Sezin and to their Successors for Ever for the only Use benifit and behoeff of the afore said Reformed Neithcir Dutch Church and for no other Use Whatsoever all such Right, Estate, Title, Interest, Claim and Demand Whatsoever as the said Daniel Jans Van Antwerpen hath or ought to have of In to or all That Certain Lot of Ground Situate Lying and being In the Town of Schenectady and house thereon Erected Containing In Length on the East Side Wher it bulls to the Lott of Ground now belonging to Julius Van Vorst two hundred foot and on the South Side by the High way one hundred foot and on the West Side Likwise by the High and on the North side abutting the Lott now In Possession of John Peterson Maker that formerly belonged to Jan Jans Yoncked where it is in breadth and length as before And so Mentioned In the Confirmation above mentioned It being a Corned Lott; By any wayes or Meanes Whatsoever To Have and to Hold the Said Lott of Ground and the house thereon Erected unto the said Thomas Brouwer Garrit Simonson, Johanis Sanders Glen, Volkert Simonson & Simon Swits and their Successors, for the Benifitt and behoofe of the Reformed Neithcir Dutch Church above mentioned of Schenectady afore said, To the only Use and behoofe of the said Ministr. & Elders and Deacons Yearly, for the only Sole & proper Use Benifit and behoofe for Ever and their Successors of the afore said Reformed Neithcir Dutch Church for Ever In Witness wher of the said Daniel Jans Van Antwerpen hath hereunto set his hand and Seal; In Schenectady this three and twenteth day of June In the first Year of the Reigne of our Sovereigne Lord GEORGE by the Grace of God of Great Britaine France and Irland King Defender of the faith Anno Regni Anne Nunc 1715

Signed Sealed and Delivered In the Presents of Us—
the word Yorke was Interlined before Signed Sealed and Delivered It should have been Duke of York & albany

daniel Jans Van antwerpen

Jacobus vrendijck
Jan wemp
Recd

ADULT FREEHOLDERS.

SOME OF THE ADULT FREEHOLDERS WHO SETTLED IN SCHENECTADY BEFORE 1700.

Several of the first settlers who co-operated in founding the village in 1662 were of mature age—scarcely any were aged.

Van Curler, Glen, Bratt, Swits, Schermerhorn, Vedder, Veeder, Van Eps, Vrooman, Wemp, etc., may be mentioned as of this class, whose children before 1700 had reached mature years and become heads of families.

They were nearly all farmers, whatever else they might do; their farms were small, seldom exceeding fifty acres of *arable* land, and their families were large, often numbering from ten to fifteen children.

ADRIAEN APPEL was innkeeper in Beverwyck in 1654. His two sons, Jan and Willem, lived here in 1670. In 1704 Willem owned the lot extending from the store of Robert Ellis to that of Samuel Myers, including the canal, and the building called the "Wedge." In 1710 Appel owned lots 103 to 111, inclusive.

DOUWE AUKES (De Freeze) came here in 1663, and became an innkeeper. His inn was on southeast corner of State street and Mill Lane, February 10, 1718. He conveyed his property to Cornelius Viele.

GERRIT BANCKER was one of the first proprietors, but never became a resident. His house in 1662 was bounded by Union, Washington, State and Church streets. It was sold by his son in 1702 to Cornelius Swits. The corner lot was sold to James Murdoch in 1802.

BARHYDT ANDRIES HAUSE and JERONIMUS HAUSE were among the early settlers. They owned in 1760 a lot with forty-eight feet frontage, on Front street, at Jefferson.

CALEB BEEK settled here in 1700. He was an innkeeper, and his house lot was on the south corner of Union and Church streets. This lot remained in the family for about one hundred years.

HENDRICK LAMBERTSE BONT (Bint, Bent) in 1692 owned land lying mainly above the first lock, west of the city. He also owned *Sassian's Island.* The land long remained after passing from Bont's possession in the Viele family.

PIETER JACOBSE BARSBOOM DE STEENBAKKER was one of the first fifteen settlers. His village lot was on the south corner of Washington and Front streets, and passed to his four daughters, and remained in the family for many years.

ARENT ANDRIESE BRATT was one of the first proprietors in 1662. He owned a farm of about sixty acres, which afterward was in possession of Judge Tomlinson, deceased. The "hindmost" farm fell to MRS. Bratt's second son, Samuel.

ANDRIES ARENTSE and Capt. ARENT ANDRIESE BRATT in about 1700 owned various parcels of land, part of which Reyer Schermerhorn disposed of as trustee.

SAMUEL ARENTSE BRATT was born in 1659, and died in 1713 or 1714. His farm passed to his son Arent, who built the brick house, a short distance west of the first lock on the canal, and continued in the family until 1839.

DIRK ARENTSE BRATT was born in 1661. He owned a farm in Niskayuna, which passed to his eldest son, Johannes, by will. Dirk was buried June 9, 1735.

PHILIP HENDRICKSE BROUWER was one of the original proprietors in 1662, and owned lot No. 2, which in 1667 was owned by Jan Van Eps.

HENDRICK WILLEMSE BROUWER owned a lot on east side of Church street in about 1700. This was owned by his widow in 1724.

GERALDUS CAMBEFORT (or Comfort) was here in 1690, and owned 20 acres on north side of Mohawk. This was afterward owned by Johannes Van Eps.

CHRISTIAAN CHRISTIAANSE, in 1671, had a village lot on the northeast side of Union street, adjoining the Dutch Church lot. It was owned in 1701 by Jellis Van Vorst.

PIETER and JOSEPH CLEMENT owned land here from about 1725 to 1755. The property afterward passed into the hands of Cornelius Viele and Hausen Toll.

LUDOVICUS COBES lived here in 1677, being schout and secretary of Schenectady. He owned the fourth flat on the north side of the river, which was afterward owned by his daughter, Maria Klein.

Capt. JAN, JOHANNES and FREDERICK CLUTE were early residents. Capt. Jan owned the Great Island in 1671, and lands in Canastagione. He died in 1683, leaving his property to his nephew, Johannes Clute, who, in 1704, sold part of it to Frederick Clute. Johannes died in 1725. All the Clutes in this region are believed to be descended from either Johannes or Frederick.

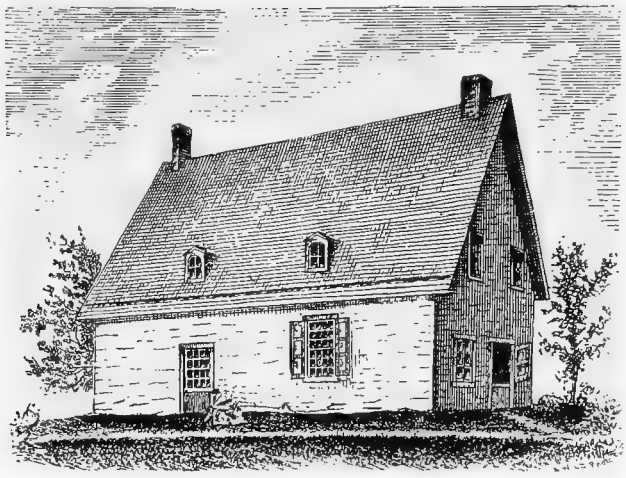
CLAAS ANDRIES DE GRAAF was one of the first settlers, taking up land at the Hoek, at Scotia, where, for several generations, the family resided.

JAN DE LA WARDE bought land in about 1675 at Niskayuna, and an island in the Mohawk, which was called La Warde's Island, and afterward

Jaris Aertse's Island. It lies just north of Van Slyck's Island. It was conveyed in 1699 to Gysbert Marcelis, of Albany. Since then it has been called "Gyse's Island." The Niskayuna property was also sold to Jaris Aertse in 1699.

Hans Janse Eenkluys came to Schenectady soon after it was settled; died in 1683, leaving his property to the church. His farm consisted of 18 morgens of river flats, lying in Third Ward. After holding this land for 180 years, it was sold by the church, in 1863, for $11,000.

Dominie Barnhardus Freerman, the second minister of the church, came here in 1700. He staid here five years, and died in 1741. He married Margarita Van Schaaick, of New York, in 1705.



Mebie House.

Jan Pieterse Mebie married Anna, daughter of Pieter J. Borsboom. His home lot was on the east side of Church street, to the north of the Dutch Church. He was in the possession of this lot before 1690. His farm was on the third flat, on the south side of the river, about eight miles above the village. His descendants still occupy the farm. It is the writer's belief that the house on this farm, at least its stone walls, date from 1670–80, when Daniel Janse Van Antwerp occupied the land in the center of which it stands. The Mebie House, as it is now known, is doubtless the oldest house in the Mohawa Valley, if not in the State of New York.*

Sander Leendertse (Lindsay) Glen came from Scotland about 1633. His wife was Catalyn Doncassen. They both died within about a year of each other—she, August 12, 1684; he, November 13, 1685—leaving three sons, Jacob, who settled in Albany, Sander and Johannes. He was one of the first proprietors of Schenectady.

Sander Glen, second son of Sander Leendertse, was born in 1647. His village lot was on the north side of Washington street, adjoining the estate of the late Judge Paige. Captain Sander Glen died about 1695, without issue, leaving his estate to the children of his two brothers, Jacob and Johannes. The farm of Sander Leendertse, lying on the north side of the river, was called *Scotia.*

The Glen property comprised several hundred acres. By marriage this estate passed to the Sanders family, by whom a large portion of it is still held.

Johannes, youngest son of Sander Leendertse, was born in 1648.

The residence of Charles P. Sanders was built by him in 1713, and occupied until his death in 1731.

Symon Symonse Groot came here in 1663. He married Rebecca, daughter of Philip Du Trieux, of New Amsterdam, and had six sons and four daughters, of whom Symon, Abraham, Philip, Dirk and Claas were captured by the French and Indians in 1690 and carried to Canada. They were redeemed the following year. His home lot was on the northern side of Union street, 100 feet west from Church street. It remained in the family several generations. Symon Symonse Groot, Jr., was his eldest son, and he married, in 1692, Geertruy, daughter of Jan Rinckhout, of Albany. His village lot was on the north side of State street.

*The house in Southampton, L. I., now occupied by Mrs. Larry, daughter of Capt. Stephen Sayre, deceased, was built by Thomas Sayre in 1648 or 1649.

Philip Groot settled on the north side of the river, near Crane's village. He married Sarah, daughter of Jacobus Peek. Abraham Groot married Antje Wemp, widow of Sander Glen, in 1696, and secondly, Hesterje, daughter of Harmen Visscher, of Albany, in 1699, by whom he had several children. His home lot was on the north side of Union street, about half way up College Hill.

GERRIT MARSELIS was the son of Marselis Janse, of Albany, and early settled here. He was slain in 1690. His lots, Nos. 139 to 143, afterward belonged to Wm. McCamus.

AHASUERUS MARSELIS came here about 1698. He was a shoemaker, and had his shop on the south corner of Mill lane and State street. This property was afterward owned by Pieter Fonda, and the lot in the rear by Marselis, Fonda and Robert Yates.

JOHANNES MYNDERTSE came here in 1700; by trade a smith, he was armorer of the Fort. He owned two lots on State street, one where Barney's store now stands; the other on the west corner of Mill lane and State street, where his dwelling was. Myndertse left by will, proved September 7, 1757, his property to his three sons, Myndert, Reinier and Jacobus.

PHILIP PHILIPSE married Elizabeth, daughter of Harmen Ganzevoort, of Albany, about 1685. The descendants of Philipse still reside on or near Willow flat Jan Philipse, a brother, is first mentioned as a member of the church in 1701.

JAN ROELOFFOE was the eldest son of the famous Anneke Janse, by her first husband, Roeloffe Jansen. In 1680 he owned a home lot on the north side of Union street; the lot subsequently owned by Joseph Y. and Giles Van De Bogart.

JACOB JANSE SCHERMERHORN died at Schenectady in 1689, where he had lived for some years. He left part of his property to his son Reyer, who married Ariaantje Bratt. Symon Schermerhorn, another son of Jacob Janse, was in 1693 a skipper on the Hudson river.

CORNELIUS SLINGERLAND married Eva Mebee in 1699. His house lot (1786–22) was on the south side of State street, forty feet east of Water street alley.

ISAAC CORNELISE SWITS settled here in 1663. He married Susanna Groot, by whom he had nine children, eight of whom were living in 1701, when he made his will. CORNELIUS SWITS was his eldest son. He married Hester Visscher, of Albany, and took up his residence there about 1702.

TEUNIS CORNELISE SWART was one of the early settlers. He occupied the lot on the east corner of Church and State streets. He had other property. ESAIAS SWART was son of Teunis. He married Eva, daughter of Teunis Van Woert, and owned a village lot on the east side of Church street.

WILLEM TELLER was one of the first proprietors, though never a resident here. He died in 1701, in his 81st year. His house lot was on Washington street.

CAREL HANSEN TOLL first settled at Hoffman's Ferry. In 1712 he owned a village lot here, on Union street, which is the present Courthouse lot. He married Lysbet, daughter of Daniel Rinckhout, of Albany, and had eight children. He owned Cuyler's flat, Cambefort's flat, the seventh flat and Maalwyck.

DANIEL JANSE VAN ANTWERPEN was born in 1635, coming here about 1665. He built, substantially, what is now known as the Mebie House, above referred to. JAN DANIELSE VAN ANTWERPEN, Daniel's oldest son, was born about 1670 ; married Angnieta Vedder in 1700, and died January 20, 1756. Arent, another son, married Sara, daughter of Johannes Van Epps, and had nine children. His village lot is now occupied by Given's Hotel.

MARTEN VAN BENTHUYSEN, through his wife, Feitje, daughter of Pieter Jacobse Borsboom, had a fourth interest in Borsboom's land.

GYSBERT GERRITSE VAN BRAKELEN came here in about 1700. He owned several lots of land. He left two sons, Gerrit and Gysbert.

ARENT VAN CURLER was the leader of the colony at Schenectady in 1662. He came over in 1630, and in 1643 married Antonia Slaaghboom, widow of Jonas Bronck. No man of his time had so fully won the confidence and esteem of the Indians, and to honor his memory they ever addressed the Governor of the Province by his name. He was drowned on Lake Champlain in July, 1669. Van Curler's home lot in the village was a portion of the block bounded by Union, Church, Front and Washington streets. The Rev. WM. ELLIOT GRIFFIN, D. D., says that "Arent Van Curler was a scholar and a gentleman, fluent with his pen, possessing a gift by no means to be despised—the mastery of language. He was a man of systematic mind, so faithful to his trust and vow as to recall a Roman of classic days ; and so kind of heart, so full of deep conviction of conscience, along with the power of rising above the narrowness of sect or nationality, as to suggest a Christian. Brave as a lion, fearless neither of conspirators, scheming lawyers, who made use of their profession mainly to molest honest men, or of crafty savages, or perfidi-

ous French; further, he had the eye of an engineer and strategist, with the foresight of a statesman."

Frans Van De Bogart came here among the early settlers, and was killed in the massacre of 1690. His farm lay on the south side of the river at and below the Saratoga Railroad bridge, and a portion of it still belongs to his descendants.

Laurens Claese Van Der Volgen, at the destruction of the village in 1690, was made captive by the Indians, with whom he remained several years. He became interpreter for the Province, which position he held until his death, in 1742. His village lot was the eastern half of the lot now occupied by the Myers block, and he also owned part of the fifth flat.

Jacobus Van Dyck was a doctor; he settled here and practiced his profession until his death. He married Jacomyntje, daughter of Johannes Sanders Glen, October 25, 1694, and had two children, Elizabeth, and a son, Cornelius, who followed his father's profession and inherited his possessions.

Dirk Van Eps married Maritie Damens, and had two children, Johannes and Lysbert, who became the wife of Gerrit Bancker, of Albany. His home lot was on the north corner of State and Church streets. Jan Baptist Van Eps, eldest son of Jan Dirkse Van Eps, was born in 1673, and married Helena, daughter of Johannes Sanderse Glen, in 1699, and had eleven children, all of whom, save one, reached mature age and had families. He was captured by the Indians in 1690, with whom he remained three years. He owned, with other parcels, the "foremost" farm, No. 8, on the bouwland. This farm has remained in the family until this day. Evert Van Eps was a son of Jan Dirkse Van Eps. His first wife was Eva, daughter of Carle Hansen Toll; his second, Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac Truax. He had thirteen children. His village lot was on the west side of Washington street.

Claas Frederickse Van Petten was born in 1641. His wife was Aeffie, daughter of Arent Bratt. They had eight children. They both died in 1728, she aged seventy-eight years, he eighty-seven years. He owned a farm between the river and the lake in Scotia, and a village lot, being part of the Glen lot.

Harmen Albertse Vedder owned much land here at an early day, removing here in about 1672. He died, June 18, 1714, leaving five sons and one daughter. Albert Vedder, eldest son of Harmen, was born in 1671. He was captured by the Indians in 1690, and was kept in captivity for several years. His village lot was on the north side of Union street. It was afterward owned by Regnier Schaets. Harmanus Vedder, son of Harmen, was an Indian trader, and owned a village lot on the north corner of State and Church streets. In 1757 Harmen Vedder, Jr., conveyed this lot to Alexander Vedder. Ferry street (extended south) passes through this lot. Arent Vedder, son of Harmen, married Sara, daughter of Symon Groot, and had eleven children, all of whom, save one, were living, and had families, August 10, 1846, when he made his will. His village lot, on the west side of Washington street, is now owned by D. Cady Smith. Johannes Vedder, fourth son of Harmen, was carried to Canada in 1690 with his brother Albert He inherited a portion of the "hindmost" farm, No. 8, from his father. Corset Vedder, fifth son of Harmen, lived in "Schaghkook" until 1720, when he removed to Niskayuna. He owned four morgens of his father's farm.

Symon Volckertse Veeder was born in 1624. His home lot in the village was on the north corner of State and Ferry streets. Gerrit Symonse Veeder, son of Symon, married Tryntje, daughter of Helmer Otten, in 1690. He was the owner of much landed property. Pieter Symonse Veeder, son of Symon, married Neeltje, daughter of Claase Van der Volgen, in 1704. He settled on the Normans Kil. He died about 1709. Johannes Symonse Veeder, son of Symon, resided on the Normans Kil, where he had a portion of his father's land. Volkert Symonse Veeder, son of Symon, lived on the north corner of Ferry and State streets, on a lot received from his father.

Pieter Cornelise Viele was among the early settlers. He owned part of De Winter's bouwery in 1670, and died some time before 1690. Cornelis Viele, brother of Pieter, owned the two bouweries No. 8. He was one of the two licensed tapsters of the village, his inn being on the south corner of Mill lane and State, near Church street. Arnout Cornelise Viele, son of Cornelis, was for many years provincial interpreter. On account of the Indians' high esteem for him, the Mohawks, in 1683, gave him a parcel of land, above Schenectady, on the north side of the river, called Wachkeerhoha.

Hendrick Meese Vrooman came here in 1677 and bought the Van Curler bouwery. His village lot was on the north side of State street. He was slain in 1690. Adam Vrooman, son of Hendrick, in 1690, saved his life "by his bravery in defending his house, which stood near the north gate,

on the west corner of Church and Front streets." Besides this lot he owned other parcels of land.

JAN VROOMAN, son of Hendrick, married Geesie, daughter of Symon Veeder, July 4, 1680, and had fifteen children, the most of whom attained maturity and had families. His village lot, inherited from his father, was on the north side of State street, near Given's Hotel. Capt. HENDRICK VROOMAN was the fourth son of Adam Vrooman. Among other parcels of land, he owned in 1706 a lot on the south side of State street, "on the side of the Coehorn creek." BARENT VROOMAN, son of Adam, married Tryntje, daughter of Takel Heemstraat, of Albany, June 18, 1699. He died in 1746; his village lot was on the north corner of State and Center streets. WOUTER VROOMAN, son of Adam, married Marytje, daughter of Isaac Hallenbeck, of Albany; they had sixteen children; he died October 26, 1856; he owned five different parcels of land. JAN VROOMAN, son of Adam, was by trade a brewer. He received some land from his father, among which was a parcel lying west of the city, now mainly covered by the canal and railroad. PIETER VROOMAN, son of Adam, married Grietje, daughter of Isaac Van Alstyne, of Albany, February 2, 1706; they had twelve children. He settled early upon "Vrooman's land," in Schoharie. SIMON VROOMAN, son of Jan Vrooman, married Eytje, daughter of Jacob Delamont. He bought, in 1710, a "lot lying on the west side of the canal, extending from State to Liberty street." By his will, made in 1752, his son Jacob inherited this, and his son Johannes the "tan-pits," near the Church mill on Mill lane.

JAN BARENTSE WEMP settled here in 1662, buying "Van Slyck's" or "Wemp's Island." His village lot was on the west side of Washington street. This lot was inherited by his son Myndert, who was killed in the massacre of 1690. MYNDERT WEMP, son of Jan, was born in 1649. He married Diewer, daughter of Evert Wendel, of Albany. Capt. BARENT WEMP, son of Jan, was born in 1656, and married Folkje, daughter of Symon V. Veeder. His village lot was on the east corner of State and Center streets. The front of this lot is now occupied by the Carley House.

ROBERT YATES, son of Joseph Yates, settled in Schenectady at the age of twenty-three, and married Grietje Claase De Graff, of the *Hoek* in *Scotia*. His village lot was on the Albany road, near the present Ferry street. By his will, made in 1747, he left his interest in his tan-yards to his sons, Joseph and Abraham. Robert, son of Joseph, settled in Schenectady before 1712, and his nephew, Joseph Christoffelse, settled here in 1734. Abraham, a son of the latter, owned a house and lot on Union street, opposite the Court House.

Yates House.

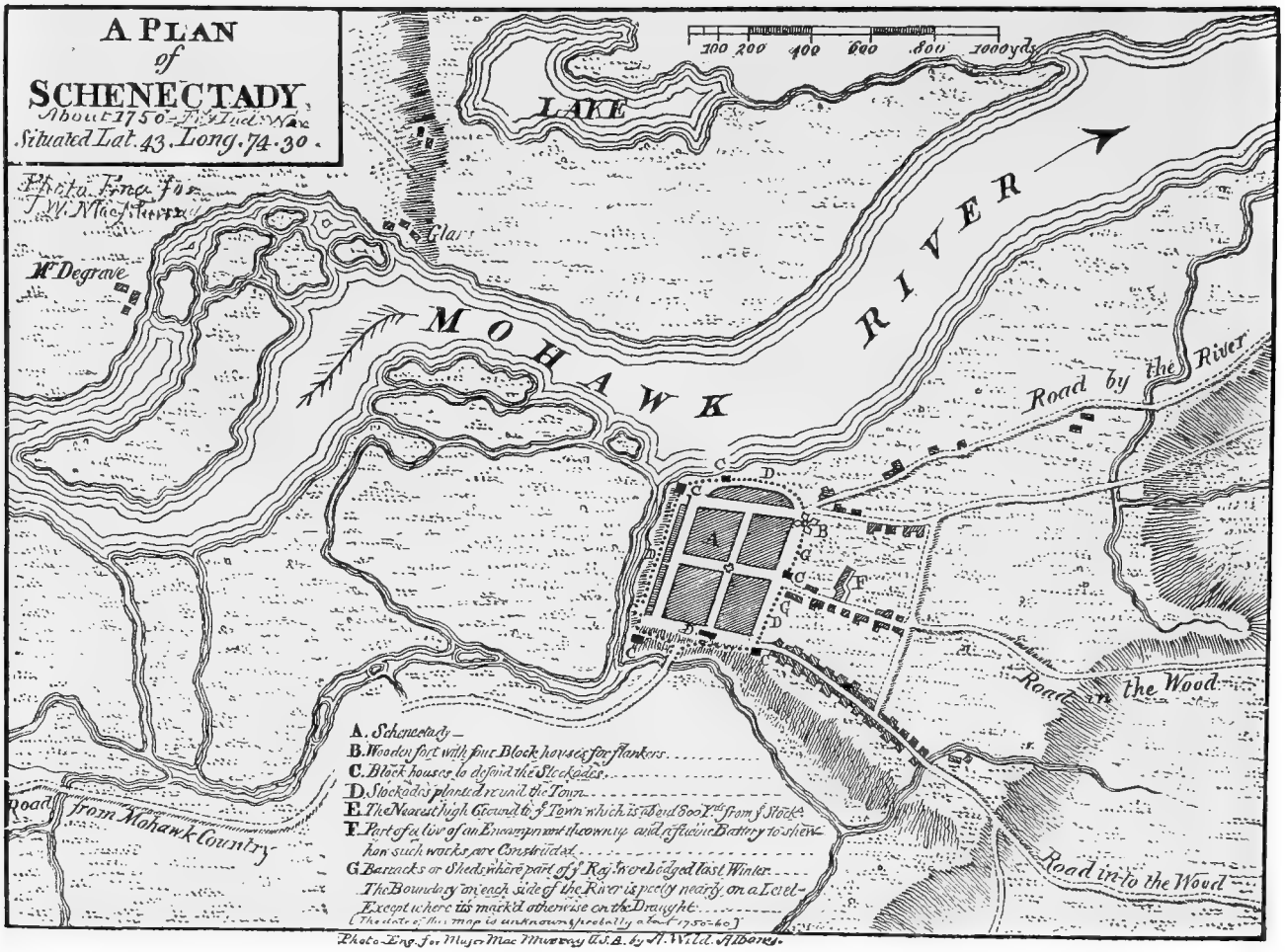
YANCES.

About the year 1798 there migrated to the barren pine plains adjoining the Albany and Schenectady turnpike, about one mile from this city, a tribe of people called Yances. In the reign of Queen Anne we date the first migration of the gypsies to this country. A tribe of them came over at that time with some German families, and settled in or near Kinderhook in this State. From thence proceeded the clan which settled in this vicinity.

This name, as it obtained among the early inhabitants of this vicinity, was Yances, so called after their patriarch, John Yonse. They were a race of persons with long, straight, black hair and dark complexions. They were generally well disposed, and the males made a precarious living by making baskets, selling berries—which grew abundantly at this time—and doing light work for the citizens of Schenectady, but never cultivated their land, nor worked strictly at anything; while the female portion of the tribe occupied themselves in spinning, picking berries and telling fortunes.

Some dwelt in caves which they dug at the foot of rising grounds, others in rude huts of their own construction. They were at first about forty strong, including men, women and children, but in the course of a few years they greatly increased in numbers, and about forty years ago there were about two hundred of them.

At present but a few of their descendants are living in this vicinity. Some families may be found living among the mountains around the villages in Schoharie County. There they are called the "Sloughters."



INDIAN WARS ON THE BORDER, 1662–1743.

Down to the close of the French war in 1763, the Iroquois carried on an intermittent warfare with the French of Canada. All settlements in the valley of the upper Hudson were made on this river and the Mohawk. The danger line was along the banks of the Mohawk and the shores of the Hudson above Waterford.

During a period of more than seventy years—1688 to 1760—the English provinces were, more than half the time, in a state of war, or painful apprehension.

No formidable body of Frenchmen, it is true, ever crossed the Mohawk—1690—but parties of their Indian allies, in squads of five to twenty, were constantly sent out to skulk along the border and pick off unwary husbandmen. Every dwelling along this danger line was constructed for defense, as well as for habitation. Movable block-houses were placed in the field for temporary shelter, and the farmer labored with his musket by his side, yet, in spite of every precaution suggested by experience, scarcely a year passed in which some households were not bereft of one or more of their members.

Less than four years after Schenectady was settled occurred the first alarm to the inhabitants.

M. De Courcelles, Governor of Canada, on the 29th December, 1665, began a march from Montreal with six hundred volunteers, "to seeke out their inveterate ennemyes called the Mohawke Indians, to take revenge upon them for the severall murthers and spoyles which the barbarians had for many yeares exercised in Canada." The snow was four feet deep; the soldiers marched on snow-shoes, while their provisions were drawn on "slight sledges" by mastiff dogs. On the 9th of February they encamped within two miles of Schenectady, having been misled by their guide. That evening "60 of their best Fusileers being led into an ambuscade by the Mohaks, lost 11 men besides divers others," who were wounded. Governor Courcelles applied to the inhabitants for provisions

which were supplied according to the "best accommodation ye poore village afforded," but refused shelter for his men, fearing if "hee had brought his weary and halfe starved people within the smell of a chimney corner," he could not keep them from straggling or running away.

Seven of his wounded were sent to Albany. "The Dutch boers carryed to the camp such provisions as they had, especially peaz and bread, of which a good quantity was bought." On the 12th of February the French began their return to Canada.

Three years later, to wit, in 1669, another Indian battle was fought on the western borders of the town.

In August, Caughnawaga [Fonda], a stockaded village of the Mohawks, was attacked by the river Indians or Mahikanders. After an obstinate resistance the latter were repulsed and retired. The Mohawks descended the river in their canoes and attacked the retreating foe at a place called *Kinaquariones* and put them to flight.

From this time up to 1689, while the people lived in constant apprehension, there was really no outbreak. In this period of twenty years' peace Schenectady slowly gained in population and agricultural wealth and comforts. Some trade, too, was had surreptitiously with the Indians. During these years the French occasionally sent out marauding expeditions, which made necessary a gathering of the savages about Schenectady. They were given to drink, and were always a source of annoyance to the inhabitants.

In August, 1689, the Five Nations made a destructive raid upon Montreal, killing several hundred persons and holding the place until October. Retaliation was naturally to be expected. The border settlements, as winter approached, when relief from New York would be cut off, cast about for help.

The general apprehension of an attack by the French led to a kind of committee of safety, called "the Convention," which convened in Albany from time to time to watch the progress of events and prepare for defense. This convention was composed of the Mayor and Aldermen of the city and the magistrates and chief military officers of the country. They were unanimously opposed to Leisler, and would obey none of his orders. Many persons during the summer of 1689 meditated and prepared to flee to a place of greater safety, which led to a proclamation, given at the City Hall, in Albany, August 7, published by the Justices of the Peace, forbidding all persons to depart from the country. During September the convention was again held, the proceedings of which plainly show that the attack of the French on Schenectady, which took place the following February, was not unexpected.

Schenectady, equally with Albany, was rent by party spirit, the inhabitants being divided into Leislerians and anti-Leislerians.

Leisler promised the people the same privileges as Albany, to wit: those of trading with the Indians, hitherto forbidden them, and the right of bolting flour. This was a strong bid for public favor; but Adam Vrooman, who was addressed as Leisler's agent, very modestly and prudently declined the honor.

Early in November, 1689, news reached Albany "that Leysler is about to send up an armed force to take possession of the place and overthrow the government." Capt. Sander Glen, Jan Van Eps and Sweer Teunise Van Velsen, of Schenectady, were opponents of Leisler, and sustained the convention to the last, Capt. Glen being one of the eight men appointed by the Convention to sign articles with Melbourne, Leisler's agent.

On the 25th November Capt. Jonathan Bull arrived with eighty-seven men from Connecticut, and on the 29th Lieutenant Enos Talmage, of Capt. Bull's company, "marched with twenty-four men to Schinnectady to keep y^{t} Post as it was agreed upon by ye five gentlemen appoint^{d} by ye Convention and ye Capt. Bull and Jochim Staats." December 9th was ordered as a day of fasting and prayer. All was confusion at Albany. Mr. Staats, who commanded Leisler's soldiers, would not submit to the convention and send ten of his men to Schenectady, as they wished; but went thither himself with some of his faction to stir up the people, so that the convention thought it necessary to send some one after him.

January 12, 1689–90, "while the convention was debating whether to submit to Joachim Staats as deputy of Leysler, a letter comes from Capt. Sander Glen, there Maj^{ies} Justice of the Peace at Schinnectady, informing them how that there are five commissions come to Schinnectady from Capt. Leysler for five Justices of ye Peace, brought thither by Jeronimus Wendel and Gerrit Luycasse [Wyngaard]; Y^{e} persons are Dowe Aukus, Ryer Jacobse [Schermerhorn], David Christoffelse, Myndert Wemp and Johannes Pootman; and a commission to call the people together, to choose new Capt., Lieut. and Ensigne and Town Court, and y^{t} ye s^{d} five justices come here to-morrow to assist Mr. Joachim Staats and to enter upon there office."

"The said Capt. Sanders [Glen], together with y^e^ Lieut. and Ensigne and Sweer Teunisse,—members of y^e^ Convention doe write to the gent^n^ that there vote is not to obey Capt. Leysler's orders, but to protest against his illegal proceedings." (Col. Mss., 36.)

"Albany y^e^ 20th of January, $16\frac{8}{9}\frac{8}{0}$.—The Mayor and Aldermen haveing consulted to-day how to procure some Christians and Indians to goe towards y^e^ Great Lake to Lye as skouts for y^e^ space of three weeks to give notice if y^e^ ffrench should come with an army to Invade there maj^ties^ Territory, but could fynde none y^t^ would goe under 2 shil. 6d. to 3 shil. per day, for Capt. Bull would suffer none of his men to goe, alledging it contrare to his instructions, and while they were bussy to discouse s^d^ affare ye following Indians came and s^d^ as follows, vizt.: * * * *

"Brethren: We have (been) sent by ye 40 Maguase Souldiers, now at Schenechtady, to acquaint you that they are come to goe out as Skouts toward ye Lake and Otter creek to watch ye Designe of ye Deceiver, ye gov^r^ of Canida, to see if he will come and invade our country again, & if we Discern any Progresse of his, we have 4 Indians y^t^ wee send forth Post to give you & our people advertisem^t^. * * *

"The s^d^ Indians were very thankful, and s^d^ they would withal speed goe to Shinnechtady & forward ye Comp^e^ & hasten them upon there march." (Doc. Hist., II, 86.)

These preparations to "watch the Designe of ye Govr of Canida" miscarried, and before the Indian scouts reached "ye Lake and Otter creek," the invading force had passed those points and the fatal blow was struck, destroying the village and scattering such of its inhabitants as were spared.

DESTRUCTION OF SCHENECTADY IN 1690.

From painting by Giles F. Yates, now in possession of his niece, Mrs. A. A. Yates, of Schenectady. In the painting the artist unquestionably drew upon his fancy.

BURNING OF SCHENECTADY.

The story of the massacre of 1690 has often been told. The essential facts are few and well established, both by the English and French accounts. The causes of this attack were, first, the war between England and France, occasioned by the English revolution of 1688, and, secondly, the desire of the French in Canada to intimidate and detach the Iroquois from the English, by delivering a stunning blow, and capturing both Albany and Schenectady. The destruction of this place would perhaps have decided the fate of the Province, for they then would have held the key to the navigation of the Hudson.

A march from Montreal to Schenectady—a distance of 200 miles—was one of extreme labor, requiring great pluck and endurance. Between the St. Lawrence and the Mohawk rivers there

was then an unbroken wilderness, without a single habitation. In mid-winter the snow lay in the forest from three to six feet deep, and could be traveled only on snow-shoes.

In addition to their heavy muskets and ammunition, the French were forced to carry provisions for the march of twenty-two days. Such were the conditions of an attack upon Schenectady, only possible in winter without a flotilla of canoes to pass the lakes.

The attacking party consisted of 114 Frenchmen, 80 savages from the Sault, and 16 Algonquins—in all 210 men.

The commander was Lemoine de Sainte Helène, assisted by Lieutenant D'Aillebout de Mantet. They started from Montreal on the 17th of January, and after suffering incredible hardships on the way, arrived in sight of the town about 11 o'clock at night on the 8th of February. It was their intention to make their attack later, but the intense cold forced them to enter the town at once.

The village at this time lay mainly west of Ferry street, and was stockaded with palisades of pine logs, ten feet high. It had at least two gates, one at north end of Church street, opening out to the highway (Front street), which led to the eastward to Niskayuna ; another at south end of Church at State, opening out to Mill lane and the Flats and the Albany road (State street).

The only dwellings outside the stockade were built on the northern side of State street, extending as far southeast as *Lange gang* [Center street]. It is said there were eighty good houses in the village, and a population of 400 souls ; both numbers, doubtless, greatly exaggerated.

In the northern angle of the village, on the Binnie kil [near corner Washington and Front streets], was a double stockade fort, garrisoned by a detachment of 24 men of Captain Jonathan Bull's Connecticut company, under the command of Lieut. Talmadge.

Thus fortified and garrisoned, the inhabitants should have repelled any ordinary attack, or at least held the enemy at bay until succor could reach them from Albany.

The destruction of the place was occasioned by divided counsels and a fatal apathy. The whole Province was then divided into two factions—the Leislerians and the Anti-Leislerians—the short hairs and swallow-tails. Divided feelings and counsels ran so high in Albany and Schenectady as to counteract the sense of self-preservation. Both parties were determined to rule; neither was strong enough to take the lead.

On the fatal night of February 8, the *Noche triste* of the ill-fated village, the inhabitants went to rest with their gates open and no guard set. They trusted that the Indians who had been sent out as scouts to Lake George would forewarn them of the enemy's approach. The French marched upon the village from the north, crossed the river on the ice and divided their men into two companies, with the intention of entering the town, one by the north, or Church street, gate, the other by the south, or State street, gate. The latter entrance, being in a measure covered by the dwellings on that street, could not be found ; both companies therefore entered by the north gate, and separating, spread themselves throughout the village, five or six before each house. At a signal agreed upon a simultaneous onslaught was made upon each dwelling, and before the terror-stricken inhabitants could seize their arms the savages were upon them. Resistance was vain. Within two hours sixty of the people were slaughtered, without distinction of age or sex. After selecting such booty as they could carry away, the French fired the houses and burned all but five or six.

Captain Sander Glen's family and relatives, with their habitations and other property, on account of former kindness shown to captive Frenchmen, were spared by express order of the Governor of Canada. The utter helplessness of the inhabitants to offer resistance is shown by the fact that only two of the enemy were killed and one severely wounded.

The plucky fight made by Adam Vrooman and his family comes down to us by tradition. His house stood on the west corner of Front and Church streets, opposite the north gate.

By keeping up a brisk fire from his dwelling, he kept the enemy at bay and extorted a promise from the French commander to spare his life.—

After taking a few hours of much needed rest, the French began their retreat at 11 o'clock of the 9th, with 27 prisoners, men and boys, and fifty horses laden with plunder.

Nineteen of their men perished in the retreat and the remainder were only saved from starvation by killing the horses.

Of the many accounts of this transaction written at the time, the following are most trustworthy.

The first is the French report, and may be found among the "Paris Documents," Vol. IV, in the Secretary of State's office.

"An account of the burning of Schenectady by Mons. De Monsignat, Comptroller-General of the Marine in Canada, to Madame de Maintenon, the morganatic wife of Louis XIV.

"* * * At eleven o'clock at night they came within sight of the town (but) resolved to defer the assault until two o'clock in the morning. But the excessive cold admitted of no further delay.

"The town of Corlaer forms a sort of oblong with only two gates—one opposite the road we had taken—the other leading to Orange, which is only six leagues distant. Messieurs de Sainte Helène and de Mantet were to enter at the first, which the Squaws pointed out, and which in fact was found wide open. Messieurs d'Iberville and de Montesson took the left with another detachment, in order to make themselves masters of that leading to Orange. But they could not discover it, and returned to join the remainder of the party. A profound silence was everywhere observed, until the two commanders, who separated, at their entrance into the town, for the purpose of encircling it, had met at the other extremity.

"The signal of attack was given Indian fashion, and the whole force rushed out simultaneously. M. de Mantet placed himself at the head of a detachment, and reached a small fort where the garrison were under arms. The gate was burst in after a good deal of difficulty, the whole set on fire, and all who defended the place slaughtered.

"The sack of the town began a moment before the attack on the fort. Few houses made any resistance. M. de Montigny discovered some, which he attempted to carry sword in hand, having tried the musket in vain. He received two thrusts of a spear—one in the body and the other in the arm. But M. de Sainte Helène, having come to his aid, effected an entrance, and put every one who defended the place to the sword. The massacre lasted two hours. The remainder of the night was spent in placing sentinels and in taking some repose.

"The house belonging to the minister was ordered to be saved, so as to take him alive to obtain information from him; but as it was not known, it was not spared any more than the others. He was slain and his papers burnt before he could be recognized.

"At daybreak some men who were sent to the dwelling of Mr. Coudre [Coudre (?) Sander], who was major of the place, and who lived at the other side of the river. He was not willing to surrender, and began to put himself on the defensive, with his servants and some Indians; but as it was resolved not to do him any harm, in consequence of the good treatment that the French had formerly experienced at his hands, Mr. d'Iberville and the Great Mohawk proceeded thither alone, promised him quarter for himself, his people, and his property, whereupon he laid down his arms, on parole, entertaining them in his fort, and returned with them to see the commandants of the town.

"In order to occupy the savages, who would otherwise have taken to drink and thus render themselves unable for defence, the houses had already been set on fire. None were spared in the town but one house belonging to Coudre [Sander Glen], and that of a widow [Bratt] who had six children, whither M. de Montigny had been carried when wounded. All the rest were consumed. The lives of between fifty and sixty persons—old men, women and children—were spared, they having escaped the first fury of the attack. Some twenty Mohawks were also spared, in order to show them that it was the English and not they against whom the grudge was entertained.

"The loss on this occasion in houses, cattle and grain amounts to more than four hundred thousand livres. There were upwards of eighty well built and well furnished houses in the town.

"The return march commenced with thirty prisoners. The wounded, who were to be carried, and the plunder, with which all the Indians and some Frenchmen were loaded, caused considerable inconvenience. Fifty good horses were brought away; sixteen of these only reached Montreal. The remainder were killed for food on the road. * * *

"Such, Madame, is the account of what passed at the taking of Corlaer. The French lost but twenty-one men, namely, four Indians and seventeen Frenchmen. Only one Indian and one Frenchman were killed at the capture of the town; the others were lost on the road."—Doc. Hist. N. Y., 1, 186.

A few days subsequent to the massacre at Schenectady, Pieter Schuyler, mayor, and Dirk Wessels Ten Broeck, recorder of Albany, and Kilian Van Rensselaer, *Patroon* of Rensselaerwyck, addressed the following appeal to the Governor (Bradstreet) and Council of Massachusetts. This letter, as well as one from Capt. Bull, was answered by the Governor and Council on the 27th of February.

"ALBANY y^e^ 15th day of febr, $16\frac{88}{90}$.

"Hon^rd^ Gent^n^:

"To our great greeffe and sorrow we must acquaint you with our deplorable condition, there haveing never y^e^ Like Dreadfull massacre and murthur been committed in these Parts of America, as hath been acted by y^e^ french and there Indians at Shinnectady 20 miles from Albanie Betwixt Sat-

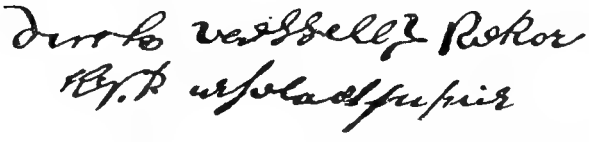
urday and Sunday last, at 11 a clok at night. A companie of Two hundred french and Indians fell upon said village and murther'd sixty men women and children most Barbarously, Burning ye Place and carried 27 along with them Prisoners, among which the Leif^t^ of Capt Bull Enos Talmadge and *4 more of sd company were killed & 5 taken* Prisoners ye Rest being Inhabitants and about 25 *Persones there Limbs frozen* in ye flight.

"The cruelties committed at s^d^ Place no Penn can write nor Tongue expresse, ye women bigg with childe Rip'd up and ye children alive throwne into ye flames, and there heads Dash'd in Pieces against the Doors and windows.

"But what shall we say we must Lay our hands upon our mouth and be silent. It is Gods will and Pleasure and we must submitt, it is but what our Sinns and Transgressions have Deserv'd. And since Generally humane things are Directed by outward means, so we must ascribe this sad misfortune to ye factions and Divisions which were amongst ye People and there great Dissobedience to there officers for they would Obey no Commands or keep any watch, so y^t^ ye Enemie haveing Discovered there negligence and Security by there Praying maquase Indians (who were in s^d^ Place 2 or 3 Days before ye attaque was made) came in and Broak open there verry doors before any Soule knew of it, ye Enemy Divideing themselfs in 3 severall companies came in at 3 severall Places no gate being shutt, and Seperated themselfs 6 or 7 to a house and in this manner begunn to murther sparing no man till they see all ye houses open and masterd, and so took what plunder they would, Loading 30 or 40 of y^e^ Best horses and so went away about 11 or 12 a clock at noon on Sabbath day." * * * * * * *

Your most humble and obed^t^ serv^ts^ y^e^ Convention of Albanie

P. SCHUYLER, Mayor.



The Mayor, &c., of Albany their bre giveing acco^t^ of y^e^ ffrench & Indians cutting of a Town of English &c., many things & Dutch Feb., 1689."

[Mass. Archives, 239–246.]

The survivors of the massacre had become so discouraged by their late terrible experience, that it was seriously debated whether the settlement should not be abandoned. The frontiers were now so harassed by straggling parties of the enemy that the husbandmen could not safely plant and harvest their crops.

In the midst of these discouragements the Mohawks strove to dissuade them from abandoning their plantations, promising them aid, counseling them to fortify their village more substantially.

May 12, 1690, the "Commissioners for Albany" ordered that the "posts of Schanechtede, Connestigieone and the Half Moone be forthwith supplied with proper numbers of men to defend the same." [Doc. Hist., II.]

In regard to the number of persons killed and carried away to Canada at the destruction of Schenectady, the best accounts agree substantially. The names of sixty persons massacred, and of twenty-seven captives, have been preserved among the historical documents in the office of the Secretary of State. The largest number of the slain resided, when living, on State street; hence the survivors called this street *Martelaer's straat*, in pious remembrance of their slaughtered relatives and neighbors, a name whose significance and sentiment are in striking contrast with the utter poverty of invention and good taste shown by their descendants in borrowing a name from Albany for their chief business street.

The following is the list of those killed, above referred to:

Myndert Wemp, Jan Van Eps, "his son and two of his children;" Sergt. Church, of Capt. Bull's company; Barent Janse (Van Ditmars) and son; Andries Arentse Bratt and child; Maria Viele, two children and negro woman servant; Maria Alolff, Sweer Teunise (Van Velsen) and wife; four negroes of Teunise, Antje Janz, Enos Talmidge, lieutenant of Capt. Bull's company; Henderson Meese Vrooman and Bartholomens Vrooman, "and two negroes of Henderson;" Gerrit Marcellis, wife and child; Robert Alexandier, soldier; Robert Hesseling, Sander, "son of Gysbert Gerritse (Van Brakel);" Jan Roeloffse (son of Anneke Janse); Ralph Grant, a soldier; David Christoffelse, wife and four children; Jaris Aertse (Van der Baast), Johannes Potman and wife; Wm. Pieterse, Dominie Petrus Tassemaker; Frans Harmense (Van de Bogart); Engel Vrooman and child; Reynier Schaats and son; Daniel Andries "and George, two soldiers;" "a French girl prisoner among the Mohogs;" "a Maquase Indian," "Johannes, son of Symon Skermerhorn, and three negroes of Symon Skermerhorn."

Among those taken prisoners and carried to Canada, some died on the way there and some were afterward released and returned to Schenectady.

The following ballad, though without much literary merit, has some value for the facts set forth therein.

It was evidently written by a person belonging to the English garrison, stationed at Albany.

A BALLAD,

"In which is set forth the horrid cruellties practised by the French and Indians on the night of the 8th of last February. The which I did compose last night, in the space of one hour, and am now writing the morning of Fryday, June 12, 1690. W. W."

God prosper long our King and Queen,
Our lives & safeties all.
A sad misfortune once there did
Schenectady befall.

From forth the woods of Canada
The Frenchmen tooke their way
The people of Schenectady
To captivate and slay.

They march'd for two & twenty dais
All thro' the deepest snow ;
And on a dismal Winter Night
They strucke the Cruel Blow.

The lightsome sun that rules the Day
Had gone down in the West ;
And eke the drowsy Villagers
Had sought and found their reste.

They thought They were in Safetie all,
And dreampt not of the Foe ;
But att Midnight They all awoke,
In Wonderment & Woe.

For They were in their pleasant Beddes,
And soundelie sleeping, when
Each door was sudden open broke
By six or seven Men.

The Men and Women, Younge & Olde,
And eke the Girls and Boys,
All started up in great Affright,
Att the alarming Noise.

They then were murther'd in their Beddes,
Without shame or remorse ;
And soon the Floores and Streets were strew'd
With many a bleeding corse.

The Village soon began to Blaze,
Which shew'd the horrid sight :—
But, O, I scarce can Beare to Tell
The Mis'ries of that Night.

They threw the Infants in the Fire,
The Men they did not spare ;
But killed All which they could find
Tho' Aged or tho' Fair.

O Christe ! In the still Midnight air,
It sounded dismally,
The Women's Prayers, and the loud screams
Of their great Agony.

Methinks as if I hear them now
All ringing in my ear ;
The Shrieks and Groanes and Woefull Sighs,
They utter'd in their Fear.

But some ran off to Albany,
And told the dolefull Tale :
Yett, tho' We gave our cheerful aid,
It did not much avail.

And we were horribly afraid,
And shook with Terror, when
They told us that the Frenchmen were
More than a Thousand Men.

The news came on the Sabbath morn
Just att the Break of Day,
And with a companie of Horse
I galloped away.

But soone We found the French were gone
With all their great Bootye ;
And then their Trail We did pursue
As was our true Dutye.

The Mohaques joynd our brave Partye,
And followed in the chase
Till we came upp with the Frenchmen
Att a most likelye Place.

Our soldiers fell upon their Reare,
And killed twenty-five,
Our Young Men were so much enrag'd
They took scarce One alive.

D'Aillebout Then did commande,
Which were but Theevish Rogues,
Else why did they consent and goe
With Bloodye Indian Dogges ?

And Here I end the long Ballad
The Which you just have redde ;
I wish that it may stay on earth,
Long after I am dead.

WALTER WILIE.

ALBANY, 12th of June, 1690.

INDIAN WARS ON THE BORDER, 1662–1713.

The destruction of Schenectady and the uncertainty of future safety of the border settlers in the vicinity of that village awakened in their minds serious doubts as to the expediency of rebuilding their dwellings and putting seed into the ground. To reassure the courage of the people, the Convention at Albany passed the following resolution, on the 22d February, 1690 :

Resolved, That for ye p'servation of there maj^es^ Intrest in these parts & ye Secureing of there Subjects in this time of war wth ye french, y^t^ all means be used to Perswade all ye maquase to come & live & Plant at Schinnectady, lately Destroyed by ye french and there Indians w^h^ will be a means y^t^ ye winter corn sowed there may be reaped & ye Indians in Readinesse to join with our forces upon any occasion if ye enemy should come.—[Doc. Hist., II, p. 90.]

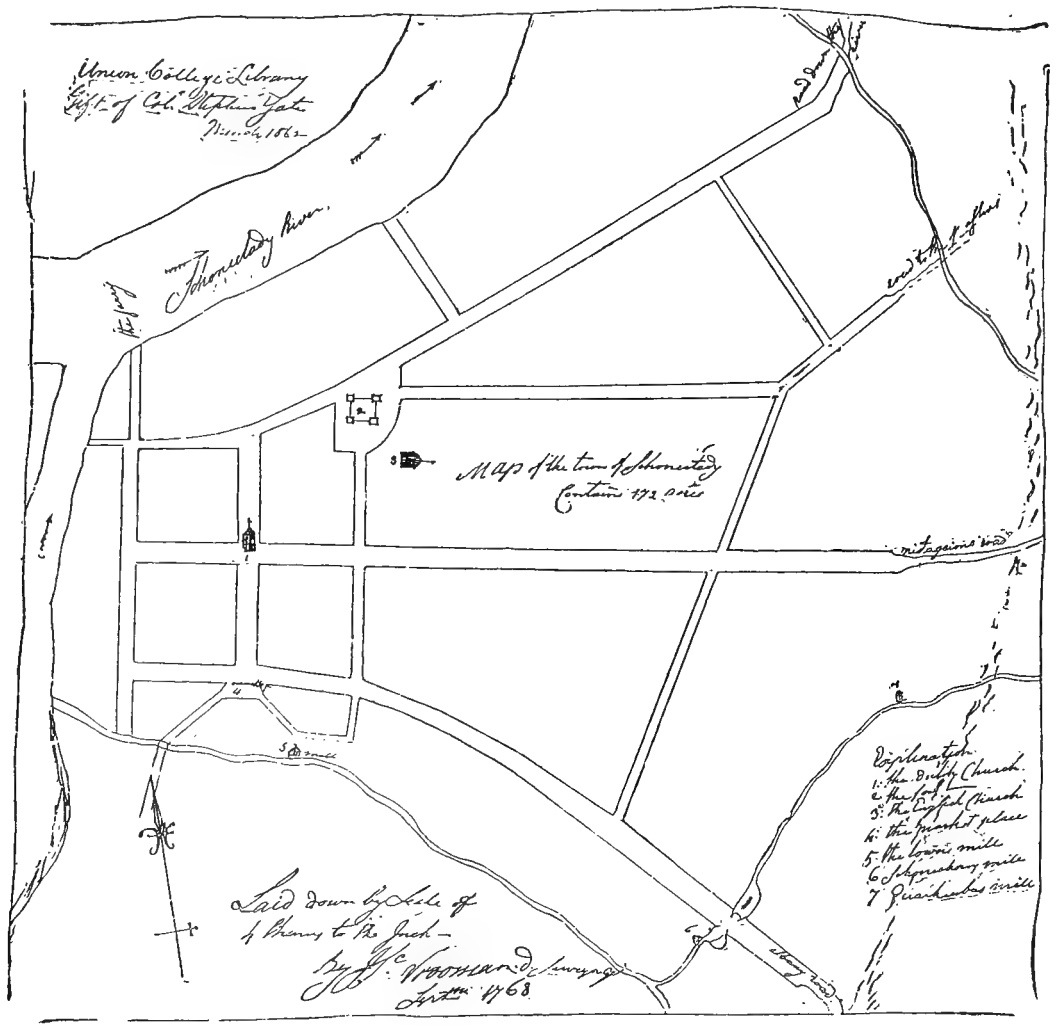
The Five Nations, too, in a council held at Albany, May 3, spoke encouraging words :

"Brother Corlaer, be no wise discouraged, but make your fort strong (as we have our castles) at Schenectady, and maintain a garrison there, that your Corne may be preserved, & reap your harvest; also send for your wifes and children from New York and encourage them that we shall be safe, and fear not, * * * The words of Diadorus are ended."

So impoverished had Albany and Schenectady become that aid was called for from Connecticut for "fournishing the souldiers with provisions, Shenectady being destroyed and most of the out plantations deserted, that your hon^rs^ would be pleased to send a supply of an hundred barrels of

porke or beefe equivalent for maintaining their Maj[es] Forces."

On the 9th June, 1690, four persons of those who had been captured by the French and escaped from Canada arrived in Albany, to wit: Klyn Isack [Swits], of Schenectady, and his eldest son Symon; Ryck Claessen [Van Vranken], of Niskayuna, and one of Captain Bull's soldiers taken at the destruction of Schenectady. Four more captives taken at the same place were brought in, March, 1691, by a "party of Christians and maquase."



MAP OF THE TOWN OF SCHENECTADY.

In the beginning of June, 1691, Gov. Sloughter, who succeeded Andros, visited Albany and Schenectady to inspect the defenses and hold a council with the Five Nations, and, on the 11th of July, Gov. Sloughter wrote to the Governors of the other Provinces that he had just returned from Albany, where he "found our Plantations and Schenectady almost ruined. I have garrisoned Schenectady and Halfe Moon with some of the 100 fusileers raised by our Assembly."

Again, August 6, he says: "I found Albany full of disorder, the people ready to disert it; about 150 farms deserted & destroyed by the French."

October 5, 1691, "At a council held at Fort William Henry [N. Y.]

"This Board having the Garrison of Schenectady under consideration, it is thought convenient to remove the 4 guns from there to Albany, and that Petardoes be placed in their steade."

Late in the year 1691 another of the prisoners taken at Schenectady the year before was brought back by an Oneida Indian, who was rewarded in "Duffels and Rom" to the amount of £2 2s.

In January, 1692, Cornelis Van Slyck, Harmen Van Slyck and Hendrick Janse went out from Schenectady with the Maquase upon the *Brandwach*, toward Canada, Captain Sander Glen furnishing "sno shoes" for them.

In February came an alarm from Albany to Governor Fletcher that "350 French and 200 Indians had come within 36 miles of Schenectady."

The Governor proposed to "detach three hundred men out of the city regiment and adjacent counties to be transported to Esopus by water," from whence they were to be sent on to Albany and Schenectady by horses.

In May there was a new alarm, and Major Ingoldsby visited Albany, where the officers "represented that they need a force of 400 men on this frontier, 200 at Albany, 50 each at Schenectady, Canastigione & Half Moon, & 50 to go out with 100 Indians as constant scouts in the woods."

In October, Governor Fletcher visited Schenectady and put it in some posture of defense for the coming winter.

In August, 1692, a new expedition was fitted out at Schenectady, consisting of 350 Indians of the Five Nations under Canachkorie to attack Canada. The expense of the outfit was £54 3s. 5d. Among other things furnished was four ells of "red and blew" ribbons "to tye in his eares."

P. Davitse was allowed nine shillings for making two gun-stocks; Jellis Funda, nineteen shillings and six pence for making four gun-stocks, and Barent Mynderse and Christian Smith, £7 6s. 8d. for repairing arms for the Indians.

While at Schenectady the "Mayor & the Rest" stayed with Johannes Glen. Hille Van Olinda, their interpreter, made two great belts of wampum, for which she received £2 8s.

There was furnished for the expedition 600 lbs. of "beefe & pork, besides the four quarters of a small beasts," amounting to £1 16s., 25 skipples of pease @ 2s. 6d., and 24 loaves of bread @ 7d.

A large quantity of wampum belts was sent along to draw over the Praying Indians of Canada. The zewant for two great belts cost £3 12s.

So impoverished had the people of Schenectady become, that a tax of only £29 7s. ($73.33) was considered too great a burden for the whole township, and they petitioned for a release of the same, which petition was, October 11, 1692, granted, "*nemine contradicente.*"

"In the expedition the English lost four soldiers and four Indians, twelve wounded. Killed of the enemy, 33, including their captain-commandant and twenty other officers, and two of their commanding Indians, and rescued forty or fifty prisoners."

During the winter of 1693 and the summer of 1694 there were no important movements on either side; the French using their best endeavor to make peace with the Five Nations; the English striving to counteract their projects. During the summer of 1695 there were constant conflicts between the Five Nations and the French, but the anticipated raid during the winter of 1696–1697 did not take place, though in the spring of 1697 small parties appeared on the Mohawk, doing such mischief as opportunity favored.

On the 20th September, 1697, articles of peace were signed between France and Great Britain, called the peace of Ryswick. For nearly ten years the Mohawk valley had been the scouting ground of the two hostile parties. The husbandmen had labored with his musket by his side, and made his dwelling literally his castle.

The news of peace did not reach Canada until May, 1698, and then by the way of New York in a communication from Governor Bellomont.

Although peace had been declared between the two nations, the French of Canada still threatened war against the Five Nations, and Governor Bellomont prepared to espouse the cause of his Indian allies by calling upon the trained bands of Albany and Schenectady to hold themselves in readiness to march with the regulars. The dangers and alarms of these times are clearly stated by Governor Bellomont in a letter to the Lords of Trade, dated 24th October, 1698.

After the proclamation of peace, early in 1698, the fortifications and garrisons on the border were greatly neglected. May 25, 1700, Governor Bellomont wrote to the Lords of Trade "that at the very time they [the French] are fortifying against us and keeping up the same number of soldiers still, which they did all the war, we on our part let our wooden forts fall to the ground, and reduce our pittance of soldiers, and neither mind paying nor recruiting them."

On the 29th August, 1700, Governor Bellomont held a conference with the sachems of the Five Nations at Albany, to whom he made the following complaint:

"I have some complaints at this time made to mee of mischief lately done by some of your people in killing their cattle above Schanegtade. I desire you will inquire into the matter, and take such order that reperation may be done the people that have been so wronged." * * *

From 1697 to 1701 there was peace between England and France, consequently between Canada and the English Provinces. Nevertheless the constant intrigues and threats of the French toward the Five Nations made it necessary for the Provincial authorities of New York to use persistent and vigilant circumspection to counteract these intrigues.

Governor Bellomont died 5th March, 1701. Already rumors were rife in New York of a prospective war between France and England, on which account Colonel William Smith, President of the Council and *ex officio* Governor of the province, in writing to the Lords of Trade, "begs leave humbly to repeate the state and condition of the forts at Albany and Schenectady, which are almost totally decayed & unserviceable."

In 1709 orders were sent from England to Governor Lovelace to prepare for an attack upon Canada and Nova Scotia. It was proposed to send out a naval squadron and five regiments of regular troops to Boston, there to be joined by 1,200 of New England.

These troops were to attack Quebec, while 1,500 men marching by way of Albany were to attack Montreal.

The Five Nations and River Indians were to assist. This expedition was to be commanded by Colonel Francis Nicholson and Colonel Samuel Vetch, but like the attempt in 1691 proved a miserable failure. The English ministry, instead of sending the promised armament to their American provinces, sent it to Portugal.

The Five Nations, during the war (1701–13) between France and England, being neutral, became corrupted, and less firmly attached to the latter.

In 1711 another attempt was made to conquer Canada, as abortive as the others, the naval expedition proving a failure. As a consequence, the French Indians commenced their skulking attacks upon the frontiers, killing two families in Schaghtakook.

January 1, 1712, Governor Hunter wrote to the Lords of Trade: "All is quiet at present upon the frontier."

From this time until the "old French War" in 1744 there was peace between France and England, and consequently between Canada and the colonies.

In 1715 the township of Schenectady had two military companies of foot, consisting of about sixty men each, including officers.

Although the peace of Utrecht brought comparative quiet to the border settlements of this province, the Five Nations still distrusted the French and their Indians, and stood prepared to defend themselves against their attacks.

The English sympathized with them and furnished them every aid and help short of an armed force. They built their forts, supplied them with arms and ammunition, repaired their muskets and tomahawks, clothed them with duffels and strouds, and in times of scarcity sent them corn. In many cases the smiths and carpenters sent there were citizens of Schenectady.

In 1711 Governor Hunter, the better to protect his faithful allies, the Iroquois, contracted with Gerrit Symonse [Veeder], Barent Vrooman, Hendrick Vrooman, John Wemp and Arent Van Petten, carpenters, of Schenectady, for £1,000, to build two forts in the Indian country, one for the Mohawks, 150 feet square and 12 feet high, of logs one foot square, with a block house at each angle two stories high and 24 feet square; also a chapel within the fort, 24 feet square; the other, for the Onondagas, of like dimensions.

In 1724 Harmen Vedder was appointed captain of a party of smiths stationed among the Senecas, at a salary of £50, and Andries Brat at £15, Hendrick Wemp at £25, and Harmen Van Slyck at £25, as smiths among the Onondagas.

In 1726 Joseph Van Lice, of Schenectady, presented a bill to the Governor for seven months' service as smith in the Senecas' country, for which he claimed £20.

At a conference between Governor Burnet and the six sachems at Albany, 9th Sept., 1726, a Seneca sachem said:

* * * "It is three years ago that you offer'd us a smith, and told us we might look for one to our minds; we found one there who pleased us very well. It was Myndert Wemp; when his time was expired he told the sachims that he was going home, whereupon they desired him to come again, because he was good and charitable to the poor; therefore we desire he may be our smith and go with us when we go home. We desire also an Armourer who can mend our Locks and Arms; such a man lives at Schenectady."

"5 October, 1728.

"Brother Corlaer:

"It has been customary when we came here towards the fall that a Smith and an Armourer to be sent to work for you, but then to work in our Country; we beg you to grant us now that Joseph Van Lise and Hendrick Wemp may be Ordered to go up with us, who are fit persons for our Occasion."

His Excellency answered:

"I will order a Smith and an Armourer to be sent to work for you, but then I Expect that you will not suffer the ffrench Smith who is now there, nor any other from Canada, to reside among you for the Future."

A Sinneke sachem said:

"Brother Corlaer:

"We desired a Smith and an Armourer, but we do not hear further of it. You spoke about a ffrench Smith, who is now with us; he can Make no work, for he is an old man, and can scarce see. So we beg again that Joseph Van Lize and Hendrick Wemp may go up with us. We would fain have the Smith and Armourer go with us now, that we may be sure of them, otherwise it may be neglected."

His Excellency answered:

"Brethren:

"I will give Effectual orders to the Commissioners to send a Smith and an Armourer with you to work in your country."

THE OLD FRENCH WAR, 1744–1748.

The Old French War, so called to distinguish it from that of 1753, was declared by Louis XV, on March 15, 1744, and accepted by England March 29. It was two months after before the news reached New England, although known a month earlier by the French of Canada. To secure the friendship and active aid of the Six Nations, the Governor of New York called a council of the chiefs of the confederacy, who met at Albany, June 18, 1744, and "renewed, strengthened and brightened the covenant chain that had so long tied them and the subjects of his Majesty, the great king, their father, in mutual ties of friendship."

Although inclining to peace, they promised in the strongest terms to stand by their friends if attacked. During this war, as in the other preceding it, the French and their allies were the most actively aggressive, sending out, almost daily, small parties of their Indians to annoy and distress the frontier settlements, and bring back such plunder and captives as they could find. The points of attack in this province were settlements along the Mohawk and Hudson, particularly Saratoga, Schenectady and Albany and the outlying places.

No family was safe unless protected by blockhouse or palisade; no man was exempt from military duty save by age or infirmity. In Schenectady and Albany each able-bodied man kept watch and ward every third or fourth night. French and English reports also give sad accounts of shocking barbarities practiced on both sides by skulking parties of savages and white men. French reports clearly show the cruelties practiced by these two Christian nations, who rewarded their savage allies in proportion to the number of scalps returned.

The French and their savages made war upon the almost undefended frontier settlers, who were taken by surprise and practically unprepared.

The distress occasioned by this war is clearly set forth by the following petition of the inhabitants of Albany for relief, made to the Provincial Assembly, July 27, 1747.

The sufferings of Schenectady were even greater, because more exposed, more impoverished and less secure:

"* * * That the inhabitants of the corporation of the city of Albany are in great misery and distress by reason of the present war with France, and with the Indians in their alliance.

"That the inhabitants of the said city, ever since the commencement of the war, by their frequent watching, have been very much taken off from themselves and families: That every man of our corporation has been obliged to attend in person, or pay a hired man in their stead, upon watch and ward every third or fourth night during the whole time, excepting a small interval of time in the spring the duty was demanded only every fourth night; but now, and for some time past, for the safety of this frontier and the poor inhabitants, we are obliged again to come upon a fourth night: That our corporation, by reason of the present war, are indebted * * * * for the supplying of fire, wood and candles for the night watches, and for powder and ball for the poorest of the inhabitants, * * * * besides what the inhabitants have done by a voluntary taxing themselves for providing and setting up new stockades, where the old ones were gone to decay."

While the people of Schenectady were striving to protect their borders from the attack of the enemy they were called upon to send men to Oswego.

The following answer of Col. Jacob Glen disclosed a sad state of morals at that important fortress:

COL. SCHUYLER: It is impossible to procure men for going to Oswego, especially when John Vischer remains there. John Baptist [Van Eps, the interpreter] says, if a hundred pounds was offered him over and above his wages, [he] would not remain a year under his command.

JACOB GLEN.

SCHENECTADY, Sept. ye 8, 1747.

Glen, in a previous letter, says the officers at Oswego are drunkards.

During the year 1747 Capt. Tiebout's company of foot was stationed at Schenectady.

THE BEUKENDAAL MASSACRE.

As the war drew to a close, in 1748, Schenectady met with the severest loss it had suffered at any one time since the year 1690. This is generally called the *Poopendal massacre.* It was, however, in no sense a massacre like that of 1690, except perhaps in the killing of the first victims, but a stand up and hand to hand fight in Indian fashion, in which the whites were the attacking party and, on that account, suffered more severely than the savages. About twenty of the former were killed and some thirteen or more made prisoners ; of the losses of the latter we have no sufficient accounts.

Beyond tradition the accounts of this skirmish are meager and uncircumstantial.

A brief letter to Col. William Johnson, written by Albert Van Slyck, July 21, 1748, three days after the affair, is the only semi-official narrative we have by one who was in the fight.

"From the details preserved in this letter, it appears that a party of men from Schenectady, the leader of whom was Daniel Toll, had been dispatched to some place in the vicinity to bring in a number of horses, which was surprised by a party of the enemy, whose presence in the neighborhood was neither known nor suspected.

"The firing being heard by Adrian Van Slyck, a brother of the writer of the account, who seems to have resided at a distance from the town, he sent a negro man to the latter place to give the alarm and obtain reinforcements. Four parties of armed men successively repaired to the scene of action, the first of which was composed of the New England lieutenant, with some of his men, and five or six young lads, accompanied by Daniel Van Slyck, another brother. The second party was led by Ackes Van Slyck, and some men, how many of either party is not stated.

"Adrian Van Slyck followed next, at the head of a party of New York levies ; but on reaching the scene of action, where Ackes, with inferior numbers, was holding the enemy at bay, the levies all fled in the most cowardly manner.

"The fourth party was composed of Albert Van Slyck (the writer of the letter), Jacob Glen 'and several others,' on the approach of whom the enemy drew off, leaving Adrian among the dead." The letter adds : "It grieves me, I not being commander, that when we went Garret Van Antwerp would suffer no more to accompany the party."

The second account, written by Giles F. Yates, Esq., and published in the Schenectady *Democrat and Reflector*, April 22, 1836, was gathered from tradition then floating about among the aged people of that day :

"In the beginning of July, 1748, Daniel Toll and his servant Ryckert went in search of some stray horses at Beukendal. * * * They soon heard, as they supposed, the trampling of horses ; but this sound proved to be that of quoits with which some Indians were playing. Mr. Toll discovered his danger too late, and fell, pierced by bullets. Ryckert escaped, reached Schenectady and told the news of the death of his master and the presence of the enemy.

"In less than an hour about sixty volunteers were on their march to Beukendal. The greater part of these were young men, and such was their zeal that they would not wait until the proper authorities had called out the militia. * * *

"Without discipline or experience, and even without a leader, they hastened to the Indian camp.

"Those in advance of the main body, before they reached the enemy, were attracted by a singular sight. They saw a man resembling Mr. Toll sitting near a fence in an adjoining field and a crow flying up and down before him.

"On coming nearer, they discovered it to be the corpse of Mr. Toll, with a crow attached to it by a string.

"This proved to be a stratagem of the Indians to decoy their adversaries. The Schenectadians fell, alas ! too easily into the snare laid for them, and were in a few moments surrounded by the Indians who had been lying in ambush. Thus taken by surprise, they lost many of their number, and some were taken prisoners before they could make good their retreat.

"They, however, succeeded in reaching the house of Mr. De Graaf, in the neighborhood, which had been for some time deserted. (This house is still standing.) But, while retreating, they continued to fire upon their enemy. On reaching Mr. De Graaf's house, they entered, bolted the doors and ascended to the second floor. Here they tore off all the boards near the eaves, and through the opening thus made fired with success at the savages, and succeeded in keeping them at bay. In the meantime Dirck Van Vorst, who had been left in the charge of two young Indians, effected his escape.

"The two youngsters were anxious to see the fight and secured their prisoner by tying him to a tree, and left him alone. He succeeded in getting his knife from his pocket and cutting the cord with which he was bound. On the approach of the Schenectady militia under Col. Jacob Glen, the party in Mr. De Graaf's house were relieved from their perilous situation, and the enemy took up their line of march for Canada.

"On this occasion there were thirty-two citizens killed (?); of these we are able to give the names of Jacob Glen (cousin of Col. Glen), Peter Vrooman, John Darling, Adam Conde, ——— Van Antwerpen, Cornelius Viele, Nicholas De Graaf and Adrian Van Slyck; wounded, Ryer Wemp, ——— Robinson and ——— Wilson; prisoners, Abraham De Graaf and his son William, John Phelps, Harmen Veeder and Lewis Groot.

"The bodies of De Graaf and Glen were found lying in close contact with their savage antagonists, with whom they had wrestled in deadly strife.

"The corpses were brought to Schenectady the evening of the massacre and deposited in the large barn of Abraham Mabee, being the identical one now standing on the premises of Mrs. Benjamin, in Church street. The relatives of the deceased repaired thither to claim their departed kindred and remove them for interment."

The news of this battle reached Albany in the evening of the same day, and by midnight Lieut. Chew, with one hundred English and two hundred friendly Indians, were on the march for the scene of action, but to no other purpose than as showing their willingness to meet an emergency of this kind.

From the accounts it is certain that the presence of the Indians was not suspected until the first shot; that Capt. Daniel Toll was the first victim; that the alarm was given by his negro Ryckert; that a company of Connecticut levies, under Lieut. John Darling, accompanied and followed by squads of the inhabitants, marched to the scene, and that, after a hot engagement, the Indians retreated, leaving twenty of the whites dead and taking away thirteen or fourteen prisoners, besides the wounded.

Considering the number of whites engaged, their loss was very severe, amounting probably to one-third of their force.

The following is the fullest list of killed and missing that can now be given:

KILLED—John A. Bradt, Johannes Marinus, Peter Vrooman, Daniel Van Antwerpen, Cornelis Viele, Jr., Nicolaas De Graaf, Adrian Van Slyck, Jacob Glen, Jr., Adam Conde, J. P. Van Antwerpen, Frans Vander Bogart, Capt. Daniel Toll, Lieut. John Darling and 7 of his soldiers; in all, 20 men.

WOUNDED—Ryer Wemp, —— Robinson, Dirk Van Vorst and —— Wilson.

MISSING—Prisoners, John Phelps, Lewis Groot, Johannes Seyer Vrooman, Frank Connor, Harman Veeder, Isaac Truax, Albert John Vedder and 6 soldiers; in all, 13 men.

After the close of hostilities, Governor Clinton sent Lieut. Stoddert to Montreal to arrange for an exchange of prisoners. With Capt. Anthony Van Schaick he went into the Indian country to recover the captives, but with indifferent success. Among those who returned with Lieut. Stoddert were Capt. Anthony Van Schaick, John Vrooman, Peter Vasborough [Vosburgh], Albert Vedder and Francis Conner. Efforts were made to induce others to return, but without success; of these were Rachel Quackenbos, Simon Fort and Philip Phillipsen. Rachel Quackenbos abjured the English religion, and Lieut. Stoddert could not persuade her to return. Fort and Phillipsen also desired to remain with the Iroquois; the former belonged by adoption to a sister of a chief named Agonareche. She refused to give him up at any price. Capt. Van Schaick offered six hundred livres for Fort, without succeeding in obtaining him. On the contrary, so determined was his squaw owner to retain him, that she said she would obey the French commandant and deliver him up, but that she and her husband would follow him, and he should not reach home alive. Lieut. Stoddert left Canada on the 28th of June, 1750, with 24 prisoners.

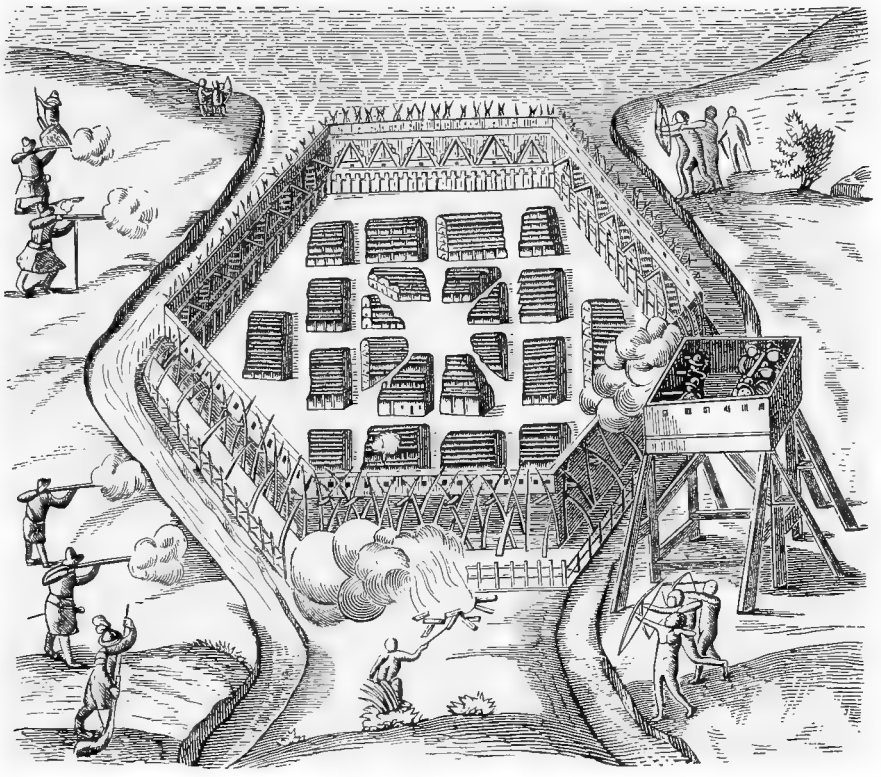
FORTIFICATIONS AND GARRISONS.

All considerable settlements on the upper Hudson and Mohawk rivers were from the first protected by wooden walls. Though never attacked nor even seriously threatened by the Iroquois or Mohicans, there were but few short periods down to the close of the French war (1763) when they were not subject to frequent alarms from the French or their Indian allies from Canada.

The method of fortification was by stockades, which the abundance of timber at their very doors made a cheap and ready protection. Guns were only used for defense, attacks being always made by the musket. The stockade consisted of a series of posts or logs, from 15 to 18 feet long and 12 inches or more thick, sharpened at one end and hewed flat on opposite sides.

Pine was usually chosen, because most abundant and easily worked.

The line of stockade being marked out, a trench three feet deep was dug; the posts were set therein, the flattened sides together, and the earth shoveled back and rammed against them. To strengthen the top, two adjoining posts were bored and fastened together with oaken trenails. At the angles, gates and other important points, block-houses for the shelter of the garrison and guards were built, and within



the stockade all around was a free space, called the *Roudweg*, of sufficient width for the patrol to march.

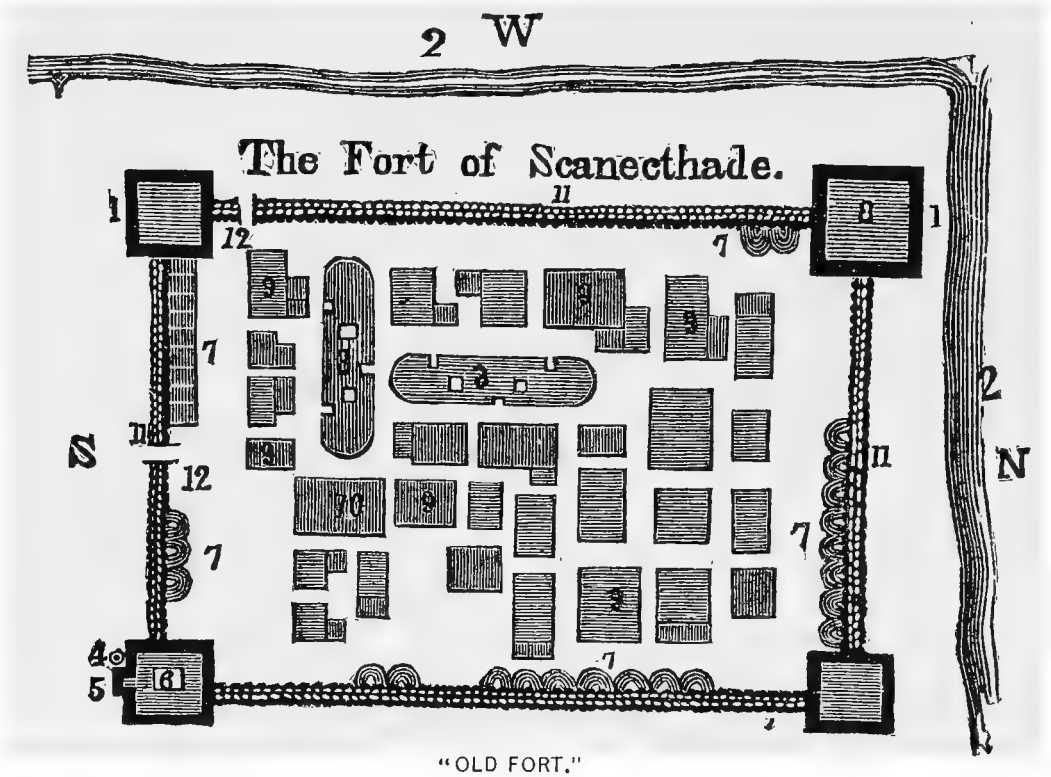
In addition to this outer circle of fortification, in Albany and Schenectady there was a fort in one of the angles of the latter place surrounded by a double row of high palisades, furnished with barracks for the garrison, platforms, guns, lookouts, etc. And in later times, when Schenectady became a depot for men and materials, there were barracks outside the walls. In 1765 the troops were posted along the east side of Ferry street, from Union to the Episcopal church ; in 1762, on the south side of Union street, from Ferry to Mrs. Colon Clute's house ; in the Revolutionary war, on the south side of Union street, from Lafayette eastwardly to Quackenbush street.

For protection and safety Schenectady was admirably placed, being surrounded with water and marsh on three sides and open only to the southeast, from which side the inhabitants had little to fear.

The first settlers, though their land lay elsewhere, built their habitations mainly together for their better protection. Doubtless, as soon after the settlement in 1662 as it could conveniently be done, the village was stockaded. Starting at State street, the line ran along the east side of Ferry to about the gate of the Episcopal church ; then in a straight line to the north side of Front, a little beyond Washington street; then southerly and parallel to the same to State; and lastly, along the same twenty-eight feet south thereof to Ferry street or Mill lane. This was the original plot inclosed and contained most of the houses of the first settlers.

The south and west lines remained substantially the same down to the time of their extinction soon after the Revolutionary war. The front and Washington street lines were later moved north and west to the river bank, and the Ferry street line some time after 1765 was carried southeasterly to where is now the New York Central railroad depot, and thence northerly through the Dutch church burying ground to the river bank.

GATES.—In 1690 it was said in the French account of the village that there were but two gates, one at the north end of Church street, called the "north gate," the other at State. This was, doubtless, at the junction of State and Church streets, and opened out to the roads through Mill lane and Water street, leading to the bouwlands and to the Mohawk country. In later times there were others at Front and Union streets. The foundations of the gates and guardhouses where Ferry crosses State and Union streets were exposed in laying the water pipes in 1871.



"OLD FORT."

By Rev. John Miller. (Original in British Museum.)

EXPLANATION.—1, 1, Block Houses. 2, 2, Rivers running beside ye fort. 3, 3, Indians' wigwams. 4, Flag staff. 5, Centry box. 6, Spy loft. 7, 7, 7, Sties for hogs. 8, The Block House designed for a church. 9, 9, Those and others like them houses. 10, A great barn. 11, 11, The treble stockadoes. 12, 12, The Fort Gates.

FORTS.—Schenectady was so important a post for the protection of the Province against the incursions of the Canadians that for the first hundred years of its existence it was deemed necessary to strengthen it by a fort and garrison.

It is believed, from references in the records, that the first block-house was in the north angle of the stockade at or near the junction of Front and Washington streets. This was destroyed in 1690 by the French, at which time it was garrisoned by a small detachment under Lieut. Enos Talmage, from Capt. Jonathan Bull's company, then stationed at Albany. These troops were Connecticut men. The magazine stood on or near the lot of Mrs. Willard, then belonging to Capt. Sander Glen.

A second was built in 1690 between Washington street and the river, opposite the west end of State street, covering the lot of *Kleine Isaack* (that is, Isaac Swits), who with his son Cornelis was carried away by the French to Canada. On his return from captivity next year he found his homestead occupied by soldiers, his orchard cut down, and his home utterly ruined. He repeatedly petitioned for remuneration for his losses, but it was not until 1708 that his son received a patent for 1,000 acres of land in Niskayuna as a recognition of his father's claim.

The second fort was a large and spacious inclosure surrounded by "a triple stockade, a new block-house at every angle and in each block-house two great guns." It contained twenty-eight huts for inhabitants of the village, two wigwams for Indians, a large barn and styes for hogs.

At a court-martial held at Schenectady, August 7, 1691, upon a soldier named George Castleton,

it was proved that he quarreled with a fellow soldier named Desvallous about some beer; the latter struck the former with a stick, whereupon Castleton, drawing his sword, thrust it into his side, causing almost instant death. The facts of the case were mainly proved by persons living within the fort. The culprit was adjudged guilty of manslaughter, burnt in the hand and banished the Province.

If Miller's drawing of this fort be correct, it must have extended quite across the west end of the village from State to Front streets, and included much of the land between Washington street and the Binne kil. The block-house in the south angle covered Swits' lot.

The renewal of the stockadoes, which, being made of pine logs, lasted but five or six years, became very burdensome to the inhabitants of the village after its destruction in 1690. Having built a new fort in 1690, they were ordered to renew the palisades in 1695. On this occasion Reyer Schermerhorn refused to cut and draw his proportion of the logs; it may be because living at the mills he thought himself exempt from his burdensome service or that his quota was too large. Thereupon Justice Johannes Sanderse Glen fined him twelve shillings, and continuing contumacious, Governor Fletcher, on the 9th of April, 1698, directed the sheriff of Albany County to bring him before the Council in New York to answer for his conduct. On the 30th he appeared before the Council, and "stood upon his vindication, whereupon he was committed to answer at the next Supreme Court, and Col. Courtland was desired to take bond with sureties for his appearance, and that he be of good behaviour in the mean time."

In the winter of 1695-6 the garrison at Schenectady consisted of a detachment under command of Lieutenant Bickford, from the companies of Captains James Weems and William Hyde, stationed at Albany.

"On the 10th Jan., about 12 of the clock at night deserted the whole guard except one, and others to the number of sixteen broak through the north west Block house next the water side." [Binne kil.]

"They drew the guns of both powder and shott. The Lieutenant about two o'clock discovering their desertion, notified by express Col. Richard Ingoldsby, at Albany, and with ten volunteers of the inhabitants and eleven soldiers, started in pursuit. The sergeant and seven red coats soon gave out and were left behind. At four in the afternoon the lieutenant and his 14 men came up with the 16 deserters; ordering them to lay down their arms they answered with a volley, and both sides continued to fire until five of the deserters were killed and two wounded when the remainder surrendered."

The following were the volunteers from Schenectady who accompanied Lieutenant Bickford in his hazardous enterprise: "Harmen Van Slyck, ensigne of the trained bands of Schenechtide, and Gerryt Simons Veeder, Peter Simons Veeder, Albert Veeder, Gerryt Gysbert [Gysbertse Van Brakel], Jan Danielse Van Antwerpen, Dirck Groot, Jonas De Ray, John Wemp, Daniel Mutchcraft [Mascraft] and Thomas Smith."

At a court-martial held in Schenectady April 21, the survivors of the deserting party were accounted guilty and condemned to be shot.

The commander of the garrison who succeeded Lieutenant Bickford, in the spring of 1696, was Lieutenant Daniel Hunt, from the garrison at Albany.

After the second fort had been occupied about fifteen years, 1690 to 1705, the block-houses were abandoned, and "Queens new Fort" was built at the east angle of the stockade. This was the "Old Fort," about which all the traditions of the people cluster.

It was at first simply a double or triple stockade, 100 feet square, with bastions or block-houses at the angles. In 1735 it was rebuilt in a more substantial manner of timbers on a stone foundation. The four curtains were "about 76 feet each, and the four bastions or block-houses 24 feet square."

In 1754, at the beginning of the French war, it contained one 6 and one 9 pounder on carriages, but no "port holes in the curtain to fire them."

On the 15th October following the inhabitants of Schenectady again petitioned the Governor to build a fort in the village, signed by Daniel Campbell, Arent Bratt, Abm. Glen and others.

The open space on which this fort stood, at the junction of Ferry, Front and Green streets, was about 264 feet by more than 200 feet, extending from the Episcopal churchyard to Green street.

The fort was built nearly in the center of this plat, the south wall extending across Ferry street, three feet south of the north corner of the parsonage house.

The well of the fort was in the middle of the street, three feet south of the north corner of Mr. James Sander's house.

GARRISON AT SCHENECTADY.—While the province remained under the Dutch rule a small body of soldiers was stationed at Fort Orange. After the

English occupation in 1664 there was seldom less than one full company there, sometimes two, and Schenectady was garrisoned by a detachment therefrom of 20 to 40 men, under command of a lieutenant.

In times of alarm and war, as in the ten years' war between England and France, 1688–1698, the regulars were supplemented by the militia of the town or from Connecticut.

Hardly a year passed that the importance of having Schenectady better fortified and garrisoned was not recognized, either by the Governor and Council, the Legislative Assembly or the ruling power in the mother country.

In 1671 Governor Lovelace directed Captain Thomas De Lavall, chief officer at Albany, and he on the 15th of July ordered all the inhabitants of Albany and Schenectady over 15 and under 60 years to provide themselves with guns, side arms, two pounds of powder and four pounds of lead, each under a penalty of 100 guilders, all within fourteen days. The year following this order was renewed at a meeting of the chief officers of Albany and Schenectady, those of the latter place being Ensign Jacob Sanderse Glen and Ensign Sweer Teunise Van Velsen.

In 1687 Major Brockholes, being in command at Albany, reported to the Governor and Council assembled at Fort James, July 19, the condition of things at Albany and Schenectady, that "he is now come from Albany to Schanectade with instructions ffrom the Government to bring up there with all convenient speed, a certain number of men & some provisions."

Whereupon it was "ordered that sixty men be reysed in & out of ye city & county of New York, & fifty men out of Queens County."

In anticipation of an immediate attack upon the frontiers, the Mayor, Common Council of Albany, military officers and justices of the peace of the county met in convention at Albany, on the 4th of September, 1689, as a committee of safety, and after deliberation resolved to send an express to Capt. Leisler, of New York, for one hundred or more men, "a recrute of six hundred weight of powder and foure hundred Ball, viz., 200 two pounders and 200 foure pounders with some match and one hundred hand Grenadoes."

The period from 1688 to 1698 was the most trying and critical in the history of Schenectady. First there were alarms and apprehensions of an attack by the French and their Indians allies, the destruction of the village, the slaughter and the captivity of a large part of its inhabitants, and lastly, the departure of many of the remainder to Albany, New York and other places of safety. The town was in danger of being depopulated in spite of stringent ordinances against removal and the encouragement of the Mohawks to stay by the post, fortify and maintain a vigorous warfare against their enemies.

For ten years the town gained little or nothing in population and prosperity, and until the peace of Ryswick the chief aim of the government and inhabitants was to hold the village, keep in repair its fortifications and maintain a sufficient garrison.

In 1698 the government sent over one Col. Romer, a military engineer, to examine, report upon and build certain forts needed on the coast and the frontiers.

Gov. Bellomont fully appreciated the importance of Schenectady and the necessity of its being properly fortified for the protection of the province on the side toward Canada. Hence he constantly importuned the Lords of Trade for men and means to complete and garrison the forts.

From this time on, the letters of the Governors of the Province to the Lords of Trade, the reports of the military commanders at this post, the orders and warrants of the Provincial Council, the acts of the legislature from time to time and the petitions of the chief inhabitants all combine to show the culpable neglect of the mother country of the safety of this her most important Province. All accounts of the condition of the fortifications and garrison at Schenectady after the peace of 1698 show that the stockades were neglected and suffered to rot down, rendering the town an open village, that the barracks became uninhabitable and that "it was by no foresight or energy of the Home government that Schenectady and its neighbors had been preserved from a second attack and destruction."

In the year 1703 Gov. Cornbury laid the foundations for a stone fort at Albany, and by the "advice of Her Majesty's Council of this province repaired as well as possible the stockaded fort at Schenectady."

Up to 1704 the palisades on the west side of the village stood about 100 feet back from Washington street, but on the 29th July, 1704, Governor Cornbury issued an order removing them to the bank of the *Binnekil.*

At about the beginning of the second "French War"—1755—the Assembly passed an act for raising £3,000, to be expended in fortifying the village; but after the close of this contest, and the fall of the French power in Canada in 1763, the

defenses of the village fell into decay, and were not renewed at the outbreak of the Revolution; neither were they renewed after its close. The old fort was removed, and the land sold; the stockades rotted and fell to the ground, and Schenectady became an "open village."

In 1872 there were those who remembered seeing the palisades standing along the Binne kill and used as tying posts for the Catteaux.

There is no map which shows the change made during the Revolution, when the palisade line was carried out as far as Given's Hotel on the south, or State street side, and thence north to the old Dutch Church burying ground.

MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS.

From 1748 to the Revolution not much can be learned of the military organizations in Schenectady, with the exception of the gallant part performed by a company of eighty-nine men, from Schenectady, commanded by Capt. William McGinnis and Lieutenant Jonathan Storms, at the battle of Fort George, September 5, 1755, between the English and French. The English troops were under Sir William Johnson, and the French under Baron Dieskau. In this battle, at that time said to have been one of the most desperate encounters ever witnessed in the new world, both officers and many of the privates of the Schenectady company were killed. But so nobly did they fight that, in his official report, Sir William Johnson said: "The Schenectady officers and men fought like lions."

When the first gun was fired and the first blood flowed at Lexington, on the 19th day of April, 1775, the mass of the inhabitants of Schenectady arrayed themselves on the side of liberty. On the 6th day of May, 1775, at a meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants of the township of Schenectady, the following persons were selected to be a committee of correspondence, safety and protection for the township:

Rimies Mynderse, James Wilson, Hugh Mitchel, Henry Glen, Harmanus Wendell, Abraham Oothout, John Roseboom, Christopher Yates, Cornelius Cuyler and Jacobus Teller. Christopher Yates (father of the late Hon. Joseph Yates) was made chairman; Hugh Mitchel was made clerk.

The committee held its meetings in the house of William White, located on the corner of Church and Front streets, for many years the residence of the late Stephen Yates. Extensive and multiform were the duties that devolved upon the members of this body. Not only were they to attend to raising troops and all the details of military matters, but acted as judges in cases of trial of all persons charged with treasonable sentiments. Many cases of this kind were tried before them, and those persons found to be unfriendly to the cause of the colonies, or who had in any way been proved as allies of England in speech or deed, were summarily punished by imprisonment in the jail at Albany.

From the book of minutes kept by this committee, now belonging to the library of Union College, a book of 162 closely written pages, we learn how extensive were the duties and labors of this body of patriotic citizens.

The committee met often, and from the minutes kept of the meetings we make but a few extracts relative to the military companies formed at Schenectady during the revolutionary period. At a meeting, held May 26, it was resolved "to raise three companies of minute men in this township for its safety, in manner following, viz.:

"Two companies in the town and one company in the Westina; that such companies consist of one captain, two lieutenants, four sergeants, three corporals, a drummer and fifty privates, to choose their own officers; and that when said companies are formed, the captains in each to give a list of his company to the committee, and that said companies spend a few hours every week in learning the military exercise."

But at a meeting of the committee on the following day the inhabitants requested the committee to appoint officers for these companies, which the committee consented to do, and selected the following officers:

First Company—Captain, Jellis J. Fonda; 1st Lieutenant, Andrew Van Patten; 2d Lieutenant, Myndert A. Wemple.

Second Company—Captain, Cornelius Van Dorn; 1st Lieutenant, John Mynderse; 2d Lieutenant, Garrett Veeder.

Third Company—Captain, John Van Patten; 1st Lieutenant, Cornelius Van Slyck; 2d Lieutenant, Myndert M. Wemple.

From the minutes of May 29, 1775:

"In consequence of a request of the Committee of Albany to raise one company of men for the continental service to go to Ticantarog (Ticonderoga), consisting of one captain, one lieutenant, one ensign, three sergeants, three corporals, one drummer, one fifer and fifty privates,

"Resolved, that Cornelius Van Dyck is appointed Captain, Benjamin Hilton and Cornelius Van Slyck, Ensigns, and that the utmost despatch be made in raising said company. Their pay to be as follows, viz.: Captain, per month, £6; Lieutenant, per month, £4; Ensign, per month, £3; Sergeants, per month, £2 8s.; Corporals, per month, £2 4s.; Drummer, per month, £2 4s.; Fifers, £2 4s.; Privates, £2—all lawful money of New England."

That this company was soon after raised is evident from the minutes of the committee of May 31, two days following, wherein the following appears:

"Captain Van Dyck made application to this board for provisions for his men.

"Resolved, that Captain Van Dyck's men be boarded for the present at the houses of John Wilson and Robert Moston (Moycton), at the rate of one shilling, New York currency, per day, per man."

On the 13th of July, 1775, orders were sent from General Schuyler to Captain Van Dyck to march with his company immediately to Lake George. But at this time both Captain Van Dyck and his First Lieutenant were absent recruiting. The committee therefore advised that the company proceed to Lake George on the following day, under the command of Lieutenant Lansing. But from the minutes of the committee we find the members of the company refused to march without their captain. The following resolution was then passed by the board:

"Resolved, that an express be sent to Captain Van Dyck, requesting his immediate return to march with his company, and that a letter be sent to General Schuyler, acquainting him of the reason for the company's delay."

On the 20th of August, 1775, a meeting of the committee was held for the purpose of taking into consideration the forming of the militia of the township into companies, according to the plans of the Continental and Provincial Congress.

It appears at this meeting that five companies of minute men and militia were formed, from the fact that a sub-committee was appointed at a meeting, held September 6 following, to attend the general committee at Albany on the seventh instant, to lay a list before it of the companies formed, and ask for their commissions. The captains of these several companies were the following: Jellis J. Fonda, John Mynderse, John Van Patten, Abraham Wemple and Thomas Wasson.

From the minutes of September 27, 1775:

"Having received a letter from the Provincial Congress, dated 9th of August, requesting that all the districts who could raise five companies of militia should recommend such persons as they thought proper to be field officers,

"Resolved, that this board recommend the following persons, viz.: Abraham Wemple to be Colonel; Jacob Schermerhorn, Lieutenant-Colonel; Abraham Swits, 1st Major; Nicholas Veeder, 2d Major; Aaron Van Patten, Adjutant; John Peek, Quartermaster.

On the 17th of November following the commissions of these officers were received, under instructions to the board to cause such officers to sign certain articles on the receipt of their commissions. All this was subsequently consummated, and the above-named officers were enrolled in the service.

January 13, 1776, Christopher Yates was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel, Mindert Wemple 2d Major and John Post Quartermaster, in place of Jacob Schermerhorn, Nicholas Veeder and John Peek, all three of whom had either refused to serve or resigned.

A company of 60 men was sent from Schenectady, January 13, 1776, to Tryon County, to quell a disturbance that had broken out there among the inhabitants, which, in the language of the letter received from the General Committee, "threatened destruction to the friends of liberty in that section."

Orders were sent to Capt. John Van Patten, January 14, 1776, to place guards at William De Graat's, Tunis Swart's and Lewis Peek's, to prevent any unfriendly persons or letters to pass this point.

At a meeting of the committee, January 26, 1776, it was resolved to prepare a list of all the male inhabitants not already formed into military companies, so as to better enable the board to organize the militia of the township. Three lists were prepared, representing three companies, and all persons whose names appeared upon them were required to appear in Schenectady, February 10, to choose their respective officers. At this time the following officers were selected:

First Company—Captain, Thomas Bouver Bankers; First Lieutenant, John B. Vrooman; Second Lieutenant, Aaron Vedder; Ensign, Benjamin Young.

Second Company—Captain, Henry Glen; First Lieutenant, John Batterseles; Second Lieutenant, Nicholas Barhite; Ensign, Cornelius V. Sanford.

Third Company—Captain, Ahasueras Marseles; First Lieutenant, Isaac Van Slyck; Second Lieutenant, William Stephens; Ensign, Abraham Van Eps.

April 10, 1776, Garrett S. Veeder was appointed Captain of all the troops raised in the district.

At this date ends all records that can be found of the doings of the Committee of Safety, and from lack of reliable data it is impossible to follow in any connected manner the history of the military organizations formed in Schenectady during the revolution. We know from reminiscences and tradition that the soldiers furnished by the township of Schenectady during the long years of desperate and bloody strife were conspicuous for their bravery and ardent patriotism. Among the names already mentioned of the revolutionary veterans, those who became the most conspicuous at this period were: Cornelius Van Dyck, Christopher Yates, Jellis J. Fonda, John Graham and John Thornton.

Mr. Van Dyck was Lieutenant-Colonel and John Graham Major of the First New York Continental Regiment, commanded by Colonel Gosen Van Schaick, of Albany. This regiment was so well drilled and disciplined that it was said to have had no superior in the American Army. At the battles of Saratoga and Monmouth this regiment was conspicuous for the bravery and daring of its officers and men; and on the surrender of Burgoyne, one of its captains, as a mark of honor, was deputed by General Gates to carry a captured flag and the news of the surrender to the anxious citizens of Albany. At the storming of Stony Point, July 16, 1779, General Wayne placed this regiment in the front, and on the storming of the two redoubts at Yorktown, late in the afternoon of the 14th of October, 1781, where, to excite a spirit of emulation, this regiment was divided, one-half being committed to the French under Baron de Viomesnil, and the other to the Americans under the Marquis Lafayette, these troops assaulted the works with such rapidity and daring that the redoubts were carried with inconsiderable loss.

Major John Thornton, many descendants of whom still live in Schenectady, is spoken of as a

daring hero and one who experienced much severe military service.

Major Jellis J. Fonda, whose name has already been frequently mentioned, was an officer much esteemed by General Schuyler, and often selected by him where a heroic and intrepid leader was required. He was one of the earliest, most stirring and unhesitating patriots of Schenectady. On the first report of the beginning of the strife at Lexington, he immediately raised and equipped a company of more than 100 Schenectady minute men. In 1777, when Sir John Johnson with his Scotch retainers had fortified themselves in "Johnson Hall," General Schuyler with a large body of militia went there to reduce them. From out of his large force General Schuyler selected Captain Fonda to command a company of 200 men for the assault, of which the Schenectady men formed one-half. Under the assault of this daring officer, Johnson lowered his flag and surrendered without firing a gun. Fonda was ever afterward regarded as one of the most fearless of soldiers.

WAR OF 1812.

After the Revolution to the war of 1812 not much can be learned concerning military organizations in Schenectady. From the best information which can be obtained, not more than one independent company existed during this period.

During the war of 1812, Jonas Holland, who was a major under Gen. Scott, raised a company in Schenectady, which participated in this war. Nicholas Van Slyck, a major in the Revolutionary War, grandfather of Christopher Van Slyck, of Schenectady, was a conspicuous military man at this time.

Although but one regular company was raised in Schenectady for the War of 1812, many soldiers were recruited in this vicinity, who joined regiments which were credited to other localities.

About 1815 a company of Heavy Artillery was organized in Schenectady. John Benson was its first captain. Among its other officers appear the names of Thomas Hannah and David Reese.

A Rifle company was formed soon after the Heavy Artillery. Henry Miller, Joshua Harmon and Nicholas Barhydt were successively captains. At one time Andrew J. Barhydt, one of the oldest living members, was a lieutenant in this company.

About 1820 a company called the Grays was formed. The name of the company was derived from the color of their uniforms. Simon Glenn, Jesse M. Van Slyck and Abraham Clems were captains of this company at different periods.

All three of the above companies were in existence at the time of the opening of the Erie Canal, in 1825, and took part in the interesting ceremonies attending the passing through the city of the boat bearing Gov. Clinton and party.

A Cavalry company was organized about 1825. Joseph Consaul was captain of this company. Some time in the year 183– a company, called the Governor's Guards, was formed in this city. A. D. Briggs was its first captain. Judge Platt Potter at one time was captain of this company. In 183–, under the State Militia law, all the military organizations in the counties of Schenectady, Montgomery, Fulton and Hamilton were formed into a brigade called the Fourteenth. This brigade was composed of three regiments, numbered 26th, 57th and 188th. The 26th Regiment included the military companies in Schenectady. The officers of the various companies in the brigade elected the following staff: Brigadier-General, Isaac I. Yates; Judge Advocate, Platt Potter; Aids, J. Andrew Barhydt, Van Schaick Vedder, John Allen and Martin C. Myers.

In 184– the military companies in the State militia in this district were reorganized. All the companies were formed into a brigade called the Seventeenth. This brigade was composed of three regiments; the number of the regiment which the Schenectady companies formed was the Twenty-sixth. The Governor appointed the following officers of this regiment: Colonel, Stephen Yates; Aids, J. Andrew Barhydt, James Ward, Carl Thompson, Nicholas Van Debogert and Dr. James S. Van Ingen. Col. Yates resigned in 1857, when J. Andrew Barhydt was appointed colonel. William H. Young was at one time major of this regiment.

About 184– a company called the Independent Artillery was formed in Schenectady. This became one of the finest companies ever organized in this vicinity. The uniform was very expensive and elegant, being a dark blue in color with no facings, surrounded by heavy white cord, entwined with gold braid. Tall bearskin caps added to the imposing appearance of the members. In this company were numbered many of our representative citizens at that time. John Robinson and Benjamin F. Paths were captains at different periods. John B. Clute and James Hannah were officers in this company, and took a lively interest in its welfare. The hall in Madison Vedder's building on Union street was used as an armory and drilling room. In 184– this company went to the State Camp at Utica, and for soldierly bearing, discipline and appearance was admitted to be the finest company among the large number there represented from different parts of the State.

In 1855 a company called the Continentals was organized. John B. Clute was its first captain. He was succeeded by Stephen Truax. Isaac Reagles was the last captain of this company, which disbanded some time in 1861.

CIVIL WAR.

We have now reached the exciting period of the beginning of the Civil War, at which time interest in home military companies was lost sight of, and they either disbanded or were allowed to die by neglect. The threatened realities of war made "playing soldier" in time of peace too tame for the patriotic citizens of Schenectady, and the first signal of the beginning of hostilities aroused many to the purpose of raising companies to save this government from threatened destruction.

And to-day, looking back over the stormy events of 1861–5, which formed the most important

period in the history of this country, we realize why the citizens of Schenectady have reason to feel proud of the record made by her sons in the war of the rebellion.

The State of New York was especially prominent in the number of troops it sent to the war, and no county according to population furnished more men to help save the nation's life during those years of bloody strife than Schenectady. The services they performed, the privations, suffering and the hardships endured in that great struggle, where so many of Schenectady's bravest and best gave up their lives that this government might live, cannot be properly treated in a work like this. It could only be imperfectly done in a work especially devoted to such a subject.

In the following account of the military organizations which went from Schenectady it has been the object to give in a necessarily condensed form the briefest account of each company, and of all the men from Schenectady who took a prominent part in the war. Much of the information here gathered was obtained from the meager accounts contained in the reports of the Adjutant-General, and from personal recollections of many of our living veterans of the war.

The first company organized in Schenectady for the late civil war was the Seward Volunteer Zouaves, afterward known as Company A, Eighteenth Regiment New York Volunteers. This company was organized by William Seward Gridley, who was elected its captain, and who commanded it at the first battle of Bull's Run.

On the 12th of April, 1861, Fort Sumter was bombarded, and evacuated by Major Anderson on the 15th. On this same day President Lincoln called for 75,000 men to suppress the insurrection. The next day the New York Legislature passed a bill, which was signed by Governor Morgan, appropriating three million dollars for the purpose of raising and equipping 30,000 volunteers.

On the 18th day of April, or six days after the first shot was fired at Fort Sumter, the following notice was published in the *Schenectady Daily Times:*

"*Attention Volunteers!*—All young men who are in favor of forming a light infantry company and offering their services to garrison this State, or to the President of the United States, to aid and assist in defending the Constitution and Union of the United States against foreign or domestic foes, are requested to meet at Cleary's saloon, opposite the railroad depot, on Friday evening, at 7½ o'clock, the 19th inst. This means fight, and all who sign must go. WM. SEWARD GRIDLEY."

At the meeting held in response to this notice forty-seven men signed an application for a company organization, and asked Governor Morgan to commission Wm. Seward Gridley, Captain; Daniel Daley, First Lieutenant, and Edward W. Groat, Ensign of said company. Gridley took the application to Albany, and received an order from the Adjutant-General to report at Albany with his company for duty on the 22d day of April, 1861. In the same order Lieutenant Simon G. Smith, of the Twenty-sixth Regiment, New York Militia, was ordered to inspect and muster said company and to preside over an election of the officers. The muster and election took place on the 20th of April, when the same officers were elected as Governor Morgan was asked to commission.

In two days this company was organized and officered, and three days from the time of the call was ordered to report for duty at Albany.

May 14, 1861, the Eighteenth Regiment, New York Volunteers, was organized, and this company (then called the Seward Volunteer Zouaves) was assigned to that regiment as Company "A." At this time it numbered seventy-four men and three officers. About sixty of the men were from Schenectady.

May 17, 1861, the Eighteenth Regiment was mustered into the service of the United States, and on the 18th of June following started for Washington, being one of the regiments in the first fight of Bull's Run.

Captain Gridley was promoted to the rank of Major, October 14, 1862, and received at the close of the war the honorary title of Brevet Colonel, New York Volunteers. Daniel Daily was promoted to the captaincy of this regiment, November 10, 1862, and was honorably discharged February 26, 1863. Edward W. Groat was promoted from Ensign to Second Lieutenant, July 4, 1861, but resigned December 18, 1861. March 5, 1863, he became Major of the 134th Regiment. Joseph Strunk, who entered Gridley's company as Sergeant, was mustered out, May 28, 1863, as Second Lieutenant. He was commissioned, December 14, 1863, as Captain in the Second Regiment, Veteran Cavalry, and at the close of the war made Brevet Major, New York Volunteers.

The second company organized in Schenectady was formed by Stephen Truax. The officers, who received their commissions May 2, 1861, were: Captain, Stephen Truax; First Lieutenant, William Horsfall; Ensign, John Vedder. This company was enrolled in the Eighteenth Regiment as Company "E," May 17, 1861 (same time as Captain Gridley's company), for a term of two years. Captain Truax resigned December 27 of this year, and was succeeded in command by William Horsfall, who was killed while gallantly leading his company at Crampton Gap, Maryland, September 14, 1861. John Vedder succeeded him as Captain, and remained in command until the company was mustered out of service, May 28, 1863. Alfred Truax, who entered this company as Sergeant, was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant, December 15, 1862. Andrew C. Barup became Second Lieutenant.

E. Nott Schermerhorn, who enlisted in this company as First Sergeant, rose in succession to Second Lieutenancy, First Lieutenancy, and became one of the Adjutants of the Regiment, November 10, 1862, holding the latter rank when the regiment was mustered out, May 28, 1863.

The Eighteenth Regiment was one of the first organized during the war, participating in the first battle of Bull's Run, Crampton Gap, West Point,

White Oak Swamp, Malvern Hill, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Salem Church and Savage Station. For a short time the late Dr. James L. Van Ingen was one of the Surgeons of this regiment. When the time for which this regiment was mustered into service expired, the present Captain of the Thirty-seventh Company, National Guard, State of New York, George W. Marlette, was the only private in the regiment who received from Governor Morgan, for gallant and meritorious service, the honorary rank of Brevet Lieutenant.

William A. Jackson, a son of the late Professor Jackson, of Union College, was Colonel of the Eighteenth Regiment from the time of its organization till his death from disease at Washington, November 10, 1861. William H. Young, another gallant soldier from Schenectady, was for a short time Lieutenant-Colonel of this regiment.

The third company formed in Schenectady was organized by Barent M. Van Voast, June 1, 1861. The officers, who received their commissions July 4, 1861, were: Captain, Barent M. Van Voast; First Lieutenant, Manse V. V. Smith; Ensign, Edward Van Voast. This company contained seventy-four privates and three officers. It was enrolled in the 30th Regiment as Company "C," for a term of two years from June 1, 1861.

Captain Van Voast was dismissed March 7, 1862, and succeeded by Manse V. V. Smith, who resigned November 26 of the same year. Edward Van Voast became First Lieutenant May 13, 1862, retaining this rank when the company was mustered out, June 18, 1863. He afterward became Major in the 2d Regiment of Veteran Cavalry, and at the close of service of this regiment was made a Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, N. Y. V.

Charles Roth, who entered Company C as First Sergeant, was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant March 4, 1863, and subsequently commissioned a Brevet Major, N. Y. V.

The 30th Regiment, with which Company C was most honorably connected, participated in the battles of Gainesville, Groveton, South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg.

The fourth company formed at Schenectady was organized by Allen H. Jackson, who received a Captain's commission October 1, 1861. This company consisted of eighty-seven members, including the officers. It was enrolled as Company G in the 91st Regiment for a term of three years, being mustered out of service July 3, 1865. The officers who were commissioned at the same time as Jackson were George W. Shaffer, First Lieutenant, and William Harty, Second Lieutenant.

Captain Jackson was honorably discharged from this company February 23, 1863, and promoted to the rank of Major in the 134th Regiment. March 4, 1863, he became Lieutenant-Colonel, and December 10th of the same year, Colonel of this regiment, but was mustered out of service June 10, 1865, as Lieutenant-Colonel. George W. Shaffer succeeded Jackson as Captain of Company G. December 31, 1864, Shaffer was promoted to Major, 61st N. Y. Vols., and subsequently received the honorary rank of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, N. Y. V.

William Harty succeeded Schaffer as Captain of Company G, December 24, 1864, and remained in command until the company was mustered out of service.

Cornelius Gill entered this company as Second Sargeant, and was promoted through the successive ranks to First Lieutenant, which latter position he held when the company was disbanded.

Between the middle of August and the 3d of September, 1862, there were three military companies formed at Schenectady, which entered the service for a term of three years. All three were enrolled in the 134th Regiment, and were known as Companies B, F and H.

Company B was organized by David H. Hamlin, who received his commission as Captain, August 17, 1862. At the same time Solyman G. Hamlin was commissioned First Lieutenant, and Solomon C. Wilson, Second Lieutenant. This company numbered 102 men, and participated in many of the great battles of the war. Benjamin F. Sheldon was Captain of this company when it was mustered out. Solyman G. Hamlin was promoted to Captain of Company C, March 7, 1863. April 7, 1865, he was made Major of the 192d Regiment, and mustered out of service August 28, 1865, with the honorary rank Brevet Captain, N. Y. V.

Lucius Mead, who enlisted in Company B as First Sergeant, was promoted to a Lieutenancy. He was killed while bravely leading his company at the battle of Gettysburg.

Company F was organized by Gilbert D. Kennedy, who was commissioned as Captain, August 30, 1862. At the same time were commissioned George A. Turnbull as First Lieutenant, and Clinton C. Brown as Second Lieutenant.

Captain Kennedy was promoted to rank of Major, June 23, 1863, and died of disease at Philadelphia, August 3 of the same year.

George A. Turnbul succeeded Kennedy as Captain of Company F, but resigned February 3, 1864.

Clinton C. Brown was promoted to Captain, April 14, 1863, and to Lieutenant-Colonel of the 134th, July 27, 1864.

Company H was organized by Austin A. Yates, who received his commission as Captain, September, 1862, with Gerardus Canley as First Lieutenant and Marcus A. Herrick as Second Lieutenant. Captain Yates was discharged June 10, 1863, on account of defective eyesight, but re-enlisted as Captain of Company F of the Fourteenth Veteran Corps. This regiment participated in the engagement against Early in front of Washington. Capt. Yates was promoted to rank of Brevet Major by President Lincoln, and was assistant to Judge-Advocate-General at Washington, D. C., one year subsequent to August, 1866, when he was mustered out of service.

William H. Mickle, who enlisted in Company H as Second Sergeant, was made Captain, April 22, 1865. Barney S. Smith, another Sergeant, became Captain, February 28, 1865, and was mustered out of the service as a Brevet Major, N. Y. V.

The 134th Regiment, of which the three preceding companies formed a part, participated in the battles of Chancellorville, Gettysburg, Missionary Ridge, Knoxville, Atlanta, Resaca, Dallas, Pine Knob, Lost Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Savannah and Goldsboro. At the overthrow of the 11th corps, on the afternoon of Saturday, May 3d, at the battle of Chancellorville, the 134th was engaged in reconnoitering in the enemy's line and did not share in that terrible retreat, but took active part in the battle of the next morning.

Companies "A" and "I" of the 134th were raised and credited to Schoharie County, yet both contained many Schenectady men. In company "A" Henry Y. Bradt, First Lieutenant, and the names of Garret Horsfall and Andrew A. Kelly are worthy of mention. In company "I," Frank Fletcher was Captain, who afterward became Chaplain of the regiment and was mustered out of the service as Brevet Major, N. Y. V. Albert G. Washburn entered this company as First Lieutenant and was promoted to Captain. He died in camp, near Falmouth, Va., Jan. 26, 1863.

In company "I" Charles A. Ahreets enlisted as Orderly Sergeant; by promotions, earned by gallantry, became Adjutant of the 134th, July 27, 1864. He was killed while acting as assistant adjutant-general, in the siege of Savannah, Dec. 13, 1864.

Edwin Forrest enlisted in company "B" of the 134th as First Lieutenant, Dec. 2, 1862. Jan. 30, 1864, he was made Captain of this company. He died from wounds received at the battle of Dug Gap, May 20, 1864.

Thomas Forrest, a brother of Edwin, enlisted as Second Lieutenant in company "F," of the 134th, and was promoted to First Lieutenancy, March 7, 1863. He was subsequently made Brevet Captain, N. Y. V.

Among the Schenectadians who served with distinction in the rebellion, whose names have not been previously mentioned, were A. Y. Carner, Henry Ramsey, Jr., James T. Joslin and A. Barclay Mitchel. Cramer was made Quartermaster of the 134th, Oct. 1, 1862. Ramsey entered this same regiment as a Lieutenant and was also made Quartermaster. Joslin and Mitchel entered the service as Lieutenants and were promoted to the rank of Captain, Joslin in the 134th and Mitchel in the 18th.

Although the 119th regiment was raised and organized in New York city, some of its best and bravest officers came from Schenectady. Indeed its first commanding officer was Col. Elias Peissner, a son-in-law of the late Prof. Tayler Lewis, of Union College. Col. Peissner was a brave and courageous officer, and after gallantly leading his regiment in a number of engagements was killed at the battle of Chancellorville, May 2, 1863.

In company "B" of the 119th, Charles F. Lewis, a son of the late Professor Lewis, enlisted as Second Lieutenant, but was promoted in succession to the rank of First Lieutenant, Captain and Major.

In company "D" of the 119th, Henry R. Schwerin, another Schenectadian, enlisted as Second Lieutenant. He was promoted to First Lieutenant April 10, 1863, and was killed at the battle of Chancellorville, May 6, 1863.

The 77th Regiment, although organized in Saratoga County, contained a number of Schenectady men. In Company H of this regiment fully a fourth of the number were from this county. In this company David J. Caw enlisted as 1st Sergeant. His worth and gallantry secured him rapid promotion. March 21, 1862, he was commissioned 2d Lieutenant; September 23, 1st Lieutenant; December 10, Captain; December 20, 1864, Major; and four days after, Lieutenant-Colonel, with which rank he was mustered out of the service, June 27, 1865. July 6, 1865, for gallant and meritorious services, he was commissioned Colonel by Governor Morgan. At the same date his brother, William E. Caw, who entered Company H as Corporal, received a commission as 1st Lieutenant.

The 77th Regiment, it will be remembered, was a part of the Sixth Corps, and accompanied the army of the Potomac through all its memorable campaigns, participating in the battles of Yorktown, Williamsburg, Golding's Farm, Savage Station, White Oak Swamp, Malvern Hill, Crampton Gap, Antietam, Marye's Heights, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Wilderness, Rappahannock Station, Petersburg, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Fort Stevens, Opeguan, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek.

In the 2d Regiment of Veteran Cavalry, besides Edward Van Voast and Joseph Strunk, already mentioned, were Charles W. Johnson, Albert Westinghouse and Sherman A. Case. Johnson was promoted from a Lieutenancy to Quartermaster. Westinghouse was a Lieutenant in one of the companies of this regiment. He was killed in action, December 10, 1864. Case also served as a Lieutenant, and was mustered out of service with this rank, November 8, 1865.

Among the surgeons from Schenectady who entered the service during the civil war were: G. W. Van Voast, J. D. Jones, Alfred G. McDonald and William H. Hoag. Jones was Surgeon in the 22d Cavalry, McDonald in the 12th Cavalry and Hoag in the 134th Infantry.

J. J. De Forest, a resident of the town of Duanesburgh, was Colonel of the 81st Regiment, raised in Oswego, during the war. (For further sketch of Mr. De Forest, see article on town of Duanesburgh.)

The 192d Regiment was composed principally of men who had already served one term of enlistment. This regiment was one of the last organized during the war, having been mustered in the service in the fore part of the year 1865. No less than 133 in this regiment were from Schenectady, among whom was the late Solyman G. Hamlin, a brave and courageous soldier, who, as has been previously stated, was promoted to the rank of Major in this regiment.

The 83D REGIMENT, for home protection, composed entirely of companies in the City and County of Schenectady, was formed April 27, 1863. It was composed of ten companies, and formed a part of the 18th Brigade, 5th Division, when first

organized, but soon after was included in the 13th Brigade, 3d Division. July 23, 1873, it was reduced to a battalion of six companies. It was disbanded January 17, 1874.

The original officers of this regiment were: James Fuller, Colonel; Robert Furman, Lieutenant-Colonel; John C. Bartrydt, Major; Vedder V. Van Patten, Adjutant; L. Dodge, Quartermaster; J. O. Timberman, Surgeon; Cornelius Van Santvoord, Chaplain.

Robert Furman was made Colonel, August 6, 1864, and John McShea Lieutenant Colonel. Gershom Banker was made Major, July 12, 1866. Benjamin F. Sheldon was made Adjutant, June 20, 1866, and Major, October 17, 1867. George W. Marlette was made Adjutant, January 4, 1868, and Major, May 27, 1871. John C. Perry became Major, December 29, 1869, and Lieutenant-Colonel, May 28, 1869. Michael H. Lamp was made Adjutant, September 22, 1871, and Edward H. Vrooman became Quartermaster, June 14, 1867. James D. Jones was at one time Surgeon, and Dennis Wortman, Chaplain.

After the close of the war a company composed of army and navy veterans, called the Soldiers' and Sailors' Union, was formed, of which Major Ralfe Van Brunt was Commander. Some time after this company disbanded and formed the Schenectady Zouaves Cadet. Major Ralfe Van Brunt was its first Captain. He was succeeded by Captain Austin A. Yates. This company existed for a number of years, when its name was changed to William Horsfall Post, No. 14. A. A. Yates, G. W. Marlette and William G. Caw were Commanders of this company at different periods. The name of this Post was subsequently changed to Edwin Forest Post, No. 90. G. W. Tompkins, James F. White, Frederick Eisenminger and James R. Reagles were at various times Commanders of this Post. A few years ago the name of the Post was again changed to Post Horsfall, No. 9, which name it still bears. The present Commander is James R. Reagles.

At present there are but two military companies in Schenectady under the State Militia laws, the 36th and 37th Separate Companies, N. G., S. N. Y.

The THIRTY-SIXTH COMPANY (Citizens' Corps) was mustered in the State Militia, July 12, 1880, for a term of five years, with 57 members. Its first officers were: Austin A. Yates, Captain; Oscar Shannon, 1st Lieutenant; Geo. W. Tompkins, 2d Lieutenant. Its present officers are: Austin A. Yates, Captain; James F. White, 1st Lieutenant; James R. Reagles, 2d Lieutenant. This company is composed of 65 members.

The THIRTY-SEVENTH COMPANY (Washington Continentals) was mustered in the State Militia, with 51 members, at the same time and for a like period of service as the 36th. Its first officers were: Clinton C. Brown, Captain; Nelson McDonald, 1st Lieutenant; Thomas Gregg, 2d Lieutenant. Captain Brown was succeeded by Walter S. Van Voast. Van Voast was succeeded by the present Captain, Geo. W. Marlette. By the death of 1st Lieutenant Nelson McDonald, Thomas Gregg was made 1st Lieutenant and James H. Vedder 2d Lieutenant. This company is composed of 65 members.

NAVIGATION.

RIVER, STAGE AND RAILWAY.

It would be difficult for those acquainted with the present business interest of Schenectady to realize its commercial importance during the colonial history of this State.

Situated at the foot of navigation on the Mohawk, it had a frontage of twenty miles by road, subsequently reduced to sixteen miles by way of the Albany and Schenectady turnpike, between the Binnekill and Hudson river. From its fortunate position and subsequent improvements made in the channel of the Mohawk, it had direct communication by water with the chain of lakes in the interior of the State and with Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence, and thus became the natural depot for the products of the far-stretching West.

To explain the obstacles overcome and the causes which tended to make Schenectady a center of commercial trade, it will be necessary to review some of the history of the earliest settlements in the New Netherlands.

The first settlers in this region came here almost solely for the purpose of trade. Indeed, so intent were they upon the Indian traffic that agriculture was greatly neglected and barely enough farm products were raised to support the population at the trading posts.

The first trading house was built by the United New Netherlands Company, on an island in the Hudson river, called *Castel Eylandt*, in the year 1614. This island is now included within the limits of the City of Albany.

The privileged West India Company was chartened in 1621, with extraordinary powers of sovereignty and trade, and two years after erected Fort Orange, where Albany now stands. Here was the chief seat of the Indian trade, and where, in the business season, in June, July and August, the natives gathered in great numbers with their peltries. Until 1630 the two chartered companies above mentioned claimed and practically had a monopoly of the Indian traffic. Van Rensselaer, who had obtained possession of about 700,000 acres of land around the fort in that year, claimed not only a share of the profitable beaver trade, but also the land on which Fort Orange stood. Not only did this result in the loss of a large revenue to the West India Company, but it was also found that the servants of the company made private ventures of their own, so that by 1639, when trade was nominally thrown open to all, the income of the company had very much diminished.

In 1652 Stuyvesant established a court at Fort Orange and Beverwyck. With this court came municipal rights, excise, taxes, civil officers and all the privileges thereto belonging, among which was claimed the monopoly of trade with the Indians.

Every burgher (for outsiders were denied this privilege) who could purchase an anker of brandy or tub of beer, claimed and used his rights to trade for beaver and often forestalled the market by sending runners up the Mohawk to purchase the natives' peltries. Such was the condition of the Indian trade when the first settlement was made at Schenectady in 1662.

The people of Fort Orange, plainly seeing that the location of Schenectady would make it a formidable rival as a trading center, took precautions to defend their own market and protect themselves from competition.

When the settlers of Schenectady applied for a patent to their territory, called by the Indian title the "Great Flatt," from the Governor and Council, it was granted only on the condition that they "promise not to carry on or allow to be carried on at the aforesaid Flatt or thereabout any the least *handeling* (trade) however it may be called." This arbitrary prohibition, though for a time apparently acquiesced in by the people, outraged their sense of justice and right. It soon began to be reported that these trade regulations were disregarded at Schenectady. Gov. Lovelace in 1669 issued an order prohibiting such trade, and in 1671 issued orders to Capt. Sylvester Salisbury, Commander of the fort at Albany, to search the houses in Schenectady whose occupants were suspected of trading with the Indians. But proclamations and orders against the offending town seemed unavailing, as neither the orders of the Council nor proclamations of the Governor served to effectually restrain the people from engaging in traffic with the Indians.

Albany was chartered as a city in 1686, before which time, though claiming a monopoly of the Indian trade, the magistrates were powerless to pass ordinances for its regulation, but operated through the Governor and Council.

Immediately after the granting of the charter, however, the common council passed ordinances claiming for such city the sole monopoly of the trade with the Indians, and prohibiting any traffic with the Indians outside of the walls of Albany. But these exclusive ordinances did not have the effect of confining the trade to the city of Albany. Much legal difficulty grew out of this attempted enforcement, until the year 1727, when the arrest and conviction of a citizen of Schenectady, suspected of Indian trading, was contested in the Supreme Court, which legal contest resulted in the final acquittal of the suspected persons and freeing Schenectady from the authority of those hateful ordinances that had fettered its trade for more than fifty years.

After 1727, by the decision of the highest court in the province, trade was made free. With free trade came traders, and the flow of emigration began to go westward. Settlements were made on the upper Mohawk and along the Schoharie, which greatly increased the volume of trade at Schenectady. Better roads were made from Albany to the foot of navigation in this city, as aiding to the impediments in the lower Mohawk. Schenectady was always the best place of departure, while the distance from Albany was little, if any, greater than points lower down the stream.

Up to about the year 1740 the early settlers used the largest sized Indian bark canoes for transporting their merchandise. They were very light, and capable of carrying considerable cargo. One or two men, sitting in the bottom, propelled the little vessel by paddles, and at rifts or shallow places waded, and pushed or pulled it over. When water failed them, or the falls could not be overcome, the boat and cargo were carried around the portage, when navigation was again resumed. As there were many rifts or rapids in the Mohawk river to be overcome, navigation at this period was attended with great difficulties. The first of these impediments was a few miles above Schenectady, and was called *Sixth Flat rift.* Proceeding west, in succession came *Fort Hunter rift, Caughnawaga rift, Keator's rift,* the latter having a fall of ten feet; *Brandywine rift,* at Canajoharie, short but rapid; *Ehles rift,* near Fort Plain, and the *Little Falls,* so called in comparison with the larger falls at Cohoes. At Little Falls there is a descent in the river of forty feet in the distance of half a mile, up the current of which no boats could be forced; so it became a portage, or carrying point, for both boats and merchandise, which were transported around the rapids on wagons, and when relaunched and reloaded, pushed on again.

Gov. Burnett, one of the Colonial Governors of New York, in a report to the Lords of Trade, during the period of canoe navigation, estimated the number of canoes regularly engaged in the fur trade which came to Schenectady from 1716 to 1720, at about 30, and from 1720 to 1724 at about 323.

As settlements grew in the western part of the State the volume of trade increased to such an extent, that about the year 1740 the Indian canoe was superseded by the small batteau, a wooden vessel strongly braced with ribs, sharp at both ends, and generally manned by three men. They were paddled or poled, or towed by men along the bank or shallow places.

Batteau.

Simms says, in his history of Schoharie County, speaking of the batteau: "These boats were forced over the rapids in the rivers with poles and ropes, the latter drawn by men on the shore. Such was the mode of transporting merchandise and Indian commodities to and from the west for a period of fifty years and until after the Revolution. A second carrying place in use at an early day was at Fort Stanwix, from the boatable waters of the Mohawk to Wood Creek; thence passing into Oneida Lake the batteau proceeded into the Oswego River, and thence to Oswego on Lake Ontario, and to Niagara, or elsewhere on that lake, or the St. Lawrence, as they pleased to venture," and

after being carried around the Falls of Niagara to Chippewa, went uninterruptedly on to Detroit, their usual limit, and sometimes even to Mackinaw.

But after the Revolutionary War the tide of emigration set strongly westward, and that energetic population required increased facilities for transportation and communication with the great Hudson River and their old homes in the East, and elsewhere.

Gen. Philip Schuyler, who at this date was Surveyor-General of the State of New York, succeeded. with the aid of many citizens of Schenectady and its vicinity, in forming a corporate body, known as the Western Inland Navigation Company. This company was empowered to improve the channel of the Mohawk from Schenectady, and build canal and locks to Lake Ontario and to Seneca Lake.

A canal was built at Little Falls, 4,752 feet long, of which 2,550 feet went through solid rock. Upon it were five locks, with a total rise of 44½ feet. A canal 1¼ miles long was constructed, with a lock at Wolf's rift, German Flats, while another canal at Rome, 1¾ miles long, connected the Mohawk with Wood Creek. On Wood Creek four locks were built, with a total depth of 25 feet. The chambers of the locks were 74 by 12 feet, and allowed boats of 32 tons to pass, but other impediments limited boats to a burden of 10 to 11 tons. This work of the Inland Navigation Company was finished in 1797, and cost $400,000, of which the State paid $92,000. The great cost required high tolls. In 1808 the company gave up its rights west of Oneida Lake, and sold out to the State in 1820 for $152,718.52.

These improvements opened not only a direct water communication from Schenectady to Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence, but permitted the use of larger and more serviceable boats.

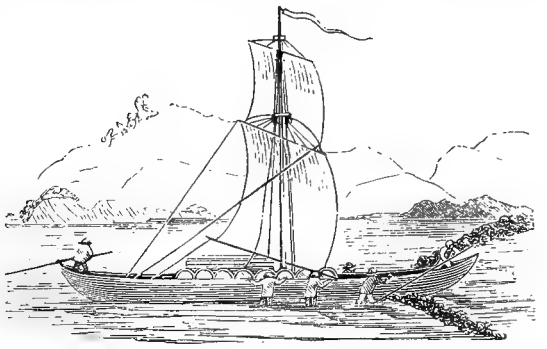
To meet the demands of an increased trade, made possible by better facilities, a boat called the Durham was constructed, a craft which carried a fair cargo, and which held its own until the Erie Canal sounded the death knell of the Mohawk river as a navigable stream. This style of boat is said to have been first used on Long Island.

"The Schenectady Durham," says Prof. Pearson in his history of the Schenectady Patent, "was the pride of the place, and extensive boat-yards were employed in construction and repairs of these crafts, which were roughly treated by the boulders on the many rifts and landing places."

This gallant craft was constructed something in shape like the modern canal boat, broad, flat-bottomed and straight-sided, with easy lines at bow and stern to help her flotation on striking a rapid. Her carrying capacity ranged from eight to twenty tons. A mast was placed near the bow and equipped with square sails.

When wind and tide were favorable these Durham boats sailed easily, but owing to the crookedness of the channel and its shallowness, this was only for very short distances. The main reliance was on the pole or tow-line.

In the cut a boat is seen forcing a "rift," and the crew (usually numbering five or six men) are wading and pushing the craft through the pass. Light boats could go from Schenectady to Fort Stanwix and back in nine days, but the larger boats required fourteen days to make the trip.



Durham Boat.

As the country grew in population, and more especially after the Revolution, the traffic on the river grew to immense proportions. A stone tramway was built at enormous cost by the Albany and Schenectady Turnpike Company, to expedite the hauling of goods to the harbor on the Binne Kill, which in time was lined with batteaux, and as late as 1812 as many as fifty Durham boats would lay in this port, loading or discharging cargoes.

Most of these boats used on the Mohawk and western waters were built at Schenectady. It formed one of the most important business interests of the place.

The boat-yards were located on what is termed the Strand street on the river, then much wider than now, owing to encroachments and other causes. It was no uncommon sight, says Judge Sanders, in his history of this county in the war of 1812, to see from twenty-five to one hundred boats on the stocks at the boat-yards, extending from near the Mohawk bridge to North street.

The boats that conveyed the army of General Wilkinson down the St. Lawrence were all built at this place, the oak forests of our common lands furnishing the requisite material. The principal boat builders were the Van Slycks, Marselises, Veeders and Peeks.

Time has wrought so many changes in this city that it seems difficult to picture the scenes of busy activity, with the extensive wharves, freighting establishments, and storehouses which lined the Main Binne Kill previous to the year 1819. At this date a destructive fire occurred, which completely destroyed this portion of the city, which never again recovered its business, mercantile or commercial importance, for the contemplated construction and subsequent completion of the Erie Canal removed the business seat of our city to its present location.

"Previous to the fire of 1819," says Judge Sanders, "the Mohawk river above the bridge was

a broad, deep stream, upon which Durham boats, carrying sails like an Albany sloop and from eight to twenty tons of freight, glided, often under full sail, to or from our then deep and commercial Binne Kill, the miniature golden horn of our city."

At this wharf were the warehouses of the freighting firms of Yates & Mynderse, Jacob S. Glen & Co., Stephen N. Bayard, Walton & De Graff, Lusher & McMichael. Some idea of the business done may be gathered from the fact that 300 families derived their support by carrying in wagons the freight from the storehouses in Schenectady to the City of Albany.

The first daily line of boats used for carrying passengers was established by Eri Lusher, in 1815. They were constructed after the model of the Durham boat, with cabin in midship, carefully cushioned, ornamented and curtained, expressly calculated for and used to carry from twenty to thirty passengers at a time. They ran between Schenectady and Utica, making the passage between the two places down the river in about thirteen hours, and up the river, with favorable winds and high water, within two days.

But we are now coming to the period when the completion of the Erie Canal, the greatest work of internal improvement in the interest of commerce ever accomplished in this country, began to play an important part in the commercial interest of Schenectady. It was commenced in 1817, but was not completed until the year 1825.

It is a fact not generally known that the route of the canal through this city is entirely different from the course as first laid out by the projectors. The original route was along the Binnekill, near the business portion of the city. Work had even been commenced upon it when, mainly through the personal efforts of Resolved Givens, proprietor of a hotel which stood near or on the site of the present Givens Hotel, the canal commissioners were persuaded to change the course to the present route. Resolved Givens was the father of William C. Givens, of this city, and a man of considerable influence at this date. The construction of the canal through the central part of the city, together with the destructive fires already mentioned, decided the fate of the lower part of the city as a business center, and this section lost forever the commercial importance it had enjoyed for so many years.

Navigation on the canal has not undergone much change since the early part of its history. The boats of to-day are very similar in appearance, although much larger than those used in the early days of canal navigation. As first constructed, the canal was about forty feet wide and four feet deep, but in 1835 the work of enlargement began, which was not completed until 1862, costing over $36,000,000. The present dimensions of the canal are seventy feet in width and seven feet in depth. These improvements in the channel of the canal have permitted the use of boats at the present day of the carrying capacity of 300 tons, while the original boats were only able to carry about ninety tons.

The motive power remains substantially the same as when the canal was first opened, most of the boats being propelled by the use of horses. Steam power has only been used since a comparatively recent period, and although it is a subject of much discussion among canal men, and great improvements have been made, it is a system of canal navigation not generally used.

The completion and successful operation of the Erie Canal gave rise to similar ones elsewhere, and was of vast benefit to the whole country, and to-day, notwithstanding the rapid transportation of merchandise by our great systems of railroads, it continues to be the channel of a wonderful outflow of the agricultural products of the West to the seaboard, and the inflow of the merchandise from the Atlantic ports to the interior.

Until the completion of the railroad the Erie Canal was much used for carrying passengers. Boats used for this purpose were called packets. Even before the entire canal was finished portions of it, as completed, were used. As early as May 31, 1824, a boat named *Schenectady* commenced to make trips from Albany to Schenectady; leaving Albany in the morning at nine o'clock, it reached Schenectady about noon, and then would start on a return trip on the following morning.

The traveling done on the packet boats was an important feature of the early navigation of the canal, and a great number of boats were used exclusively for this purpose along its entire length, yielding a large income. Up to the year 1857 these boats were built and used upon the canal for this purpose, but since this date they have been entirely discarded, having been completely superseded by the railroads.

Since 1857 the canal has been used exclusively for carrying merchandise, and during the year 1872 (the year before the great depression in the business of the country began) the value of the property that was transported on the canal was $168,000,000, notwithstanding a two-track railway carrying an immense amount of freight was laid parallel to it in its entire length.

The future of this great thoroughfare, of such untold benefit to the early development of this country, cannot be foretold in this period of rapid growth of our vast western territory. But it would seem that the slow method of canal transportation must be improved by new and more rapid methods of locomotion or ultimately give way to the demands for a more speedy transportation.

STAGE LINES.

In the early history of this country, means of communication and facilities for traveling from one place to another were attended not only with great expense, but with difficulty and danger. Until the completion of the Erie Canal, and the limited facilities the Mohawk offered, traveling to and from Schenectady was done by the slow, tedious and wearisome stage coach.

Communication from New York to the interior prior to the revolution was a matter of the greatest difficulty, and only attempted in cases of most urg-

ent necessity, usually taking three weeks to make the round trip. So slender were the facilities and resources of the country that the first mail ever received at Schenectady was on the 3d day of April, 1763, more than one hundred years after the patent was granted.

Probably the first regular stage started by a Schenectadian was run by Moses Beal in May, 1793. It ran from Albany to Schenectady, Johnstown and Canajoharie once a week. The fare was three cents a mile. The success of this enterprise was so great, that John Hudson, keeping the Schenectady Coffee House, on the southwest corner of Union and Ferry streets, now the property of Madison Vedder, Esq., soon afterward established a line of stages to run from Albany to Schenectady three times a week. John Rogers, of Ballston, ran a line from that place to connect with it, by which a regular communication was first established for the convenience of those who visited the springs. The fare was one shilling to Schenectady; those that continued through were charged three-pence per mile.

In 1794 there were five great post routes centering in Albany—the first to New York, the second to Burlington, Vermont; the third to Brookfield, Massachusetts; the fourth to Springfield, Massachusetts; the fifth route was by the way of Schenectady, Johnstown, Canajoharie, German Flats, Whitestown, Old Fort Schuyler, Onondaga, Aurora, Scipio, Geneva, Canandaigua, and subsequently extended to Buffalo. The mail on this route was carried once in two weeks. Thomas Powell, Aaron Thorpe and Asa Sprague, of Schenectady, were leading proprietors of this last route, under whose management its business grew to immense proportions, "so much so," says John Sanders, "that during the war of 1812, it was no uncommon sight to witness from eight to twelve stages on the Scotia dyke, leaving or entering Schenectady at one time; and in one instance the writer counted fourteen in a continuous line."

The fare from Schenectady to Canajoharie was fourteen shillings, returning twelve shillings, averaging four cents per mile. Four cents was the average fare per mile on this route.

In 1795 John Hudson ran two stages, one of four horses and the other of two, daily between Albany and Schenectady, and in March of the next year Ananias Platt went upon the same line, making four trips a day. At this time there were four public places on the stage line between Schenectady and Albany: Truax's, four miles from Schenectady; Down's, nine miles; McKown's, eleven miles; and Humphrey's, fourteen miles.

In 1823, Thomas Powell, of this city, commenced running daily stages from Schenectady to Troy, fare seventy-five cents each way. From a Schenectady newspaper of May 1, 1823, we find at the close of the advertisement announcing the new enterprise, the following quaint notice:

"N. B.—As this is an establishment entirely new, it is not likely to be very profitable at first; but the proprietor hopes in time, with the assistance of his friends, to make it a great accommodation to the public, and merely asks a remuneration for necessary expenses."

In 1825 another daily line was started between Schenectady and Troy, and the fare reduced to 6½ cents. This includes all the stage lines of importance which had headquarters at Schenectady of which we have any authentic account. The opening of the canal in 1825 did away with a greater part of this business in Schenectady, while the completion of railroads closely following supplanted it entirely. Its tired horses and tired men have been superseded by the iron horse that never tires.

RAILWAYS.

No event in the history of Schenectady has done more to give this ancient city renown abroad than its connection with the enterprise which resulted in building the first steam passenger railway in the world. True, in 1783 a railroad was constructed in France, but it was a crude affair and used only for the transportation of coal. The era of successful operations for the transportation of passengers upon railroads by locomotives propelled by steam dawned a little more than half a century ago, and the fine plain between Schenectady and Albany was the theater of the first genuine passenger railroad ever built in the world.

Mr. George W. Featherstonhaugh, an honored and influential citizen of Schenectady, and the father of Geo. W. Featherstonhaugh of this city, was one of the first projectors of this enterprise. As early as 1812 a pamphlet was published explaining the superior advantages of railways and steam carriages over canal navigation. In 1825, a writer in the *Albany Argus* urged upon capitalists the absolute necessity of their building a railroad from Albany to Schenectady, under the questionable plea that it was the only course to take to prevent Albany going to decay through the rivalry of Troy.

Mr. Featherstonhaugh, in a letter to the Mayor of Albany, said the transportation of property from Albany to Schenectady was seldom effected in less than two, and sometimes three, days. By railroad, he argued, the communication between the same points could be made, in winter and summer, in three hours, at no greater cost than by canal, paying for sixteen instead of twenty-eight miles. He regarded this experiment, which he believed to be practical, as a test whether this economical mode of transportation would succeed in this country.

The project was brought before the Legislature early in the session of 1826, and a bill to incorporate the Mohawk and Hudson Railroad introduced. On the 10th of March the bill was discussed in the Assembly. It is amusing to read the novel argument, advanced by the men of that day, both *pro* and *con*, in regard to the project.

The bill passed the Assembly on the 27th of March, 1826, incorporating the company, with a capital of $300,000, with liberty to increase it to $500,000, and a duration of fifty years, limiting the time for construction to six years. Stephen Van Rensselaer, known as the old patroon, of Albany, and George W. Featherstonhaugh, of this

city, were the only persons named as directors in the charter.

On the 26th day of June of this year books were offered for subscription to the stock of this road, and the stock was eagerly taken up by capitalists; but for some cause the company moved slowly, for more than four years elapsed before the road was begun.

On the 29th of July, 1830, the ceremony of breaking ground for the Mohawk and Hudson Railroad took place near Schenectady *with a silver spade* by Stephen Van Rensselaer. In September it was announced the stock had risen ten per cent., and the editor of the *Albany Daily Advertiser* predicted that trains would run from Albany to Schenectady in a quarter of an hour, and reach Utica from Albany in four hours. The latter was a somewhat startling prediction at this time, when we consider that the utmost exertions of the stages barely overcame the distance in twelve hours.

By the 25th of July, 1831, twelve months from the time when the ceremony of breaking ground was performed, the road was completed from the junction of the Western turnpike and Lydius street, Albany, to the brow of the hill at Schenectady, a distance of twelve and a half miles. Some defects in the first locomotive used, called the De Witt Clinton, prevented a trial before the 3d of August. On this day a trip was made in one hour and forty-five minutes, and on the 10th they ran two trains each way, with coke as fuel, making a part of the trip at the rate of thirty miles an hour.

The passenger cars were simply stage coach bodies placed upon trucks for temporary use, affording seats for fifteen or eighteen persons. August 13 a large company assembled to take a trip on the railroad, but the De Witt Clinton engine, built at the West Point foundry, in New York, proved defective in her boiler, and was returned for repairs. At this trial, and in previous ones, coal or coke had been used for fuel, but wood was finally adopted. On the 9th of September the De Witt Clinton was again put upon the rail, and succeeded in drawing a train over the road in forty-five minutes. It was not till the 22d of September that the directors advertised to take passengers, although city officials and other dignitaries had passed over the road both by steam and horse power early in August. The road was still uncompleted and used only from the junction, as it was called, two miles from the foot of State street, in Albany, from where passengers were taken to the train by stage coaches. The other terminus of the road was still at the bluff overlooking Schenectady, where passengers were again transferred to stages. The distance traversed was less than thirteen miles.

The precise time when the directors of the road felt prepared to crown the success of their labors by a grand excursion, was the 24th of September, 1831. To this demonstration, by invitation, came the State and city officials and a number of eminent citizens of New York. The train, drawn by the De Witt Clinton, started off with three cars and returned with five cars, making the return trip in thirty-five minutes.

In January, 1832, the company reported to the Legislature that the amount actually paid and disbursed in the construction of the road was $483,215, and that $156,693 would be required to complete it.

In the spring of 1832 the road was completed throughout its whole line, and the inclined plane being in working order, another grand excursion was given on the 14th of May, extending from the foot of Gansevoort street, Albany, into the heart of Schenectady. The cars were drawn up the inclined plane by means of a long rope attached to them and to a stationary engine at the top, the whole steadied and balanced by a car loaded with stone descending on the opposite track. This same ceremony was observed at both terminations of the road, occupying much time. The same style of coaches were still used. In the fall of this year a new pattern of car was built at Schenectady, more nearly like those now in use, the architecture of which was modeled from Dr. Nott's parlor stove, and was called the Gothic car.

In 1841 the inclined planes at both ends of the roads were done away with, and locomotives were used on the whole length of the road. The success of this road, and the advantages of this means of communication, although rudely constructed at great and much needless expense, became so apparent, that within three years railroads, duly chartered by law, were projected in every part of the State.

The next railroad built in this section was called the Saratoga and Schenectady Railroad, and ran from Schenectady to Saratoga. This company was formed February 16, 1831, and the road was completed and in operation in 1832. This road is now leased and operated by the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad.

In 1835 the Utica and Schenectady road was constructed, and in 1843 the Schenectady and Troy branch was built.

It will be seen at this early date in the history of railroads in this country that Schenectady enjoyed facilities for communication by rail equal to, if not surpassing, any place in the State.

In 1853 a company was formed by consolidating all the railroads then in operation, and some projected roads between Albany and Buffalo, called the New York Central Railroad. This consolidation included the Mohawk and Hudson, the Schenectady and Troy, and the Utica and Schenectady Railroads. The act allowing the consolidation was passed April 2, 1853, and carried into effect May 17, 1854. This road runs from Albany to Buffalo. It was finished and in operation in 1855.

In 1869 this company consolidated with the Hudson River road, running from Albany to New York, under the corporation name of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, thus opening a road, under the management of one company, extending from the great lakes to the Atlantic seaport.

In 1874 this road from Albany to Buffalo was increased from two tracks to four, making it the only four-track road in the United States.

R. S. Allen

In 1869 the Schenectady and Duanesburgh road was incorporated, with a capital of $150,000, and completed 1873. It runs from Schenectady to Quaker Street, and connects at the latter place with the Albany and Susquehanna road.

In 1866 a road called the Athens Branch was constructed. It runs from Athens to Schenectady, and is now owned and operated by the New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad.

In 1883 the New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad was constructed, and runs through the western portion of Schenectady County, having a station at "South Schenectady," about two and a half miles from the city.

This completes but a necessarily brief account of the railroads in Schenectady County, which today form the most important business interest of this city, which can almost lay claim to the proud distinction of having been the birth-place of the great railway system of the world.

REUBEN S. ALLEN.

Reuben S. Allen, the hale and hearty old gentleman whose features are shown in the accompanying engraving, was born in Burlington, Vt., in 1823. When a young boy he was apprenticed to Gay & Edwards, of Winouski Falls, to learn the machinist's trade, and readily grasped the details of the business. When he was about seventeen, he was sent by Mr. Gay to Canada, to ride for a month on a locomotive engine plying on a railroad from St. John to La Prarie, to study its workings. This attracted his attention to locomotive engineering, which he was destined to make his life work. At the time Mr. Allen began learning his trade, the science of steam motive power had progressed so little, that there was scarcely a steam engine in the State of Vermont, and during succeeding years, Mr. Allen set up many stationary engines in Vermont, New York State and elsewhere, in the meantime spending one year on the steamer "Dodger," then plying on Lake Champlain. On March 11, 1846, he became a locomotive engineer, running an engine on the Whitehall and Saratoga railway. In 1850 he relinquished his place for a similar one on the N. Y. Central road, which he has kept ever since. During this time he has run engines named after every president of the road, beginning with Erastus Corning. In this long period Mr. Allen has never been injured, nor has a brakeman or passenger on his train received a scratch. Many notable persons have been carried by him, both on his regular trips and specials. About twenty-five years ago he took the Russian fleet from Albany to Niagara in six and a half hours, the first time an engine ever ran so long a distance without long stops. In 1881, he ran William H. Vanderbilt's special train from Syracuse to Albany in the remarkable time of two hours and fifty minutes. Mr. Allen now runs the "flyer," which leaves Albany daily for the West at 12:15 P.M. In 1844, Mr. Allen married Miss Irene Taylor, and their union has been blessed with six children—five of them daughters. All these have married, and twenty-three little ones say "grandfather" to the subject of our sketch. Mr. Allen has always had good health, and still possesses an iron constitution. His present home is in Schenectady. When he retires, as he expects to do March 11, 1886, the fortieth anniversary of the beginning of his life on the locomotive, he intends to publish a book relating his varied experiences among railroad men and others. After that is finished, Mr. Allen says he "will go fishing ten years," after which he will be ready to go "over the river." The veteran often receives letters from young engineers asking for advice, which he is always ready to impart in his genial, whole-hearted way.

Thomas Cox, son of Hugh Cox and Elizabeth Muir, was born in Schenectady, December 14, 1818, his parents having come from Scotland two years previously. He is one of the oldest locomotive engineers in the State.

Edwin Wemple was for many years one of the most trusted and skillful engineers of the New York Central Railroad, and is now retired from active service with a competency.

FERRIES.

The first ferry was established, at a very early date in the history of Schenectady, at the north end of Washington street, and continued there to 1768. Some time after it was removed to the north end of Ferry street, which, at the first, terminated at the fort, but this street was afterward carried through to the river, and was called New street. This latter ferry was owned by the Borough of Schenectady, and, as far back as 1795, was leased to Abram Oathout for £50 per year.

In 1790 there was a ferry at the foot of Ferry street, then recently opened to the river, as appears by a mortgage given by Sybrant Van Schaick to Adam S. Vrooman.

In the year 1797 there were three ferries in Schenectady. The first, called the Upper Ferry, was at the foot of Washington street, and kept by Jan Bapt. Van Eps. The second was called the Middle Ferry, was one mile below the Upper Ferry, and kept by Volkert Veeder. The third was called the Lower Ferry, situated a few rods below the Middle Ferry, and was kept by John Bapt. Van Vorst.

The individuals who laid claims to the revenue received at the Upper Ferry were: Jan Bapt. Van Eps, who owned the land on both sides of Washington street; John Sanders, who owned the opposite bank; and Joseph C. Yates, who owned the land below Van Eps on the same side.

A compromise was effected in this manner: Sanders collected all tolls from the country to the city, and Van Eps and Yates collected from the city to Glenville. There were two boats: one from foot of Washington street, owned by Van Eps, and the other from Governor's lane, owned by Yates. By compromise, the ferry rights of all persons were obtained by the Bridge Company,

when the Mohawk Bridge was constructed. In 1805 this ferry was called "Van Eps' Ferry."

The "Middle" ferry was discontinued about 1804, as the charter of the Mohawk Bridge Company passed the Legislature about this time, and provided that no ferry should be within one mile of the bridge.

The "Lower Ferry," being without the limits provided in the bridge charter, was continued in various hands until some time in 185–, or until Volney Freeman built a bridge across the river at this point.

The most western ferry in Schenectady County was established by Harmanus Vedder, twelve miles west of the city. It was called Vedder's ferry until 1835, when it was bought by John Hoffman, and the name changed to Hoffman's ferry. It has borne this name ever since, and is still in operation.

OLD MOHAWK BRIDGE.

BRIDGES.

Probably the first bridge in Schenectady was the bridge over Mill (or Sand) Kil, on Water street. It was called the "Town Bridge" as early as 1701. It is doubtful if there was any bridge over this creek in Washington street until long after.

As early as 1716 there was a bridge across the Sparrebaugh (or Sand Kil), three miles south of Schenectady, at or near the Brandywine Mill, on the old road to Albany. It was known as the Sparrebaugh Bridge.

In 1736 there was a bridge over Poenties Kil, on the "Bouwland," about two miles west of the city, called Johannes Teller's Bridge. In some old deeds it was also called the "Third Bridge."

In 1767 there was a bridge across the Cowhorn Creek, on Albany (now State) street. This was called John Baptist's Bridge. About this same date there was a bridge over Hansen (or Simon Groot's) Kill, on Wart (now Romeyn) street.

But the first bridge of importance and worthy of much note was an elliptic or arched one, built at the foot of State street over the Mohawk. It was begun in 1797, and when nearly completed, the winter following, was upset by the wind, taken down, and rebuilt on piers in 1803.

In 1808 was erected the original Mohawk Bridge across the river at the foot of Washington street. This was a suspension bridge of elegant proportions, built of wood, 900 feet in length. It was designed by the celebrated bridge architect, Theodore Burr, and was pronounced his best effort. Its completion December 6, 1808, was the occasion of a grand celebration in honor of the event. Gov. Tompkins, State Comptroller, and many other prominent men participated.

This bridge, as remembered by most of our citizens, gives no idea of its early appearance of symmetry and beauty. Its subsequent disfigurement by the addition of several piers, and an unsightly covering over the whole, may have added to its solidity and ultimate preservation, but certainly destroyed all its original elegance of design and execution.

The cut we insert of this bridge was produced from a photograph taken a short time before it was taken down, in 187—, to make room for the present structure, which spans the river on the same piers, with but little alteration, upon which stood the old bridge, which had become for many years previously an object of curiosity to travelers and tourists, and the last of its kind in the United States. The present bridge was finished in 1874, at a cost of about $60,000, and is owned by the town of Glenville, toll being collected of all non-residents.

In about 1855, as previously stated, Freeman's Bridge was erected by Volney Freeman, who shortly after its construction became sole owner. Since the first bridge was built two other structures have been erected on the same site, caused by the destruction of the original bridges, either by natural decay or in consequence of floods. The present bridge was built in 1879–80, at a cost of $20,000. In 1875 the Freeman Bridge property was purchased by the town of Glenville, and is still owned by this town.

The aqueduct bridge, crossing the Mohawk at Rexford's Flats, was built by the State shortly after the construction of the canal aqueduct over the Mohawk at this place, about 1825. It was afterward purchased by the Rexford's Flats Bridge Company, and is still owned by this company. A new iron bridge is at present in course of construction on this site.

BOROUGH TOWN OF SCHENECTADY, 1765-1798.

The inhabitants of the township of Schenectady for more than a hundred years from its first settlement had enjoyed no civil privileges or political rights other than those appertaining to other towns in the province.

During and subsequent to the French war, the town made rapid growth in population and importance.

The commercial business, as has been stated, at this period had grown to immense proportions, bringing a large influx of foreign people to the town, and to properly rule and govern the place a stronger government was needed. The magistrates and people were anxious to secure an independent government, and in 1764 applied to Gov. Monckton for a city or a borough charter.

In accordance with this petition, Lt.-Gov. Colden, on the 22d of October, 1765, granted the inhabitants a borough charter, the second granted in the province. It was fashioned after an English model, with great care, formality and minuteness, worthy to be called a city charter.

Schenectady was thus created a borough town, under the corporate title of the "Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the Borough Town of Schenectady."

The following is a list of the first officers named in the charter: Isaac Vrooman, Mayor; John Duncan, Recorder; Jacobus Van Slyke, John Glen, Jr., John Sanders, Daniel Campbell, John Visger and John B. Van Eps, Aldermen; Garrit Lansing, Rynier Myndertse, Ryer Schermerhorn, Tobias Ten Eyck, Cornelius Cuyler and Hermanus Bradt, Assistants; Thomas McIlworth, Town Clerk; Christopher Yates, Treasurer or Chamberlain; Isaac Marselis and Isaac Swits, Assessors; Barent S. Veder, Collector; Richard Collins, High Constable; Thomas Murray, Hermanus Terwilliger, John Van Voast, Charles Dennison, James Dunlop and John Wasson, Jr., Sub-Constables; and Alexander Campbell, Sergeant of the Mace. The mayor, recorder and town clerk were to be appointed, and were removable by the Governor and Council; the aldermen and assistants, assessors, collectors and constables were elected by a plurality of votes of the freemen assembled yearly for that purpose on the feast day of St. Michael the Archangel; the high constable and chamberlains were named by the mayor and common council and the sergeant of the mace.

The mayor or recorder, with three or more aldermen and three or more assistants, by the name of the "Common Council of the Borough Town of Schenectady," were to have power to make laws, ordinances, etc., for the good rule of the borough aforesaid, and the trade carried on there; for regulating the watermen and ferriage; for the preserving and selling the lands of Schenectady, etc., to remain in force for twelve months. The freemen of the borough were to be such persons of lawful age as had been born therein, or such as had resided therein ten years previously, or such as had that privilege granted by the common council; and none but freemen were allowed to use any art, trade or mystery, or to expose for sale any manner of goods or wares at retail, under penalty of five pounds.

It is doubtful if this very elaborate charter was ever carried into effect; it was altogether too complicated a piece of machinery for the simple-minded burghers of Schenectady. The mayor, recorder, aldermen and assistants were called together the following December to hear it read and take their official oaths; whether they ever met again or performed any acts under it is not known, no records being now extant of their doings.

A fatal defect of this charter was, that it did not finally dispose of the dispute about the management of the common lands; the trustees appointed under Arent Bradt's will did not relinquish their office and power to the new common council; they still held and managed all the property of the town.

Soon after this charter was granted, the contest for independence began with the mother country. All local differences were merged in this, and it was not until some years after the war closed that the dispute about the public lands of the town was settled and a new city charter obtained.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

The "Father of Our Country" visited Schenectady at three different times. The first occasion was soon after the revolutionary war, in the interest of the defence of the frontier. He was the guest of John Glen, who was then quartermaster of the department. The second occasion was by invitation of the citizens of Schenectady. He, in company with Gen. Philip Schuyler, rode in a carriage from Albany, on June 30, 1782. He was received with great honor by the civil and military authorities, and a public dinner given him at a hotel then situated on the south corner of State and Water streets, one of the houses spared in the great fire of 1690. It was kept at the time by Robert Clinch, formerly a drum-major under Gen. Braddock, and well known to Gen. Washington. The principal citizens of the place dined with him.

An address was made to Washington, to which he wrote the following reply:

"*To the Magistrates and Military Officers of the Township of Schenectady*:

"GENTLEMEN—I request you to accept my warmest thanks for your affectionate address. In a cause so just and righteous as ours, we have every reason to hope the Divine Providence will still continue to crown our arms with success, and

finally compel our enemies to grant us that peace, upon equitable terms, which we so ardently desire.

"May you, and the good people of this town, in the meantime be protected from every insidious and open foe; and may the complete blessings of peace soon reward your arduous struggles for the establishment of the freedom and independence of our common country. GEORGE WASHINGTON.

"SCHENECTADY, June 30th, 1782."

The third visit was in 1786, when Washington made a tour with Gov. George Clinton, Gen. Hand, and many other officers of New York as far west as Fort Stanwix. In passing through Schenectady, he stopped at the same hotel as on his former visit.

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

The office of Supervisor in the State of New York is of very ancient origin. It existed in the Colonial period, during which time the duties of the office were confined to auditing the accounts brought against the county by town officers and others, electing County Treasurers, Law Officers and a Clerk—very ancient offices in this State. The Boards of Supervisors in the different counties are now legislative bodies, having the same relation to the counties that the Assembly has to the State. From time to time, since the organization of the government, their powers have been extended over local matters, until many important local laws touching the interests of their respective counties had, and still have, their origin in them.

The first Board of Supervisors met in the City Hall, situated on the corner of Union and Ferry streets, on the site of the present dwelling house of H. S. Barney. This building was owned by the city, and used for city purposes, till the organization of the county, when suitable quarters in this building were given the county for the transaction of county business. The Board continued to meet here until 1816, when the City Hall was sold to Union College, and a room was provided in the present Union School building, then purchased by the city. Here the Board continued to meet till the completion of the present Court House, in 1833, from which date the meetings of the Board were held in this building, till the present commodious quarters were provided in the County building on Union street in 1871.

THE FIRST BOARD OF SUPERVISORS for the county of Schenectady of which there is any record, met at the Court House in the city of Schenectady, on Tuesday, October 3, 1809, under the provisions of the Act of the State Legislature, passed March 7, 1809, forming Schenectady County, which gave to this county all the rights, powers and privileges enjoyed by the other counties of the State.

The Supervisors elected for this year were as follows: Maus Schermerhorn, for First and Second wards; Alexander McMichael, for Third ward (now Rotterdam); James Boyd, for Fourth ward (now Glenville); William North, for Duanesburgh; Lawrence Vrooman, for Niskayuna; Alexander Murray, for Princetown. William North was chosen Moderator, Abraham Van Ingen Clerk, and Cornelius Z. Van Santvoord, County Treasurer.

The salaries of Clerk and Treasurer were fixed at fifty dollars per annum.

The following appears in the record of this year:

"Resolved, that a reward of ten dollars be allowed for each and every wolf which shall be killed within this county, to be paid to the person or persons producing satisfactory proof to this Board that he or they have killed the same as aforesaid."

We find in the record of proceedings for this year, and for a number of years following, that considerable money was paid to different persons under the provisions of this resolution.

The contingent expenses this year were $361.21; $947.32 were returned to the city of Schenectady for repairs to Court House and Jail. The total tax levied was $2,417.11. The total valuation of real and personal estate of the county was $1,841,728.

1810.—Supervisors—Simon A. Groot, First and Second wards; Jacob Mabie, Third ward; John A. Vrooman, Fourth ward; John Young, Duanesburgh; S. J. Van Antwerp, Niskayuna; Alexander Murray, Princetown.

The Board met April 28, at the Court House, and elected Alexander Murray, Moderator; and at the first meeting of the annual session, Oct. 2, Harmanus Peek was chosen Clerk, John Yates, County Treasurer, and Alexander G. Fonda, County Physician. The latter appointment was the first ever made to this position.

The total amount of tax levied this year was $3,393.25.

1811.—Supervisors—Maus Schermerhorn, First and Second wards; Jacob Mabie, Third ward; John A. Vrooman, Fourth ward; John Brown, Duanesburgh; S. I. Van Antwerp, Niskayuna; William Templar, Princetown. Tuesday, October 1, Maus Schermerhorn was elected Moderator, Abraham Van Ingen, Clerk, and Cornelius S. Van Santvoord, Treasurer.

The sum of $503.11 was raised to reimburse the city of Schenectady for preparing a Court House and Jail for the use of the county; $800 was levied upon the freeholders of the city to pay a night watchman for guarding the city.

The total tax levied this year amounted to $2,664.97.

1812.—Supervisors—Jellis A. Fonda, First ward; Maus Schermerhorn, Second ward; Harmanus A. Van Slyck, Jr., Third ward; Jacob A. Vrooman, Fourth ward; John Brown, Duanesburgh; Derick C. Groot, Niskayuna; William Templar, Princetown.

The Board met October 6, and elected Maus Schermerhorn, Moderator, Abraham Van Ingen Clerk, and Cornelius Z. Van Santvoord, County Treasurer.

The following sums were levied upon the city of Schenectady for this year: Support of poor,

$315.00; night watch, $800.00; surveying road, $8.75; expense of a road in Third ward, $142.53.

The entire tax levied this year was $2,751.03.

1813.—Supervisors—Harmanus Peek, First ward; Simon A. Groot, Second ward; Harmanus A. Van Slyck, Jr., Third ward; James Boyd, Fourth ward; James Cantley, Duanesburgh; Simon I. Van Antwerp, Niskayuna; William Templar, Princetown.

The Board met Tuesday, October 5, electing James Cantley, Moderator, Abraham Van Ingen, Clerk, and Daniel McDougall, County Treasurer.

The contingent expenses of the county were $300.00; the total tax levied, $4,139.86.

1814.—Supervisors—Harmanus Peek, First ward; John S. Schermerhorn, Second ward; H. A. Van Slyck, Jr., Third ward; James Boyd, Fourth ward; James Cantley, Duanesburgh; William H. Alexander, Niskayuna; William Templar, Princetown; Moderator, James Canly; Clerk, Robert Galley; County Treasurer, Daniel McDougall. This year $800 was levied on the city for expenses incurred in laying out a road from the extremity of Washington street to the western bounds of the city. Total tax levied, $3,981.62.

1815.—Supervisors—Harmanus Peek, First ward; Cornelius Z. Van Santvoord, Second ward; Garrett S. Veeder, Jr., Third ward; James Boyd, Fourth ward; James Cantley, Duanesburgh; Derick Vedder, Niskayuna; Henry Fryer, Princetown.

The Board met October 3, and elected Cornelius Van Santvoord, Moderator, Robert Galley, Clerk, and Daniel McDougall, County Treasurer. A tax of $1,063.66 was levied against the county this year for common schools. The total tax levied this year amounted to $4,761.13.

1816.—Supervisors—Harmanus Peek, First ward; Dowe Clute, Second ward; Jacob Mabie, Third ward; Robert Sanders, Fourth ward; James Cantley, Duanesburgh; Simon I. Van Antwerp, Niskayuna; James Combs, Princetown. Moderator, Simon I. Van Antwerp; Clerk, Henry V. Fonda; Treasurer, Daniel McDougall.

On April 5th of this year a special act of the Legislature was passed empowering the Board of Supervisors to convey to the city all the right and title to the lot and building thereon used as a Court House and Jail, in consideration of the corporation of the city granting to the Board suitable room in the edifice now occupied by the Union School, and which had been bought from the Trustees of Union College, in the year 1812, for court, jail and all county purposes.

Such exchange was consummated October 14th of this year.

Total tax levied, $5,080.73.

1817.—Supervisors—Harmanus Peek, First ward; Dowe Clute, Second ward; Harmanus A. Van Slyck, Third ward; James Boyd, Fourth ward; James Cantley, Duanesburgh; Harmanus P. Schuyler, Niskayuna; James Combs, Princetown.

The Board met October 7, and elected Harmanus Peek, Moderator, Henry V. Fonda, Clerk.

The following is a report made by Gideon Hawley, principal assessor, and adopted by the Board of Supervisors, October 10, 1817:

"Valuations of lands and dwelling houses in the seven towns and wards within the county of Schenectady, as determined by the principal assessor of the thirteenth collection district in the State of New York:

"First ward, $245,335; Town of Niskayuna, $105,421; Second ward, $385,280; Town of Princetown, $140,850; Third ward, $179,750; Town of Duanesburgh, $448,205; Fourth ward, $277,177.

"The Board of Principal Assessors added two per cent. to the above valuations."

Entire tax levied, $12,278.42.

At this session of the Board a resolution was offered for the removal of County Treasurer Daniel McDougall; but it failed in being carried by one vote. Mr. McDougall then resigned his position, and Thomas B. Clinch was appointed treasurer.

1818.—Supervisors—Harmanus Peek, First ward; Maus Schermerhorn, Second ward; Frederick Bradt, Jr., Third ward; Henry Hogan, Fourth ward; James Cantley, Duanesburgh; Harmanus P. Schuyler, Niskayuna; James Combs, Princetown. Moderator, Harmanus Peek; Clerk, Henry V. Fonda; County Treasurer, Thomas B. Clinch. The total tax levied, $9,478.38.

1819.—Supervisors—Richard McMichael, First ward; James Walker, Second ward; Bartholomew Schermerhorn, Third ward; Christian Haverly, Fourth ward; Lewis Eaton, Duanesburgh; Harmanus P. Schuyler, Niskayuna; James Combs, Princetown. Moderator, Harmanus P. Schuyler; Clerk, Henry V. Fonda; County Treasurer, Thomas B. Clinch. We find a spirit of friendship for educational privileges evinced by the members of this Board in granting the free use of rooms in the City Hall to the trustees of the Schenectady Academy for one year. Total tax levied, $10,699.10.

1820.—Supervisors—Richard McMichael, First ward; James Walker, Second ward; Bartholomew Schermerhorn, Third ward; James Boyd, Fourth ward; James Cantley, Duanesburgh; Harmanus P. Schuyler, Niskayuna; Isaac Wemple, Princetown. Moderator, James Cantley; Clerk, Henry V. Fonda; County Treasurer, John S. Vrooman.

At this session of the Board, $100,000 of valuation was taken from the aggregate valuation of the First and Second wards in consequence of the destruction by fire of these wards during the preceding year.

1821.—Supervisors—Henry Peek, First ward; James Walker, Second ward; Peter Becker, Rotterdam; Albert A. Vedder, Glenville; James Cantley, Duanesburgh; Harmanus P. Schuyler, Niskayuna; Solomon Kelly, Princetown. Moderator, Albert A. Vedder; Clerk, Henry V. Fonda; Treasurer, John S. Vrooman.

It will be noticed that at this time the city of Schenectady was divided into only two wards.

April 14, 1820, by an act of the State Legislature the part of the city known as the Third ward was formed into a separate town called Rotterdam, while all that part of the city heretofore known as the Fourth ward was formed into the town of Glenville. The total tax levied this year was $7,484.53.

1822. — Supervisors — Harmanus Peek, First ward; Abram Van Ingen, Second ward; Harmanus A. Van Slyck, Rotterdam; Peter H. Brooks, Glenville; James Cantley, Duanesburgh; Cornelius C. Van Vranken, Niskayuna; Solomon Kelly, Princetown. Moderator, Abram Van Ingen; Clerk, Archibald L. Linn; Treasurer, John S. Vrooman. The amount of county charges this year, including $510.52 for contingent fund, was $2,751.55; State tax, $1,852.21.

By an act of the State Legislature, passed April 12 of this year, the Board of Supervisors, in conjunction with the Judges of Common Pleas, appointed the Justices of Peace, and prescribed the number of coroners to be elected. The Board met for this purpose February 18, 1823.

1823. — Supervisors — Harmanus Peek, First ward; Abram Van Ingen, Second ward; John Pangburn, Rotterdam; Cornelius S. Conde, Glenville; Joseph Gaige, Duanesburgh; Cornelius C. Van Vranken, Niskayuna; Solomon Kelly, Princetown. Moderator, Abram Van Ingen; Clerk, Edward Yates; Treasurer, John S. Vrooman.

The Board met with the Judges of Common Pleas October 7, 1823, in accordance with an act of the Legislature passed April 12, 1822, directing the appointment of Commissioners of Deeds for the several towns of the county. Total tax levied this year, $8,134.54.

1824. — Supervisors — Harmanus Peek, First ward; Abraham Van Ingen, Second ward; Peter Becker, Rotterdam; James Boyd, Glenville; William A. S. North, Duanesburgh; Cornelius C. Van Vranken, Niskayuna; Solomon Kelly, Princetown. Moderator, Abraham Van Ingen; Clerk, Edward Yates; Marshal, Thomas B. Clinch; County Treasurer, John S. Vrooman.

Total tax levied this year was $9,327.53.

1825. — Supervisors — Harmanus Peek, First ward; Abraham Van Ingen, Second ward; Zachariah Carpenter, Glenville; William A. S. North, Duanesburgh; Cornelius C. Van Vranken, Niskayuna; Peter Becker, Rotterdam. Abraham Van Ingen, Moderator; Edward Yates, Clerk; Thomas B. Clinch, Marshal; John S. Vrooman, Treasurer From the records this year, the names of the following incorporated companies in Schenectady County liable to taxation were returned to the State Comptroller: Mohawk Bank, Mohawk Turnpike Company, Mohawk Bridge Company, Schenectady Manufacturing Company and the Schenectady Water-works Company.

The total tax levied this year was $8,997.50; State tax, $1,016.39; school tax, 762.30; poor, $2,062.99; road and bridges, $515.59.

Up to the present year the annual sessions of the Board had been commenced on the first Tuesday in October. By an act of the Legislature this year the time was changed to the second Tuesday in November.

1826. — Supervisors — Harmanus Peek, First ward; Abram Van Ingen, Second ward; Zachariah Carpenter, Glenville; Benjamin S. Knight, Duanesburgh; John Clark, Niskayuna; Abraham Dorn, Princetown; Bartholomew Schermerhorn, Jr., Rotterdam. Moderator, Abram Van Ingen; Clerk, Edward Yates; Marshal, Thomas B. Clinch; Treasurer, John S. Vrooman.

At this session of the Board, the first report was presented from the superintendents of the alms-house.

From the report of the superintendents we find that the total expense of the alms-house, from August 1 to October 30 of this year, was $321; number of paupers, 38.

The amount of tax levied this year, and for like purposes, was about the same as for the preceding year.

1827. — Supervisors — Ezekiel Sexton, First ward, Abraham Van Ingen, Second ward; Daniel Smith, Glenville; Benjamin S. Knight, Duanesburgh; John Clark, Niskayuna; William Templar, Princetown; Bartholomew Schermerhorn, Jr., Rotterdam. Moderator, Abraham Van Ingen; Clerk, Archibald L. Linn; Marshal, Thomas B. Clinch; Treasurer, John S. Vrooman.

An appropriation of $500 was made for the erection of a fire-proof County Clerk's office.

The County expenses this year were $4,000.

1828. — Supervisors. — Ezekiel Sexton, First ward; Abraham Van Ingen, Second ward; Zachariah Carpenter, Glenville; Abraham Pearse, Niscayuna; Ebenezer Knibloe, Duanesburgh; William Templar, Princetown; Simon Schermerhorn, Rotterdam. Moderator, Abraham Van Ingen; Clerk, Archibald L. Linn; Marshal, Thomas B. Clinch; Treasurer, John S. Vrooman. The County Clerk's office was completed this year at a cost of $1,000.00. It was built on the northeast corner of the Court House yard.

The first list of Grand Jurors was chosen this year.

April 12, 1824, an act was passed by the Legislature relieving all persons from military duty who had conscientious scruples averse to bearing arms, by the payment of $4.00 as commutation money, such money to be applied to the support of the poor.

The names of the persons are given in the record of this year who availed themselves of the provisions of this act.

Total tax levied this year was $8,310.79.

1829. — Supervisors. — Harmanus Peek, First ward; Abraham Van Ingen, Second ward; Peter H. Brooks, Glenville; Joseph Gaige, Duanesburgh; Abraham Pearse, Niscayuna; Solomon Kelly, Princetown; Simon Schermerhorn, Rotterdam. This was the first meeting of the Board when the presiding officer was called Chairman instead of Moderator.

Chairman, Abram Van Ingen; Clerk, Archibald L. Linn; Marshal, Thomas B. Clinch; Treasurer, John B. Clute.

The total tax levied this year was $8,011.40.

A special meeting of this Board was held March 16, 1840, to confer with the Common Council of the city, trustees of the Lancaster School, and a committee appointed by the citizens of Schenectady, in regard to the sale of the City Hall and Court House to the State, for the purpose of a female penitentiary.

It was agreed on the part of the Board to sell the City Hall and Court House for a sum not less than ten thousand dollars, provided that not less than eight thousand dollars should be paid to the Board toward the expenses of erecting a court house and jail and fire-proof clerk's office, and the furnishing of a room to the city as a common council chamber.

1830.—Supervisors. — Harmanus Peek, First ward; Abraham Van Ingen, Second ward; Cornelius S. Conde, Glenville; Joseph Gaige, Duanesburgh; Cornelius C. Van Vranken, Niskayuna; Solomon Kelly, Princetown; Simon Schermerhorn, Rotterdam. Chairman, Abraham Van Ingen; Clerk, Archibald L. Linn; Marshal, Lewis Finch; Treasurer, John B. Clute.

The total tax levied was $10,176.98.

1831.—Supervisors. — Harmanus Peek, First ward; Abraham Van Ingen, Second ward; Robert Sanders, Glenville; Joseph Gaige, Duanesburgh; Abram Pearse, Niscayuna; Abram Dorn, Princetown; Simon Schermerhorn, Rotterdam. Chairman, Abraham Van Ingen; Clerk, Archibald L. Linn; Marshal, John S. Ten Eyck; Treasurer, John B. Clute.

A special act of the Legislature was passed April 25th of this year, authorizing the Board of Supervisors and Common Council of the city of Schenectady to sell the Court House, Jail and County Clerk's office for not less than ten thousand dollars, the proceeds of such sale to be expended in the erection of a new court house and jail, the corporation of Schenectady to be allowed the use of a room in the new structure for a common council chamber. Under the provisions of this act the then existing court house and jail could only be sold under the conditions that the same should be used and occupied for literary, scientific or religious purposes. By the powers jointly conferred on the Board of Supervisors and Common Council, this property was sold, through Dr. Eliphalet Nott, to Union College, June 15, 1831.

The location of the present Court House and Jail was selected, and the lot was purchased for the sum of $1,900.00, of Jacob and John Dellamont.

The contract for building the Court House was let to John W. Teller, at the sum of $9,964.00.

Total tax levied this year was $9,295.70.

County tax, $4,900.00.

1832.—Supervisors—Harmanus Peek, First ward; Abraham Van Ingen, Second ward; Sidney B. Potter, Glenville; Joseph Gaige, Duanesburgh; Abram Pearse, Niskayuna; David Murray, Princetown; Harmanus A. Van Slyck, Rotterdam. Chairman, Abraham Van Ingen; Clerk, Archibald L. Linn; Marshal, John S. Ten Eyck; Treasurer, John B. Clute.

The entire tax levied was $11,691.97.

1832.—Supervisors—Isaac M. Schermerhorn, First ward; Abraham Van Ingen, Second ward; Peter H. Brooks, Glenville; David Wing, Duanesburgh; Morgan Strong, Niskayuna; Daniel Darrow, Princetown; Harmanus A. Van Slyck, Rotterdam, Chairman, Abraham Van Ingen; Clerk, Archibald L. Linn; Marshal, John S. Ten Eyck; Treasurer. John B. Clute.

Total tax levied this year was $11,744.22.

Up to the present year the total valuation of the real and personal estate had remained at about the same amount since the organization of the county. This year it was increased nearly $1,000,000, being $2,765,000.

1834.—Supervisors—Isaac M. Schermerhorn, First ward; Abraham Van Ingen, Second ward; David Ostrom, Glenville; Thomas Knight, Duanesburgh; Abraham Pearse, Niskayuna; David Murray, Princetown; Harmanus A. Van Slyck, Rotterdam. Officers same as last year.

Total tax levied this year was $12,589.77.

1835.—Supervisors—Isaac M. Schermerhorn; First ward; Abraham Van Ingen, Second ward, Daniel Smith, Glenville; Thomas Knight, Duanesburgh; Abraham Pearse, Niskayuna; David Murray, Princetown; John B. Schermerhorn, Rotterdam. Officers same as preceding year.

The total tax levied this year was $14,557.22.

The following is each ward and town proportion of whole tax: First ward, $2,560.53; Second ward, $4,977.38; Glenville, $2,228.78; Duanesburgh, $2,046.14; Niskayuna, $537.60; Princetown, $717.01; Rotterdam, $1,489.78.

1836.—Supervisors—Isaac M. Schermerhorn, First ward; Abraham Van Ingen, Second ward; Theodore W. Sanders, Glenville; Abraham Pearse, Niskayuna; James Smealie, Princetown; Jacob I. Schermerhorn, Rotterdam. Officers same as for year 1834.

At the session of the Board a final settlement was made between the city and the Board of Supervisors for building the Court House, the city agreeing to accept $1,250 in full settlement, $250 to be paid this year, $500 next year and $500 the following year.

Total tax levied, $15,518.16.

1837—Supervisors—Giles F. Yates, First ward; David M. Moore, Second ward; Robert Sanders, Third and Fourth wards (wards formed from the Second ward); Robert Sanders, Glenville; Marvin Strong, Duanesburgh; Harmanus A. Van Slyck, Rotterdam; James Smealie, Princetown; Abraham Pearse, Niskayuna. Officers same as preceding year.

Total tax levied, $16,733.64.

1838.—Supervisors—Isaac Riggs, First ward; James C. Magoffin, Second ward; William Anderson, Third and Fourth wards; Abner Smith, Glenville; Marvin Strong, Duanesburgh; Simon Schermerhorn, Rotterdam; William Gifford, Princetown; Abraham Pearse, Niskayuna. Chairman, Abraham Pearse; Clerk, A. L. Linn; Marshal, Bartholomew C. Vrooman.

The lot where the present County Clerk's office is situated was purchased this year by the Board

from Alexander G. Fouder for $500, and a committee appointed to cause the erection thereon of a fire-proof County Clerk's and Surrogate's office, at a cost not exceeding $2,000.

The total tax levied this year was $18,766.74.

1839.—Supervisors—Isaac I. Yates, First ward; James C. Magoffin, Second ward; William Anderson, Third and Fourth wards; David F. Rees, Glenville; Marvin Strong, Duanesburgh; Garrett Van Vranken, Niskayuna; William Gifford, Princetown; Simon Schermerhorn, Rotterdam. Chairman, Marvin Strong; Clerk, James M. Bouck; Marshal, Cornelius J. Barhydt.

The total tax levied this year was $19,984.09.

1840.—Supervisors—Nicholas Hansom, First ward; James C. Magoffin, Second ward; Joel Phillips, Third and Fourth wards; David Ostrom, Glenville; Benjamin F. Wood, Duanesburgh; Peter B. Noxon, Niskayuna; Alexander Clogston, Princetown; John P. Becker, Rotterdam. Chairman, James C. Magoffin; Clerk, James M. Bouck; Marshal, Cornelius J. Barhydt. The brick building on the east side of the almshouse was built this year.

Total tax levied this year was $23,649.94.

1841.—Supervisors—Isaac I. Yates, First ward; James C. Magoffin, Second ward; James G. Van Voast, Third and Fourth wards; Nicholas Brooks, Glenville; Benjamin F. Wood, Duanesburgh; Garret Van Vranken, Niskayuna; Alexander Clogston, Princetown; Abram Warren, Rotterdam. Officers same as preceding year.

Five hundred dollars was appropriated this year for the purpose of building school-houses in the city of Schenectady. Sheriff Mindert M. K. Wemple received the sum of fifty dollars for the execution of Charles Cook, murderer of Mrs. Merry, a resident of the town of Glenville. The tax levied this year was about the same as last.

1842.—Supervisors—Sidney B. Potter, First ward; Nicholas A. Vedder, Second ward; Peter Rowe, Third and Fourth wards; Jacob Carner, Glenville; Benjamin F. Wood, Duanesburgh; William Gordon, Princetown; Garrett Van Vranken, Niskayuna; Abraham Warren, Rotterdam. Chairman, Abraham Warren; Clerk, James M. Bouck; Marshal, Cornelius J. Barhydt.

March 28 of this year an act of the Legislature was passed creating the office of Police Justice of the city of Schenectady. The selection of this officer was duly delegated to the Board of Supervisors. Joseph H. Vrooman was chosen for this year. His salary was fixed at seven hundred dollars per year. The total tax levied this year was $28,151.35.

1843.—Supervisors—Simon C. Groat, First ward; Nicholas A. Vedder, Second ward; Peter Rowe, Third and Fourth wards; Jacob Carner, Glenville; Perry T. Briggs, Duanesburgh; Morgan Strong, Niskayuna; John W. Shannon, Princetown; Abraham Warren, Rotterdam. Chairman, Abraham Warren; Clerk, Benjamin F. Patten; Marshal, Cornelius J. Barhydt.

The amount of taxes levied this year was nearly $2,000 less than last year.

1844.—Supervisors—Isaac Riggs, First ward; Samuel Myers, Second ward; John G. Van Vorst, Third and Fourth wards; Peter Sanders, Glenville; Thomas Knight, Duanesburgh; Abraham Pearse, Niskayuna; John W. Shannon, Princetown; James T. Wasson, Rotterdam. Chairman, Abraham Pearse; Clerk, John Van Santvoord; Marshal, Bassett Vedder. The total tax levied this year was $23,495.82.

1845.—Supervisors—Martin De Forest, First ward; John S. M. Barhydt, Second ward; Jabez Ward, Third and Fourth wards; Abraham W. Toll, Glenville; Thomas Knight, Duanesburgh; James R. Craig, Niskayuna; James Donnan, Princetown; James Allen, Rotterdam. Chairman, Thomas Knight; Clerk, Benjamin F. Potter; Marshal, O. S. De Forest. The amount of taxes levied was about the same as last year.

1846.—Supervisors—Martin De Forest, First ward; John S. M. Barhydt, Second ward; John I. Vrooman, Third and Fourth wards; Adam C. Van Patten, Glenville; Thomas Knight, Duanesburgh; James R. Craig, Niskayuna; James Donnan, Princetown; Abraham N. Bradt, Rotterdam.

Officers of the Board were the same as preceding year. $853.45 was expended on repairs at the almshouse. Total tax levied this year was $25,901.82.

1847.—Supervisors—Martin De Forest, First ward; Nicholas Barhydt, Second ward; John I. Vrooman, Third and Fourth wards; Abraham Conklin, Duanesburgh; Abraham W. Toll, Glenville; William Van Vranken, Niskayuna; James Templar, Princetown; James P. Wasson, Rotterdam. Chairman, Martin De Forest; Clerk, Benjamin F. Potter; Marshal, O. S. De Forest.

Under an act of the Legislature, passed this year, the offices of Judge and Surrogate were combined, and the first election of a person to this office occurred this year. The Board fixed the salary at one thousand dollars. Total tax levied this year was $24,374.58.

1848.—Supervisors—Martin De Forest, First ward; Peter Banker, Second ward; Joshua Barker, Third and Fourth wards; Abraham Conklin, Duanesburgh; Reuben Ellwood, Glenville; William Van Vranken, Niskayuna; James Templar, Princetown; John W. Conklin, Rotterdam. Chairman, Abraham Conklin; Clerk and Marshal, same as last year.

Application was made and granted by the Freeman's Bridge Company for the right to build a bridge where the present bridge stands. The right was also extended to the Schenectady and Duanesburgh Plank Road Company and the Schenectady and Saratoga Plank Road Company to build plank roads.

The State and County tax this year amounted to $10,500. Ward and town charges, $2,295.10; city, $8,507.74.

1849.—Supervisors—Martin De Forest, First ward; Peter Banker, Second ward; David P. Greene, Third and Fourth wards; Abram Conklin, Duanesburgh; Reuben Ellwood, Glenville; John Pearse, Nis-

kayuna; James Weart, Princetown; John W. Conklin, Rotterdam. Chairman, Peter Banker; Clerk, Stephen H. Johnson; Marshal, Green G. Crandall. The first local law for the preservation of game was framed by this Board this year. The application of the Fort Hunter and Albany Plank Road Company to extend a plank road through a part of this county was granted. The aggregate valuation of real and personal estate was returned at $3,112,417.66. From 1833 to this year it had remained at about the same amount.

The total tax levied this year was $32,833.15. State and county tax, $15,400; city tax, $12,400,09.

1850.—Supervisors—Stephen Yates, First ward; John S. M. Barhydt, Second ward; Solomon B. King, Third and Fourth Wards; Alexander Siddle, Jr., Duanesburgh; Adam C. Van Patten, Glenville; William V. Bradt, Niskayuna; James Weart, Princetown; N. I. Schermerhorn, Rotterdam. Chairman, Stephen Yates; Clerk, Benjamin F. Potter; Marshal, John C. Barhydt.

The total tax levied this year was $27,616.43. The State and county tax was $13,000.

1851.—Supervisors—Stephen Yates, First ward; Adrian Van Santvoord, Second ward; Solomon B. King, Third ward; Nicholas Barhydt, Fourth ward (by act of Legislature, March 21, 1851); Alexander Siddle, Jr., Duanesburgh; A. C. Van Patten, Glenville; William V. Bradt, Niskayuna; John Robinson, Jr., Princetown; John J. Schermerhorn, Rotterdam. Officers same as preceding year.

The following sums were levied upon the city this year: Support of poor, $3,000; highways, $2,000; Fire Department, $2,000; Police, $1,000; contingent, $1,400.

The valuation of real and personal estate in the county this year was more than double over preceding year, being $7,149,113.

Total tax levied this year was $34,150.66.

1852.—Supervisors—Stephen Yates, First ward; A. M. Vedder, Second ward; A. F. Kingsbury, Third ward; Nicholas Barhydt, Fourth ward; Alonzo Ladd, Duanesburgh; Nicholas Brooks, Glenville (subsequently elected Sheriff; Reuben Groot was appointed to fill vacancy); James Van Vranken, Niskayuna; James Robinson, Jr., Princetown; George Vedder, Rotterdam. Officers same as preceding year, with the exception of Alexander J. Thomson, Clerk.

The county tax this year was $23,501.10. Of this sum $5,039 was appropriated to schools by law of 1851. Total tax levied, $38,493.68.

1853.—Supervisors—Sidney B. Potter, First ward; Alexander M. Vedder, Second ward; Francis Fisk, Third ward; Nicholas Barhydt, Fourth ward; Alonzo Ladd, Duanesburgh; Bracey Tobey, Glenville; James Van Vranken, Niskayuna; James McNee, Princetown; N. I. Schermerhorn, Rotterdam. Chairman, Sidney B. Potter; Clerk, John Bradt; Marshal, George Waggoner. Total tax levied this year was $40,427.99.

1854.—Supervisors—Albert Ward, First ward; Alexander M. Vedder, Second ward; Peter Vedder, Third ward; Livingston Ellwood, Fourth ward; James Donnan, Duanesburgh; Minard Knights, Glenville; John H. Putnam, Niskayuna; James McNee, Princetown; George Veeder, Rotterdam. Chairman, Alexander M. Vedder; Clerk, Simon Calkins; Marshal, John T. Van Potten. Total tax levied this year was $36,744.05.

1855.—Supervisors—James R. Craig, First ward; Sybrant G. Van Debogart, Second ward; Levi Case, Third ward; Robert C. Dorn, Fourth ward; Alexander Liddle, Jr., Duanesburgh; Christian H. Brooks, Glenville; John Pearse, Niskayuna; Samuel B. Bradshaw, Princetown; Moses Chism, Rotterdam. Chairman, James R. Craig; Clerk, James J. Marlette; Marshal, John T. Van Patten.

The city of Schenectady raised by tax this year, by act of the Legislature, $3,100 for school purposes. County and State tax this year was $26,500. Total tax levied, $46,708.38.

1856.—Supervisors—Sidney B. Potter, First ward; S. G. Van Debogart, Second ward; Francis Van Debogart, Third ward; Abraham Vrooman, Fourth ward; Angus McIntosh, Duanesburgh; Philip R. Toll, Glenville; John H. Putnam, Niskayuna; Samuel B. Bradshaw, Princetown; S. J. Schermerhorn, Rotterdam.

Chairman, S. G. Van Debogart; Clerk and Marshal same as preceding year.

Under law of State passed April 9, 1854, $6,000 was raised, levied on the city of Schenectady, for school purposes this year.

Amount of taxes levied upon the county this year was about the same as last year.

1857.—Supervisors—James R. Craig, First ward; S. G. Van Debogart, Second ward; Francis Van Debogart, Third ward; L. M. Clement, Fourth ward; Angus McIntosh, Duanesburgh; Philip R. Toll, Glenville; William H. Lake, Niskayuna; Andrew Kelly, Princetown; Henry M. Crane, Rotterdam. Officers same as last year.

Total tax, $73,610.19.

Among the sums levied upon the city of Schenectady were the following: Fire purposes, $1,200; lighting streets, $4,000; poor, $2,500; police, $1,000; school purposes, $8,000. The entire city tax was $25,840.25.

Ward and town charges were $7,770.50.

1858.—Supervisors—Jay Cady, First ward; S. G. Van Debogart, Second ward; Francis Van Debogart, Third ward; Ira Brownell, Fourth ward; Benjamin F. Wood. Duanesburgh; Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; Benjamin C. Lansing, Niskayuna; Andrew Kelly, Princetown; Henry M. Crane, Rotterdam. Chairman, S. G. Van Debogart; Clerk, H. Maynard Aiken and J. J. Marlette; Marshal, John S. M. Barhydt.

Total tax levied this year was $76,125.77.

1859.—The Supervisors this year were: Peter Dorsch, First ward; William H. Anthony, Second ward; Jacob Vedder, Third ward; William H. Helmer, Fourth ward; William Young, Duanesburgh; Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; John I. Vrooman, Niskayuna; John Marlette, Princetown; William Akin, Rotterdam. Chairman, William

H. Anthony; Clerk, James J. Marlette; Marshal, John G. Van Patten.

The Excise Commissioners made a report this year, from which we find that $3,005 was received from licenses granted.

Total tax this year was $64,749.76.

1860.—Supervisors—A. J. Thompson, First ward; William H. Anthony, Second ward; Andrew Frame, Third ward; Andrew McMullen, Fourth ward; Nicholas Barhydt, Fifth ward (formed March 8, 1860, by an act of the Legislature); Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; John Marlette, Princetown; Samuel Wingate, Duanesburgh; James T. Wasson, Rotterdam; John I. Vrooman, Niskayuna. Chairman, James T. Wasson; Clerk, Allen H. Jackson.

From the report made by the Excise Commissioners this year, it appears that ninety-one licenses were granted in the county, producing a revenue of $2,893.76.

The total tax levied this year was $65,240.67. The city tax this year was $26,882.42.

1861.—Supervisors—Alexander J. Thompson, First ward; S. G. Van Debogart, Second ward; Jacob Vedder, Third ward; Andrew McMullen, Fourth ward; James H. Ward, Fifth ward; Samuel Wingate, Duanesburgh; Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; William Van Vranken, Niskayuna; Thomas Passage, Princetown; James McMillan, Jr., Rotterdam. Chairman, James H. Ward; Clerk, Allen H. Jackson, part term, Walter T. L Sanders remainder.

Total tax this year was $68,015.11.

1862.—Supervisors—Simon V. Swits, First ward; William H. Anthony, Second ward; Jacob Vedder, Third Ward; Cornelius Thomson, Fourth ward; James H. Ward, Fifth ward; Samuel Wingate, Duanesburgh; Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; William Van Vranken, Niskayuna; Alexander Gifford, Princetown; James McMillan, Jr., Rotterdam.

Chairman, William H. Anthony; remaining officers same as preceding year.

We have now arrived at that period in the history of the Board when the war for the preservation of the Union had reached gigantic proportions. The present Board of Supervisors, and all subsequent boards during the war, exhibited a patriotic devotion to the Union.

After the organization of the Board, a special meeting was held August 16th of this year, and a resolution, of which the following is part, was unanimously passed:

"Resolved, that we, the Supervisors of the County of Schenectady, will continue to pay to all volunteers enlisting in the companies now forming, or to be formed, to fill up the quotas required by the general Government to be raised by this county, either upon the first or second calls of the President for 300,000 men upon each call, the sum of $50 to each of such volunteers, in addition to the bounties already provided by the State and general governments."

The enunciation of the passage of the resolution was received with much applause and cheering by a large body of anxious and expectant citizens, who were present awaiting in silent solemnity the action of the board.

Under the provision of this resolution the sum of $29,250 was expended this year, and the raising of this amount by taxation was legalized by legislative act passed the subsequent year. The total tax levied this year was $96,200.24.

1863.—Supervisors—Martin De Forest, First ward; Wm. H. Anthony, Second ward; Sidney C. Ellsworth, Third ward; Peter Van Dyck, Fourth ward; James H. Ward, Fifth ward; Samuel Wingate, Duanesburgh; Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; Hiram Baumes, Niskayuna; Alexander Gifford, Princetown; James McMillan, Jr., Rotterdam. Chairman, James H. Ward: Clerk, Walter T. L. Sanders; Marshal, Benjamin F. Sheldon.

At this session of the Board, the sum of $300 was appropriated to each volunteer recruited in the county under the proclamation of the President dated October 10, 1863, calling for 300,000 men.

Twenty-six thousand dollars in bonds of the County of Schenectady, of $500 each, were issued this year to discharge the liabilities incurred under the resolution of the Board for the payment of bounties to volunteers.

The total tax levied this year was $109,785.75.

1864.—Supervisors—Martin De Forest, First ward; William H. Anthony, Second ward; Sidney C. Ellsworth, Third ward; Peter Van Dyck, Fourth ward; James H. Ward, Fifth ward; Samuel Wingate, Duanesburgh; John L. Turnbull, Duanesburgh (appointed to fill vacancy caused by removal of Samuel Wingate from town); Aaron Swart, Glenville; Hiram Baumes, Niskayuna; Alexander Gifford, Princetown; James McMillan, Jr., Rotterdam. Chairman and Clerk same as last year.

From the report of the County Treasurer this year, it appears the Finance Committee had given orders to 279 men, amounting to $83,700, for bounty money, from December 15, 1863, to July 9, 1864.

A tax was levied upon the city this year, made payable June 1, of $50,000 to pay bounties.

The total tax levied this year was $228,718.36, the largest tax ever imposed upon the county. Over $120,000 of this sum was for bounties.

1865.—Supervisors—Martin De Forest, First ward; William H. Anthony, Second ward; Sidney C. Ellsworth, Third ward; Peter Van Dyck, Fourth ward; Nicholas H. Swart, Fifth ward; Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; John I. Vrooman, Jr., Niskayuna; William Dougall, Princetown; Jacob D. Wemple, Rotterdam. Chairman, Martin De Forest; Clerk, Walter T. L. Sanders; Marshal, John T. Van Patten.

At this session of the Board, the Provost Marshal, J. P. Baths, of the Eighteenth Congressional District (comprising Saratoga, Schenectady, Montgomery, Fulton and Hamilton counties), made a report concerning military affairs in the district, from which we make the following extracts:

The corrected enrollment, made in 1865, shows 12,418 men in the district liable to military duty.

Of this number Schenectady County was credited with 2,110 men. The whole number of men mustered into service in the district was 7,157 men.

The following was the amount of bounties paid by the city and respective towns of the county up to October 31, 1865:

City, $183,750; Duanesburgh, $113,394; Glenville, $88,720.53; Princetown, $36,000; Rotterdam, $75,292; Niskayuna, $24,756.94. A special tax of $50,750 for bounty money was levied upon the city of Schenectady, to be paid by the 3d of May, 1866.

The total tax levied this year was $150,196.86.

1866.—Supervisors—Arthur W. Hunter, First ward; William H. Anthony, Second ward; Richard Rosa, Third ward; Peter Van Dyck, Fourth ward; Frederick Vedder, Fifth ward; William Mallock, Duanesburgh; Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; John I. Vrooman, Jr., Niskayuna; William Dougall, Princetown; James McMillan, Jr., Rotterdam. Chairman, Richard Rosa; Clerk and Marshal same as preceding year.

Total tax levied this year was $140,584.93.

1867.—Supervisors—Jonas H. Crane, First ward; William H. Anthony, Second ward; Richard Rosa, Third ward; Peter Van Dyck, Fourth ward; Frederick Vedder, Fifth ward; William Mallock, Duanesburgh; Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; John I. Vrooman, Jr., Niskayuna; William Dougall, Princetown; James McMillan, Jr., Rotterdam. Chairman, William Dougall; Clerk and Marshal same as preceding year.

This year $15,407.30 was raised in the city of Schenectady to defray expenses of the capital police, as provided by the amendatory acts to Chapter 555 of the Laws of 1865.

The total tax levied this year was $149,210.68.

A special tax of $46,575, to be paid by May 3, 1868, was levied upon the city to fund its bounty debt.

1868.—Supervisors—Jonas H. Crane, First ward; William H. Anthony, Second ward; Harmon Seymour, Third ward; Peter Van Dyck, Fourth ward; Frederick Vedder, Fifth ward; William Malloch, Duanesburgh; Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; John I. Vrooman, Jr., Niskayuna; Andrew T. Wingate, Princetown; James Clute, Rotterdam. Chairman, Harmon Seymour; Clerk and Marshal, same as last year.

Total tax this year, $123,774.54.

1869.—Supervisors—Jonas H. Crane, First ward; William H. Anthony, Second ward; Peter Vedder, Third ward; Peter Van Dyck, Fourth ward; Frederick Vedder, Fifth ward; William Mallock, Duanesburgh; Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; Nicholas J. Van Vranken, Niskayuna; Andrew T. Wingate, Princetown; H. Maynard Aiken, Rotterdam. Chairman, H. Maynard Aiken; Clerk and Marshal same as preceding year.

The sum of $10,411.78 was expended upon the county fair and parade grounds this year.

Total tax levied, $148,165.59.

1870.—Supervisors—Jonas H. Crane, First ward; William H. Anthony, Second ward; John G. Greene, Third ward; Peter Van Dyck, Fourth ward; Frederick Vedder, Fifth ward; William Mallock, Duanesburgh; Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; Nicholas J. Van Vranken, Niskayuna; Walter Bradshaw, Princetown; John M. Veeder, Rotterdam. Chairman, Nicholas J. Van Vranken; Clerk, G. Gilbert; Marshal, John G. Van Patten.

Ten thousand dollars was appropriated this year for the enlargement of the County Clerk's and Surrogate's office. The lot adjoining the old office was purchased for this purpose for $5,000.

Total tax levied, $160,947.65.

1871.—Supervisors—Jonas H. Crane, First ward; Charles G. Ellis, Second ward; John G. Greene, Third ward; William H. Clark, Fourth ward; Harrison Clute and Thomas Shannon (the latter appointed to fill vacancy occasioned by election of Harrison Clute, Superintendent of Poor); Emmett O'Neill, Duanesburgh; Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; Walter Bradshaw, Princetown; John I. Vrooman, Jr., Niskayuna; John M. Veeder, Rotterdam. Chairman, Walter Bradshaw; Clerk and Marshal, same as preceding year.

Total tax levied, $138,693.20.

1872.—Supervisors—A. W. Hunter, First ward; Charles G. Ellis, Second ward; John G. Greene, Third ward; William H. Clark, Fourth ward; William H. McClyman, Fifth ward; Emmett O'Neill, Duanesburgh; Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; Christopher O. Hamlin, Niskayuna; Walter Bradshaw, Princetown; John M. Veeder, Rotterdam. Chairman, Emmett O'Neill; Clerk, G. Gilbert; Marshal, Solomon Bearup.

Total tax levied, $166,625.08.

1873.—Supervisors—James R. Craig, First ward; Charles G. Ellis, Second ward; John G. Greene, Third ward; Bartholomew O'Connel, Fourth ward; William H. McClyman, Fifth ward; Emmett O'Neill, Duanesburgh; Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; Christopher O. Hamlin, Niskayuna; Walter Bradshaw, Princetown; John M. Veeder, Rotterdam. Chairman, Christopher O. Hamlin; Clerk, G. Gilbert; Marshal, John G. Van Patten. April 21st of this year an act of the Legislature was passed authorizing the Board of Supervisors to sell a portion of the poor-house farm; 187 lots were sold at auction for the sum of $42,083.

Total tax levied, $149,056.57.

1874.—Supervisors—Jonas H. Crane, First ward; William H. Anthony, Second ward; Hugh Reynolds, Third ward; Martin Swart, Fourth ward; Garrett S. Veeder, Fifth ward; Emmett O'Neill, Duanesburgh; Charles P. Sanders, Glenville; Christopher O. Hamlin, Niskayuna; Walter Bradshaw, Princetown; Seeley Patterson, Rotterdam. Chairman, Seely Patterson; Clerk, Josiah Van Vranken; Marshal, John G. Van Patten.

Total tax levied, $177,744.78.

1875.—Supervisors—Jonas H. Crane, First ward; William H. Anthony, Second ward; Hugh Reynolds, Third ward; Martin Swart, Fourth ward; Garrett S. Veeder, Fifth ward; Arthur D. Mead, Duanesburgh; Philip R. Toll,

Glenville; Christopher O. Hamlin, Niskayuna; Alexander Gifford, Princetown; Jacob D. Wemple, Rotterdam. Chairman, Jonas H. Crane; remaining officers same as preceding year. Total tax levied, $184,441.72.

1876.—Supervisors—A. W. Hunter, First ward; William H. Anthony, Second ward; Hugh Reynolds, Third ward; Lewis Vrooman, Fourth ward; William G. Van Patten, Fifth ward; George Lasher, Duanesburgh; Reuben Groot, Glenville; Christopher O. Hamlin, Niskayuna; Alexander Gifford, Princetown; Isaac Wemple, Rotterdam. Chairman, William H. Anthony; Clerk, Josiah Van Vranken; Marshal, John T. Van Patten. For a number of years heretofore the aggregate valuations of real and personal estate in the county had been returned by the assessors at about five and one-half million dollars. This year the aggregate valuation was increased to $6,500,690.03. Total tax levied, $158,002.52.

1877.—Supervisors—A. W. Hunter, First ward; Robert Cornell, Second ward; James McDermott, Third ward; Lewis Vrooman, Fourth ward; William G. Van Patten, Fifth ward; Arthur D. Mead, Duanesburgh; Reuben Groot, Glenville; Christopher O. Hamlin, Niskayuna; Alexander Gifford, Princetown; Isaac Wemple, Rotterdam. Chairman, Arthur D. Mead; Clerk, Josiah Van Vranken; Marshal, John G. Van Patten. Total tax about as preceding year.

1878.—Supervisors—A. W. Hunter, First ward; Robert Cornell, Second ward; James McDermott, Third ward; Peter Van Dyck, Fourth ward; F. T. Van Patten, Fifth ward; George Lasher, Duanesburgh; John A. Taws, Princetown; James Turnbull, Rotterdam; Christopher O. Hamlin, Niskayuna; Reuben Groot, Glenville. Chairman, George Lasher; Clerk, Gilbert De Graff; Marshal, John T. Van Patten. Total tax levied, $142,308.31.

1879.—Supervisors—A. W. Hunter, First ward; Hiram J. Ingersoll, Second ward; James Flinn, Third ward; Lewis Clement, Fourth ward; F. T. Van Patten, Fifth ward; John W. Head, Duanesburgh; Reuben Groot, Glenville; Christopher O. Hamlin, Niskayuna; John A. Taws, Princetown; James Turnbull, Rotterdam. Chairman, John W. Head; Clerk, Gilbert De Graff; Marshal, John T. Van Patten.

At this session a special act of the Legislature was passed abolishing the office of Keeper at the Almshouse, the duties of which office were united with those devolving upon the Superintendent of Poor.

Total tax levied this year, $143,073.59.

1880.—Supervisors—A. W. Hunter, First ward; Henry Bradt, Second ward; Francis Cain, Third ward; Peter Van Dyck, Fourth ward; F. T. Van Patten, Fifth ward; George Lasher, Duanesburgh; Alexander Donnan, Princetown; Thomas W. Winne, Niskayuna; Reuben Groot, Glenville; James Turnbull, Rotterdam. Chairman, Reuben Groot; Clerk, Patrick H. Cain; Marshal, John T. Van Patten.

Total tax levied this year, $142,753.07.

1881.—Supervisors—A. W. Hunter, First ward; Charles W. Sanders, Second ward; Francis Cain, Third ward; Peter Van Dyck, Fourth ward; George M. Bostwick, Fifth ward; James W. Waddell, Duanesburgh; Reuben Groot, Glenville; Samuel A. Weast, Rotterdam; Alexander Donnan, Princetown; Thomas W. Winne, Niskayuna. Chairman, Reuben Groot; Clerk, P. H. Cain; Marshal, John T. Van Patten.

Total tax abont the same as preceding year.

1882.—Supervisors—A. W. Hunter, First ward; Levi A. Young, Second ward; Francis Cain and Patrick H. Cain (the latter appointed to fill vacancy caused by death of Francis Cain), Third ward; Peter Van Dyck, Fourth ward; Jerome B. Dow, Fifth ward; James T. Wyatt, Glenville; James T. Waddell, Duanesburgh; Thomas W. Winne, Niskayuna; Samuel A. Weast, Rotterdam; James Weast, Princetown. Chairman, A. W. Hunter; Clerk, George M. Bostwick; Marshal, John T. Van Patten. Total tax levied, $151,817.23.

1883.—Supervisors—A. W. Hunter, First ward; N. J. Swart, Second ward; P. H. Cain, Third ward; Seth L. Clute, Fourth ward; Ephraim Clow, Fifth ward; James W. Waddell, Duanesburgh; Thomas W. Winne, Niskayuna; James Weast, Princetown; S. J. Schermerhorn, Rotterdam. Chairman, A. W. Hunter; Clerk, John E. Myers; Marshal, John T. Van Patten.

At this session of the Board the aggregate valuations of the personal and real estate was increased from $6,542,448 for preceding year, to $13,281,490.05 for this year. Total tax levied, $164,364.78.

Four of the city members of this Board made an appeal to the State Assessors, claiming that the equalization of assessment, as made by a majority of the Board, resulted in great injustice to the taxpayers of the city. A hearing was had before the State Assessors in this city in June of the following year, when the appeal of the city members was sustained, and the various towns of the county were ordered and did pay back to the city the several amounts wrongfully, as was claimed by the State Assessors, assessed upon the city.

1884.—Supervisors—A. W. Hunter, First ward; Jacob Barringer, Second ward; Patrick H. Cain, Third ward; Lewis Vrooman, Fourth ward; George Susholz, Fifth ward; John A. McClure, Duanesburgh; James T. Wyatt, Glenville; John C. Myers, Rotterdam; James Weast, Princetown; Thomas W. Winne, Niskayuna. Chairman, James T. Wyatt; Clerk, Omie F. Vedder; Marshal, John T. Van Patten.

Total tax levied this year was $183,664.65; State tax, $29,880.64; county tax, $33,898.13; city charges, $95,346.73; town charges, $24,538.85.

Included in the city charges were the following items: Poor, $5,000.00; schools, $17,000.00; for deficiency, 1883 (by special act of Legislature), $13,500.00; extinguishment of fires, $12,000.00; lighting streets, $10,000.00; police, $9,500.00.

SUPERINTENDENTS OF POOR.

Previous to 1824, each town in all the counties of the State supported its own poor, under statutes passed by the Legislature, but which, however humane and liberal, were imperfect compared with our existing laws. November 27, 1824, a law was passed for the establishment of a poor-house in several counties of the State. April 11, 1826, a law was passed authorizing the establishment of a poor-house in the county of Schenectady. This act was in the main similar to the law passed November 27, 1824. The number of superintendents was limited to three and not more than five. It was also provided in this act that the poor sent to the county poor-house from the city and several towns should be a charge upon the city or towns from which they were sent.

The present county poor-house and the adjoining farm, before the passage of this act, were used as an almshouse by the city and the present towns of Rotterdam and Glenville. On the 9th day of December, 1825, a committee was appointed by the board for the purpose of purchasing this property. The price agreed upon was $2,000. The act of April 11, 1826, permitted this sale, which was consummated July 15, 1826.

The first Superintendents of Poor were: David Boyd, Cornelius Z. Van Santvoord, John Wood, Jacob I. Schermerhorn and David Smith. They were appointed for a term of one year. The first poor-house keeper was Henry Clute.

August 1, 1826, the poor-house was first opened for the reception of county poor.

The first year the Superintendents made a contract with the keeper for the support, maintenance and clothing of the county paupers for sixty cents each per week, the keeper being allowed the products of the farm and the use of the buildings, and whatever labor he could obtain from the able-bodied paupers.

The first report was sent by the Superintendents to the Board of Supervisors, November 14, 1826, from which we find that from August 1st to October 30th, the entire expense of the county poor-house was $321.00; the whole number of paupers, 38, divided as follows: City, 16; County 11; Rotterdam, 3; Glenville, 6; Princetown, 2. The Superintendents reported that they had engaged Dr. John La Tonelier as almshouse physician, at an annual salary of $75.

The Board of Supervisors prescribed the laws and regulations governing the poor-house, and the rules to be observed by the inmates. The Superintendents reported as follows: "That the poor-house and paupers have been visited every week by one of the Superintendents; the paupers always found clean and cheerful; and the house clean, and everything in good order. The by-laws, rules and regulations laid down by the Board of Supervisors have been strictly adhered to."

The following year the Superintendents made a contract with Henry Clute to keep the paupers at fifty cents per week, under the same conditions as last year.

This year the offices of poor-house and jail physician were united into one office, and an annual salary of $120 allowed. David Low was elected as such physician. The total expense of the poor-house for the year was $481.14.

In 1829, the sum of $150 was appropriated for the purpose of building a lunatic asylum on the poor-house property. The Superintendent reported that $900 would be necessary to defray the expenses of the poor for the following year.

In 1830, the number of Superintendents was reduced by the Board of Supervisors from five to three.

The reports of the Superintendents for this and the following years are so limited that few facts of interest can be obtained.

In 1831, J. I. S. Van Epps, Henry Peek and William Carpenter were Superintendents of Poor. From the report of these officers it appears the expenses of the poor-house were $1,316.63 for the preceding year, $500 of which sum was used to pay an indebtedness of previous year; $800 was raised this year for poor-house purposes.

The Superintendents for 1833 were: Henry Peek, Henry Lovett and William A. S. North. $1,200 was raised this year for support of the poor-house.

Henry Peek, William A. S. North and Abner H. Smith were appointed Superintendents for 1834. $1,400 was raised for County poor-house this year.

For 1835, Abner Smith, Simon Schermerhorn and John Van Voast were Superintendents. $2,127 was raised for county poor this year.

For 1836, the same Superintendents were appointed as in the preceding year.

From this year to 1840 the amounts raised for county poor ranged from $1,600 to $2,200. The reports for these years were not recorded in the minutes of the Board of Supervisors, and could not be found.

It had been the custom of the Board of Supervisors to visit the poor-house annually for inspection. After inspecting the premises in 1840, it was determined that insufficient room was provided for the paupers, and, in consequence, the brick building on the east side of the poor-house was constructed this year. A barn was also built at the same time.

The following sums were raised this year: $2,000 for support of poor, $500 for furniture for new building, and $602 to pay indebtedness for poor purposes for preceding year.

The Superintendents for 1841 and 1842 were: John Van Voast, Wm. A. S. North and John Clark. The sum of $1,800 was raised each year for county poor purposes.

Wm. A. S. North, John Van Voast and Daniel Smith were chosen Superintendents for 1843, and Daniel Smith, David M. Moore and John Van Voast for 1844. $1,600 was raised in 1843, and $1,250 in 1844 for county poor.

In 1844 the Board of Supervisors, deeming the appointment of three Superintendents of Poor to be unnecessary and too expensive, petitioned the Legis-

lature for the passage of an act permitting the Board to appoint but one Superintendent of Poor. The passage of such a law was not effected until a number of years after.

The Superintendents from 1845 to 1848 were: Benjamin F. Wood, Abraham A. Van Voast and Abijah Freeman; $15,000 was raised in 1845 and $1,600 in 1846 for the maintenance of the county poor; $853.45 was expended in 1846 on an addition and repairs at the poor-house.

In 1848, the Superintendents of Poor were required to give bonds in the sum of $3,000 each. The Superintendents for this year were: John F. Clute, Philip H. Dederick and William S. Kelly.

The Superintendents for 1849 were: Joshua Parker, Abraham Vrooman and Philip H. Dederick. From 1848 to 1854, the cost of maintaining the poor-house ranged from $1,500 to $2,000. In 1854 a difficulty arose between the Board of Supervisors and the Superintendents of Poor as to which body was delegated the power of appointing a keeper at the poor-house. The Board appointed Henry Marcellus and the Superintendents selected William Chism. After legal investigation it was settled by allowing the Superintendents to make their own appointment; but that it was not an acknowledgment of their legal rights, is evinced by the fact that the following year the Board appointed a keeper, and continued to do so until this office was abolished in 1879.

An act was passed by the Legislature, in 1854, reducing the number of Superintendents of Poor to one, and providing that such officer should be elected by the people for a term of three years. The first Superintendent elected to this office, under this law, was Nicholas I. Schermerhorn in 1856. His term began January 1, 1857.

From the report made by the Superintendent in 1860, we find that there were 73 paupers at the poor-house November 1 of that year, and that the entire expense of the county poor for the year ending November 1 was $9,280.67.

In 1861, the brick building on the west side of the poor-house was erected for the purpose of accommodating the insane of the county, at a cost of $3,000.

For the year ending November 1, 1862, the whole expense of the county poor was $9,270.59.

From 1862 to the present time, the yearly expense of the county poor-house has averaged between eleven and twelve thousand dollars. In 1866 it was $15,453.12. The maximum amount was reached in 1878, when it was $16,199, and the lowest in 1880, when it was $8,283. The average number of paupers has been between seventy and eighty.

In 1873, a portion of the poor-house farm was sold at auction in small lots to private individuals. 187 lots were disposed of.

In 1879, a special act of the Legislature was passed abolishing the office of poor-house keeper; the duties of this office were united with those devolving upon the Superintendent of the Poor. Since the passage of this law, the Superintendent has resided at the poor-house.

For a number of years after the erection of the Asylum building in 1861, the county took care of its insane, but in 1875 most of the incurable cases were removed to the State Asylum at Ovid, and a few years after, all incurable patients were removed to this institution. At the present time the county supports none of its insane at the county house.

LIST OF SUPERINTENDENTS OF POOR AND KEEPERS.

Superintendents.—1856–1866, W. I. Schermerhorn; 1866–1869, John F. Clute; 1869–1872, W. J. McIntosh; 1872–1879, Harrison Clute; 1879–1885, William G. Van Patten; 1885, Anthony Walton.

Keepers.—1857–1866, William Chism; 1866–1871, Francis Veeder; 1872–1876, John I. Vrooman; 1876–1879, Philip Eygner; 1879–1880, William E. Dederick.

COUNTY AND STATE OFFICERS.

Following will be found as complete a list of the officials, both County and State, from Schenectady County, as could be obtained. Those not given in the following pages will be found in separate articles in different portions of this work.

Robert Yates was a Member of the First, Second, Third and Fourth Provincial Congresses of New York; was a Member of the First Convention of New York, in 1777, to form a constitution, and a member of the committee to draft it; was an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of New York, and finally its Chief Justice. He was a member of the Convention of 1788 to ratify the Federal Constitution.

Rineis Schermerhorn was Senator under the first Constitution, 1777 to 1781.

John Sanders was Senator under the first Constitution, 1799–1802, and member of the Council of Appointment in 1800. His associates were De Witt Clinton, Ambrose and John Roseboom.

Simon Veeder was Senator under the first Constitution from 1804 to 1806.

Henry Yates, Jr., was Senator under the first Constitution from 1810 to 1814, and from 1818 to 1822. He was also a member of the Council of Appointment in 1812 and 1818.

Gerret S. Veeder was the first Judge of the Schenectady Court of Common Pleas, appointed soon after the organization of the county in 1809.

Among those who represented Schenectady in the General Assembly from 1615 to 1768 were the following: Karl Hansen Toll, Jacob Glen, Arent Bradt, Abraham Glen, Nicholas Schuyler, Jacob Van Slyck, Isaac Vrooman, Ryer Schermerhorn, Jacobus Mynderse and Nicholas Groot.

Henry Glen was member of Assembly in 1786, 1787 and 1810. He was also member of the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Congresses of the United States, from 1793 to 1802, and also member of the First, Second and Third Provincial Congresses, 1775–1776.

Harmanus Peek was member of the Sixteenth Congress from 1819 to 1821.

William North was member of the Assembly 1792, 1794, 1795, 1796 and 1710, and several times Speaker of that body. In 1798, during a recess of the Legislature, he was appointed a Senator of the United States by Governor John Jay, to fill a vacancy occasioned by the resignation of John Gloss Hoburt.

MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY.

1798–1800, 1802, 1804–1807, 1813, Joseph Shurtliff; 1811–1812, James Boyd and John Young; 1813, Alexander Combs; 1814, Abraham Van Ingen and Lawrence Vrooman; 1815, Abraham Van Ingen and John Victory; 1816, Harmanus Peek and Harry Fryer; 1817, Harmanus Van Slyck and John Victory; 1818, Daniel L. Van Antwerp and Simon A. Veeder; 1819, James Frost and Simon A. Groot; 1820, Christian Haverly and Marinus Willett; 1821, Richard McMichael and Garrit Veeder; 1822, James Walker and John F. D. Veeder; 1823, Peter M. Bronck; 1824, Isaac Riggs; 1825, John S. Vrooman; 1826, Robert Sanders; 1827–1830, Alonzo C. Paige; 1831, Aaron Carroll; 1832, Abram Dorn; 1833, Cornelius C. Van Vranken; 1834, Simon Schermerhorn; 1835, David Ostrom; 1836, John B. Duane; 1837, Thomas Knight; 1838, Silas H. Marsh; 1839, Silas H. Marsh; 1840, Theodore W. Sanders; 1841, Abraham Pearse; 1842, Jonathan C. Burnham; 1843, Edward H. Walton; 1844, Archibald L. Linn; 1845, William Gifford; 1846, David M. Moore; 1847, David Caw; 1848, Abraham W. Toll; 1849, Israel A. Green; 1850, James Allen; 1851, Reuben Ellwood; 1852, James Donnan; 1853, Wm. Van Vranken; 1854, Matthew Winne, Jr.; 1855, James Donnan; 1856, James Rodgers; 1857, Nicholas Barhydt; 1858, Angus McIntosh; 1859, Charles Thomas; 1860, Peter Dorsch; 1861, Alonzo Macomber; 1862, Simon J. Schermerhorn; 1863, John McShea, Jr.; 1864, Charles Stanford; 1865, Charles Stanford; 1866, John C. Ellis; 1867, Chas. G. Ellis; 1868, Robert Furman; 1869, Henry M. Crane; 1870, Gershom Banker; 1871, Gershom Banker; 1872, William Greenhalgh; 1873, Daniel P. McQueen; 1874, Daniel P. McQueen; 1875, Samuel T. Benedict; 1876, Emmett O'Neill; 1877, Walter T. L. Sanders; 1878, Arthur D. Mead; 1879, Daniel P. McQueen; 1880, Arthur D. Mead; 1881, George Lasher; 1882, John D. Campbell; 1883, Christopher O. Hamlin; 1884, John W. Veeder; 1885, Edward D. Cotter.

STATE SENATORS.

John Veeder, 1806, 1808–9; Joseph C. Yates, 1807, 1808; Henry Yates, Jr., 1811–1814, 1818–1821; Alonzo C. Paige, 1837, 1839–1840; Stephen H. Johnson, 1850–1; Charles Stanford, 1866–9.

COUNTY JUDGES.

1809, Gerrit S. Veeder; 1812, Gardner Cleveland; 1823, David Boyd; 1835, Samuel W. Jones; 1840, Archibald L. Linn; 1845, Samuel W. Jones; 1851, Stephen H. Johnson; 1855, John Sanders; 1859, Stephen H. Johnson; 1865, Judson S. Landon; 1869, Walter T. L. Sanders; 1873, Austin A. Yates; 1879, David C. Beattie.

COUNTY SURROGATES.

1809, William J. Teller; 1813, Robert Hudson; 1815, William J. Teller; 1816, John Yates; 1821, Giles F. Yates; 1840, John Saunders; 1844–1847, David Cady Smith. Since the latter date the County Judges have acted as Surrogates.

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS.

1818, John K. Paige; 1823, Alonzo C. Paige; 1839, Platt Potter; 1847, Benjamin F. Potter; 1850, Samuel L. Baker; 1851, James Fuller; 1851, John Van Santvoord; 1853, Samuel T. Freeman; 1856, Simon Calkins; 1856, Judson S. Landon; 1862, John G. McChesney; 1865, John L. Hill; 1868, Austin A. Yates; 1873, Alonzo P. Strong; 1874, David C. Beattie; 1877, Charles E. Palmer; 1880, J. Teller Schoolcraft.

SHERIFFS.

1809, James V. S. Riley; 1810, John V. Van Ingen; 1811, James V. S. Riley; 1813, John Brown; 1815, Gideon Holliday; 1818, Isaac Riggs; 1821, Lewis Eaton; 1822, A. Van Slyck; 1825, John F. D. Vedder; 1828, Gershom Van Voast; 1831, Isaac I. Yates; 1834, Matthew Putman; 1837, Myndert M. R. Wemple; 1840, David F. Reese; 1843, Anthony H. Van Slyck; 1846, John G. Van Voast; 1849, John F. Clute; 1852, Nicholas Brooks; 1855, Obadiah L. De Forest; 1856, Philip Dederick; 1858, Norman M. F. Clute; 1861, Abraham Gillispie; 1864, Samuel Wingate; 1867, Peter Miller; 1868, Clark V. Worden; 1869, Jacob Vedder; 1872, James McMillan; 1875, Hiram J. Ingersoll; 1878, Charles H. Van Vranken; 1881, Jacob De Forest; 1884, Seth L. Clute.

COUNTY CLERKS.

1769, Henry Glen (Town Clerk); 1809, Peter F. Veeder; 1810, Joseph Shurtliff; 1811, Peter F. Veeder; 1812, Jellis A. Fonda; 1813, Joseph Shurtliff; 1815, Jellis A. Fonda; 1822, Jellis A. Fonda; 1834, John S. Vrooman; 1834, Jonathan Burnham; 1837, Archibald Campbell; 1843, Silas H. Marsh; 1849, David P. Forrest; 1852, Marvin Strong; 1858, John W. Veeder; 1861, John N. Banker; 1864, John McShea, Jr.; 1864, James G. Caw; 1876, J. Fonda Veile; 1882, Thomas Yelverton.

THOMAS YELVERTON, the present County Clerk, was born in Chester, Orange County, N. Y., in 1842, and graduated from Union College in 1866. He came to Schenectady in 1872.

COUNTY TREASURERS.

(Previous to 1848, County Treasurers were chosen by the Board of Supervisors, and for list of these officers previous to this date see article on Supervisors.) 1848, Stephen Y. Vedder; 1851, Charles H. Matthews; 1854, John H. Vanderveer; 1857, William M. Colborne; 1860, Nicholas Barhydt; 1863, Nichols V. Swits; 1866, N. J. Schermerhorn; 1881, Ira Brownell.

COUNTY SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS.

(Previous to 1857, School Commissioners were appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The first election was held in November, 1859.) Daniel J. Darrow, David H. Hamlin, Samuel H. Weart, Nicholas T. Van Natta, Solyman G. Hamlin, Simon J. Schermerhorn, David Elder, H. Maynard Akin, C. W. Van Santvoord.

HISTORY OF THE CITY OF SCHENECTADY.

Edited and Compiled by Rev. J. H. MUNSELL.

MUNICIPAL HISTORY—1798-1885.

THE municipal history of Schenectady properly begins with the passage of its charter, March 26, 1798, being the third incorporated city in the State.

For ten years preceding the date of incorporation, Schenectady was controlled by a Board of Trustees, who in 1798 signed a petition to the Legislature declaring they deemed the incorporation of Schenectady as a city, beneficial and necessary to its growth and welfare. The names of the trustees appended to this petition were: Abraham Wemple, Nicholas Veeder, Abraham Switz, Abraham Oothout, John Glen, John Sanders, Jellis I. Fonda, Andrew Van Patten, Adam S. Vrooman, Garret S. Veeder, Jr., and Richard Schermerhorn. Among other citizens at this period who were influential in securing the passage of this act, were Joseph Shurtliff, member of Assembly from Schenectady at this date, and for a number of years after, Simon Veeder, Joseph C. Yates, Maus Schermerhorn, John Yates, William North and Harmanus Peek.

The area embraced within the corporate limits of Schenectady by the charter of 1798 was extensive, being twelve miles in length and eight in breadth. It was divided into four wards. The First ward included all the compact part of the city lying between Union street and the Mohawk River; the Second ward, that part lying south of Union street and extending a short distance upon the Bouwlandt; the Third ward, what is now the town of Rotterdam; and the Fourth ward, what is now the town of Glenville.

The corporate title was known by the name of "The Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Schenectady." The legislative power of the city was vested in a Mayor and a Board of Aldermen, who together formed the Common Council, a majority of the whole constituting a quorum for the transaction of business.

By this charter, the surviving trustees became divested voluntarily of all rights and claims over the common lands, the same being vested in the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the city. Three commissioners were appointed to settle all accounts against and in favor of the trustees, and it was provided by the act that no sale or transfer of the common lands should be made, "unless two-thirds of the whole number of Aldermen and Assistants of said city shall give their assent to such sale."

The charter provided for the election by the people of two Aldermen and two Assistants, who should serve for a period of one year, such elections being held on the first Tuesday in April. The term of office began on the first Tuesday in May. From 1798 to 1822, the Mayors in all the cities of this State were appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council of Appointment. From 1822 to 1840 they were appointed by the Common Council. By act of the Legislature, passed February 13, 1840, they have since been elected by the people.

The first Mayor of Schenectady was Joseph C. Yates, who received his appointment from Governor John Jay. Mr. Yates was one of the foremost lawyers of his day, and the early history of this city owes much to his far-seeing acumen, judicious counsel and high administrative ability. He became State Senator in 1806, and in 1808 became one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of this State. He became Governor of the State in 1822.

The Mayor presided over the deliberations of the Board of Aldermen, and possessed all the privileges, as far as voting was concerned, of an alderman. He was also given power similar to a Judge of Common Pleas in all transactions relating to lands within the city.

To him was delegated the exclusive power of granting and giving licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors under the public seal of the city.

The officers appointed by the Common Council under the first charter consisted of a city treasurer, clerk, and as many assessors, collectors, constables, commissioners of highways, overseers of the poor, pound-masters and fence-viewers as the Common Council might deem necessary.

The charter of 1798 has been subjected to many amendments, to meet the demands of the times. The existing charter not only meets the requirements of a liberal, progressive policy, but under its operation the city is governed in a highly creditable and satisfactory manner.

MAYOR.—The office of Mayor, as has been stated, was filled by appointment of the Governor and Council until 1822. From that date to 1840 the Mayor was appointed by the Common Council, since which time it has been an elective office. The term of office from 1798 to 1861 was one year, since which date it has been two years.

RECORDER.—Although the office of Recorder is mentioned in the charter of the borough of Schenectady, it does not seem to have been created under the city charter until 1833, in which year Harmanus Peek was made Recorder and held this position for a number of years after. This officer possessed all the powers then conferred by law upon the Recorders of cities, and during the absence, sickness or disability of the Mayor, could exercise all the powers conferred upon the Mayor. From 1833 to 1862 the term of office was one year; since the latter date it has been extended to four years. The duties of this officer, as defined by the charter, consist in attending meetings of the Common Council, and in the absence or inability to act of the Mayor, he shall discharge the duties of that office. He is invested with power to arrest or cause the arrest of all persons violating the laws of the State, or the ordinances or police regulations of the city.

ALDERMEN.—The charter of 1798 provided for the election of four Aldermen in each ward for a period of one year. In 1851 the four Aldermen in each ward were divided into two classes, two who should serve for one year and two who should serve for two years. The act under which this was effected, provided that thereafter the terms of only two aldermen in each ward should expire during each year, and that all Aldermen elected one year after the passage of the act should serve for two years. In 1873 the number of Aldermen in each ward was reduced to three, who should be elected for three years, but they were divided into classes, so that the term of only one Alderman in each ward now expires every year.

TREASURER.—The Treasurer was appointed by the Common Council from 1798 to 1848, at which latter date a Treasurer was elected by the people. To the year 1862 the term of office was one year, but by the charter of this year it was extended to two years.

CLERK.—The Clerk has annually been appointed by the Common Council since the incorporation of the city.

BOARD OF MAGISTRATES.—A law was passed in 1815, empowering the Common Council to appoint as many Aldermen or Justices of the Peace as was deemed necessary to constitute a Board of Magistrates. This Board was required to attend to the relief and support of the poor, and to punish persons committing petty offences within the city. The exclusive power of applying and distributing the poor fund was committed to this Board. After the creation of the office of Police Justice, this Board was composed of that officer and two Aldermen, the latter selected by the Common Council. For many years the sole duty of this Board has been confined to the relief of the poor.

SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS.—By an amendment to the charter in 1813, provision was made for the appointment of one or more Superintendents of Streets, who should have charge of laying out and grading of streets. From 1813 to the present, but one Superintendent of Streets has been annually appointed by the Common Council, by which body his powers and duties are prescribed.

CITY ATTORNEY.—This office was created in 1833, since which date such officer has been annually appointed by the Common Council. He receives a stated salary, attends all meetings and acts as the legal adviser and assistant of the Board in all matter pertaining to questions of law.

CITY PHYSICIAN.—This officer was created about the same time as City Attorney. The person holding this office is chosen annually by the Common Council and receives a regular salary. He is, *ex officio*, health officer of the Board of Health, and required to render surgical aid and assistance to all indigent persons within the city.

BOARD OF HEALTH.—The duty of attending to sanitary affairs devolved upon the Mayor and Aldermen during the early municipal history of Schenectady. In 1813 the charter provided that one or more persons should be appointed by the Common Council, who should attend to the altering, amending, cleansing of any street, vault, sink or common sewer, and to apportion the costs upon the owners of property benefited thereby. In 1833, the Common Council appointed as many members as was deemed necessary to form a Board of Health to assist the Mayor in carrying into effect the provisions of the existing laws relating to the prevention and introduction of infectious and pestilential disease. Members of the Board were allowed a reasonable compensation for their services, as determined by the Common Council. By the charter of 1862, the Board of Health consisted of the Mayor, City Physician and one Alderman from each ward. The City Physician was the health officer of the Board. This Board, as then constituted, remains the same, although under recent laws their powers and duties have been greatly enlarged.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE, CONSTABLES AND POLICE.—(See separate Article on Police.)

BOARD OF EXCISE.—As has been stated, the Mayor had exclusive power to grant licenses for sale of intoxicating liquors under the first charter. In 1813 the charter was so amended that a Commissioner of Excise was appointed by the Common Council for the Third and Fourth wards, who,

under the approbation of the Mayor, was empowered to grant licenses. In 1833, licenses were granted by the Mayor and Common Council, under the provisions of the State law at this time. In 1857 a law was passed giving the County Judge and Justices of Sessions of the several counties power to appoint three Commissioners of Excise to grant licenses in the county. In 1870 the Mayors of most of the cities of the State were given power to appoint three Commissioners of Excise for a period of three years. The present Commissioners are James Brownell, Charles Fellhousen and James Speir.

Divisions of the City.—From 1798 to 1820 the city of Schenectady, as has been previously stated, was divided into four wards, but at the latter date, owing to the vast extent of territory comprised by the Third and Fourth wards, and the diversity of interests between the inhabitants of those wards and the citizens residing in the compact part of the city, the members of the Common Council applied to the Legislature to have a law enacted erecting the territory embraced in the Third and Fourth wards into separate towns. This petition of the municipal officers of Schenectady was granted, and a law was passed in 1820 separating these two wards from the city and forming the present towns of Rotterdam and Glenville. From 1820 to 1837, Schenectady was divided into but two wards, but at the latter date a special act was passed by the Legislature dividing the city into four wards. The present division of the city into five wards was made in 1860.

Municipal Buildings.—The first Common Council met in a building called the City Hall, on the corner of Union and Ferry streets, on the site of the present residence of H. S. Barney. The meetings of the Board continued to be held there until the purchase of the present Union School building in 1816, in which a Common Council Chamber was provided and used until the erection of the present Court House in 1833. At the latter place the Board continued to meet until the completion of the City Hall in 1881, on Jay street, for the erection of which Gen. W. K. Fuller, one of Schenectady's most public-spirited citizens, donated to the city the sum of $10,000.

CITY OFFICERS FROM 1798–1885.

1798–1808.—Mayor, Joseph C. Yates.

1807.—Treasurer, Cornelius Z. Van Santvoord; Clerk, David Boyd.

1808.—Mayor, John Yates; Treasurer, Cornelius Z. Van Santvoord; Clerk, Harmanus Peek.

1809.—Mayor, John Yates; Treasurer, Cornelius Z. Van Santvoord; Clerk, Harmanus Peek.

1810.—Mayor, Abraham Oathout; Treasurer, Maus Van Vranken; Clerk, Harmanus Peek.

1811.—Mayor, John Yates; Treasurer, Maus Van Vranken; Clerk, Harmanus Peek.

1812.—Mayor, John Yates; Treasurer, Maus Van Vranken; Clerk, Harmanus Peek.

1813.—Mayor, Maus Schermerhorn; Treasurer, Maus Van Vranken; Clerk, Harmanus Peek.

1814.—Mayor, Maus Schermerhorn; Treasurer, Maus Van Vranken; Clerk, Harmanus Peek.

1815.—Mayor, Maus Schermerhorn; Treasurer, Maus Van Vranken; Clerk, Harmanus Peek.

1816.—Mayor, Maus Schermerhorn; Treasurer, Maus Van Vranken; Clerk, Harmanus Peek.

1817.—Mayor, Henry Yates; Treasurer, Maus Van Vranken; Clerk, Harmanus Peek.

1818.—Mayor, Henry Yates; Treasurer, Maus Van Vranken; Clerk, Harmanus Peek.

1819.—Mayor, Henry Yates; Treasurer, Maus Van Vranken; Clerk, Nicholas F. Beck.

1820.—Mayor, Henry Yates; Treasurer, Maus Van Vranken; Clerk, Nicholas F. Beck.

1821–1824.—Mayor, Henry Yates; Treasurer, Maus Van Vranken; Clerk, Nicholas F. Beck.

1825.—Mayor, Isaac M. Schermerhorn.

1826–1827.—Mayor, David Boyd; Treasurer, Maus Van Vranken; Clerk, Abraham Van Ingen.

1828–1829.—Mayor, Isaac M. Schermerhorn; Treasurer, Maus Van Vranken; Clerk, Abraham Van Ingen.

1830.—Mayor, Isaac M. Schermerhorn; Treasurer, Jacob Swits; Clerk, Abraham Van Ingen.

1831.—Mayor, Archibald L. Linn; Treasurer and Clerk same as 1830.

1832.—Mayor, John I. De Graff; Treasurer and Clerk same as 1830.

1833.—Mayor, John I. De Graff; Recorder, Harmanus Peek; Treasurer, Jacob Swits; City Attorney, Abraham Van Ingen; Clerk, Abraham Van Ingen.

1834.—Officers same as preceding year.

1835.—Mayor, Archibald L. Linn; remaining officers unchanged.

1836.—Mayor, John I. De Graff; Treasurer, Thomas Harmon; Clerk, Abraham Van Ingen; Attorney, James M. Bouck.

1837.—Mayor, Samuel W. Jones; Clerk, Stephen S. Riggs; remaining officers same as preceding year.

1838.—Treasurer, Nicholas Swits; Attorney, Theodorick R. Van Ingen; remaining officers same as in 1837.

1839.—Mayor, Archibald L. Linn; remaining officers same as preceding year.

1840.—Mayor, Alexander C. Gibson; Treasurer, Nicholas Swits; Clerk, Stephen S. Riggs.

1841.—Mayor, Alexander C. Gibson; Treasurer, John B. Clute; Clerk, James Gilbert; Attorney, T. R. Van Ingen.

1842.—Mayor, John I. De Graff; Treasurer, Volney Freeman; Clerk, James M. Bouck; Attorney, Samuel W. Jones.

1843.—Mayor, Alexander C. Gibson; Clerk, James M. Bouck; Attorney, S. H. Johnson.

1844.—Mayor, Alexander C. Gibson; Treasurer, John B. Clute; Clerk, Harmanus S. Van Ingen; Attorney, S. H. Johnson.

1845.—Mayor, John I. De Graff; Treasurer, Joseph Lyon; Clerk and Attorney same as preceding year.

1846–1847.—Mayor, Peter Rowe; Treasurer, A. J. Thomson; Clerk, Thomas Palmer; Attorney, Stephen H. Daggett.

1848–1849.—Mayor, James E. Van Horn; Treasurer, James Walker.

1850.—Mayor, Peter Rowe; Clerk, James M. Bouck; Attorney, Thomas Palmer.

1851.—Mayor, Mordecai Myers; remaining officers same as in 1850.

1852.—Mayor, Abraham A. Van Voast; remaining officers same as in 1850.

1853.—Mayor, Abraham A. Van Voast; Clerk, James M. Bouck; Attorney, John G. McChesney.

1854.—Mayor, Mordecai Myers; Recorder, Thomas Palmer; Treasurer, L. A. Young; City Attorney, J. G. McChesney; Clerk, D. A. Atwell.

1855.—Mayor, Abel Smith; Recorder, Henry Stevens, who died while in office, and was succeeded by David M. Moore; Treasurer, N. M. F. Clute; Clerk, D. A. Atwell.

1856.—Mayor, Abel Smith; Recorder, David M. Moore; Treasurer, N. M. F. Clute; City Attorney, John G. McChesney; Clerk, D. A. Atwell.

1857.—Mayor, Benjamin V. S. Vedder; Recorder, David M. Moore; Treasurer, N. M. F. Clute; Attorney, John G. McChesney; Clerk, D. A. Atwell.

1858.—Mayor, Alexander M. Vedder; Recorder, David M. Moore; Treasurer, N. M. F. Clute to January 1, 1859, and Henry M. Vedder for balance of term; Attorney, David C. Smith; Clerk, Stephen S. Riggs.

1859.—David P. Forrest; Recorder, David M. Moore to January 1, 1860, and Jay Cady for balance of term; Treasurer, Frederick Clute, Jr., to September, 1859, and John Bradt for balance of term; Clerk, Stephen H. S. Riggs to November, 1859, and Charles S. Vedder for balance of term.

1860.—Mayor, Benjamin E. Potter; Recorder, Jay Cady; Treasurer, John Bradt; Attorney, D. Cady Smith; Clerk, Charles S. Vedder to October 1, 1860, and Daniel J. Darrow for balance of term.

1861.—Mayor, Arthur W. Hunter; Recorder, Jay Cady; Treasurer, John Bradt; Attorney, D. Cady Smith; Clerk, S. L. R. Buchanan.

1862.—Same as preceding year.

1863.—Mayor, Arthur W. Hunter; Recorder, W. H. Helmer; Treasurer, John Bradt; Attorney, D. Cady Smith; Clerk, Henry B. Houston.

1864.—Same as preceding year.

1865.—Mayor, Andrew McMullen; Recorder, W. H. Helmer; Treasurer, John Bradt; Attorney, G. N. Timberman; Clerk, James M. Bouck.

1866.—Mayor, Andrew McMullen; Recorder, W. H. Helmer; Treasurer, John Bradt; Attorney, D. M. Chadsey; Clerk, Frank Seymour.

1867.—Mayor, Andrew McMullen; Recorder, S. L. R. Buchanan; Treasurer, John Bradt; Clerk, Edward Hibbard; Attorney, A. J. Thomson.

1868.—Mayor, Andrew McMullen; Recorder, S. L. R. Buchanan; Treasurer, John Bradt; Clerk, Edward Hibbard; Attorney, D. Cady Smith.

1869.—Mayor, A. Van Voast; Recorder, Edgar M. Jenkins; Treasurer, John Bradt; Clerk, J. Van Vranken; Attorney, D. Cady Smith.

1870.—Mayor, Abraham A. Van Voast; Recorder, Edgar M. Jenkins; Treasurer, John Bradt; Clerk, J. Van Vranken; Attorney, D. Cady Smith.

1871.—Mayor, William J. Van Horne; Recorder, Edgar M. Jenkins; Treasurer, John Bradt; Clerk, H. W. Dennington; Attorney, D. Cady Smith.

1872.—Mayor, William J. Van Horne; Recorder, Edgar M. Jenkins; Treasurer, John Bradt; Clerk, Howard Barringer; Attorney, J. S. Landon.

1873.—Mayor, A. W. Hunter; Recorder, Edgar M. Jenkins; Treasurer, John Bradt; Clerk, Howard Barringer; Attorney, J. S. Landon.

1874.—Mayor, A. W. Hunter; Recorder, Samuel T. Benedict to December 15, 1874, and W. H. Helmer for balance of term; Treasurer, John Bradt; Clerk, H. W. Dennington; Attorney, E. W. Paige.

1875.—Mayor, Peter B. Yates; Recorder, William Howes Smith; Treasurer, John Bradt; Clerk, H. W. Dennington; Attorney, E. W. Paige.

1876.—Mayor, Peter B. Yates, who died July 4, 1876, and was succeeded by William Howes Smith, July 11, 1876; Recorder, Wm. H. Smith to July 11, 1876, and Benj. L. Conde for balance of term; Treasurer, John Bradt; Clerk, H. W. Dennington; Attorney, A. J. Thomson.

1877.—Mayor, Wm. Howes Smith; Recorder, Marcus N. Millard; Treasurer, John Bradt; Clerk, H. W. Dennington; Attorney, A. J. Thomson.

1878.—Mayor, Wm. Howes Smith; Recorder, Marcus N. Millard; Treasurer, John Bradt; Clerk, H. W. Dennington; Attorney, A. J. Thomson.

1879.—Mayor, Joseph B. Graham; Recorder, Marcus N. Millard; Treasurer, John Bradt; Clerk, H. W. Dennington; Attorney, S. W. Jackson.

1880.—Mayor, Joseph B. Graham; Recorder, Marcus N. Millard; Treasurer, John Bradt, who died January 31, 1881, and was succeeded by appointment for balance of the year by H. W. Dennington; Clerk, H. W. Dennington to February 8, 1881, and E. E. Kreigsman for balance of term; Attorney, S. W. Jackson.

1881.—Mayor, A. A. Van Voast; Recorder, Henry S. De Forest; Treasurer, H. W. Dennington; Clerk, E. E. Kreigsman; Attorney, S. W. Jackson.

1882.—Mayor, A. A. Van Voast; Recorder, Henry S. De Forest; Treasurer, H. W. Dennington; Clerk, E. E. Kreigsman; Attorney, S. W. Jackson.

1883.—Mayor, John Young; Recorder, H. S. De Forest; Treasurer, H. W. Dennington; Clerk, James Hanley, Jr.; Attorney, A. J. Thomson.

1884.—Mayor, John Young; Recorder, H. S. De Forest; Treasurer, H. W. Dennington; Clerk, James Hanley, Jr.; Attorney, A. J. Thomson.

1885.—Mayor, Henry S. De Forest; Recorder, James H. Flinn; Treasurer, H. W. Dennington; Clerk, Horatio G. Glen; Attorney, A. J. Thomson.

JOHN BRADT.

JOHN BRADT was born in Schenectady, January 24, 1822. His father, Peter Bradt, died as the result of an accident in the younger years of his son, and the latter was thrown upon his own exertions in early life. His education was purely a business one, but he was of such a practical turn of mind that he utilized it with wonderful success, early displaying much sagacity in the settlement of his father's estate. When quite a young man he became confidential clerk and agent of Hon. Henry Yates, of the firm of Yates & McEntyre, New York, and in this position he developed those qualities which marked him as a correct business man and successful financier, laying the foundation of his future monetary success.

On the decease of Mr. Yates, Mr. Bradt, then only about twenty-three years old, became executor and trustee of his vast estate. In this capacity he had entire charge of all affairs of the estate, which necessarily involved transactions in several States of the Union. Several years were consumed in reaching a final settlement, during which Mr. Bradt attended to the interests intrusted to him with a fidelity that won the admiration of all interested persons.

He now returned to Schenectady, which was his permanent home. Without solicitation on his part, or opposition from any quarter, he was appointed Treasurer of the Canal Board, a position which he held several years. August 2, 1859, he was appointed Treasurer of the City of Schenectady, to succeed Frederick Clute, Jr. April 2, 1860, he was elected to the same position and re-elected each successive term until his death. In an official point of view his name was long a household word in Schenectady. He held this responsible trust longer than any other incumbent of the treasurer's office. The office was conferred term after term on that sound principle, so rarely acted upon, that the office should seek the man, not the man the office, and was a testimonial of the public confidence in his strict integrity and remarkable financial ability. One who knew him well wrote: "Could it have been possible or right to have extended his sphere of usefulness, we verily believe he would have made an excellent Secretary of the Treasury, or of the Department of the Interior, in the general government." An indefatigable worker, he was always found in his office attending to his duties, for he believed that, once elevated to a public trust, it was incumbent on him to discharge all duties faithfully and impartially. A Democrat, and markedly consistent as such, he was no politician, and never indulged in heated discussions upon public affairs.

In his private business relations Mr. Bradt was successful, and he was at the same time so upright in all his dealings as to win the confidence of all with whom he came in contact. His operations were conducted methodically, and with foresight and sagacity. He made such judicious investments in real property that he came to be regarded as one of the chief real estate owners of the city. He was looked upon as the best posted authority in regard to local real estate values. His skill as an accountant was well known, and his services were often sought by eminent lawyers and jurists throughout the State in the settlement of tedious and difficult litigation suits. From time to time he was entrusted with the settlement of several estates. As a landlord he was always kind and forbearing to the poor, and under a quiet, unexpressive exterior, those who knew him best discerned a generous, unassuming nature.

In 1854, Mr. Bradt married Miss Margaret A. Hover, of Schenectady. He died suddenly January 31, 1881, leaving a widow and four children. His only daughter is the wife of Henry McMullen. The other children are sons. His name will long have a place in the memory of the leading business and professional men of this section, and its place in the history of Schenectady is one of proud eminence.

POLICE.

In the early history of Schenectady, before it was incorporated as a city, it devolved upon the Justices of the Peace, appointed by the Governor, to see that peace and order were maintained, and they had power to appoint certain persons whose duty it was to arrest and report to the Justices all offenders against the laws.

In 1788 a law was passed by the Legislature giving the Justices of the Peace authority to appoint six night watchmen and an officer from the citizens residing in the township of Schenectady southward from the Mohawk River and not more than three-quarters of a mile from the Dutch Church. These persons so selected were required to keep watch and guard in their turn in such manner and time as the Justices directed. Only one watchman was on duty at a time. The Justices prescribed the rules and regulations to govern the watchmen, and a fine was imposed on any officer neglecting his duty. This was the first regular police service instituted at Schenectady.

This manner of appointing night watchmen was repealed when the charter of Schenectady was adopted.

In the act incorporating the city of Schenectady, passed March 26, 1798, the Common Council was given power to designate the number of constables to be elected in each ward. From and up to the present date one constable was elected in each ward, and to them was given the same powers in criminal actions now possessed by the policemen. There was no regular salary attached to this office. The only pay received for services consisted of regularly prescribed fees.

June 17, 1817, the number of night watchmen was increased to eight. They were appointed by the Common Council and were placed under the direction of two Superintendents, also appointed by the Common Council. The Superintendents had entire supervision of the watchmen, prescribing the rules and regulations governing them and the time each should serve. Only two watchmen were on duty at a time. When on patrol, the watchmen

John Bradt.

carried a staff five feet long, and were obliged to be on duty from nine o'clock in the evening until daybreak. At every hour of the night they announced, in an audible voice, the time. These officers were required to maintain the peace and see that the laws were enforced and obeyed. A watch-house was provided for the imprisonment of all offenders against the law.

March 10, 1815, a law was passed by the Legislature, creating a Board of Magistrates, consisting of two persons selected by the Common Council from the Aldermen or Justices of the Peace, who were empowered to attend to the relief of the poor and to punish petty offences committed within the city limits. They were required to receive the report of the night watchman every morning and to proceed to the examination of all persons apprehended by the watchman. The Common Council selected one or more constables, called police constables, who were required to serve all warrants, summonses and processes by the Board of Magistrates. These constables were expected to arrest and report all offenders against the laws and ordinances of the city, and bring such persons for trial before the Board, which had jurisdiction similar to the present police justices. The magistrates were allowed an annual salary of one hundred and fifty dollars, and the constables fifty dollars.

About 1830 a High Constable was chosen by the Common Council, pursuant to an act of the Legislature. He represented the entire city, and had jurisdiction over criminal matters such as is now exercised by the Chief of Police. His term of office was limited to one year. The High Constable and the Ward Constables continued to exercise their police powers in maintaining peace and order until the Capital Police Force was organized in 1867.

March 28, 1842, the office of Police Justice was created by an act of the Legislature, which provided that the Board of Supervisors should appoint one of the Justices of the Peace of the city to attend to complaints, examinations and trials of a criminal nature. April 1st of the following year another act of the Legislature was passed, providing that the Police Justice should be appointed by the Governor, with the consent of the Senate, and that his term of office should be for three years. March 31, 1848, another act was passed, providing that the office of Police Justice, High Constable and four Justices of the Peace should be elective offices. The term of Police Justice was extended to four years and that of High Constable and Justices of the Peace to three years.

April 22, 1865, a law was passed by the Legislature creating the City of Albany and the several adjoining towns a district known as the Capital Police District of the State of New York. This act provided that three Commissioners and two Advisory Commissioners of Capital Police should be appointed by the Governor, with the consent of the Senate. To these Commissioners, called a Police Board, was intrusted the appointment of Superintendents, Captains, Sergeants and Patrolmen, and had the entire supervision of all matters relating to the police government of the district. April 10, 1866, by an act of the Legislature, the Capital Police District was extended so as to embrace the City of Schenectady, which city was limited to the service of seven patrolmen, at an annual salary of five hundred dollars each, to be paid out of the contributions of the city to the Capital Police Fund. A. W. Hunter, of this city, was appointed Police Commissioner for this city.

It seems that the passage of this act was not done in response to the wishes of the people of this city, for the following year the Board of Supervisors passed a resolution condemning the passage of the act, and asking for its appeal. But nothing was done in this direction beyond remonstrating against it, and this system of police protection remained in force till the passage of the Act to Organize and Establish a Police for the City of Schenectady, April 15, 1870.

The passage of this act provided for the election of two Police Commissioners by the people, who, in conjunction with the Mayor, should constitute a Police Board, having the general charge of all matters pertaining to the Police force. These Commissioners are elected for two years, and perform their duties without compensation. The act creating them provides that they shall select not more than ten policemen, whose term of service shall continue during good behavior and capacity to perform the duties required. The pay of policemen is fixed by the Commissioners, and cannot be less than five hundred dollars nor more than eight hundred dollars per annum. A Chief of Police and an Assistant Chief are selected from the ten members composing the force by the Board. The Chief of Police, under the direction of the Board, is the chief executive officer of the Police Department, and is obliged to keep a book of records of proceedings in his department, and all the services rendered by himself and the several policemen. During the absence of the Police Justice, the Chief possesses the power of that officer to entertain complaints for criminal offences, and to issue warrants for the arrest of persons charged with criminal actions. The salary of the Chief of Police is fixed by the Police Board, when approved by the Common Council, and cannot be less than five hundred nor more than twelve hundred dollars per year.

The present Police Commissioners are: Peter M. Doty and George Buskerk; Chief of Police, William S. Campbell; Assistant Chief, Frank V. De Forrest.

Salary of the Chief is $850; Assistant Chief, $800; patrolmen, $730.

When the first police force was organized under the Capital Police system, the city furnished a station-house in Wall street, in the present store occupied by Thomas Ody. Here were provided suitable cells for the confinement of prisoners until final disposition was made of them before the Police Justice. A Police Court was arranged on the second floor over the Police Station.

This building was used for this purpose until the completion of the present City Hall, in 1881. Here commodious apartments are provided for

Police Court, Police Justice's offices, office of Chief of Police, sleeping apartment for Patrolmen, and cells for the confinement of prisoners.

FREDERICK EISENMENGER, Police Justice, was appointed by the Common Council May 2, 1882, and elected to the same office for four years in April, 1883. He is also chairman of the Board of Magistrates to distribute relief to the poor.

WILLIAM L. CAMPBELL, Chief of Police, has been a police officer here since August 3, 1869. He has served the city faithfully, and from the accounts kept in his office, records back to 1798 can be traced.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Before Schenectady was incorporated as a city, the means for the extinguishment of fires were limited to the use of leather buckets. Each dwelling was supplied with as many as the authorities prescribed. Every able-bodied citizen, in case of fire, was obliged to render all the assistance within his power, and any refusal to do so was an offence against the safety of the inhabitants, deemed worthy of a fine and, in certain cases, imprisonment. The first law passed by the Legislature relating to protection from fires in Schenectady was on March 1, 1788. This act provided that the Justices of the Peace should select from the inhabitants living south of the Mohawk River, and not more than three-quarters of a mile from the Dutch Church, twenty able-bodied citizens to act as firemen, such persons to have the care and management of all fire apparatus and to render assistance at fires. The Justices made and established the rules and regulations governing the firemen, and had power to remove any fireman for disobeying them. The persons appointed under this act probably constituted the first regular fire company ever organized in this city.

The first date we find any reference made to fire engines was in 1797. September 11th of this year the trustees of Schenectady, at a regular meeting, directed by resolution that a letter be sent to Alexander Ellice, London, England, directing him to purchase two fire engines, one large one at a cost of 120 guineas, and a small house engine at a cost of 20 guineas. These engines were soon after obtained and used for many years. They were operated by hand—small and crude affairs even compared with the hand engines used at a later date. The larger of these two engines was about eight or ten feet in length, between three and four feet wide, and stood three feet high. The condensing case, inclosing the works, was placed in the center of the machine, considerably higher than the main portion of the case. On the top was an elbow or "goose-neck," to which, when the engine was at work, was attached a pipe, through which the stream of water was directed upon the flames. As this engine had no suction, it was supplied by means of buckets, the water being drawn from neighboring wells, carried to and emptied into the engine through an aperture in the side of the box, so as not to interfere with the working of the engine. This box held many gallons of water. The arms or pumping handles were placed fore and aft, working lengthwise of the box, the bows striking on the ends; and, when full manned, four men could work on each arm, making eight in all. Such were the engines in use at this time, which were considered instruments of utility and beauty.

When Schenectady was incorporated as a city there were two fire companies, the members of which were appointed by the Mayor and Common Council. At this period, and for a number of years after, it was a duty incumbent upon the Mayor and Aldermen to attend all fires and give personal supervision to the work of the firemen. Indeed, at this time the city magistrates performed the same services in later years delegated to the chief engineer and his assistants.

May 12, 1798, an ordinance was passed by the Common Council which provided that two persons should be appointed for each ward, called Inspectors, who were required at certain times in each month to inspect the dwellings in their respective wards and ascertain if proper precaution was taken to guard against fire, and to make a report to the Aldermen of the condition of the buildings in the ward as to their safety from fire. This ordinance contained many regulations respecting the necessary things to be done by property owners for the prevention of fires, and any citizen whose dwelling did not comply with these regulations, who was reported by the inspectors, had a limited time to remedy such defect. If he failed to do so he was fined.

In 1798 a company was organized called the Fire Bag Company. To this company was principally intrusted the work of removing personal property from buildings exposed to danger by fire to places of safety. Such property, when removed, they were expected to guard and protect from loss by thieves until it should be taken care of by the owners. This company consisted of twenty-one members, and continued in existence for many years. The first members were: David Tomlinson, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, Jr., Gilbert R. Livingston, James Murdock, Jonathan Walton, George Leslie, William N. Lighthall, Dorcey Jones, James I. Hoyt, William J. Teller, Lawrence Van Baskerk, Dow Clute, James Anderson, Robert Wendell, Samuel Thorn, Luther Halsey, James Adair, Andrew M. Farlan, Jr., Abraham Van Ingen, Henry Yates, Jr., William Corlett.

In 1798 the fire limits were defined as extending one mile due north from the northwest corner of Union College building, thence due west one mile, thence south two miles, thence east two miles, thence north two miles, thence west to the place of beginning, two miles.

The charter of the city of Schenectady, as amended April 2, 1813, provided that not more than eighty able-bodied freeholders should be selected by the Common Council from the two wards of the city to act as firemen, who should have the care and management of the engines and tools provided for the extinguishment of fires, which persons were to be called the Firemen of the City of Schenectady.

The fire district at this time extended from the south side of the Mohawk River, and not more than three-quarters of a mile from the site of the present First Reformed Dutch Church.

The first Hook and Ladder Company was formed in 1814, and consisted of ten members. This company was provided with the necessary apparatus by the city and was under the supervision of a captain and an assistant appointed by the Common Council.

Ax-men.—In 1814 a company was organized called the *Ax-men*. It consisted of two members under the same supervision as the Hook and Ladder Company. Each man was provided with an ax, and expected to cut down fences and buildings where necessary, to check the spread of fire.

The first Superintendent of Firemen was appointed in 1814. To this officer was not only intrusted the general supervision of the firemen at fires, but he was required to see that the engines and all other fire apparatus were kept in proper working order. His duties were somewhat similar to those imposed upon the present Chief Engineer.

In 1815 there were four fire companies in the city, exclusive of the Hook and Ladder and Ax-men. They were designated as Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4. Company No. 1 had quarters near the present stores of Walker and Mains; No. 2, near corner of Front and Ferry streets; No. 3, a few doors below the residence of Edward Walker, on Liberty street; No. 4, near the location of the present J. D. Campbell Hose House. Each one of these companies had fire engines at this date. The engine purchased in England in 1797 was still in use, and the other engines, though larger, were similar in construction.

The laws of the city were very strict in regard to the duty of citizens at time of a fire in these days. Every able-bodied citizen was pressed into service, and it was no uncommon sight to see a line of men nearly a quarter of a mile long, standing in a close line, reaching from the nearest point where water could be obtained to the engine, passing buckets of water from one to the other, to supply the engine with water. Even women at times were engaged in this work. A fine was imposed on any citizen who refused to perform such work when requested to do so by the city magistrates.

From pictures of the larger engines used at this date, we see simply a long tank or box placed upon wheels. On each side of the tank was a long arm or handle extending the entire length of the tank, which worked on the principle of a pump-handle. At a time of fire this engine was drawn as near as possible to the scene of destruction, the tank was then filled with water, and then, by means of the pump, the water was forced from the tank through a hose. About thirty men could work at the pump of the largest engines. Although there was much labor, requiring a large force of men, attending the use of these early engines, they did good service, and prevented any extensive conflagration until the year 1819, when, notwithstanding the most strenuous exertions of our firemen, spoken of at that time in the most praiseworthy manner, the entire lower portion of our city was destroyed.

The Teapot.—There are those living who can remember the small engine used at this date (1815), and for many years after, by the members of Company No. 3. It was a small engine, called the "Teapot," on account of its appearance. It was simply a tank, with a pump attached, capable of being carried when full of water by four men. It was of great service at a fire, often being carried into a burning building and doing excellent work where the larger engines could not be used. This engine was used for many years.

Double Deck Engine.—In 1825 the Common Council purchased the first double deck engine ever used in this city. It was given in charge of Company No. 4, and was something of a wonder at this time. It was purchased from a firm in Philadelphia. It was larger than the other engines in use in the city, but worked on the same principle. The two decks made it possible for more men to work at the pumps, and thus more force was given the water. Some of the firemen of this period who are now living, claim that this engine could throw a stream of water even higher than the modern steam engines.

Fire Wardens.—In 1825 five Fire Wardens were appointed, who had supervision over the buildings erected in the fire district, as to the regulations to be observed under the laws of the city relating to safety from fires. The first Fire Wardens were: Isaac S. Miller, Benjamin M. Munford, John Van Voast, Nicholas Van Vranken and George McQueen.

Incorporation of the Fire Department of the City.—April 21, 1828, a law was passed by the Legislature constituting all persons belonging to the several fire companies a body politic, under the name of "The Fire Department of the City of Schenectady." This act provided that each company of firemen should choose two representatives, who should select a president and vice-president, and, out of the whole body of firemen, three trustees, a treasurer, secretary and a collector. The first representatives were George McQueen, John Van Voast, Richard F. Ward, Myndert Van Guysling, Cornelius L. Barhydt, Henry Peek, Robert Osborne and Peter Bradt. The first president was George McQueen; the first vice-president, John Van Voast; the first trustees, Joseph Mynderse, Jacob De Forest, Jr., and Harmanus W. Peek; the first treasurer, Henry Peek; the first secretary, Joseph Mynderse; and the first collector, Richard F. Ward.

The trustees managed the affairs and disposed of the funds of the corporation according to the by-laws, rules and regulations of the corporation. By this act, the time of incorporation was extended to April 1, 1848, and the firemen were granted all the rights and privileges then extended by law to the firemen of the city of New York.

First Hose Company.—In 1830 the first Hose Company was formed for the purpose of attending to the hose of the fire companies, but in 1834 it was disbanded and converted into a supply com-

pany of twelve members. The members of this company were expected to supply the engines with water, but, a few years later, the purchase of suction engines did away with this work, and the company was disbanded.

THE FIRST SUCTION ENGINE.—About the year 1836, three suction engines were purchased by the city for the use of the Fire Department. Two were called the Seeley engines, the other was known as the Button engine. Both were constructed at Rochester.

These engines were a great improvement over those heretofore used by the firemen. They were hand engines, but did away with the laborious and difficult task of supplying the engines with water by the use of buckets.

The first three engines bought were given to Companies Nos. 1, 2 and 4. A few years later a similar engine was purchased for Company No. 3. These engines were successfully used till the steam engines came into general use many years after.

THE FIRST CHIEF ENGINEER.—September 16, 1836, the Common Council passed a law creating the office of Chief Engineer of the Fire Department. In December of the same year the offices of First and Second Assistant Engineer were created.

The first Chief Engineer was Richard F. Ward. The first Assistant Engineers were John C. Burnham and James E. Van Horn.

These officers were subject to the direction of the Fire Wardens, but the firemen received their orders through the Chief and his assistants September 2, 1846, the Chief and his assistants were given exclusive authority to direct the action of all firemen.

ACT OF INCORPORATION OF 1862.—April 2, 1862, an act was passed by the Legislature incorporating all persons belonging to the several fire companies in a body politic, by the title of "The Fire Department of the City of Schenectady," for the term of thirty years. With a few changes, this act is similar to the act of incorporation of 1828.

FIRST STEAM FIRE ENGINE.—The first steam fire engine was purchased at Portland, Maine, by the city, February 14, 1864, for $5,000, but was not received and accepted until the following year. It was named the A. W. Hunter engine, in honor of the presiding mayor at that time. It was placed in engine house No. 4 upon its arrival, and is still used for the extinguishment of fires. The first engineer was John Schermerhorn; assistant engineer, Jeremiah Tenbrook; fireman, Vedder Peters. The salary of the fireman was fixed at $500 per year, and that of engineer and assistant engineer at $100. In 1867 another steam engine was purchased for No. 3 engine house, called the Andrew McMullen steamer, and in 1869 a steamer for No. 1 engine house, called the A. A. Van Voast. Thomas Carroll was appointed engineer of steamer No. 3, and John J. Hart for steamer No. 1.

These three steamers were used till the year 1872, when the completion of the Schenectady Water-works, and the arrangements made with this company for supplying the city with water for the extinguishment of fires, made their use unnecessary. Steamers Andrew McMullen and A. A. Van Voast were withdrawn from service immediately and subsequently sold. Steamer No. 1 (A. W. Hunter) was retained and is still used.

In 1872, in consequence of the new system adopted of fire protection, the entire Fire Department was reorganized by the Common Council. Companies Nos. 1, 3 and 4 were disbanded, but soon after reorganized. Company No. 1, which retained the steamer A. W. Hunter, was the first to be enrolled. Companies Nos. 3 and 4 were soon after reorganized as Hose Companies. A hose depot was established this year in the building used by Company No. 1, and has been used ever since for such purpose.

SUPERINTENDENT OF HOSE.—In 1872 the office of Superintendent of Hose was established. James W. Clute was the first superintendent appointed, and has held the position continuously up to the present time. This officer is obliged to inspect, clean and keep all the hose used by the department in serviceable condition, to keep the steamer in running order, and to accompany and regulate it when its use is required.

The history of the Volunteer Fire Department, from the incorporation of this city to the present time, has ever been a credit to the city and an honor to the men who composed it.

Schenectady has been remarkably free from any extensive conflagration in many years, and credit for this fact can be attributed solely to the self-sacrificing spirit, intelligent labor and praiseworthy exertions of its firemen. The present efficient force has been ever ready to respond to the call of duty, and by zealous, united efforts has saved much valuable property.

Among our oldest living firemen are: Albert Van Brunt, Stephen Truax, D. Cady Smith, Levi Case, Martin De Forest, John O. Horsfall, Edward Rosa, Benjamin F. Lyons, Richard Benson and John B. Clute.

HISTORY OF THE DIFFERENT FIRE COMPANIES.—The first year from which we can get a connected history of the different fire companies organized in this city is 1824.

Following will be found the history of each company since 1824, not previously mentioned, down to the present time:

COMPANY NO. 1.—From 1824 to 1858, when it was disbanded, this company was known simply as Engine Company No. 1. It was reorganized, 1858, with 20 members, under the name of Protection Hose Company No. 1, and retained this name until it was disbanded, by order of the Common Council, September 24, 1872. It was reorganized, with 28 members, September 27 of this year, as Ellis Hose Company No. 1. It disbanded May 2, 1876, but reorganized two days from this date as Protection Hose Company No. 1. This company is still in existence, and has 15 members.

COMPANY NO. 2.—From 1824 to May 16, 1855, this company was known as Engine Company No. 2. It was reorganized March 4, 1857, as the Del-

uge Company No. 2. It subsequently disbanded and did not organize until 1873, when it assumed the name of Van Vranken Hose Company. This company still exists, and has a membership of 30.

Company No. 3.—This company, from 1824 to 1835, when it was disbanded, was called Engine Company No. 3. March 18, 1835, it was reorganized, but a few years after disbanded. March 3, 1857, it was reorganized as Niagara Company No. 3, which name it retained to October 9, 1867, when it was reorganized, with 27 members, as Rosa Hose Company No. 3. It was disbanded by the Common Council, September 24, 1872, and reorganized, with 33 members, January 10, 1876, as the Cain Hose Company No. 3. It disbanded September 16, 1879, and reorganized October 14, 1879, as Neptune Hose Company No. 3. This company is still in existence, and has a membership of 20.

Company No. 4.—From 1824 to December 15, 1847, this company was known as Engine Company No. 4. It was disbanded in 1847, and reorganized January 1, 1848, and again disbanded May 2, 1856. It was reorganized August 16, 1856. October 6, 1857, the name was changed to Neptune Hose Company No. 4. June 16, 1867, it was reorganized, with 28 members, as the Hathaway Hose Company No. 4. September 24, 1872, it was disbanded by the Common Council, but immediately reorganized, with 19 members, as the Stanford Hose Company. May 3, 1876, it again disbanded, and reorganized, with 25 members, June 13, 1876, as the J. D. Campbell Hose Company. This company is still in the service, and has a membership of 29.

Company No. 5.—This company was organized, with 36 members, November 18, 1835. It at one time was the Mohawk Hose Company. August 28, 1860, it was disbanded, and not reorganized till July 21, 1876, when it was called the E. W. Paige Hose Company. This company still exists, and has a membership of 17.

Company No. 6.—This company was organized, with 48 members, November 20, 1838, and existed for many years, when it was disbanded. January 14, 1878, it was reorganized, with 30 members, as the J. S. Myers Hose Company. It disbanded in 1881, and reorganized March 13, 1884, with 19 members, as the Elmer Ellis Hose Company. This company has at present a membership of 23.

Ax, Hook and Ladder Company. — The first ax, hook and ladder company was organized in 1814, and continued to exist until disbanded, June 5, 1856, but was reorganized on the same date. It disbanded August 17, 1860.

July 8, 1862, Hook and Ladder Company No. 1 was organized, with 55 members, and continued in the service to December 24, 1867, when it was disbanded, since which date no company of this kind has existed in the city.

Fire Guards.—A company called the Fire Guards was organized September 6, 1836, from the Supply Company, which disbanded at that time. The Fire Guards disbanded August 5, 1845, and have never been reorganized.

Eagle Hose Company.—A company called the Eagle Hose Company was organized from the members of the Fire Guards, August 5, 1845. It was disbanded January 4, 1851, and has never been reorganized.

Following is a list of Chief Engineers of the Fire Department since 1862: James Babcock, Patrick Kelly (three terms), Thomas H. Kennedy, Edward Ellis (four terms), William E. Walker (two terms), Ezra McCue, Francis Cain (four terms), George B. Swortfiguer, Martin Eagan, William J. Anthony, Arden W. Weller, John A. Vedder (three terms).

Following is a list of Assistant Engineers since 1862: 1863, Jaffrey Thompson and John Frame; 1864, Ephraim Clow, Walter Clute; 1865, Ephraim Clow, Walter Clute; 1866, Walter Clute, James Smith; 1867, Joseph Parker, W. S. Van Voast; 1868, William Martin, John Collins; 1867, P. H. McDermott, William Stevens; 1870, Charles A. Clark, Francis Cain; 1871, William Fuller, Peter M. Doty; 1872, Edward Van Epps, Frederick Esenminger; 1873, Joseph Parker, John J. Wheaton; 1874, John A. Vedder, Francis Cain; 1875, Edward Cooley, Jacob De Long; 1876, John A. Vedder, George B. Swortfiguer; 1877, George B. Swortfiguer, Martin Eagan; 1878, Martin Eagan, William J. Anthony; 1879, William J. Anthony, Arden W. Weller; 1880, Arden W. Weller, Andrew Coleman; 1881, Andrew Coleman, Peter M. Dody; 1882, Elias T. Van Patten, William P. Daley; 1883, William P. Daley, James C. Dougherty; 1884, James C. Dougherty, Myndert Scrofford; 1885, James C. Dougherty, William P. Daley.

BENCH AND BAR.

The Bar of Schenectady County is as ancient as that of Albany County. Its lawyers practiced in the courts established under the Dutch regime as early as 1626, but for at least one hundred and twenty years Schenectady County formed a part of Albany County, and the lawyers of Schenectady were members of the Albany bar. On March, 1809, however, Schenectady County was organized from territory taken from the western portion of the latter county, but it embraced no portion of the manor of Rensselaerwyck.

Immediately after the formation of the County of Schenectady its bar was organized, and, in conformity to the constitution and laws of the State, its county courts were also organized: the Court of Common Pleas, Court of General Sessions of the Peace, and the Surrogate's Court; and times and places were also appointed for holding the Circuit Courts, Courts of Oyer and Terminer, and Special Equity and Supreme Court terms.

The judiciary of the county consisted of the Hon. Joseph C. Yates, appointed a Justice of the Supreme Court by Gov. Tompkins a few weeks previous to the act establishing the county. Joseph C. Yates, at the time of his appointment, was a distinguished lawyer residing at Schenectady, and one of the most prominent characters in the

history of the State. We shall refer to him more at large hereafter.

Hon. Gerrit S. Vedder was appointed First Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of the county; William J. Teller, Surrogate; Peter F. Vedder, Clerk; James V. S. Riley, Sheriff; James Barent, Under Sheriff; Richard Oothout, Crier of the Court.

The first court held in Schenectady County after its organization was a Court of General Sessions, which began May 9, 1809. We take the following from the records of the Court of that date:

At a Court of General Sessions of the Peace, held in and for the County of Schenectady at the City of Schenectady, and at the Hall of the said county, on Tuesday, the 9th day of May, 1809.

Present—Hon. Gerrit S. Vedder, First Judge.

John Yates, Jonathan Herrick, Jacob A. Vrooman, Peter C. Van Slycke, } Judges.

Court opened.

The Sheriff returned the precept for summoning the Grand Jury for this Court with a panel of Grand Jurors annexed, and the following Grand Jurors appeared and were sworn:

Charles Kane, foreman; James Rom, Henry H. Peck, Eri Lusher, Daniel Shields, Jacob Swits, David Van Der Hyden, Robert Knowlton, Francis Vedder, John B. Clute, Cornelius A. Groot, Isaac De Graff, Maus Schemerhorn, Rudolph Van Housen, Peter McDougall. Gersham Van Vorst, Stephen Cogswell, Isaac Ledyard, Gabriel H. Bowne, William Strong, Robert Ganley, John Van De Bogart, Henry Mercelus.

Charge given to the Grand Jury; adjournd till afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Court met at appointed hour; there being no business, Court adjourned till next morning at 9 o'clock.

Wednesday morning, May 11; Court opened according to adjournment; present, same judges as yesterday.

The Grand Jury, being called by their names, reported that they had nothing to offer to the Court; and, there being no business before the Court, the Grand Jury was discharged and the Court adjourned.

The first Circuit Court and Court of Oyer and Terminer held in the county after its organization, began its session the 23d of October, 1810. The following is a copy of the minutes of the proceedings of this term:

At a Circuit Court held in and for the County of Schenectady, in the City Hall of the City of Schenectady, on Tuesday, the 23d day of October, 1810.

Present—His Honor, Mr. Justice Spencer.

Lyman M. Stanford *vs.* Robert, Alexander and David Winne.

On the motion of Mr. Henry Yates, ordered that the Sheriff return a *venire* and that this cause be brought to trial.

The Sheriff returned the *venire* with the panel annexed, and the following jurors were drawn and sworn: Jesse Coon, Job Leonard, Henry Swits, James V. S. Ryley, Charles Kane, William North, Araham A. Groote, Jesse Dowse, Henry Vandaman, Lewis Burhydt, John J. Van Vorst, Cornelius Putnam.

Witness on the part of plaintiff—Gibbons Wentworth.

The Jury, without leaving the bar, by Charles Keene, their foreman, say that they find their verdict in favor of the plaintiff: six cents damages and six cents costs.

There were three other causes disposed of by the Jury at this term, as follows:

Jeremiah Fuller *vs.* Jeremiah Romeyn, Rebeckah, his wife, and six other defendants.

The Jury rendered a verdict for the plaintiff of six cents damages and six cents costs.

James C. Duane *vs.* Peter Keehtr.

On trial before a Jury, a verdict was rendered in favor of the plaintiff, $111 damages and six cents costs.

James Jackson, Ex-dem., *vs.* Jacob Dillamont, John Dillamont and Alexander Vedder. } Ejectment.

The defendants confess lease, entry and ouster.

This was, as we see, an action of ejectment, with the celebrated James Jackson, Ex-dem.—according to the practice in those days in such cases—a fictitious party. These actions in the early history of the State, owing to the unsettled condition of land titles, were then and for fifty years following the most common actions tried in the courts. Looking at the reported causes for those days, the unprofessional reader naturally supposes that James Jackson, from the large number of cases in which he is plaintiff, was the most litigious being in the State, a troublesome fellow; but, like John Doe and Richard Roe, he is never seen in court, and is only what can be called a legal myth.

There were three witnesses sworn for the plaintiff and three for the defendants. The Jury, without leaving the bar, found their verdict for the plaintiff: one-third of the premises, six cents damages, six cents costs.

The next case was a case of ejectment; one witness sworn for the plaintiff and one for the defendant. The Jury without leaving the bar found verdict for plaintiff: six cents damages, six cents costs.

This was the last cause tried at this term.

Though it was called a Circuit Court and Court of Oyer and Terminer, it was merely a Circuit Court without the criminal side. No Court of Oyer and Terminer had yet been held in the county.

Mr. Justice Ambrose Spencer, who presided, was one of the most learned and distinguished judicial officers in the State or nation. He was appointed in 1804, serving till 1819, when he was appointed Chief Justice of the State. He was the father of that great lawyer and statesman, John C. Spencer.

From the first the Schenectady Bench and Bar took a highly distinguished position, which has been maintained down to the present time. Many of its members have occupied the highest rank in their profession; many have been elevated to the Bench and to other prominent civic positions in the State and nation. On its roll were such honored names as Harmon, Van Ingen, Paige, the Yateses, Duane, Fonda and many others. The Bar never was large in numbers. As late as 1830 it consisted of only twelve members, as follows: Christopher Fonda, admitted to the Bar in 1822; Joshua D. Harmon, admitted 1822; Samuel D. Jones, admitted 1816; Archibald L. Linn, 1823; Alonzo C. Paige, 1818; Abraham Van Ingen, 1818; Edward Yates, 1818; Gilbert F. Yates, 1822; Joseph C. Yates, 1792; Henry Yates, Jr., 1799; John B. Duane, Trumansburg, 1825; and Jacob G. Fonda, at Glenville, 1826. This was the Bar in 1830.

Ten years later, in 1840, the Schenectady Bar consisted of eighteen members, having increased but six in number during that time, as follows: Platt Potter, James M. Bouck, John Brotherson, Stephen A. Daggett, Henry Fuller, James Fuller, Alexander Gibson, Joshua D. Harmon, John Howes, S. H. Johnson, Samuel W. Jones, Alonzo C. Paige, John Sanders, D. C. Smith, Abraham Van Ingen, S. R. Van Ingen, James B. Van Voust, Giles F. Yates.

PRESIDING JUDGES OF THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF THE COUNTY AND OF THE COUNTY COURT.—Gerrit S. Vedder, appointed March 11, 1809; Gardner Cleveland, appointed May 25, 1812; David Boyd, appointed February 5, 1823; Samuel W. Jones, appointed January 31, 1835; Archibald L. Linn, appointed July 17, 1840; Samuel W. Jones, appointed February 10, 1845.

The following Judges were elected under the provisions of the Constitution of 1846: Samuel W. Jones, elected June, 1847; Stephen H. Johnson, elected November, 1851; John Sanders, elected November, 1855; Stephen H. Johnson, elected November, 1859; Judson S. Landon, elected February 1, 1865 (Judge Johnson resigned and Judge Landon, now one of the Justices of the Supreme Court, was appointed to fill his place; he served till the close of 1869, when Walter T. L. Sanders, elected November, 1869, took his place); Austin A Yates, elected November, 1873; David C. Beattie, elected November, 1879.

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS.*—John K. Paige, appointed June 11, 1818; Alonzo C. Paige, appointed September 3, 1823; Platt Potter, appointed January 15, 1839; Benjamin F. Potter, elected June, 1847; Samuel L. Baker, elected November, 1850; James Fuller, appointed in place of Baker, resigned, August 22, 1851; John Van Santvoort, elected November, 1851; Samuel T. Freeman, appointed in place of Van Santvoort, resigned; Simeon Caulkins, appointed January 7, 1856, in place of Freeman, resigned; Judson S. Landon, elected November, 1856; John G. McChesney, elected November, 1862; John L. Hill, elected November, 1865; Austin A. Yates, elected November, 1868; Alonzo P. Strong, appointed December 24, 1873, in place of Yates, resigned; Daniel C. Beattie, elected November, 1874; Charles E. Palmer, elected November, 1877; J. Teller Schoolcraft, elected November, 1880.

SURROGATES. — William J. Teller, appointed May 30, 1809; Robert Hudson, appointed April 6, 1813; William J. Teller, appointed March 3, 1815; John Yates, appointed February 12, 1816; Giles F. Yates, appointed February 21, 1821; John Sanders, appointed February 13, 1840; David Cady Smith, appointed February 13, 1844.

The County Judges whom we have named, elected under the provisions of 1846, have been Judges and Surrogates down to the present time.

COUNTY CLERKS.*—Peter F. Vedder, appointed March 11, 1809; Joseph Shurtleff, appointed February 26, 1810; Peter F. Vedder, appointed February 14, 1811; Jellis A. Fonda, appointed May 25, 1812; Joseph Shurtleff, appointed March 12, 1813; Jellis A. Fonda, appointed February 13, 1815; Jellis A. Fonda, elected November, 1822; John S. Vrooman, appointed by the Governor 1834; Jonathan C. Burnham, elected November, 1834; Archibald Campbell, elected November, 1837; Silas H. Marsh, elected November, 1843; David P. Forrest, elected November, 1849; Marvin Strong, elected November, 1852; John W. Vedder, elected November, 1858; John M. Banker, appointed May 1, 1861, in place of Vedder, resigned; John McShea, Jr., appointed January 6, 1864, in place of Banker, resigned; James G. Caw, elected November, 1864; J. Fonda Veile, elected November, 1876; Mr. Veile served by re-election till December 31, 1882; Thomas Yelverton, elected November, 1882.

SHERIFFS.—James V. S. Riley, appointed March 11, 1809; John V. Van Ingen, James V. S. Riley, John Brown, Gideon Holliday, Isaac Riggs, Lewis Eaton, A. Van Slyck, elected under provision of Constitution of 1821, November, 1822; John F. D. Vedder, elected November, 1825; Gershom Van Voast, elected November, 1828; Isaac I. Yates, elected November, 1831; Matthew Putnam, elected November, 1834; Myndert M. R. Wemple, elected November, 1837; David F. Reese, elected November, 1840; Anthony H. Van Slyck, elected November, 1843; John G. Van Voast, elected November, 1847; John F. Clute, elected November, 1849; Nicholas Brooks, elected November, 1852; Philip

* The original appellation of this office was that of Assistant Attorney-General, created by the act of February 12, 1796. It embraced several counties. The office of District Attorney was created by the act of April 4, 1801, and the State was divided into thirteen districts, several counties in each District. Albany, Schenectady and Schoharie Counties formed the Twelfth District. By the act of 1818 each county was appointed a separate district for the office of District Attorney. These officers were appointed till the Constitution of 1846 went into effect, when they were elected.

* These officers were appointed by the Governor and Council of Appointment down to 1821, when, by the provisions of the Constitution adopted that year, they were elected by the people.

Dederick, appointed *vice* Brooks, resigned, January 16, 1855; Obadiah L. De Forest, elected November, 1855; Norman M. F. Clute, elected November, 1858; Abraham Gillispie, elected November, 1861; Samuel Wingate, elected November, 1864; Peter Miller, elected November, 1867; Clark V. Worden, appointed by the Governor, 1868; Jacob Vedder, elected November, 1869; James McMillen, Jr., elected November, 1872; Hiram J. Ingersoll, elected November, 1875; Charles H. Van Vranken, elected November, 1878; Jacob De Forest, elected November, 1881; S. L. Clute, elected November, 1885.

The legal history of Schenectady is best illustrated by the lives and careers of men who have made its history by participating as leaders in the various matters of public and historic interest in the county. We shall, therefore, introduce biographical sketches of those distinguished lawyers and judges of the county, without which, it may with truth be said, its history could not be written.

We shall begin with the biography of Joseph C. Yates, a name not only interwoven in the history of Schenectady, but in that of the State, and in a large degree with that of the nation.

"Among the early settlers of Schenectady, or 'Corlear' as it was styled in the olden time, was Joseph Yates, an honest, industrious, intelligent and enterprising English yeoman. He was a native of Leeds, in Yorkshire, and emigrated to the Colony of New York at that fearful period in English history when Charles the First was beheaded to appease the fury of the men who established, under Cromwell, the Commonwealth of England.

"The descendants of Joseph Yates were numerous. Although they preserved the patronymic of their ancestors, they soon lost their nationality in a degree, by their frequent intermarriages with their Dutch and German neighbors."

No family was more conspicuous in the early annals of New York and the Revolution than the Yates family. They were strong and influential Whigs, entering ardently into the struggle of the Colonists for freedom, notwithstanding a large number (perhaps a majority) of the people by whom they were surrounded were Tories, and they were connected with some of the prominent loyalists by marriage. Nearly all the inhabitants of the valley of Mohawk and the intersecting valley of Schoharie were Tories. But the Germans and Dutch, with the exception of those families allied to the Johnsons or under their influence, were patriots, ready and willing to shed their blood for the freedom of their country.

The connection of the Yates family with the Bench and Bar is singularly instructive and interesting.

Robert Yates was one of the first Judges of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, and subsequently Chief Justice; Abraham Yates, Jr., an influential citizen of Albany and afterward its Mayor; and Christopher Yates, father of Joseph C. Yates, whose life we are tracing, were cousins, and at an early day identified themselves with the great movement which terminated in the independence of the American Colonies.

Chief Justice Abraham Yates was a member of the Committee of Public Safety and of the Convention which adopted the Constitution of 1777. When his judicial appointment was tendered to him, his practice as a lawyer was extensive and lucrative. At the Albany bar, of which he was a member, and even at the bar of the city of New York, he was an acknowledged leader; learned, sagacious, eloquent and adroit. Such was his position long before the days of 1776, and when in 1777 he accepted the office of Chief Justice, he did so largely to the injury of his private interests. His judicial duties were peculiarly delicate and dangerous. He sat upon the bench, as a writer has expressed it, "with a halter about his neck, exposed to punishment as a rebel, had our efforts for liberty proved abortive. But no dangers could appall, no fears deter him from an honest performance of the functions of his office."

He represented New York in the Philadelphia Convention in 1787, and was a member of the State Convention called to ratify the Federal Constitution.

Christopher Yates was one of the leading men of Schenectady for many years prior to the Revolution. During the French and Indian War he held a captain's commission in the provincial troops. He took part in the unsuccessful attempt made in 1758 to dislodge Montcalm from his position at Ticonderoga; while bravely leading his men to the assault he was desperately wounded. In the following year he accompanied the army under Gen. Prideaux and Sir William Johnson in the expedition against Fort Niagara, and was present at the capture of that important work. The war over, he returned to his duties and occupation as a citizen. He was immediately elected to the Colonial Legislature, and for many years was a prominent member of that body. When the stirring questions began to be agitated that terminated in the Revolution, he espoused the cause of freedom. When the first alarm of war was raised he gave his services to his country. He accepted a commission in the New York troops, and was very soon promoted to the rank of colonel, in which capacity he served through the war, participating in many of its battles.

He married Jane Bradt, a lady whose many excellent qualities caused her memory to be affectionately cherished by her posterity. She was descended from an old and respectable Dutch family who emigrated to the colony of New York and settled in the lower valley of the Mohawk at a very early period. She was the mother of several children, sons and daughters. Of the former was Joseph C., whose name stands at the head of this sketch.

Henry Yates, a brother, represented the Eastern Senatorial District in 1811 to 1814, 1818 to 1821. He was also a delegate from the county of Schenectady to the Constitutional Convention of 1821. John B. Yates was for a long time an honored and respected citizen of Madison County, and Andrew, "the conscientious, punctual and kind-hearted" —to use the language of Dr. Potter—was an emi-

nent clergyman, a Professor in Union College, a Trustee of Hamilton College, and Principal of the Polytechny of Chittenango. It will thus be seen how intimately connected with every part of Schenectady County—legal, judicial, civil and military—has been the name of Yates.

But to proceed with the life of the distinguished subject of this sketch, JOSEPH C. YATES.

He was born at Schenectady on November 9, 1768. Robust and energetic, physically and mentally, exhibiting an unusual fondness for study and a persevering love of knowledge, he early indicated that he was destined to enter that career of life demanding intellectual endowments, strong executive powers, strengthened and sustained by those moral and religious sentiments which gave strength and dignity to his character. Many of these high qualities of the future Judge and Chief Magistrate of the State were exhibited in his early years. Inheriting many of the traits of his maternal ancestors, he early adopted the favorite maxim of their nation, "*Een-dracht maakt macht.*" As has well been said, this motto, like the magic word in the Arabian tale, removed many an obstacle which obstructed his path, and served oftimes to serve and encourage him.

As the means of his father were ample, he enjoyed every advantage for obtaining a finished education, and he zealously availed himself of them.

His education was begun under the tuition of Jacob Wilkie, an accomplished scholar, a tutor in his family. After receiving the instruction of this gentleman for several years he was sent to Caughnawaja, where he continued his studies under the instruction of Rev. Dr. Romain and his scholarly son, Theodoric Frelinghuysen Romain. He remained here until the incursions of Brandt, Sir Guy and Sir John Johnson rendered his residence at Caughnawaja unsafe, and he returned to Schenectady, where he completed his education under the instruction of Rev. Alexander Miller and that distinguished scholar, John Honeywood.

Early in life he decided to enter the legal profession. In conformity with this resolution, he entered the office of Peter W. Yates, a cousin of his father, a lawyer of distinction, and a leading Anti-Federalist, in the city of Albany. Young Yates pursued his legal studies, as he did his classical, with a determination to master it as one of the greatest of sciences, which embodies in it, as has well been said, the perfection of all human reasoning. At that day digests, compends and elementary treatises on law were not as abundant as at the present time, and the legal student was compelled to work out his education in the exercise of unremitting diligence in tracing the intellectual subtlety of the legal writers of that period. But this labor and research tended to strengthen and enlarge the mind, give it profundity and flexibility.

In 1792 Yates was called to the Bar. Robert Yates was then Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York. He, too, as we have seen, was a native of Schenectady, a man fitted by education, by high mental qualities, thorough and exhaustive legal training, for the elevated positions in life which he was called upon to occupy.

After his call to the bar, young Yates opened an office in Schenectady and began the practice of his profession under the most advantageous circumstances. As was said by one of the distinguished citizens of the city at the time, "Schenectady needed a lawyer with the useful qualities which Mr. Yates possessed." He was prudent and sagacious as a counselor, able and skillful as an advocate, familiar with the rules which control real property and with the doctrines which govern the creation and devolution of estates. In the interpretation of devises and the construction of the settlement of deeds, grants, and the operation of trusts and powers, he was peculiarly qualified for the practice which, at that time, largely occupied the attention of lawyers.

Mr. Yates was not only active and useful in his profession, but he identified himself with every public improvement which tended to the advancement of Schenectady.

He was particularly active and useful in promoting the educational interests of the country. With other members of his family—with the Glens, the Fondas, the Van Ingens, the Oothouts, the Veeders and the Duanes—he was very influential in founding Union College. He was one of those to whom the funds raised by subscription were required to be paid, and one of the trustees named in the charter granted by the Regents of the University in 1790. The prosperity of Union College was to him a matter of deep interest. He remained a member of the Board of Trustees until the day of his death, and it may well be said that the history of Union College is largely blended with that of Joseph C. Yates.

In March, 1798, Schenectady was incorporated as a city. Previous to this the corporate property was held under letters patent granted in 1684 by Sir Edmund Andross, then Governor-General of the province of New York. We have said that Mr. Yates was particularly interested in the promotion and prosperity of Schenectady. His efforts and abilities were warmly appreciated by his fellow citizens, who, in return, bestowed upon him the most flattering proofs of their confidence and regard.

For over fifteen years he devoted himself with untiring assiduity to his constantly increasing and highly remunerative legal business, which brought him to the front rank of his profession.

The political arena had the same attractions for him that it has for most lawyers, and he entered it to reap the highest honors in the gift of the people of the State of New York. From this position he rose rapidly from one office of honor and trust to another.

In 1806–7 he was a member of the State Senate from the Eastern District. On the 3d of April, 1807, he was appointed by the Legislature of the State on a commission, consisting of Ezra L'Hommedieu, Samuel Jones, Egbert Benson and Simeon De Witt, to meet and confer in behalf of the State with commissioners appointed by New Jersey, rel-

ative to certain claims of jurisdiction and territory made by the latter as to the extension of its eastern boundary. The able manner in which this commission performed its duty has passed into history. In 1808, Mr. Yates was again elected from the Eastern District to the State Senate. Soon after his election, that illustrious jurist, Brockholst Livingston, then a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State, was promoted to the Bench of the United States Supreme Court, and Joseph C. Yates, to the great gratification of the Bench, the Bar and the public, was appointed to occupy the place on the State bench made vacant by Judge Livingston's promotion. He occupied this position with great ability until January 20, 1823, a period of fifteen years, when he was, as we shall more fully see hereafter, elevated to the chief magistracy of the State.

On the 28th of February, 1812, he was chosen a Regent of the University. We should have said that Mr. Yates very early allied himself to the Democratic-Republican party, afterward known as the Democratic party.

In November, 1822, he was elected Governor of the State over Solomon Southwick, his opponent. He resigned his office as Justice of the Supreme Court, and, on the first of January, 1823, was inaugurated Governor of the State. Until Governor Yates assumed the Executive chair, the State Governors, at the opening of each annual legislative session, appeared before the Senate and the Assembly, and delivered the Annual Message orally. He changed this custom by sending a written message to the Legislature, and the precedent he established has been adopted by all his successors.

In his first message he recommended laws for carrying the new Constitution—the Constitution of 1821—into effect; for the encouragement of domestic manufactories and economy in the public expenditures; and a liberal prosecution of the works of internal improvements then in progress. His message was a plain, unassuming, but very practical document.

One of the questions that largely occupied the public mind in the State of New York, pending the canvass for President in 1820, which resulted in the re-election of James Monroe, was that of allowing the people the choice of Presidential Electors, instead of the Legislature. This question entered largely into the gubernatorial canvass of 1823, but was left undecided.

In his message to the Legislature, January 6, 1824, he called its attention to the fact that he desired a change in the mode of choosing Presidential Electors, expressing an opinion that it should be general throughout the country, looking to Congress for the remedy, and that in the meantime the interference of the Legislature, or the surrender of their right to choose the Electors, was not advisable. He again recommended encouragement of domestic manufactures by duties on foreign imported goods. One of the most significant and important measures recommended by Gov. Yates in this message was the revision of the Statutes of the State.

Early in the legislative session of 1824, a heated and angry discussion took place in both branches of the Legislature on the introduction of bills authorizing the people to choose the Electors by general ticket. Previous to this, as we have seen, they were chosen by the Legislature.

A bill favorable to the change in the electoral laws passed the Assembly, but by a majority, instead of a plurality. The object of this bill was intended to effect the vote of New York in the Presidential election, which was to take place that year. In this election Henry Clay, John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson and William H. Crawford were candidates for President.

The change was insisted upon by the friends of Mr. Crawford, by which means they believed it would give him the State. His opponents, however, in the Senate defeated the measure by postponing a further consideration of it until the first Monday in the following November, which, in effect, defeated the bill.

Such was the excitement on the question, that Gov. Yates called an extra session of the Legislature for August 2, 1824. A bill providing for the choice of electors by the people, under the present form, passed the Legislature in 1826.

Gov. Yates' term of office expired January 1, 1825, and he was succeeded by De Witt Clinton. In 1828 he was elected President of the Electoral College, the State giving its vote for Andrew Jackson for President.

At the expiration of his term of office he resumed his residence at Schenectady, where he was greatly beloved and honored by its citizens. He remained attached to the Democratic party. He supported the administration of President Jackson and of Mr. Van Buren, though he did so with moderation and courteous deference to the opinion of others.

Gov. Yates was married three different times. His first wife was Mrs. Ann Ellice, of Schenectady, by whom he had no issue. For his second wife he married Miss Maria Kane, of Albany; she bore him one daughter, who became the wife of John Keyes Paige, for many years a clerk of the Supreme Court, and afterward Mayor of Albany. His third wife was Ann Elizabeth De Lancy, by whom he had two daughters; one of them married Mr. J. D. Watkins, of Georgia; the other, Mr. Samuel Neal, of New York City.

In person Gov. Yates was rather above the medium size and height. His appearance was dignified and his manner was easy, courteous and unassuming. If he did not possess a brilliant mind, it was vigorous, well balanced and well disciplined by education and by his relations with the world. In all his private relations he was in every way estimable. He died at Schenectady, on March 19, 1837, having attained the age of sixty-nine years.

Hon. Alonzo C. Paige, LL.D.—Few names are more distinguished in the legal history of the State of New York than that of Alonzo C. Paige. It is an ornament to the bar, where he was distinguished as a wise, eloquent and faithful counselor. While at the bar, he devoted himself with

untiring industry to his profession. To him, jurisprudence was a science which delighted his polemical mind, and he studied it with avidity and pleasure; but the student was never lost in the practicing lawyer. His deep reading was exhibited in his legal arguments, in his written opinions, and they rendered his briefs and all his legal productions beautiful specimens of legal logic and learning. Like most lawyers, Mr. Paige, in his earlier life, entered somewhat largely into politics, but never to the neglect of his professional duties. He was never what may be called a practiced politician, and, when placed in comparison with those simulars of patriotism—politicians of policy and intrigue—approaching the people with artifice, and addressing them in the ambiguous language of a trimmer, his character shone with peculiar lustre, and it is no exaggeration to say that it did so in all the varied duties of his life.

We cannot better place the character and career of Judge Paige before our readers than in adopting the beautiful memorial of him found in 52 Barbor's N. Y. Supreme Court Reports.

Judge Paige was the son of the Rev. Dr. Winslow Paige, a Presbyterian clergyman, who was afterward called to the then Reformed Protestant Dutch Church. Judge Paige was born in Schaghticoke, Rensselaer County, in 1797. Blessed with a pious parentage and with the advantage of every possible care bestowed in the cultivation of his mind and advancement in education, he entered Williams College at an unusually early age, and graduated from that institution before he had arrived at the age of sixteen. In 1857 he received from his *Alma Mater* the degree of LL.D. After leaving Williams College, his father, designing to educate him for the ministry, sent him to be instructed under the care of the Rev. Dr. Banks, a learned Scotch clergyman, then living in a neighboring parish. After a year or more thus spent, his father, learning of his absence, upon inquiry, found him in a law office, in the city of Schenectady, laboriously studying a profession then most agreeable to his own wishes. He completed his legal term of study with the approbation of his parent, and was admitted to the bar in 1818, and opened an office in the city of Schenectady in 1819. He then adopted that city as his residence, where he lived to the time of his death.

Judge Paige was a student in every sense of the word. When he first assumed the practice of his profession, his mind was so thoroughly imbued with accurate knowledge of elementary law, and his habit of study and investigation so diligent and unremitting, that he arose at once to the first rank in his profession. Though genial in his nature, and enjoying with the highest relish, in his hours of relaxation, the pleasures of refined social associations, his constant midnight lamp was the evidence to all of his love of study.

In 1824 he was appointed District Attorney, which office he held for fifteen years, performing its duties with distinguished credit. In 1826 he was elected a Member of Assembly, and in the three successive years of 1827–8–9 he was returned as the popular representative of this county in the Assembly. These political duties, though onerous, were never permitted to interrupt those of his profession, in which it seemed to be the great object of his ambition to excel. So rapidly did he rise in his professional distinction that the acute mind of Chancellor Walworth was attracted to him, and in 1830 he selected him as the reporter of his court, to which office he was appointed, and which he held until 1846. The highest encomium that could be paid to his qualifications for that position is the appreciation of the Bar of the State of New York of the skill, ability, and success with which he executed its duties, as manifested in their appreciation of the eleven volumes of the reports which will bear his name to all the future in our judicial history. In 1838 Judge Paige was elected a trustee of Union College, which place he held for thirty years, until his death. He was placed in the principal charge of the finances of that institution, and gave to that duty a constant and most laborious attention. To no one individual during that period is more credit due than to him for the care, security, prosperity and increase of the now exceedingly large and productive property of that institution. Before the adoption of the Constitution of 1846, Judge Paige was twice elected to the Senate of this State, and was thus made a member of the Court for the Correction of Errors. His opinions as a member of that court are distinguished for great clearness, learning and power. Upon the adoption of the Constitution of 1846, and at the first election under it, he was elected a Justice of the Supreme Court, and once after elected to supply a vacancy. He was for two years a member of the Court of Appeals. It would be useless to the judiciary, to his associates or to the bar to speak of the character of the many contributions in our books of reports which bear the impress of his profound legal mind. Suffice it to say, he spent his life in the service of the State, and the ability and soundness of his judicial decisions are a part of its history and have greatly contributed to its honor and fame.

The last public position occupied by Judge Paige was that of a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1867–8. Though then somewhat enfeebled by the disease which terminated his life, his noble and efficient efforts to provide in the Constitution of the State a security against the corruptions of the elective franchise were in harmony with the integrity of his whole life.

He was a gentleman of imposing presence, adopting the old school of dignified and gentlemanly manners, still possessing great urbanity, amenity and kindness. His leading characteristics were open, sincere honesty, undoubted, unqualified integrity, frank sincerity, uniform courtesy, and he was generous and liberal in charities to the destitute. His early religious training impressed upon his mind great gravity of demeanor, and many years before his death he made a public profession of religion and united with the Presbyterian church ; at the time of his death he was one of the ruling elders of that church.

Upon the announcement of his death, in March, 1868, the Bar of Schenectady County called a meeting to express their profound sorrow for his loss. This meeting was largely attended. Hon. John Sanders was called to the chair, who, on taking it, addressed his brethren in a speech of deep feeling and eloquence. A committee on resolutions was appointed, consisting of Hon. J. S. Landon, Hon. Thomas B. Mitchell, S. A. Daggett, J. Fuller and A. P. Strong, Esqrs., who presented by their chairman brief, touching resolutions, eloquent and heartfelt expressions of sorrow for the death of the distinguished jurist they memorialized.

In presenting the resolutions Judge Landon said: "We honor our deceased brother, not so much on account of the high places of trust and of honor to which he was called and worthily filled, for none know better than our profession that in our age and time high official place is not the truest evidence of high merit. The bat can reach that eminence as well as the eagle. But we honor him because through all the years of his early and later manhood he dignified, adorned and elevated the profession of the law, even in the estimation of lawyers themselves. No pretense, no art of a demagogue, no superficial acquirements, can give the lawyer high rank among lawyers; only merit, and real merit, can win that. Judge Paige, by the cheerful assent of his associates, long had place among the few who stand at the front rank of the Bar of our State. Others, doubtless, surpassed him in the gift of eloquence which charms while it instructs, but none in that tireless industry, that exhaustive learning, which, guided by the enlightened conscience and disciplined brain, compels, alike from principle and authority, the law to stand, as Bacon called it, 'the perfection of human reason.' Throughout the State Judge Paige commanded the respect and honor of the learned and the good."

We only give a portion of Judge Landon's eloquent and appropriate eulogy. When he said that "throughout the State the departed jurist commanded respect and honor," he uttered the sentiment of the Bench and the Bar in all the State, as was exhibited by many public demonstrations.

The Schenectady Bar has furnished four Justices of the Supreme Court, viz.: Joseph C. Yates, appointed February 8, 1808; Alonzo C. Paige, elected June 7, 1847; Platt Potter, elected November 3, 1857.

HON. PLATT POTTER.

In writing the biography of the eminent jurist whose name appears at the head of this sketch, we speak of one long accustomed to the struggles of the Bar, one who has for many years pronounced the law from the Bench. He is one who, in his sphere, has discharged his duties with such probity and honor, such learning and ability, as entitles him to the highest esteem of the Bench, the Bar, and the public.

Hon. Platt Potter was born at Galway, Saratoga County, N. Y., April 6, 1800. He is perhaps one of the oldest judges and lawyers in the State; one of those through whom one generation speaks its thoughts, appeals and sympathies to another. His father, Restcome Potter, was a native of Massachusetts, but removed to New York early in life. Notwithstanding the non-combatant principles of himself and his ancestors, who were members of the Society of Friends, he engaged in military service during the war with the mother country, under Ethan Allen (the noted hero of Ticonderoga) when demanding the surrender of the fort in the name of the "Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress."

Later in life he received a colonel's commission in the militia from Governor George Clinton, for whom he named one of his sons. He removed to Saratoga County about 1794, and from there to Schenectady in about 1806, and followed the occupation of farming. A man of energy and public spirit, he was chosen to fill various official positions, being in turn Alderman of the City, Justice of the Peace, and for sixteen years a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He was possessed of commanding influence in his day, and died, greatly regretted, in 1853. The mother of Judge Platt Potter was Lucinda (Strong) Potter, of Litchfield, Conn., who was also descended from patriotic ancestry. During his boyhood, Judge Potter attended the common schools and the academy at Schenectady, from which he graduated in 1824. He immediately began the study of law under the direction of Hon. Alonzo C. Paige, afterward a Judge of the Supreme Court. He was admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court in 1828. He entered upon the practice of his profession at Minaville, Montgomery County, and continued thus occupied till 1833, when, removing to Schenectady, he entered into partnership with Mr. Paige, his former preceptor. This connection continued for a period of thirteen years. Upon its dissolution, Judge Potter practiced alone for a time, but was subsequently associated in practice with distinguished legal men who have occupied high positions of official honor both in the State and National Government. In the autumn of 1830, Mr. Potter was elected Member of Assembly from Montgomery County. During this session of the Legislature, a committee, of which Judge Potter was chairman, was appointed to consider the matter of providing improved accommodations for the insane. He made the report, and introduced the first bill to erect an asylum at Utica for lunatics. He served also during the same period of legislative labor on the Judiciary Committee. In 1836 he was married to Antoinette, daughter of the Rev. Winslow Paige, D.D. From 1839 to 1847 he held the office of District Attorney for Schenectady County, and was at the same time Master and Examiner in Chancery, having been appointed to that position in 1828, and continuing to exercise its functions till the abolishment of the Court in Chancery about 1847. In 1857 he was elected Justice of the Supreme Court of New York, running as candidate against his former partner, Judge A. C. Paige. He was returned by a small majority, serving dur-

Platt Potter

ing one of the most critical periods of our political history. During this term he also served as a Judge of the Court of Appeals. He was re-elected in 1865 to the Supreme Bench of the State without opposition. In the same year he was elected trustee of Union College, which office he continues to hold, and which institution conferred on him in 1867 the degree of LL. D.

He was always a staunch Republican in political sentiments. His judicial services during the rebellion, and the four years of trying national experience which immediately preceded it, were of the utmost value to the Government.

Noted for more than usual mental readiness and penetration, and great activity in the performance of every duty, Judge Potter has filled with honor many high official positions in the State. His election to the Supreme Bench of the Commonwealth, and his long continuance as a member of that distinguished body, evince the appreciation in which not only his talents but his worth are held by those whose interest have been the object of his judicial care. His labors as a legislator showed his large philantrophy and his wise statesmanship. As a jurist, he stands high in the State. His argument before the Assembly upon the case of the supposed "High Breach of Privilege of the Honorable the Assembly of the State of New York, in the matter of the Hon. Henry Ray, Member of Assembly from Ontario," exhibits his profound knowledge of the constitutional rights and powers of the judiciary as a co-ordinate branch of the Government, the extent of the law of legislative privilege, and those sound principles of law and equity underlying just legislative and judicial action.

This case was novel and unprecedented; neither in the legislative nor judicial history of this State had any case similar to it been known.

The facts in the case, briefly stated, are as follows: On the 20th of January, 1870, a subpœna, requiring one Henry Ray to appear and testify as a witness in a criminal proceeding then pending before the Grand Jury of Saratoga, Oyer and Terminer, was issued under the authority of that Court, Hon. Platt Potter, one of the Justices of the Supreme Court, presiding. The subpœna was duly served on Ray at the City of Albany. He refused to obey its mandates on the grounds of his privilege as Member of Assembly of the State of New York, then in session. The District Attorney of Saratoga County then applied to the Court for an attachment against Ray for such disobedience. It was granted by the Court, and the officer was directed to serve the same by producing the body of Ray before the Court. He went to Albany on the morning of the 21st and arrested Ray at his lodgings. Ray insisted on his privilege, and refused to accompany the officer, who then informed him that he should take him by force. Under protest, the gentleman submitted himself to the custody of the officer.

When the arrest of Ray was communicated to the House of Assembly, it created great excitement in that body, and elicited an exciting debate. It was regarded as a question involving a high breach of privilege of the House, and an insult to their dignity. It was finally referred to the Committee on Grievances for grave consideration. This Committee was composed of seven of the then most experienced members of the House. The Hon. Thomas C. Field was Chairman. After thorough inquiry and a full investigation, the Committee presented an elaborate report, stating the facts and circumstances of the case, the effect of the act upon the character and dignity of the House, the encroachments on legislative rights of the law of Parliamentary privileges, and of the danger of the public interests if the precedent coming from such a source should pass without public rebuke. The Committee came to the conclusion "that the arrest of the Hon. Henry Ray, on January 21, 1870—a Member of Assembly from the First District of the County of Ontario—on an attachment issuing out of the Court of Oyer and Terminer then being held in the County of Saratoga, of which the Hon. Platt Potter was Presiding Justice, was a high breach of the privileges of this House by the said Potter, and deserves the censure of this House. Your Committee, therefore, respectfully submit the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the Hon. Platt Potter, Justice of the Supreme Court of the Fourth Judicial District, be summoned and required to appear before the bar of this House for a high breach of its privilege in issuing an attachment for the arrest of the Hon. Henry Ray, a Member of Assembly of the State of New York from the First District of the County of Ontario; and that the House will then and there take such action as the House in its judgment may see fit."

A similar resolution was passed in relation to the District Attorney of Saratoga County, who applied for the attachment against Ray.

The notice to appear at the Bar of the House and answer was served on the Judge February 14, 1870, only two days previous to that appointed for the hearing.

At twelve o'clock noon on the 16th of February, Judge Potter appeared at the bar of the Assembly, when the Speaker of the House briefly stated to him the charges which he was required to answer, and called upon him to state any excuse for his conduct in issuing his attachment against Hon. Henry Ray, a member of the House.

Judge Potter, who had appeared with Hon. Wm. A. Beach, as counsel, proposed that that gentleman should answer for him. Mr. Fields stated that the presence of counsel in such cases was unusual, whereupon the Speaker declared the Judge could not be heard through his counsel.

"Then," said Judge Potter, "I will speak for myself." He then entered on his remarks with the calm confidence of one who can rely upon himself in any emergency. His argument was able, profound and elaborate; every authority bearing on the matter in any way—whether English or American—was fully considered and digested. It did not touch upon anything which

would excite the fancy, for it contained nothing but logic, learning and facts. The Assembly and many Senators who came to be present, and a vast throng of spectators, listened with deep and unwearied attention. All who heard it were lost to everything except the words which fell from the lips of the speaker, standing under such peculiar circumstances. But he had the complete mastery of his subject, and his words flowed with intellectual energy.

We regret that we have not space to give in detail his remarkably able arguments—this great defense of an independent judiciary. It was rewarded by a great and signal triumph.

"Although," said the Judge, in concluding his argument, "I have appeared here and offered this defense, I do not say that I submit this case to you, though probably that will be the effect of your action; but, sir, I stand here PROTESTING, earnestly PROTESTING, that I am not here in obedience to your power, but here out of courtesy to an independent department of this Government."

At the close of this argument, Thomas C. Fields, Member from the City of New York, rose and made a motion that Judge Potter withdraw from the House until his case could be disposed of.

The Speaker then informed the Hon. gentleman that he could withdraw to the library till his case was decided.

Judge Potter.—"I prefer to stay, and unless driven from the House by its power shall remain."

The Speaker.—"The request of the Hon. Judge will be granted."

Judge Potter.—"I have made no request," taking his seat.

A long and exciting debate in the House followed. Mr. Fields offered a resolution that Hon. Platt Potter, in issuing the attachment for the arrest of Hon. Henry Ray, Member of Assembly from Ontario, was guilty of a high breach of the privileges of this House, and that he be reprimanded by the Speaker in the presence of this House.

This resolution received no support and was withdrawn, whereupon Mr. Alvord, of Onondaga, offered the following amendment to Mr. Field's resolution.

Resolved, "That the Hon. Platt Potter was mistaken as to the privileges of this House in the action taken by him in the arrest of Hon. Henry Ray, but this House do not believe that intention or desire to interfere with the independence or dignity of the House actuated him in the performance of that which he deemed his official duty."

Mr. Wm. D. Murphy offered a substitute for that resolution, to the effect that Judge Potter be discharged from the custody of the House until the hour of twelve o'clock on the first day of March, and that in the meantime the opinion of the Attorney-General be communicated as to the term "Civil Process" in the statute exempting legislators from arrest. This was lost.

The question was then taken upon the motion of Mr. Alvord, which was carried by a vote of 92 to 15, and thus ended the case, a sketch of which only is contained in Barbor's Reports, Vol. 55, page 625.

Very soon after Judge Potter's discharge, he received a large number of letters, "the voluntary congratulations of the jurists, statesmen and lawyers, names distinguished in the State and nation." They were written to the Judge as the indorsement of the soundness of his argument upon the question of the independence of the judiciary. These letters, though not written with the object of publication, have appeared in a pamphlet containing the argument of Judge Potter, published by and at the request of members of the Bar in the counties of Rensselaer, Saratoga, Montgomery and Schenectady, to which publication Judge Potter consented, inasmuch as numerous and material errors and omissions in the newspaper report of the argument demanded correction.

Further evidence of the high esteem in which the judiciary and the bar held Judge Potter, and the gratification his legislative triumphs gave them, was exhibited in the September following that event. A State Judicial Convention was held at Rochester in September, 1870, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Judge of the Court of Appeals. It was chiefly attended mostly by judges and ex-judges. Mr. Potter was unanimously chosen permanent President of the Convention, upon the express grounds of his triumphant victory over the Legislature on the question of the independence of the judiciary.

Judge Potter's written opinions and judgments exhibit the profound lawyer, the thoughtful, patient and investigating judge.

He has attained distinction as a writer. Among his written productions we refer to the following:

In 1870, while still on the bench serving as judge, he prepared a work upon the construction and interpretation of American Statutes and Constitutions. In it he also included, with approval, the law of England, as far as applicable, and as laid down by one Dwarris, a distinguished law writer of that country. The work prepared by Judge Potter is entitled "Potter's Dwarris." It is a work universally approved as authority in all the States of this country. In 1875 he compiled and greatly enlarged, with the later authorities, a treatise on Equity Jurisprudence, originally prepared by John Willard. This is known as Potter's edition of that work. In 1879 he prepared an original work on corporations, in two volumes, entitled "Potter on Corporations." Each of these three works has been recognized in this country as standard authority, and they are now used as books for study and instruction in the Albany and other law schools.

Judge Potter is distinguished for his domestic and social qualities. His own fireside is, to him, the dearest place on earth. His conversation is agreeable and instructive. His long and large acquaintance with distinguished men of the past and the present, and his reminiscences of their careers, give an historic interest to his conversation. He possesses the rare faculty of eliciting the strong points in the person's character with whom he converses.

Yours most respectfully
John Sanders

As years fall upon him, they bring no asperities to his disposition, no dimness to the light of his social and mental powers, nor do they detract aught from the suavity of his manners. He is in every sense of the word a Christian gentleman, and has for many years been an elder of the First Presbyterian Church in Schenectady. His piety is with him a deep sentiment—it is warm, but not heated; earnest, but tranquil; a principle, not an impulse.

That a man like Judge Potter should be held in the highest esteem and affection by his friends and neighbors, is the natural reward of a well-spent life.

Judson Stuart Landon was born in Salisbury, Litchfield County, Conn., December 16, 1832. His great-grandfather, James Landon, represented that town in the Legislature of the Colony of Connecticut in 1759, and his uncle, also James Landon, represented the same town in the Legislature of the State just one hundred years later. His father, William Landon, who married Phebe, daughter of Dr. Cyrus Berry, a physician of Dutchess County, was born in the same town, and died there in 1876 at the age of eighty-one. He was a merchant and farmer.

Mr. Landon was educated in the common schools, and in the American and New York Conference seminaries. In 1853 he was a teacher of Latin, mathematics and natural sciences in the academy at Princetown, Schenectady County, N. Y. He at the same time pursued the study of law without an instructor. In 1854 he left the academy and studied law in Yale College for one year. In 1855 he returned to the academy as its principal. He received the degree of Master of Arts from Union College the same year. In 1856 he was admitted to the Bar, and was elected District Attorney of Schenectady County in the fall of that year. Since then he has resided in Schenectady. He was re-elected District Attorney in 1859. In February, 1865, he was appointed County Judge to fill a vacancy, and was elected for four years in the fall of that year. In 1867 he served as a member of the State Constitutional Convention. In 1873 he was elected Justice of the Supreme Court in the Fourth Judicial District. Jesse Gay, of Plattsburgh, was the candidate of the Democrats, but declined to run, and the election of Justice Landon was not opposed.

He is one of the governors of Union University, a trustee of Union College and of the Albany Law School, and at present acting president of Union College. He received the degree of LL. D. from Rutgers College in 1885.

His practice for several years was chiefly confined to litigated cases. In 1868 he was one of the counsel for Robert C. Dorn, Canal Commissioner, who was tried before the Court of Appeals and the Senate upon articles of impeachment preferred against him by the Assembly. He opened the case before the Court and examined the witnesses on behalf of Mr. Dorn, who was acquitted.

Austin A. Yates was born in Schenectady, March 24, 1836; graduated from Union College in 1854; admitted to the Bar in 1857. He immediately began the practice of his profession, and at the same time became editor of the Schenectady *Daily Times*. During the civil war he raised a company, of which he became captain, and for meritorious service in putting down a rebellion of miners in Pennsylvania he secured from President Lincoln the honorary rank of Brevet-Major. In 1864 he was elected District Attorney of Schenectady, but resigned the office in 1873, on his election as County Judge. In 1879 he was appointed Attorney to the Insurance Department by the State Superintendent of Insurance, which office he held during the Governorship of Alonzo B. Cornell.

Hon. Samuel W. Jackson was born in the town of Palatine, Montgomery County, N. Y., June 28, 1821. His father, Allen H. Jackson, was a graduate of West Point, and was a civil engineer of distinction. His mother was the sister of Judge Paige, of Schenectady. He graduated from Union College in 1842, receiving in due time the degree of A. M. He completed his legal studies in the office of Paige & Potter, and was licensed as an attorney in 1843, and as counselor in 1846. He practiced law from 1843 to 1850 in Gilboa, Schoharie County, and for a time in New York, and came to Schenectady in 1858. He was appointed by Governor Hoffman, in 1867, to fill the unexpired term of Judge E. H. Rosencrans. In 1872 he was elected a member of the Constitutional Commission, and is now attorney for the New York Central Railroad for his locality. Judge Jackson is a man of excellent legal attainments and strict attention in the performance of his duties, and has established a flourishing practice, and is highly honored by the community.

HON. JOHN SANDERS.

Hon. John Sanders was born in Glenville, N. Y., in 1802. His father was Presiding Judge of Albany County when Schenectady County was a part of it. He graduated from Union College in 1822, and completed his legal studies in 1825, and practiced for a year in Albany, and afterward in Northampton, Catskill and Clermont, N. Y. In 1836 he settled in Schenectady, and in 1840 was appointed by Gov. Seward Surrogate, which office he held till 1844. He was County Judge from 1855 till 1860. He was identified with the interests of the Bar in various localities of the State, and is the author of a history of the County of Schenectady.

Hon. Walter T. L. Sanders, son of the Hon. John Sanders, was born in Catskill, N. Y., September 7, 1831. He engaged in teaching and business for some years, and was admitted to the practice of law in Schenectady in 1858. Elected Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in 1860, elevated to office of County Judge in 1870, and member of Assembly in 1876. These various public positions he filled with ability.

Edward W. Paige was born in Schenectady, July 11, 1844, and graduated from Union College in 1864; from Harvard Law School in June, 1866;

and Albany Law School shortly afterward. He occupies a leading position in his profession, and has served as Assistant State Attorney-General.

HON. EDWARD D. CUTLER was born in Ballston, N. Y., December 18, 1849; was educated in the common schools and at the Classical Institute, Schenectady; was a clerk in the grocery store of Adam Dillenbeck nine years; in 1877 entered the law office of Hon. A. A. Yates, and studied law two years, graduating from Albany Law School in 1880; became a law partner with Judge Yates; in the fall of 1884 was nominated by acclamation by the Democratic party as Member of Assembly for Schenectady County, and gained the election, running 625 ahead of the electoral ticket.

HON. D. C. BEATTIE was born in Salem, N. Y., December 2, 1827, and graduated from Norwich University, Vt., in 1845. He practiced law in Chicago from June, 1850, to October, 1859, and at Albany, 1860–62, coming to Schenectady in February the latter year. He was District Attorney of Schenectady County from January 1, 1875, to January 1, 1878, and has been County Judge since January 1, 1880.

ALONZO P. STRONG, lawyer, whose office is in the Y. M. C. A. Building, is a prominent member of the city and county Bar. He has an extensive practice and stands among the leading members of the Schenectady Bar.

SAMUEL T. BENEDICT, lawyer, was born in Danbury, Conn., in 1837, and graduated from Union College in 1860 and from Harvard Law School in 1862. He practices his profession principally in New York, and has been a resident of Schenectady since 1865.

JOHN A. DE REMER was for a short time tutor of mathematics in Union College. As a lawyer he commands a lucrative practice. He has taken an active interest in politics, affiliating with the Republican party, and has held several important offices, the last being postmaster of Schenectady.

E. NOTT SCHERMERHORN, a descendant of one of the oldest families, though a lawyer of ability, has been principally connected with other pursuits. He was Collector of Internal Revenue from 1864 to 1882, and was appointed receiver of the Jones Car Works, February 4, 1884. He also conducts an extensive real estate and insurance business.

HORATIO GATES GLENN, attorney, was born in Schenectady, December 26, 1859, and graduated from Union College in 1881 and from the Albany Law School in 1883. Since then he has practiced in his native city.

CHARLES HASTINGS began the practice of law in 1872 in Schenectady, and has secured an extensive practice.

J. TELLER SCHOOLCRAFT, attorney at law, began practice at Schenectady in 1876. He was elected District Attorney on the Democratic ticket in 1880 and re-elected in 1883.

OMIE F. VEDDER, law student and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, is a graduate of Union Classical Institute; was a school teacher from 1878 to 1882, and was managing editor of the Schenectady *Daily Union* from April, 1883, to October, 1884. He was Committee Clerk in the Assembly of 1884, and has also been Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

EDWARD E. KRIEGSMAN was born in Albany, N. Y., in 1852, and became a lawyer in 1878, and added the insurance business three years later. He was City Clerk from February, 1881, to May, 1883, and since June, 1882, has been Secretary of Board of Health and Registrar of Vital Statistics.

JACOB W. CLUTE was born in Schenectady, October 12, 1846, and was admitted to the bar of Schenectady County April 16, 1868, and has been located in the city since. He has represented the Second ward as Alderman two terms. He is also Secretary of the Schenectady County Bible Society.

JAMES A. GOODRICH, attorney at law, was born in Schenectady in 1856, and graduated from Union College in 1879, and from the Albany Law School in 1882.

SCHENECTADY COUNTY BAR.—Hon. Frothingham Fish, Justice; David C. Beattie, Louis C. Beattie, Samuel T. Benedict, Walter Briggs, Demetrius M. Chadsey, Jacob W. Clute, John F. Clute, Edward D. Cutler, Simon Calkins, David Daggett, John A. De Remer, Robert Furman, James Fuller, Horatio G. Glen, James A. Goodrich, Charles Hastings, Samuel W. Jackson, Edward E. Kriegsman, Robert J. Landon, R. T. Lomasney, John E. Myers, John McShea, Platt Potter, Edward W. Paige, Charles E. Palmer, David Cady Smith, Everett Smith, Gerardus Smith, Walter T. L. Sanders, Charles P. Sanders, Jr., Alonzo P. Strong, J. Teller Schoolcraft, E. Nott Schermerhorn, Alex. J. Thomson, Wm. J. Van Epps, George O. Van De Bogert, Austin A. Yates, James A. Van Voast, Alex. M. Vedder; Thomas Yelverton, Clerk of the Court; William J Stevens, Crier; Jacob De Forest, Sheriff.

ECCLESIASTICAL SOCIETIES.

THE REFORMED NETHER DUTCH CHURCH, SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

At the first settlement of Schenectady in 1662, there were but five Dutch churches and ministers in the Province, viz.: those of

New Amsterdam (New York), whose ministers were Johannes Megapolensis and Samuel Drisius.

Beverwyck (Albany), Gideon Schaets.

Breuckelyn (Brooklyn), Henricus Selyns.

Esopus (Kingston), Hermanus Bloom.

Midwout and Amersfort (Flatbush, L. I.), Johannes T. Polhemus.

Of these the church at Beverwyck, founded twenty years before, was the oldest in the colony, except that of New Amsterdam.* Her first dominie (1642 to 1647) was Johannes Megapolensis, who now ministered in New Amsterdam; the second,

*A church (Presbyterian so far as having ruling elders) composed of settlers who founded Southampton, L. I., in June, 1640, was organized at Lynn in May of that year, and a similar church was organized at New Haven in October of the same year by the settlers of Southold, on the same island, the settlement of this latter town having also been effected in the month of October.

Gideon Schaets (1652–1690). The latter probably assisted at the organization of the church at Schenectady, to which he occasionally ministered until his labors ceased in his own church in 1690.

The date and circumstances of this organization are involved in much obscurity, the early records of both churches being lost. But from occasional mention made in contemporaneous papers and records, it is safe to say that the church of Schenectady was in existence between the years 1670 and 1680, and probably earlier. Thus, on the occasion of the death of Hans Janse Eenkluys, in 1683, the deacons petition the court at Albany for letters of administration on his effects, and say * * * "*dat eenen* Hans Janssen *op den 7 meert* 167⅘ *heeft overgedraegen aende aermen van Schaenhechtade zeecke syne plantage*," etc., etc.; in other words, that Hans Janse, in 1675, made over to the poor of Schenectady his plantation, on condition he should be maintained in his old age and weakness, which they say they have done, and paid the expenses of his burial. Now this *plantage* was simply the "Poor Pasture," and was the property of the church from Eenkluys' time down to 1862, when it was sold.

These facts seem to point to the existence of the church as early as 1674, for it is a well-known fact that the Dutch churches were the guardians of the poor, the orphans, and the aged, who were without natural protectors, and received and dispensed large alms and property for this purpose.

The next incidental mention of this church is found in the records of the city of Albany. In February, 1679, "the court and *consistory* of Schenectady requested that *Domine* Schaets may be sent four Sundays in one year to administer the Lord's Supper to said place and community, which request is granted in so far that *Domine* Schaets is allowed to go four times in one year to administer the Holy Sacrament, but not on a Sunday, whereas it would be unjust to let the community [of Albany] be without preaching."

Thirdly, The prosperous condition of the poor fund of the church from 1680 to 1690 shows pretty clearly that it had been organized some years previous to the former date. At the close of the year 1689, *Domine* Thesschenmaecker audited the deacons' accounts, and found that the unexpended alms contributed for the poor amounted to about 4,000 guilders, of which about 3,000 guilders had been loaned to individuals on bonds dating back in one case to 1681. Though the Dutch were a liberal people in matters appertaining to their church, it is not probable that such an accumulation of alms was made entirely within the ten years above mentioned, especially when their numbers are considered, and that in this time the parsonage house was constructed and their first *Dominie* was called and maintained. It is fair, therefore, to conclude that the Dutch Church of Schenectady was certainly an organized body in 1674—probably much earlier.

The first twenty years of the village was a struggle with the hardships of frontier life; its energies were spent in removing the forest and subduing the soil. For religious privileges it was dependent upon Albany until 1683, when the little hamlet having grown sufficiently strong in numbers and wealth, called its first minister. The earliest mention of *Dominie* Thesschenmaecker in the church records is found in a book of miscellaneous writings, the first leaves of which unfortunately are wanting.

The following is a copy and translation of the first page in its present mutilated condition:

(Copy.)

Uytgyeve.	[1683?]
aen Myndert Wemp,	F. 48
aen een kan,	8
aen Jan Roelofsen voor.....	24
aen 5 Witte broden,	1
aen domine Tassemaker.....	24
aen emanual Consaul,	6
aen Lubbert gysbertse voor 2 dagen Wercke,	6
aen spyckers van Albanie,	6
aen den ½ duyzend harde steen,	18
aen 2 bevers aen Laseysers tot het huys te singelen,	48
aen 12 gulden aen....door stacken en....voor verbruyck aen de heyninge,	12
27 april voor wyn tot het naght mael aen domine tasschenmaker betalt,	20
27 May domine Schats Verstelt,	36
Schoonmaken van der Kerche,	13
.....	1.10
....	5.
.....	2.10
Voor wyn van het naght mael,	20.0
aen Adam Vroom,	24.
nogh aen domine tasschemaker voort maken vande heyninge aen het erf,	45.
nogh voor 7 maal witte broot tot het avont mael *a* fl. 1.10 a maal,	10.10
Class permurent een dagen ryden,	18
2¾ dagen aen de heyninge,	22
Voor te singelen van 't huys,	12
aen 2 Vragsten posten gasacht,	6
2 glazz Raamen,	10
Somma,	fl. 516–13

(Translation.)

Expenditures.	[1683?]
To Myndert Wemp, guilders,	F. 48
To [paid for] a pot,	8
To Jan Roelofsen, for.....	24
To 5 white loaves,	1
To domine Tassemaker,.....	24
To Emanual Consaul,	6
To Lubbertse Gysbertse for two days' work,	6
To nails from Albany,	6
To the half thousand hard bricks,	18
To two beavers to Laseysers shingling the house,	48
To 12 guilders....for stakes....for use on the fence,	12
27 April, For wine for the Lord's Supper paid to Domine Tasschenmaker,	20
27 May, presented to Domine Schaets,	36
Cleaning the church,	13
....	1.10
.....	5.
.....	2.10
For wine for the Lord's supper,	20.0
To Adam Vrooman,	24.
Also to Domine Tasschemaker for making the fence to the lot,	45.
Also for white bread 7 times for the Lord's supper *a* fl. 1.10 a time,	10.10
Class Purmerent [Van der Volgen] one day's carting,	18
2¾ days on the fence,	22
for the shingles of the house,	12
To two loads of posts sawed,	6
2 window glasses (or sashes),	10
Total,	florins 516.13

From these accounts we learn that Dominie Thesschenmaecker came to Schenectady before the

death of Dominie Schaets (1690), and that the first of the five houses of worship built by this society was then built. We know little about it except that it was small and inconvenient, and that it stood at the junction of Church, State and Water streets.

Dominie Pieter Thesschenmaecker, little known except by his tragical end, came to this country from Guiana, whither he had gone from Utrecht a young theological student, and is first mentioned in a petition for his services, dated 1676.

It appears that at this time he had not been ordained, for in 1679, on application from Newcastle on the Delaware, the Governor directed Dominie Newenhuysen to examine and induct him into the ministry of the Protestant Reformed Church.

After his ordination, Dominie Thesschenmaecker departed immediately for his new field of labors. Here he remained three years until 1682, when he left and accepted a call from Schenectady, where he labored six years with reasonable success.

Until 1700 the church was without a pastor, and indeed it does not appear that the people had any religious privileges, except such as might be had by a visit to Albany, until 1694, when Dominie Dellius began to minister to them occasionally. His first recorded visits that year were on the 11th of April and 9th of October, on which occasions new members were added to the church and children baptized. In 1695 he came four times, viz.: on the 2d January, 27th March, 26th June and 9th October. In 1696 five times: January 8th, April 15th, July 1st, September 19th and December 30th. In 1697 three times: April 6th, June 30th and November 10th. And in 1698 four times: 27th April, 20th July, 19th October and 28th December. In all eighteen visits in five years.

In 1699 Dominie Dellius returned to the Fatherland, and Dominie Johannes Petrus Nucella, succeeding to his place as minister of Albany, visited Schenectady once—on the 31st of August. The following year he came twice, viz.: on the 9th January and 25th May.

The number of members added to the church by these two ministers was twenty-five; the number of children baptized seventy-six, seven of whom were Indians.

But no sooner was peace proclaimed in 1697 than both village and church began a new career of prosperity. Within five years a second minister was called, and a new house of worship was erected.

Dominie B. Freeman (or Freerman) succeeded Dominie Dellius in 1700. He was a man of mature age. In 1698 he was a member of the church of Amsterdam, and on the 9th of March of that year was licensed to preach by the Classis of Worden and Overryaland, and ordained by the Classis of Lingen, March 16, 1760. He immediately departed for his distant charge, accompanied by Dominie Johannes Lydius. On the 20th of July they arrived in Albany, where the latter remained, while the former passed on to Schenectady, and on the 28th commenced his labors as pastor of the church and missionary to the Mohawks. The latter office had been filled by Dominie Dellius for many years, and both for political as well as religious reasons, it was considered important to continue so powerful an agency among the native tribes.

Barnardus Freeman

In regard to this matter the Earl of Bellmont, Governor of the Provinces, said to the assembled Sachems of the Five Nations, on the 26th of August, 1700: * * * "I have sent to England for ministers to instruct you in the true Christian religion. I expect some very soon; for the present I shall settle Mr. Vreeman, an able, good minister, at Schenectada, who I intend shall be one of those that shall be appointed to instruct you in the true faith. He will be near the Mohacks, and in your way as you come from [the] several castles to this town (Albany), and will take pains to teach you. He has promised me to apply himself with all dilligence to learn your language, and doubts not to be able to preach to you therein in a year's time." In a communication to the Board of Trade the Governor says: "I send your Lordships a copy of Mr. Freeman's letter. He is a Dutch minister at Schenectady, and a very good sort of a man."

As Albany was the headquarters of Indian trade as well as of the yearly Council held with the Five Nations, Dominie Lydius was also appointed to instruct the natives in the Christian faith, and "ye bettar to enable him to serve them in ye work of the Gospell, ye Interpretesse [Hillitie] was appointed to be his assistant in that affair as formerly." * * *

In the five years spent at Schenectady, Dominie Freeman became well versed in the Indian tongue, so as not only to preach, but to write in it, and so attached were the natives to him, that five years after he left Schenectady they petitioned Gov. Hunter for his reappointment, "and that he live [with us] at our Castle and not at Schinnectady nor Albany."

Probably his was the first attempt made to translate the church service or portions of the Holy Scriptures into the language of the Mohawks.

The salary of the early ministers of this church was one hundred pounds of New York currency ($250), house and garden rent free, pasturage for two cows and a horse, and sixty cords of wood delivered at the parsonage. The salary commenced from the day the Dominie sailed from Holland, and the expenses of the voyage, until he arrived in Schenectady, were paid by the church. The following is Do. Freeman's first bill, rendered August 25, 1700:

"16 mar. 1700 to 25 aug. the Consistory is indebted to Domine Freeman:

"For current salary from the 16 march to the 25th of august,— is five months and nine days and amounts to a sum of fifty pounds and something more,—is in sewant, gl. 2.000

"Also expenses incurred on the voyage, in fresh provisions, wine, brandy, vegetables and hens, besides about three weeks expenses on the Isle of Wight,—is the sum of gl. 374 (or $46.75)

gl. 2.374 (or $296.75)

"Schenectady. BARNHARDUS FREERMAN."

Trifling as this amount may seem, the little community were unable to raise it, and on the 3d of September, 1700, applied to the Common Council of Albany for permission to solicit contributions in Albany. In reply, the Commonalty advise "that they first goe and Visite there own Congregation, and if they do not obtaine said Sallary by them, then to make their application to the Commonality at ye next Court day."

When Do. Freeman was appointed missionary to the Indians by Gov. Bellomont, he was promised a salary of £60; for expenses, £15; and for the interpreter, Laurens Claese Van der Volgen, who was his assistant, £25.

The Governor expected to obtain this salary from the corporation for the propagation of the gospel at Boston, but in case he failed there, promised to secure it for him out of the revenue of the Province.

It is presumed that said corporation declined to assume this burden, and, as a consequence, the General Assembly passed an act in his favor.

On the death of Do. Lupardus, of Kings County, in 1702, the consistory of the churches there applied to Gov. Cornbury for permission to call Do. Freeman, who at the same time gave encouragement of his acceptance.

Fearing their minister might be enticed away from them, the Consistory of the church in Schenectady, the next year, presented to Lord Cornbury a remonstrance against his leaving; notwithstanding which, and also that the Governor objected to his leaving, he accepted the call. It was not, however, until the summer of 1705 that he left for Flatbush, the license to change his pastoral relations being finally granted by Gov. Cornbury on the 26th of December of the same year.

Soon after Do. Freeman came to Schenectady, the house of worship then used was found to be unfit for the accommodation of the inhabitants and Indian proselytes; but as the little community had not yet fully recovered from the effects of the late incursion of the French and their savage allies, the funds necessary for a new house could not be raised without aid from abroad. A petition, therefore, was presented to Gov. Nanfan in 1701, asking permission to circulate a subscription throughout the Province for this purpose.

This petition being favorably received by the Governor and Council, on the 27th October, 1701, he issued his license to the inhabitants of Schenectady to receive contributions from the people of the Province for the space of six months from that date, and directed all justices of the peace, schouts and other officers of his Majesty, as well as ministers of the gospel, to use their utmost endeavors to aid this laudable object. This appeal to the liberality of their neighbors was successful, and the church was probably finished in 1703. The site was that of the first house of worship, at the junction of Church, Water and State streets, and the dimensions, fifty-six north and south by forty-six feet east and west, Amsterdam measure. The burying ground adjoined the church upon the west side, and was fifteen feet wide by fifty-six feet long. Speaking of Schenectady in 1710, the Rev. Thomas Barclay says: "There is a convenient and well-built church, which they freely give me the use of."

Probably it was substantially built of stone, for after its abandonment in 1734 as a place of worship, it was used for some years as a fort. By the year 1754 it had been either removed or used as a barracks, watch-house and market; by 1768 the site was clear and designated the Market Place.

The removal of Do. Freeman was a disheartening event to the church. He had gained the confidence of the people and considerable influence over the neighboring Indians. To obtain another minister from Holland, in their present circumstances, was impossible. They were not only a small, but a poor people and, without aid, not in a condition to support a minister.

For the following ten years they were destitute of the stated ministry, being only occasionally visited by the ministers of Albany and other more distant settlements.

Between the years 1705 and 1715, Dominies Johannes Lydius and Petrus Van Driessen, of Albany, Petrus Vas, of Kingston, and Gualterus Du Bois, of New York, made 24 visits to Schenectady, baptizing 152 children, of whom 19 were Indians. In all this time the records show but one member added to the church.

Rev. Thomas Barclay, chaplain to the fort in Albany, preached occasionally in Schenectady.

As early as 1713, the church applied to Governor Hunter for permission to call a new minister, and received his license, dated July 27th that year. On the 17th day of May the following year, the consistory addressed a letter to Willem Bancker, merchant, of Amsterdam, and Rev. Matthias Winterwyck, of Alphen (Dalphin ?), Holland, authorizing them to procure a minister for the church, and promising him a salary of £90, to commence on his arrival, a dwelling free of rent, firewood at the door, a large garden, and free pasture for two

cows and a horse. The result of this negotiation was the arrival of Dominie Thomas Brouwer, in July, 1714. He died on the 15th of January, 1728. In his will he left £25—one-half to the church and the other for the poor; his gun, pistols, horse, table linen, etc., to various members of the families of Gerrit Symonse Veeder and Johannes Banker, and his books, best clothing, linen, etc., to his two brothers. He speaks of neither wife nor children.

The fourth minister of the church was Do. Reinhardus Erichzon. His call or *Beroep brief* was dated 30th March, 1728, two and a half months after the death of his predecessor. He was probably a native, or at least a resident, of Groningen, North Holland, and before his call to Schenectady had ministered three years to the churches of Hackensack, Paramus and Schraalenberg, New Jersey. The consistory agreed to give him a salary of £100 ($250), a parsonage house in good repair, a garden kept in a fence, pasture for a horse and two cows and firewood at the door. Dominie Erichzon left Schenectady in October, 1736, having received a call to the church of Freehold and Middletown, N. J.

The matter of erecting a larger church began to be agitated soon after Do. Erichzon became pastor, and the congregation was able not only to build a house which for the time was both substantial and spacious, but also to furnish it with a bell and clock.

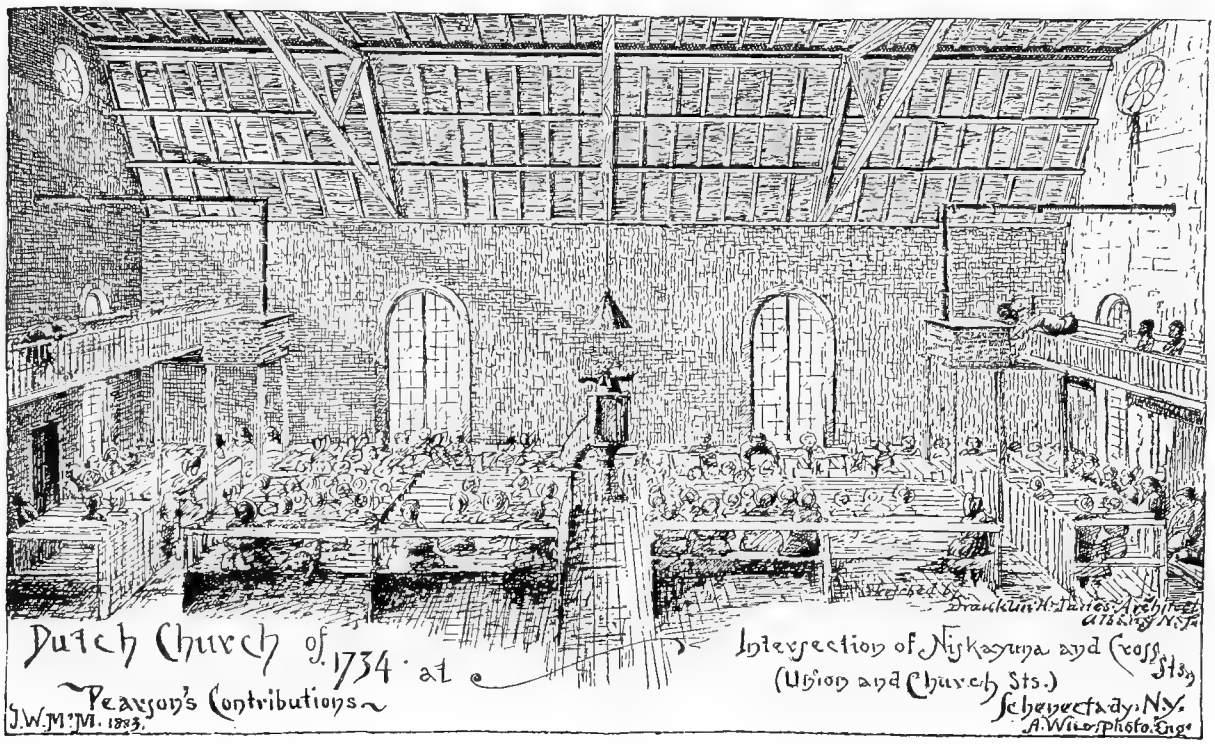
As a preliminary step in this new enterprise, a subscription paper was circulated through the town in 1730, by which £322 was obtained, and extending the appeal up the valley a still further sum of £33-15 was subscribed in money and wheat. The entire sum did not amount to quite one-third the cost of the church, which was £1,167-17-10 ($2,919.73); the remainder was probably derived from the accumulations of former years and from sales of lands and leases—the gift of the trustees of the common lands.

The following is the heading of the subscription, and is interesting as showing the forfeiture for non-payment of the pledges made for the building of this edifice:

"We, or I, the underwritten, promise to pay to Arent Bratt, Jacobus Van Dyck, Dirck Groot and Cornelis Van der Volgen, and Robert Yates, Jacob Swits, Wouter Vrooman and Jan Barentse Wemp, Elders and Deacons, or to their successors, the sum which we, or I, subscribe with our hands, so soon as the foundation of said church is laid; and

failing of the same, we, or I, promise to pay ten pounds current money if we, or I, are negligent in the payment of the sum of money which I with my hand subscribe. As witness our hands or my hand."

After thorough preparation, the work was begun in the spring of 1732. Hendrick Vrooman was *Baas* (Boss) of the men, of whom seventeen were carpenters, besides masons, glaziers, etc. His wages was seven shillings a day; the others were paid from five to six shillings. The *Preeck*-stoel [pulpit] was built by Pieter Cornu for £20, and Gysbert W. Vandenbergh, of Albany, contracted to do the mason work for £80.



This house was dedicated January 13, 1734, on which occasion Do. Erichzon preached in the morning, and Do. Van Driessen, of Albany, in the afternoon. The following Sabbaths, January 20 and 27, the pastor continued the subject of his first sermon.

This third house was situated in Church street, at its junction with Union street, and was eighty feet in length north and south, and fifty-six feet wide. The trustees of the town conveyed to the church not only this site, but also the land around the same ten feet in width, except on the west side, where, by reason of the narrowness of the street, it was limited to five feet. The building material was blue sandstone or graywacke from the quarries east of the village. It had two entrances, one on the south end, the other on the east side, over which was built a porch with a staircase leading to galleries. The roof was in the gambrel style, a few specimens of which still remain in the city. The belfry and clock tower stood on the north end. As seen from the east end of Union street, it presented a pleasing and imposing appearance. The tub-shaped pulpit, fixed upon a narrow pedestal, and surmounted by a conical sounding board, was built against the west wall, in front of which an open space was railed in called the *Doophuisje*. Here the Dominie stood while administering the rite of baptism.

There was a gallery upon all sides save the west, whether built with the church or at a later day is not known, as no mention is made of it before the year 1788, when it began to be occupied by adult males who could not obtain seats below. In this, as in other Dutch congregations, the males and females sat apart, the former upon raised seats, called *gestoelte*, placed against the walls of the church, and the latter in slips or *bancken* upon the floor of the house.

In the first allotments of seats little regard was had to family relations, nor was there any exchange of sittings, and so long as the yearly rent was paid they were the property of the occupants, but in case of removal or death passed to the nearest relative of the same sex. Only in case of non-payment of the customary rent was a seat forfeited. It was then allotted anew at the discretion of the consistory. Every transfer of a sitting cost the new occupant twelve shillings, besides the yearly rent of five shillings for males and four shillings for females. The same sitting was in some cases retained in the same family for three or four generations. The slips were numbered from one upward. The deacons and elders sat in the four benches on

each side of the pulpit, and the magistrates and other men of note upon the long benches on the west side of the church, extending from the pulpit around to the south door.

During the eighty years that this church stood, but few and trifling changes were made in the slips or *bancken* first erected, and these chiefly by additions to accommodate the increasing congregation. The number of places (*plaatsen*) occupied by adults at different periods were as follows:

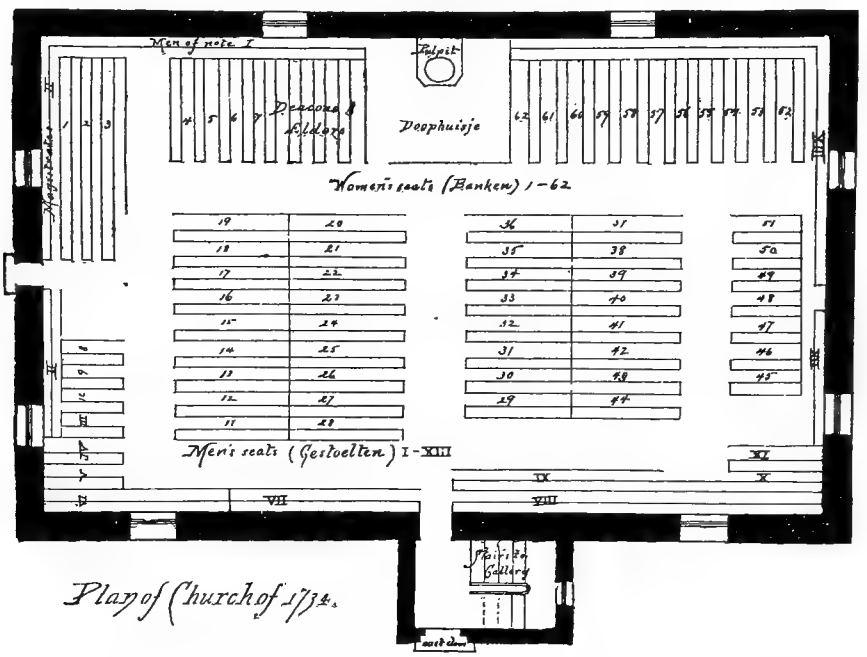
In 1734, men's seats, 86; men in gallery, 0; women's seats, 218; total, 304.

In 1754, men's seats, 104; men in gallery, 0; women's seats, 328; total, 432.

In 1788, men's seats, 125; men in gallery, 35; women's seats, 346; total, 506.

From 1788 to 1814, when the old church was removed, newcomers could not rent seats without great difficulty, except in the gallery, which being chiefly occupied by boys and negroes, was not considered quite respectable.

The people worshiped on the Sabbath almost to the beginning of this century even in the coldest winter, without any other artificial heat than that



derived from foot-stoves. The first stoves used in this church were bought in December, 1792, and set up that winter. They were placed upon two platforms elevated to the height of the gallery, and reached by climbing over the balustrade. It is said that the *Klokluyer* was accustomed to replenish them at the beginning of the dominie's sermon; and, to notify the congregation of the importance of his vocation, was particularly noisy in opening and in shutting the stove-doors. By this arrangement "the top of the church was comfortable, but the people below had to carry foot-stoves to keep themselves warm." So unsatisfactory was this experiment in warming the church that the matter was discussed by the consistory, and the result was that the elevated platforms were removed and the stoves placed upon the floor of the church.

The bell for the church was procured in Amsterdam and did faithful service for more than a century, until it was cracked in 1848. It bore the following inscription:

"De Klok van de Neder-duidsch gemeente van Sconechiade door Haar self bezorght anno 1732. Me fecerunt De Grave et muller Amsterdam."

It was the custom to ring it three times before commencing religious service down to January, 1810, when the consistory

"*Resolved*, that in future the bell shall be rung *twice*, as usual, previous to the commencement of public worship, and that tolling shall be substituted for the *third* ringing." It is said the bell was also rung at the close of service, that the servants at home might have the dinner ready on their masters' return.

In 1740 the church had a public or town clock, purchased probably at the same time with the bell.

Although the church had owned considerable real estate more than fifty years, it had no corporate existence in law and could neither hold nor alienate property, save through individuals acting as its trustees. Feeling the precarious nature of such a tenure, when the church edifice was finished, the consistory petitioned the Governor and Council for a charter. This application was favorably considered, and on the third day of August, 1734, a charter was granted under the great seal of the province.

PARSONAGE.—The old parsonage on the site of the present church had now stood fifty years or more and was falling to decay. It was doubtless the house mentioned in the deed of 1715 to Do. Brouwer and the consistory, and was probably of wood, as were all other houses of this date. It was therefore removed in 1753, and a new building of brick erected on the same lot. It was one story and a half high, with the usual pointed Dutch gable ends. There were two rooms in front on the Union street side. The door was in the middle, over which was a gable. This house stood about sixty years, when it gave place to the church of 1814.

As early as 1805 the subject of repairing the old church was agitated. The church which had stood for so long in mid-street in Albany had gone before the march of improvement, and there was a feeling that Schenectady should follow in its wake. In 1810 the consistory appointed a committee to draw a plan and to report as to the possibility of a new church building, and still another committee to meet the wishes of those who desired to see the old church put in repair. The result of this was a decision to build anew on the parsonage lot. There was much opposition to this on the part of those whose affections clung to the old church, and many thought that the church should be built further east, as the population was extending in that direction. The two sites of the former churches were finally sold to the city to be thrown open to the streets, and the contracts for the new house of worship signed in 1812. In the autumn of 1814 it was so near completion that it could be used for public worship, and on the 20th November the last services were held in the old building. In the treasurer's book is the following entry under date 5th July, 1814: "To paid for liquor when the old spire was taken down, 37½ cents." Nov. 30, 1814, Charles Kane and Henry Yates bought the old church for $442.50. The new church was built but little larger than the old one, and it is a singular fact that for a period of 128 years, from 1734 to 1862, the church accommodations of this congregation remained substantially the same. In the meantime the little hamlet grew into a village, and the village into a city of respectable dimensions. The church had but few competitors in the field, and though it became the mother church of this region, with one exception all her colonies were sent out some years subsequent to 1814. It is proper to make special mention of Nicolas Van der Volgen and his wife, who were large benefactors to this church. By them were given the high brass chandeliers in 1792, and the pleasant organ in 1797, which some now living remember to have heard. The great chandelier (groote kroon) had eighteen lights, besides which there were seven lesser ones (kleyndere kroonan) of six lights each, costing altogether £67–10 New York currency. The gift for the organ was allowed to accumulate until probably 1826, when it was obtained from Henry Erben, of New York, at the probable cost of $1,000. It was consumed by fire with the church in 1861.

VOORLEZER AND VOORSANGER.—The duties of these officers were usually united in the same person and defined by resolution of the Consistory:

January 8, 1810, "*Resolved*, that in future the Clerk of the Church shall commence public service in the morning with the reading of the ten commandments, a chapter of the Bible, and Psalm or Hymn at discretion; and in the afternoon with the reading of the articles of the Creed, together with a Chapter, and Psalm or Hymn." In addition to the above he had "the right and emoluments of burying the dead of the congregation." Next to the minister he was the most inportant officer of the church.

To improve the psalmody of the congregation, on the 13th of February, 1794, the consistory took the following action: "The consistory take into consideration the defective condition of the Dutch Pslamody in the public worship of this church. *Resolved*, that Cornelis De Graff, the chorister, shall use his endeavors, in each family of this village and elsewere, to obtain pupils in singing, on condition that each shall pay one shilling and sixpence a month, the consistory also adding thereto for each scholar for the term of six months one shilling and six-pence a month; provided a certificate be shown to the consistory signed by Mr. De Graff that each scholar has diligently spent his time as he ought.

"Also, Mr. De Graff, in singing, shall try to observe the measure of the half notes and soften his voice as much as possible." Mr. De Graff was voorzenger for twenty-nine years, and tradition says that the advice given him by the consistory was by no means inappropriate. It is said that while sitting on the "back stoop" of his house, which stood where the late Mrs. Abel Smith's house now stands, on State street, he beguiled the evening hours in summer by psalm singing, and that his voice could be clearly heard two miles up the river in a straight line.

KLOKLUYER.—The sexton of the church was called the *Klokluyer*, or bell-ringer, and his duties seem to have been not only to ring the bell, but to keep the benches and seats in proper order and to dig and fill the graves. The earliest mention of this officer in the church records is the following:

"At a consistory held this 1st July, 1696, it was resolved that Simon Groot, Sr., for ringing the bell and arranging the benches and stools in the church, shall receive annually, out of the income of the church or of the deacons' money, the sum of 60 guilders seawant [$7.50], to begin on this 1st of July."

This Simon Groot was the first of the name that settled here, and the ancestor of all the Groots found in this vicinity. He and his five sons were carried captives into Canada by the French and Indians in 1690.

The salary of the sexton was the same down to 1735, when it was increased to the yearly stipend of $15.

Margaret Veeder, widow of Symon Volkertse Veeder, held the office during the years 1748–9 for $8.25 per annum.

From 1750 to 1758 Sara Marselis was bell-ringer, the duties being performed for £4, or $10.

In 1759 Isaac Quackenbos' "neger" rang the bell, and "Peeter Seesar" (Cæsar), from 1760 to 1766, for £6 per annum.

Jacob Van Cise was sexton from 1771 to 1791, at a salary of £10, and was succeeded by his son Gysbert, who was dismissed from the office in 1799 "for delivering the skull of a corpse to the house of Dr. Anderson, and which he was compelled to return in the presence of one of the members of the consistory, and deposit in the place whence it was taken."

The sexton was required to keep order in the church during public worship, and was indemnified against any legal process "that might arise for correcting or turning out of church the unruly and refractory; provided he do not essentially injure or scandalously abuse any person."

Mr. Janus Lighthall was appointed sexton in 1799.

Baptisms.—The baptismal register of this church from 1694 to this time is entire, with the exception of ten years during Dominie Vrooman's ministry; and as all children were baptized, both colored and Indian as well as white, legitimate and illegitimate, it is the only authoritative source, if rightly interpreted, whence the descendants of most of the old Dutch families of this region can derive their pedigrees. In early times baptism was always performed in the church, unless unavoidably prevented, and within a few days after birth; sometimes on the birthday. And it was the duty of the dominie to register each baptized child, with the parents and witnesses' names.

The number of registered baptisms from 1694 to 1852 is 11,396.

Marriages.—The marriage register of this church contains the names of 2,543 couples married between 1694 and 1852.

Under the Dutch Government of New Netherlands, marriage was considered a civil contract, and might be confirmed either by a magistrate or a minister of the gospel. Preliminary to such confirmation, however, the bans were published three Sundays or market days by the minister of the church where the parties resided, or by a magistrate in the court, after which the marriage could be *confirmed* by any minister or magistrate on presentation of a certificate of such publication. No particular place was required for the marriage ceremony. Sometimes it was performed in the church and sometimes in private houses. As it was impossible or inconvenient to comply with the law in all cases, a dispensation and license was granted by the Governor, on the presentation of a "penal bond of £500 that there was no lawful let or impediment" to such marriage. The practice of issuing licenses ceased with the British rule in this State in 1783.

When a widow or widower with infant children married again, it was customary for the parties to contract with the Orphans' Court guardians to protect and preserve the property of said children until they arrived at lawful age.

Courtship.—Comparatively little can be learned about the courtship customs in the early days of the frontier settlements. However, "old maids" were unknown, and widows seldom died in widowhood, unless at very advanced age. They easily and soon secured another husband, a very necessary protection in the sparse settlements of the border lands. The girls were needed at home, and were in great demand as housewives, and needed no fortune save health and strength as their marriage portion. If marriages of convenience were made, the wealth brought to the husband was in the bride's strength and housewifely skill, and the family influence gained by the match. The custom of "*bundling*" was probably practiced to some extent in all the early settlements along the Hudson and in this vicinity. The records of Albany County show some early cases in this locality. At the time of the Revolution it was generally prevalent among the Dutch, insomuch that anything wrong in it did not prevail.

Speaking of Van Corlear, Washington Irving says: "Van Corlear stopped occasionally in the villages to eat pumpkin pies, dance at country frolics and *bundle* with the Yankee lasses."

Tradition says that within this century sermons were preached against it in the Dutch church here, and that it was earnestly defended.

Funerals.—At funerals no women attended the body to the grave, but after the body was borne out, remained to eat cakes and drink spiced wine. They retired quietly before the men returned, who then, in their turn, participated in the funeral feast, and finished with pipes and tobacco. The best room in the house was specially appropriated as the "dead room," and was rarely opened but to be aired and cleaned. Wealthy citizens, in anticipation of a death in their families, were accustomed to procure a cask of wine during their lifetime, and preserve it for this purpose. The preparations for the funeral included setting tables through the house, and placing thereon plates of cake, plates of tobacco, and sometimes hundreds of pipes. At the side of each plate of tobacco was a small roll of paper for lighting the pipe, also candles lit, and wine put up in bottles, and set on the table with wine glasses. The spiced wine was placed on the tables in silver tankards. The occasion was more like a wedding than a funeral.

The coffins were black, made with a regular taper from head to foot, the top like the pitched roof of a house. A large silver plate, the name and date of death and age carved on it, was the only ornament. When removed from the house it was placed upon a bier at the door, a black pall, owned by the church, thrown over it, and it was borne by six or eight pall-bearers, who had four yards of linen given them for scarfs, and the minister had the same. They bore it upon their shoulders to the grave, followed by the relations, even to remote cousins, two by two, and likewise invited guests. No one attended funerals in olden time without an invitation. A list was made out by the friends of the deceased, and the sexton would go around and invite those whose names

were thereon. The charges for attending funerals were regulated by the consistory of the church. The following is a list of prices established in 1771:

"Rules for Cornelis De Graff, appointed sexton the 18th of November, 1771, in regard to what he is at liberty to take for inviting (the friends) and burying (the dead).

"For a person of twenty years old and upward, 16s. to 20s.

"For a person of 15 to 19 years, 15s. to 19s.

"For a person of 10 to 14 years, 14s. to 18s.

"For a person of 5 to 9 years, 13s. to 17s.

"For a person of 1 to 4 years, 8s. to 12s.

"For an unbaptized child, when the bell shall be rung once, 6s. to 10s.

"For ditto when the bell shall not be rung, 3s. to 7s.

"For the Great Pall, 3s.

"For the Little Pall, 9d.

"All thus when he is obliged to invite (the friends) within the village; but when he likewise is obliged to extend the invitations without, he may ask 4 shillings (altered to 6 shillings) more each; this is to be understood, as far as Claas Viele's (upper end of Maalwyck), or this side; but when he is obliged to extend invitations further—to Syme Vedder's (Hoffman's Ferry) or this side— then he may ask 3 shillings (altered to six shillings) more.

"The prices in the above rules are increased by reason of the hard times."

The grave-digger and bell-ringer was allowed to charge as follows:

"For a person of 7 up to and above 20, for a grave, 3s., and for the bell, 3s.

"For a child 1 to 6 years, for the grave, 2s., for the bell, 3s.

"For an unbaptized child, when the bell shall be rung once, for the grave, 2s., and for the bell, 2s.

"For tolling the bell he may likewise ask one shilling more."

He was required at his own expense to keep proper tools for making and filling graves, likewise proper cords, etc.

Prior to the year 1800 there had probably been no hearse in the village. In all funeral processions the bier and pall were used; hence it was not convenient to carry the dead a great distance in this manner, and the people in the country buried their dead on their own lands.

The consistory of the church procured the first hearse in December, 1800, for the use of the congregation and the public for an established fee.

Endowments.—Probably no church in the State outside the City of New York was so munificently endowed as that of Schenectady. In 1740 she owned fully twelve square miles of land in this county, which, had it been conveyed by long leases and not in fee, would have been worth to her now from 300,000 to 500,000 dollars. All this magnificent estate has passed away; at this time she possesses barely a fine house of worship and the lot upon which it stands.

Finances.—In early times the Dutch churches often acted as guardians of widows and orphans; they provided for the poor and kindly looked after the aged and infirm who had no natural protectors; and it was not unusual for the latter to place their property in the hands of the consistory, from whom they received, from time to time, such support as their wants required. The consistory were the almoners of the church. Every Lord's day a collection was taken of the free-will offerings of the people for this, and certain other purposes, and this duty was not omitted even though there were no present objects upon whom their bounty might be bestowed.

In the outset, the little community of Schenectady seems to have had few or no poor people; with the exception of a "shirt for a captive Frenchman," it does not appear from the accounts that the deacons gave a stiver to any person during the years 1687–9. As the funds accumulated they were loaned on bond at 6 per cent. interest to citizens. Thus, in the audit of 1689, obligations to the amount of nearly 3,000 guilders were included in the assets of the church. Moreover the consistory traded with another portion of these funds, buying and selling brass kettles, nails, linen, thread, baize, coverlets, etc.

Particularly unfortunate has it been for Schenectady that the flames of 1690 spared almost nothing of her early records; with the exception of a few leaves of the deacons' account book, all is a blank.

In 1790, and for some years later, there was great scarcity of small change. To meet this inconvenience, many individuals, corporations and churches issued "shin-plasters" for one penny and upward.

On the 6th of September, 1790, the deacons announced to the consistory that in consequence of the scarcity of copper money the weekly collections in the church had fallen off nearly one-half, and therefore inquired whether there was no way of remedying the loss. The Reverend Consistory, having considered the matter, came to the unanimous conclusion to issue "shin-plasters."

The consistory immediately had printed £100 in one, two, three and six penny notes. They were issued by the deacons, and the money received for them was held for their redemption.

PASTORS FROM 1740 TO 1885.

During the four years succeeding Dominie Erichzon the church was without a settled pastor, but was occasionally visited by the ministers of Albany, although they made efforts to secure a pastor from Holland. They finally succeeded in securing Dominie Cornelis Van Santvoord, of Staten Island, who was born in Leyden, and began his ministry in Schenectady, August, 1740.

Dominie Van Santvoord was a man of good natural parts and fine culture. He preached not only in his native tongue, but also in French and English. Under his ministry the church enjoyed a good degree of prosperity. His sudden demise at the early age of 55 years was a sad loss to the town.

For nearly three years after the church was again destitute of a pastor.

The sixth minister of the church was Dominie Barent Vrooman, the first native of the Province ever called to this sacred office. His great-grandfather was one of the pioneer settlers, and, together with his son, was killed in 1690, in the sacking of the village by the French.

He was born in 1725, and began his studies for the ministry under Do. Van Santvoord and finished them under Do. Frelinghuysen, of Albany. In 1751 he went to Holland and studied at the University of Utrecht and obtained ordination. He was inducted into the sacred office as pastor of the congregations of New Paltz, Shawangunk and Wallkil, his parish embracing more than two hundred square miles. Although called to Schenectady September 18, 1753, he did not arrive there until November 1, 1754.

The expense and trouble of calling a minister one hundred years ago is very imperfectly understood by those of the present day. All candidates in theology were obliged to spend more or less time at a university in the Fatherland, and after ordination they returned at the expense of the church calling them. In case of a subsequent removal, it was customary for the church making the call to pay a portion of this expense. The call of Do. Vrooman cost the church in Schenectady $563. For thirty years he remained pastor of the church, though for four years preceding his death he was unable to preach but occasionally, and married 386 couples, baptized 3,521 children, and received 453 into church membership. He is said to have been a man of much heart, familiar and social, and popular with his people.

Dominie Romeyn was the seventh minister, and the last of that long line of ministers who had, from the days of Thesschenmaecker, conducted the entire service of the church in the Dutch language. His active spirit infused new influence into the church and community; an influence that is felt to this time in the educational institutions of the city. He was born in Hackensack, N. J.; graduated from Princeton College, 1765; ordained May 14, 1766; and on the first Sabbath of November, 1784, was installed pastor of this church.

Among his first labors in Schenectady was an attempt to improve the schools and establish an academy and seminary. The result was a charter for Union College, which institution he lived to see commence its prosperous career under the management of Doctors John Blair Smith, Jonathan Edwards and Jonathan Maxey.

His health began failing in 1801, and about the middle of 1802 he became permanently incapacitated for the full performance of his ministerial duties and relinquished all claims upon the church, accepting instead a salary of $520, and was to preach one sermon on the Sabbath in Dutch.

In 1797 the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church elected him one of its Professors of Theology, the duties of which he discharged with honor to himself and benefit to others till the close of his life. He was twice honored with the offer of President of Queen's (now Rutgers) College, and received from her the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

During his ministry the church was seriously disturbed on the subject of English preaching, as there was preaching in English in the Episcopal and Presbyterian churches, and fears were entertained that members of the Dutch congregation would be enticed away from their own church. Various compromises were made by which there was preaching in both English and Dutch at different stated times. The agitation began in 1794, and was carried on with more or less intensity for some years. Dominie Romeyn died on the 16th of April, 1804, and with his death ended stated Dutch preaching in the church of Schenectady.

The Rev. Jacob Sickles was the eighth minister. He was born in Tappan in 1772; graduated at Columbia College in 1792; and was licensed by the Classis of New York in 1794. He was called as assistant minister of this church in October, 1795, being then a divinity student, at a salary of $500.

The Rev. John Hardenberg Meier was the ninth minister. He graduated at Columbia College in 1795, studied theology under Dr. Livingston, and was licensed by the Classis of New York in 1798, at the age of twenty-four years. He accepted a call as assistant minister to Dr. Romeyn, in 1802, at a salary of $662.50, with a house and grounds. The following May he was installed. In less than a year his venerable colleague was removed by death, and within two years thereafter the church was called to mourn his death also.

For two years after the death of Do. Meier, the pulpit was supplied temporarily by ministers from the neighboring churches. The church called Rev. John Brodhead Romeyn, son of the late pastor, at a salary of $1,000, with house and firewood. For some reason the call was not accepted, and a call was made to Mr. Cornelius Borgardus, and he became the tenth minister of the church. He was licensed by the Classis of New York in 1808, and was ordained and installed pastor of this church the 27th of November the same year, being in the twenty-ninth year of his age. He remained with the church four years, and died December 15, 1812, aged thirty-two years.

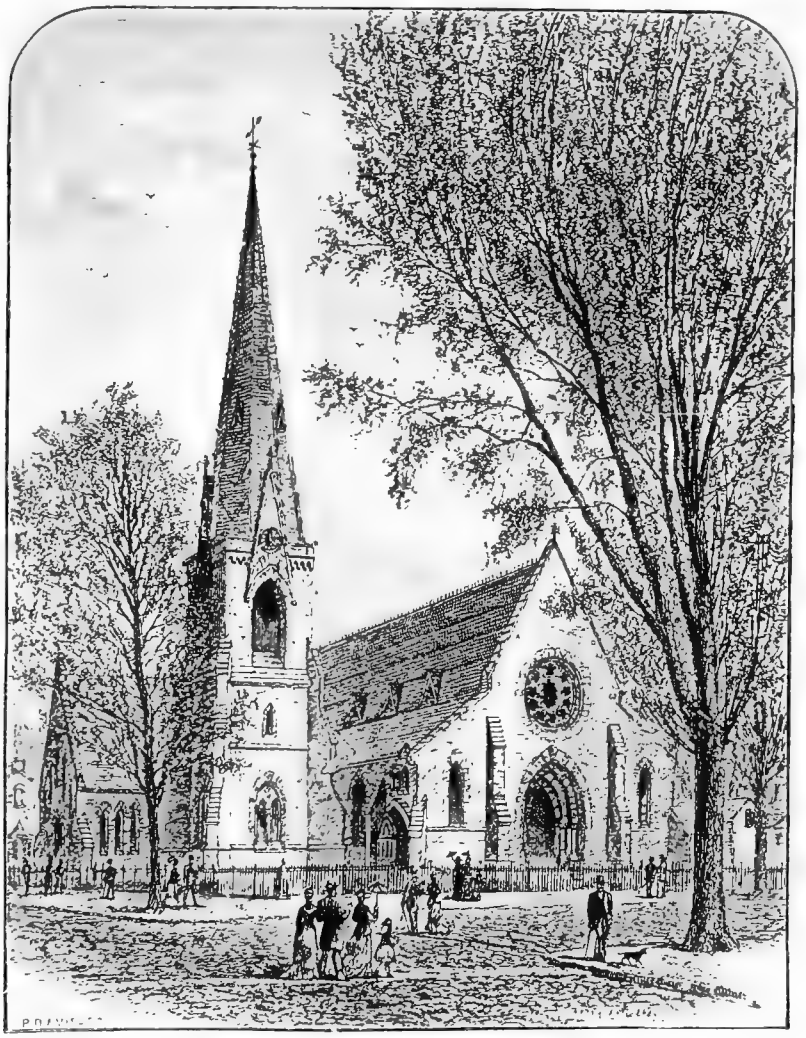
The first application made for the use of the church for a Fourth of July celebration was June 24, 1811, when the consistory granted the request, "provided no instrumental music shall be used and nothing be said in the oration to wound the feelings of any political party."

The Rev. Jacob Van Vechten became the eleventh minister, and remained the longest of any of its pastors. He graduated from Union College in 1809, and was licensed by the Classis of New Brunswick in 1814, at the age of 28 years. He was inducted into the pastoral office in this church June 8, 1815. He received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Williams College, and at the time of his death was senior trustee of Union College, to which office he was elected in 1837. He resigned his pastorate here on the 6th of March, 1849, after a service of more than 34

years. He died in 1868 at the residence of his son-in-law, Prof. Huntington, in Auburn, N. Y.

The twelfth minister was Rev. Wm. J. R. Taylor, D. D. He was born in Schodac, Rennselaer County, N. Y., July 31, 1823; graduated at Rutgers College, 1841, and from the Theological Seminary at New Brunswick, N. J., in 1844, and was ordained the same year. His pastorate in Schenectady began in 1849 and terminated in 1852. During the last year of his ministry here the church "enjoyed a gracious revival of religion." It was chiefly through his exertions that the Second Reformed Church of Schenectady was formed.

In 1853 the Rev. Julius H. Seelye, now President of Amherst College, was settled over the church, it being his first charge. He was born in Bethel, Conn., September 14, 1824. He graduated



PRESENT DUTCH CHURCH.

from Amherst College in 1849, and from Auburn Theological Seminary in 1852.

After a year of study at Halle he returned from Europe, and preached his first sermon at Schenectady May 22, 1853, and received a unanimous call as pastor of the church and was installed August 10, Dr. Hickok, Vice-President of Union College, preaching the sermon. He severed his connection with this church to accept the professorship of Mental and Moral Philosophy in Amherst College, having been its pastor for a little more than five years. No communion service passed during his ministry here without the reception of some members to the church on a profession of faith, and the annual contributions for benevolent purposes more than doubled during his pastorate.

The Rev. Edward E. Seelye, D. D., was the fourteenth minister. He was born in Lansingburgh, September 24, 1819; graduated from Union College in 1839, and from Princeton Seminary in 1843. He was installed over the church in Schenectady November 1, 1858. During his pas-

torate here the church was destroyed by fire, and the present beautiful and costly edifice erected, the dedication sermon being preached by himself, August 6, 1863. He died while on his summer vacation, August 10, 1864, at Sandy Hill, the place of his former charge.

The Rev. Dennis Wortman, D. D., became the successor of Dr. Seelye. He graduated from Amherst in 1857, and from New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1860. Because of ill-health he resigned his charge here in 1870, greatly to the regret of a loving people. During his stay $11,000 of indebtedness on the church was paid, and the iron fence put around the church.

The Rev. Ashbel G. Vermilye, the sixteenth pastor of the church, was born in Princeton, N. J., in 1822; graduated from New York University in 1840. He preached his first sermon in the church here August 6, 1871, the anniversary of the burning of the old and the dedication of the new edifice. His labors ceased by resignation, December, 1876.

The Rev. Wm. E. Griffis, the present pastor, was born in Philadelphia in 1843; entered Rutgers College in 1865. After graduation, in 1869, he traveled in Europe for a few months, entered the New Brunswick Theological Seminary for a year, and in December, 1870, went to Japan to engage in government educational service. Returning to this country in 1874, he spent two years in the Union Theological Seminary of New York. He received a unanimous call to the pastorate of this church, May 1, 1877, while yet a member of the senior class, and was ordained May 31, 1877. The degree of D. D. was conferred upon him by Union College in 1884.

He is the author of "The Tokio Guide," "The Yokohama Guide," "Map of Tokio, with Historical Notes," "The Mikado's Empire," "Japanese Fairy World," "Corea, the Hermit Nation," "Corea, Without and Within," "Schenectady First Church Memorial" (with Prof. Pearson), and is now preparing a life of Arendt Van Curler, the founder of Schenectady.

CONCLUSION.—This church, with its vast estates and civil interests, must have had many valuable papers pertaining to the ancestry of the people and defining many historical facts which are now but conjectures. A committee "to examine the papers in the old box belonging to the Board, and to destroy all such papers as they may deem useless," was appointed in 1813, and they probably destroyed much history. It is said that the old records of Virginia were destroyed to cover up the sins of the destroyers' ancestors, and tradition has it that the consistory of this church in its business aspect was a close corporation for the benefit of its friends.

However this may be, this committee swept out of existence the original titles to much of the land, and, doubtless, obliterated the ancestral trace of many worthy as well as unworthy Dutch settlers whose descendants are numerous throughout the country.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH (EPISCOPAL).

This church was the natural outgrowth of the English occupation from 1664 to the Revolution. After the peace in 1754, at the close of the old French war, few troops were stationed here, and those of the inhabitants who desired to hear preaching in the English language, such as the English, Scotch and New Englanders, were forced to build a church for themselves. Paucity of numbers and of means delayed this for years, though the foundation was commenced in 1759.

The old church still stands—transepts have been added in same style of architecture. Unfortunately, the old sounding board has been removed from over the pulpit, but the general quaintness of the interior has been preserved.

"At an early period, the Rev. Thomas Barclay, missionary of the English church at Albany, visited Schenectady, and, so far as can be ascertained, was the first Episcopal minister who held service in the place. Writing to London, to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, by which he had been sent over, he says, under date of 1710: 'At Schenectady I preach once a month, where there is a garrison of forty soldiers, besides about sixteen English and about one hundred Dutch families. They are all of them my constant hearers. I have this summer got an English school erected amongst them, and in a short time I hope their children will be fit for catechising.'

"Two years after, Mr. Barclay left Albany, where he was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Miln, and he by other missionaries, till 1746. These gentlemen doubtless often crossed the pine plains to minister to the few churchmen here, though I do not find on our records any mention of their visits or acts. The Dutch pulpit became regularly occupied by its own pastors, and the English people, who were the feebler of the two, seem to have been brought under its predominating influence, instead of *vice versa*, as Mr. Barclay so fondly anticipated.

"In 1748 the Rev. John Ogilvie came to Albany as rector of St. Peter's. And the same year arrived in Schenectady a layman, Mr. John W. Brown, whose memory is appropriately preserved by a tablet on the walls of the church. He is said to have come from London, and was only twenty-one years old at the time of his arrival here. From him probably it received its name, St. George being the patron saint of his native country.

"The earliest baptism, by an Episcopal minister, on the parish register, is that of a daughter of Mr. Brown, in 1754, by the Rev. Mr. Ogilvie, who performed the same office for another child of Mr. Brown in 1859. It also records the baptism of three other children of Mr. Brown by Dutch ministers—the Revs. Thomas Frelinghise and B. Vrooman.

"That year—1759—the erection of the church edifice seems to have been undertaken; for under date of that year the parish books still preserve,

among other items of disbursement, to 'Richard Oldrick and Horseford, for digging the foundation of the church, £4 3s. 9d.' Amounts for drawing timber, and work of the like kind, are mentioned from that date onward. The woodwork was done under the superintendence of Mr. Samuel Fuller, who also became the builder of Johnson Hall. He was master of the king's artificers, and came to this vicinity from Needham, Massachusetts, with Abercrombie's army. To obtain the necessary assistance for fulfilling his part of the work on the church, he went back, in 1762, to Needham, and engaged several carpenters; and besides having their regular wages while here, they were to be allowed a specified sum for the seven days it would take them to come from Needham, and also for the same number of days for their return. It was several years before the building was completed for occupancy and use, though as early as 1767 we find sums collected for pew rents among the treasurer's papers. These papers also show the names of persons who subscribed for the erection of the church, with their respective amounts.

"At that time lived in the Mohawk Valley Sir William Johnson. He was a major-general in the British service, and general superintendent of Indian affairs in North America. The English church had in him a warm friend. He not only contributed liberally himself to the erection of this building, but also obtained subscriptions from his friends in various parts of the colonies—at one time £61 10s. from the Governors of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and other distinguished gentlemen, while attending a treaty of peace at Fort Stanwix. Sir William was also of great service to the church here, in procuring for it missionaries from the Venerable Society in England, which seems to have consulted him in most of its appointments to this region of country. Through his co-operation the wardens obtained from the Governor of the colony a charter for their church in 1766, and Sir William was requested to act as one of the trustees. He was a frequent worshiper in these walls, and tradition says that his pew, which was on the south side, was distinguished by a canopy. The church, as it then was, according to a ground plan of it in one of the old books, had two doors—one on the west end, and the other on the south side (the arch of which still remains), with a communion table against the east wall in the middle, and directly in front of it two desks for reading and preaching; and only a part of the church was finished with pews.

"During those years the building was used more or less by the Presbyterians, who had none of their own. A curious statement exists on this point, said to have been found among the papers of a Mr. Alexander Kelly, a member of that body. He says: 'Betwext 1760 and 1770, the Episcopalians and presbyterians agreed & build a Church Betwext them, The Former to goe in at the west Door the Later at the South Door when the Church was Finesht John Brown Belonig to the English Church went to New York & get it Consecrated under the Bishop unknown to the presbyterians, The presbyterians highly ofended at this John Duncan, James Wilson, James Shuter, Andrew & Hugh Michel, Andrew McFarland & Wm. White & Alexander Merser purchest a lot From a Gentelm in New York Colected money in varies places To Build a Church. The Dutch Inhabitants Seing How they were Served advanct very Liberal in money Boards plank Nails Hinges & paint The Church was built about the year 1770.'

"Mr. Kelly's representation of the case must be as faulty as his orthography. To prove this, it is enough to state two facts—one, that there was no bishop in this country till 1784, thirty years after this alleged transaction; and the other, that the church was never 'consecrated' till nearly one hundred years later by Bishop Potter, in 1859.

"As connected with this part of the ecclesiastical history of Schenectady, we take the liberty of quoting from a note on the subject, received by the Rector from the Rev. Dr. Darling: 'One of the oldest members of my church (Presbyterian), when I came here, informed me that the south door was walled up after the Presbyterian exodus, "and the Lord put a curse on the mortar so that it would not stick;" though, as she had no prophetic credentials, you may prefer to account for it in some other way.'

"It was to matters of this kind that Dr. Darling's predecessor, the venerable Dr. Backus, probably referred in his historical sermon, preached in 1879, when he said: 'Ritualism and evangelicism long contended here for the mastery.' One of the champions in that contest was this same Mr. Kelly—Sandy Kelly, generally called—who, when a pitch-pipe was introduced into the Presbyterian worship, rushed down the aisle, and out of the door, crying 'Awa' with your box o' whistles!' What would he have said and done had his evangelic ears been shocked by the noble organ which now vies with that of St. George's in improving the ritual of God's house?

"While the church was being built, the Rev. Thomas Brown, who succeeded Mr. Ogilvie at St. Peter's, Albany, and after him the Rev. Harry Monroe, seemed to have ministered now and then to the church people here, baptizing their children and burying their dead, until the arrival of Mr. William Andrews. This gentleman had been for some time catechist among the Mohawk Indians. He was a native of Great Britain. He returned home in 1770, when he was ordained by the Bishop of London, and appointed missionary at Schenectady. He may be considered the first resident minister, or rector, of St. George's. Mr. Andrews opened a grammar school here in 1771; but the labor attendant on this and his parish broke down his health, and he relinquished the mission in 1773, and went to Virginia.

"Mr. Andrews was soon succeeded by the Rev. John Doty, a native of Westchester, and an alumnus of King's (now Columbia) College. It was now the eve of the Revolution. Like many of his brethren, Mr. Doty suffered between a sense of duty and the pressure of the times. He was ar-

rested and kept in ward for awhile. On being released, he left for Canada; and divine service was suspended in the church during the remainder of the war.

"When the independence of the States was established and peace declared, in 1782, the few members which Mr. Doty had been forced to abandon were almost entirely scattered. The church edifice had become dilapidated, the windows were broken out, and desolation reigned within and around. Soon after, in 1790, the parish was admitted into union with the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, which had become duly organized. But it was some time before it could enjoy the services of a settled clergyman, depending upon those of Albany and other neighboring towns.

"In 1798 the Rev. Robert G. Wetmore became rector, in connection with Christ's Church, Duanesborough; and from that day its affairs moved on in uninterrupted order and with increasing success. At the first election of the corporation, Charles Martin and John Kane were chosen wardens. In a register book, then begun, there is a rude pen-and-ink sketch, by Mr. Wetmore's own hand, of the church as it then was—a little, oblong stone structure, fifty-six feet long (about half its present length) by thirty-six feet wide, with three windows on each side (the old south door being walled up), and in front a small wooden steeple, crowned by a low bell tower, with a cross upon it. It contained thirty-six pews (about one-third of its present number), and no gallery, except across the west end, which was reached by a stairway within the church in the northwest corner. The pulpit, with a long flight of stairs, was against the east wall in the center, with a reading desk in front, and a clerk's pew in front of that, and the altar, with rails, on the north side—an arrangement similar to that still existing in the old church at Duanesborough.

"Mr. Wetmore resigned in 1801, and some years elapsed before his place was regularly supplied. Meanwhile the services of neighboring clergy were occasionally obtained, and several improvements made in the church edifice. At a meeting of the vestry in 1804, 'Charles Martin and John W. Brown represented to the board the necessity of taking down the steeple, on account of its being in a decayed situation, and proposed to obtain by subscription a sum adequate to the erecting a new steeple.' Messrs. David Tomlinson and Wm. Corlett were appointed the committee, and the result was the wooden tower (which was taken down twelve years ago) and the beautiful belfry and spire which crowned it and which were deemed worthy of preservation.

"The foundation of that tower was laid by a young man who had then just arrived in Schenectady, and who, though born and reared a New England Congregationalist, soon attached himself to this church, and afterward became most intimately identified with all its changes and improvements—David Hearsey.

"The next rector was the Rev. Cyrus Stebbins, who, having been a Methodist minister at Albany, was ordained with special reference to this parish, by Bishop Moore. He was here from 1806 to 1819.

"For a year or two after Dr. Stebbins' resignation the services were kept up, with much acceptance to the congregation, by Mr. Alonzo Potter, as lay reader, then tutor of Union College, and afterward the Bishop of Pennsylvania. A tablet to his memory has been placed by the trustees of the college on the walls of St. George's.

"In 1821 the Rev. Alexis P. Proal was called to the rectorship, and he continued in it till 1836. During those fifteen years several substantial additions were made to the church property. A house, with lot, belonging to Ahasuerus Wendell, was bought for a rectory by the church's side on the north; and more sittings being found necessary in the church, side galleries were erected, running from the west to the east wall.

"Dr. Proal was succeeded by the Rev. Albert Smedes, during whose rectorship of three years a radical change was made in the church edifice. Increased accommodations being required, the vestry debated whether to pull down the old building and erect a new one, or to enlarge. The latter course was adopted; and so, in the spring and summer of 1838, two transepts, or wings, were added to the old nave. Under the pulpit was a hole, where the clergyman could go and change his surplice for a black gown between the service and the sermon. Thirty pews were gained on the lower floor, besides many others by continuing the galleries around the new transepts; and the graceful arch over your heads was shut out of sight by a floor making the whole upper ceiling flat. Another important event in the history of the parish during Dr. Smedes' rectorship was the purchase of the house next south of the church, called the Peek house, where the Sunday school met and the sexton lived. The garden was added to the burial ground."

The most efficient services rendered this church during its long history were by the Rev. William Payne, D. D., who was born at Portland, Middlesex County, Conn., in 1815. He early attended the academy connected with Hobart's College, Geneva, and after a full course at Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., graduated from that institution in 1834. He next entered the General Theological Seminary at New York, and at the end of three years was ordained as an Episcopal clergyman and became rector of St. Michael's Church, Litchfield, Conn. Here he remained for six years, after which he became assistant professor of Latin in Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., remaining in this position for several years. In 1848 he was called to St. George's Church in this city, where he has remained for an uninterrupted period of thirty-five years, retiring from active ministerial work in 1883. In 1859 he received the degree of D. D. from Hobart College, Geneva.

The Rev. John Philips Brooks Pendleton, S. T. B., has just entered upon the duties of the rectorship.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The early history of the Presbyterian Church in Schenectady is obscure. As late as 1756 there was no church in town except the Dutch. Before this date, however, settlers from England, Scotland and New England were drawn to this "frontier," by facilities offered for trading with the interior. Missionaries, chiefly for the Indians, had been sent into these parts by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, early in the eighteenth century. There was a chapel in the fort which was built in 1735, and was probably used by different denominations for worship. Concerning the church building in which the Presbyterians worshiped, now St. George's Episcopal Church, a tradition existed that Presbyterians subscribed to its erection with the understanding that it should be used in common by both denominations. Between 1760 and 1770 the Episcopalians and Presbyterians "agreed to build a church between them, The former to Goe in at the west door, the Later at the South Door. When the church was Finesht John Brown, belonging to the English church, went to New York and got it consecrated under the Bishop unknown to the Presbyterians. The Presbyterians Highlie offended at this, purchest a lot, collected money in various places to Build a church. The Dutch inhabitants, seeing how they were served, advanst Liberal in money, Boards, planks, Nails, Hinges & paint. The church was built about the year 1770." (Kelley.)

It is not unlikely that such Presbyterian missionaries as had penetrated to Albany had also visited this region, but there was no settled minister before 1770, though for some time prior to this date the Presbyterians worshiped statedly in a hired "meeting-house."

On the 12th October, 1769, a lot was purchased from Peter De Bois for £100, and work seems to have begun at once in earnest, as almost immediately follows: "To 2 Gallons West[d] Rum when cutting the timber for the church 11s.;" the next item being, "To cash paid to Phinn & Ellice for rum and sugar when rideing timber £4 9s. 4d.; and Aug., 1771, To tickets bought at New Castle Lottery £4 16s."

The site of the old meeting house cannot now be ascertained, nor can we learn concerning it more than that it was furnished with a bell. It was still in use 22d March, 1773.

By the end of '73 the edifice seems to have been completed, and the bell in the new steeple, with its leaden ball adorned with "6 bookes of gold leaf," no doubt called the congregation to a joyful service of dedication.

The church and lot are credited with an expenditure of about $1,800. The carpenter's work was done by Samuel Fuller and John Hall. The church had a gallery, and on the ground floor, 21 wall and 22 "Boddy" pews, and the carpenters agreed "to do the work on the Pulpit In the Same manner as In the English Church only it is to Joyn the wall So as to have no piller for a Soport & to make the Clark's Seat."

Of the size and strength of the congregation there is no record until much later; but in 1768 they felt able to compete with their brethren in Albany; for a letter of Mr. Brown to Sir Wm. Johnson at this time, in urging the necessity of securing Mr. Murray for St. George's, says: "We are the more Anxiously Solicitous on this Head as the Presbyterians are busee to get Mr. Bay among them"—this Mr. Bay being called about this time to the Presbyterian Church at Albany. The first minister who is known to have preached to the congregation statedly is the Rev. Alexander Miller.

Mr. Miller was a pupil of Rev. James Findley, a graduate of Princeton College, in 1764; a student of theology under Dr. Rodgers, of New York; was licensed 1767, and ordained by the Presbytery of New York 1770, the date of his settlement here.

He also preached at Currie's Bush and Remsen's Bush in connection with his charge here, and taught a very respectable grammar school during the Revolutionary War, "in which Governor Tichenor of Vermont and others, since celebrated, acted as assistants."

During the war the church seems to have suffered greatly. The congregation was in arrears for salary to Mr. Miller at the time his successor, Mr. John Young, was called, about the middle of 1787, and probably about six years after Mr. Miller closed his labors as pastor of the church.

Mr. Young was ordained June 14, 1788, and gave one-third of his time to Currie's Bush, or Princetown.

Tho congregation at this time, and for years later, was composed of elements which did not mix very kindly, formalism contending stubbornly against the growing evangelical spirit in the church, and Mr. Young was dismissed in consequence of the dissensions, non-payment of salary and ill health. The former pastor was still seeking payment of its indebtedness to him, and the church at Currie's Bush had applied to the Presbytery for two-thirds of Mr. Young's time, on the ground that the church in Schenectady was no longer able to support him.

From 1791 to 1795, among those preaching here occasionally were Rev. Messrs. Baldwin, Chapman, Coe, Cook, Davenport, Dod, Dun, Judd, McDonald, Pomeroy, Schenck, Thompson and Williams.

With the election of the Rev. John B. Smith to the presidency of the college, a brighter day dawned for the church. Dr. Smith did much to reorganize the church, ordaining four elders in 1795 or 1796, viz.: Alexander Kelly, John Taylor, Alexander Walmsley and John McAtyre.

On the 13th September, 1796, the Rev. Robert Smith, of Pennsylvania, a graduate of Princeton, was installed over the church, which at this time numbered only 37 communicants. There were, however, about 85 pew holders, and the income of the church from pews and subscriptions was a little over $700.

Mr. Smith remained until July, 1801, when, the severity of the climate having impaired his health, he sought refuge in Savannah, Ga., dying soon after

his removal. His life was sacrificed to his zeal and affection for his people. Under his ministry the church received 51 additional members. The township of Schenectady at this time contained about 3,500 inhabitants, 683 being electors and 381 slaves.

During the illness of Mr. Smith the Rev. Mr. Adair and Dr. Jonathan Edwards, Jr., second president of the college, frequently supplied the pulpit, and as collections for 1801 show an increase over previous records, and additions to the church are also recorded, the impetus given by Mr. Smith's pastorate would seem not to have been arrested.

In March, 1802, three elders and seventy-three others petitioned Presbytery for the speedy installment of the Rev. William Clarkson; twenty petitioners, including two elders, however, pray that the installation may not take place. Mr. Clarkson's settlement was the signal for war among the discordant elements in the congregation, and shortly after such serious charges were preferred against him as that he did not "preach" but read sermons, "contrary to Luke 4 : 16–23, where our Lord preached, said preaching being without notes." Mr. Clarkson was also charged with saying, "We never had such preaching here before ; we had nothing but like the reading of an almanack," and the Presbytery failing to see the heinousness of Mr. Clarkson's homiletical shortcomings, a temporary secession of twenty-four families took place. Although considerable accessions to the church took place during Mr. Clarkson's brief pastorate, his opponents claimed that the communicants had diminished one-third.

During this unhappy contention, in which Mr. Clarkson was rather the occasion than the cause of the quarrel, an election for elders had occurred, which seemed to intensify the strife, and in September, 1803, Mr. Clarkson sought peace in departure. In the succeeding December the Rev. John B. Romeyn, a son of Dr. Romeyn of the Reformed Dutch Church, and founder of Union College, was settled over the church, at a salary of $625. But the church was at strife, and in November, 1804, Mr. Romeyn also left. The number of communicants at this time could not have been much above a hundred; the highest rental for pews was but $35, and the support of the church and pastor in the midst of such difficulties was very doubtful and precarious. Mr. Nathaniel Todd, ordained December 11, 1805, was dismissed in the succeeding November, on the ground that the congregation were unable to support him.

For some time the church depended upon temporory supplies, but, as if still further to confuse and complicate matters, the ear of the congregation was taken by an Irishman of the Methodist Church, a lay preacher, Mr. John Joyce. In spite of the peril of a threatened schism if Mr. Joyce were not settled over the church, Presbytery declined to intrust the church to his care, and declared it expedient for the session to resign, that new elders might in the interest of harmony be elected. The new session consisted of Messrs. Kelly, Walmsley, Daniel Chandler and Prof. Henry Davis, afterward President of Middlebury, and still later of Hamilton College.

Notwithstanding its want of a pastor, and its internal differences, the church does not seem to have lost any confidence in itself, for on the 3d of July, 1809, the corner-stone of a new edifice was laid, the old building on the site of the chapel being taken down, and the congregation worshiping for a time in the college chapel.

We introduce here an impression of the old church seal, believing that it represents the form of the original church structure.

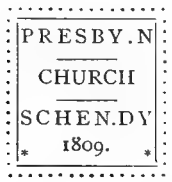
No doubt a large part of the strength and impulse of the new church movement came from the college. Dr. Nott, from his accession to the Presidency in 1804, had been a warm friend, and to his kindness, as well as that of Dr. McAuley and other members of the faculty, it was probably in large measure owing that the church came through its crisis with so little loss of strength.

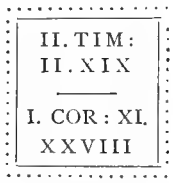
Meantime, the Rev. Alexander Monteith had been called to the pastorate, and on August 29, 1809, he was settled over the church, remaining its pastor until his death, January 29, 1815. During his ministry there was an increase in its collections, the communion roll was enlarged by 62 additions, and the pastor's salary was advanced from $700 to $1,000.

Mr. Monteith's successor was the Rev. Hooper Cummings, whose eloquence covered not a few of his own sins and other men's sermons. Eccentric and unfortunate, to speak mildly, Mr. Cummings' brief pastorate, judged by statistics, was most successful. Installed 22d November, 1815, and dismissed 18th February, 1817, sixty-five persons were added to the communion roll, and work among the colored people prosecuted with vigor and success, Presbytery having authorized Messrs. Wisner and Davis, then members of the church in Union College, to catechise and exhort among them.

During Mr. Cummings' ministry, however, old strifes broke out again, and it was not till the 8th of June, 1820, that another pastor could be secured, changes having occurred in the session, and some withdrawing from the church, which in the interval enjoyed the services of Drs. Nott and McAuley. In April, 1820, the famous Mr. Nettleton preached, and the church seems to have enjoyed spiritual prosperity, not less than 120 being added to the church during the year. "Tokens" at the communion were still in use, not being dispensed with till March, 1821, when members of other Evangelical churches were welcomed to the Lord's table. The "Token" was intended to

prevent any unknown person or member under discipline from coming to the Lord's table. Tokens were distributed by the elders before communion to all who were in good standing, and were taken up by the elders again from the communicants at the table. They were made of lead, or pewter, were about an inch square, having inscriptions on each side, like these samples:





Besides these changes, during Mr. (Walter) Monteith's pastorate (1820 to 1226), the old psalm book (Rouse) was relinquished, which indicates that a decided change was taking place in the sentiment of the church. In Mr. Monteith's time also the old "Session House" was built by subscription, and not without much opposition from those who did not favor Sabbath-schools, prayer meetings and other "new-fangled ideas." The Sunday-school had been started by Mr. Jonathan Crane, an elder in the church, in the basement kitchen of his own house, as a Mission Union School in 1817; but in 1824 it divided into two church schools, one Dutch, the other Presbyterian, which found a home in the Session House, though viewed with suspicion, if not with dislike, by many who regarded it as "a school for outcasts."

Mr. Monteith's successor was the Rev. Erskine Mason, a son of the celebrated Dr. John M. Mason, whom in intellectual strength he in no small degree resembled. A scholarly and finished preacher, the three years of his service here were years of strength and blessing to the church, which received during his brief pastorate an addition of 89 members, 306 being the total number of communicants reported to Presbytery in 1830.

From July, 1830, until December, the church seems to have depended for service upon various ministers, when the Rev. Wm. James, a brilliant but somewhat eccentric preacher, became its "Stated Supply," declining, however, in 1832, the call to become the pastor, and ceasing to preach in the spring of the same year, for the Rev. James W. Henry appears to have supplied the church in April and May.

The day of rapid changes and shifting pastorates was soon to end, for the pulpit having been supplied by the Rev. Jonathan Trumbull Backus, May 27, 1832, a call was extended to him, and on the 6th of December following he was ordained and installed over the church, remaining its pastor until the 18th of June, 1873. During all this long pastorate, under the blessing of God, the church steadily grew and strengthened; old differences died out; larger ideas of the privilege of Christian benevolence obtained; more efficient methods of work were adopted, and the usefulness of the church greatly increased. During his ministry Dr. Backus received over 1,000 persons to the communion of the church and a new era of benevolence entered upon, the aggregate of the reported benevolence during this period being over $160,000. The church edifice was enlarged in 1834, and again in 1859; and the old "Session House" in 1843 gave way to the chapel, to which was added in 1857 the session room. This church was rebuilt and enlarged in 1884, and is a unique, beautiful, commodious and convenient structure. During this century more than 60 of its members have entered the Christian ministry.

The Rev. Timothy G. Darling, the present pastor, succeeded Rev. Dr. Backus, June 18, 1873. For three years he had been assistant pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Baltimore, Md. He was born at Nassau, N. P., Bahamas, October 5, 1842; graduated from Williams College in 1864; Union Theological Seminary in 1869; and was Instructor of Metaphysics from 1877 to 1880, in Union College. There has been a continuance of prosperity in the church under his pastorate.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

A little more than a hundred years ago an officer in the British army, listening to Mr. Wesley, in Bristol, England, was led to embrace Christ as his Saviour. Soon after he identified himself with the Methodists and became a co-laborer with Mr. Wesley, who licensed him as a local preacher.

Not long after, Captain Thomas Webb was sent from England to New York State on military duty and stationed at Albany, where he continued to preach Christ to his fellow soldiers and to all whom he could gain access.

About the beginning of the year 1767 he visited this city, and was probably the first Methodist preacher who came here. In a building standing, at that time, on the east side of Church street, near Union, used for bolting flour, this soldier of the cross preached the word with considerable success. It was strange and novel to see a military officer, arrayed in the habiliments of his office, with his sword by his side or lying on the table before him, assuming the functions of the sacred office. Many went to hear him out of mere curiosity. Some opened their hearts to the Saviour and were made happy in his love. Among the first converts were Nicholas Van Patten, Giles Brower, Rachael Barhydt, and the wife of Giles Van Vorst; also a colored man and woman who were slaves. The first converts were accustomed to meet together after the departure of Webb for religious services, but were much opposed by those who could not appreciate their feelings and were unaquainted with their religious enjoyments. Because of their peculiarly deep piety and zealous devotion they were called, in derision, "New Lights."

The second Methodist preacher, as far as we can learn, was the famous George Whitfield, in the year 1770, when he was making his last tour in America. Enthusiastic crowds, composed of all grades and conditions of society, flocked to hear

him, but we have no positive knowledge as to the general effects of his preaching here.

Benjamin Akin was the first local preacher residing here. He began to preach in January, 1807, in the house of Richard Clute, on Green street, and quite a number were soon converted, who were really the founders of the Methodist Society here.

The conference year ending in May, 1807, Andrew McKean, the preacher in charge of the Albany Circuit, occasionally visited this little band, and organized the same year the first Methodist Episcopal church in Schenectady. At the meeting of the conference in 1807, Schenectady Circuit was formed, and Samuel Howe appointed to preach once in four weeks. Services were continued in Richard Clute's dwelling until autumn, when they were removed to a small house in Liberty street, where they were continued during the winter and following spring, quite a number being added to the church.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

In the spring of 1808 Seth Crowell was appointed to this place and preached in a building on State street, kindly furnished by its owner, Dorsey Joyce. Under his preaching the little flock "were edified and encouraged." In the following year two preachers were appointed to the Schenectady Circuit, which embraced the surrounding country, viz.: Truman Bishop and Datus Ensign. During this year a house of worship was erected and dedicated, and, though a rude structure, was used by the society for twenty-six years. It was situated on the northeast corner of Liberty and Canal streets, where the Canal now runs. As soon as inclosed, and before the walls were put on, and when the seats consisted merely of loose boards placed on blocks, it was occupied, and it remained in this condition for several years, when it was completed and rendered quite commodious. It was afterward removed to the northwest, to make way for the canal, and placed with its front on Union street, remaining here until this lot was needed for the railroad.

In 1810 the preachers appointed to this circuit were Isaac B. Smith and Hugh Armstrong. Mr. Armstrong was soon removed to another field, and Cyprian H. Gridley was sent to take his place. The church flourished much under the labors of these two devout and godly men. They were succeeded in 1811 by Henry Stead and Samuel Merwin, the former a practical, animated and useful preacher, the latter one of the able and efficient men of his times. Mr. Stead was returned the next year with John Finnegan, a sociable, agreeable but eccentric man, as his associate.

Smith Arnold and John B. Matthias were appointed in 1813. They were said to be, like Stephen, "full of faith and the Holy Ghost." They were followed the next spring by John Kline and Samuel Eighmey, men zealous and earnest in their Master's work. In 1815 three preachers were appointed to this circuit, E. P. Jacobs, Eli Bartlett and James Young. It is said that B. English preached here also about this time.

Thus far in its history the society appears to have been quite feeble, and made great exertions to maintain its existence. The men who served it endured great privations and hardships, "counting not their lives dear unto themselves," that they might win souls to Christ and nurture the flock to which they were appointed overseers.

In 1816 the society ceased to be connected with the circuit and became a station, under the pastoral charge of Laban Clark. The number of members at this time was about fifty. Mr. Clark is said to have been a man of gentlemanly bearing, courteous, affable, kind, and of a contemplative, serene and tranquil mind, and was highly esteemed by all classes of citizens as a man

and as a preacher. Under his administration Methodism arose in influence, and attained a much higher position than at any previous time. Two years afterward he was succeeded by William Thatcher. His two years' ministry marked an important era in the history of the church. A powerful revival during his first winter extended its influence throughout the whole community, and added much material and spiritual strength to the church. The successor of Mr. Thatcher was Samuel Luckey, afterward Dr. Luckey, who was pastor in Rochester in 1860. He commenced his labors here in 1820, and remained two years. Mr. Luckey was esteemed by all who knew him, and his influence gave special character to the church. He was succeeded by James M. Smith. Mr. Smith excelled as a doctrinal preacher, and his clear and skillful presentation of what the Methodists really believed, overcame much of the opposition heretofore shown by those who considered their teachings unscriptural. The church prospered under his ministry.

In the year 1824 Daniel Brayton was appointed to this charge, an excellent man and a good preacher. During his ministry the church suffered somewhat from adverse influences, but the band of believers were not disheartened. They trusted in God, pressed forward, and soon rejoiced in returning prosperity.

George Coles assumed the pastoral care in 1826. He afterward became editor-in-chief of the *Christian Advocate and Journal.* Mr. Coles was a preacher of ability and attractiveness. It is related that at one of his meetings, seeing one of his brothers in the congregation locked in unconscious slumbers, he suddenly paused in his discourse and cried out, "Brother G.! wake up, wake up! I have something important for you to hear." Brother G.'s slumbers were effectually broken for that occasion, and this incident made an impression on his mind not easily obliterated. At the next prayer meeting he seemed to have a vivid recollection of it, and in his prayer he prayed fervently that the Lord would baptize the preacher and help him to preach so that his hearers would not go to sleep, to which prayer the preacher responded with a loud amen, he, doubtless, feeling that it would require a supernatural influence to keep some hearers awake.

Next in order came Buel Goodsell, who was appointed in 1828. His influence was most salutary, effecting a very essential improvement in the character of the charge. He did much to modify the extravagance which characterized the religious exercises of some of its members; and he brought about a beneficial change in this regard, although he was violently opposed and accused of want of piety on his part.

Mr. Goodsell was succeeded by Coles Carpenter. Dr. Luckey said of him: "He was one of the most truly eloquent men I ever heard." The church was blessed under his faithful and eloquent ministry for two years, and he had the confidence and esteem of the community generally. He was followed by Salmon Stebbins in 1832. The prevalence of the cholera spread general gloom over the city this year. This turned the attention of many to the concerns of religion, and a goodly number were converted and united with the church.

In 1833 James B. Houghtailing entered upon this field of pastoral labor, and remained two years. During this time the old church and lot were sold, arrangements made for building the edifice on Liberty street—now used for the Catholic Church—and the foundation laid with appropriate ceremonies. The superstructure was completed under the pastorate of Truman Seymour, who commenced his ministry in 1835. The dedication took place the next spring, Rev. John Kennedy, D.D., of New York, preaching the sermon.

This same year the society was favored with the services of Noah Levings, the odor of whose name is like ointment poured forth. The church membership at this time was one hundred and ninety-five, and over one hundred were added during his two years' labor. Union College conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. He was followed in 1838 by Epharim Goss, whose labors were attended by an extensive revival. Stephen Remington was the next pastor, for two years, and was succeeded by John Harwood, a mighty man in prayer.

The next pastor was Andrew Witherspoon, afterward Dr. Witherspoon, an able minister, who built up the church in sound doctrine and piety. James Rawson was appointed in 1845. A goodly number were converted during the ministry of this refined and cultured preacher. His administration was followed by that of John Frazer, for two years, when Allen Steel became the incumbent, a popular preacher who drew large congregations. In the spring of 1850, Barnes M. Hall was appointed preacher. He was a strong preacher, of dignified bearing, and commanded universal respect. About seventy were added to the membership during his two years' connection with the church. In 1852 the pastoral oversight was given to Henry L. Starks, a faithful preacher and pastor, who was followed in 1854 by Merritt Bates, during whose term the church edifice was considerably repaired. In the spring of 1856, J. K. Cheesman was transferred from the Genesee Conference and appointed to this charge. He succeeded in removing the heavy debt which had greatly embarrassed the church for many years, and received into the church more than a hundred probationers. He was succeeded by Samuel McKean, son of Andrew McKean, the preacher in charge of the Albany Circuit, in 1807. In the spring of 1860 Henry L. Starks was reappointed to the pastorate, as was also J. K. Cheesman in 1862. In 1864 Andrew J. Jutkins assumed the pastorate, remaining three years, the ministerial term being extended one year. His ministry largely increased the permanent congregations, and presented to the society the necessity of building a larger edifice. Mr. Jutkins succeeded in raising subscriptions to the amount of $8,000 for this purpose. During his term the pastor's salary was raised from $1,000 to $1,200. Frederick Widmer, appointed in 1867, maintained all the interests of

the church, and elevated the cause of Methodism. Rev. Joel Eaton was appointed in 1869, and remained three years, and was very efficient in aiding the church building enterprise. The site had been purchased on the corner of State and Lafayette streets for $6,000. The foundation of the building was laid in the summer of 1870, and the cornerstone in June, 1871, the Rev. Samuel Meredith, Presiding Elder of the Albany District, delivering the address, Rev. Dr. Backus, of the Presbytery Church, offering the prayer. The church walls were erected and the buildtng enclosed during this year. The chapel was completed, dedicated and occupied for public services in December, 1872. Daniel W. Gates succeeded in the pastorate. During his term the old church edifice was sold to the St. John's Catholic Church for $10,000, the old bell being reserved, and the main edifice of the new church finished and dedicated in March, 1874. The Rev. Ira G. Bidwell, D.D., of Boston, Mass., preached the sermon, and the Rev. B. I. Ives, of Auburn, N. Y., managed the finances. The church, with its furnishings, cost about $85,000, and the remaining debt of $30,000 was fully pledged on this occasion.

George J. Brown was, by request, appointed pastor in 1875, and sustained a successful and affectionate ministry for two years. He was succeeded by William J. Heath, for three years. All the interests of the church were maintained, and a large number of valuable members added. William H. Hughes followed him with wise and successful management, especially with respect to finances. He was a good and able preacher, and affectionate and zealous in the conduct of society meetings, and faithfully served all the interests of the church, one hundred and fifty probationers uniting during his three years' incumbency.

The present incumbent, George A. Barrett, assumed the pastorate in 1883, and has well and faithfully sustained all the responsible duties of the church.

The present full membership is 620, and 30 probationers.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

Fifty years ago, when the population of the city of Schenectady was about 4,000, the religious wants of the people were administered to by four churches —the First Reformed Dutch, St. George's Episcopal, the First Presbyterian and the Methodist.

Some time about the beginning of October, 1821, a number of Baptist brethren residing in the community agreed to meet on Wednesday evenings for the purpose of prayer and Christian conference. In the beginning of 1822 they were encouraged to institute Sabbath-day meetings. Soon after they began to hope that a church might be established here, and at a meeting held the 9th of October, 1822, a paper was drawn up stating that it was the belief of the subscribers that a Baptist church here would be profitable to Zion, and expressive of their wishes to be constituted into a church. At a meeting held November 8th, it was voted that a council be called to organize a church. The council met November 21, 1822, the following churches being represented by their delegates: Churches at Clifton Park, Waterford, Burnt Hills, Florida, Duanesburgh, First of Albany and the Colored Church.

The following ministers took part: Abijah Peck, John Lamb, Lewis Leonard, Mr. Paul, Joseph Cornell, J. Olmstead, Mr. St. John and Egenia Kincade, afterward the distinguished missionary. The council unanimously advised the brethren to organize a church, which was done, and it was duly recognized by the council as the First Baptist Church, Schenectady, N. Y. The sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. St. John. Rev. Joseph Cornell made the prayer and gave the right hand of fellowship to the church. Twelve brethren and twenty-four sisters comprised the thirty-six original members, principally from the Baptist Church in Clifton Park. Meetings were held for some time in private houses, afterward in a building on the southeast corner of Church and State streets, also in a school building on Church one door north of State street, and in the Court House in the building now occupied by Union School, where they continued until the basement of the church edifice was ready for use. The church, though for some time without a pastor, grew considerably, for in June, 1823, it reported to the Shaftsbury Association forty-five members. In August of this year, Rev. Nathan N. Whitney, a pastor of a Dutch Church in this vicinity, having been led by prayerful study to embrace Baptist views, offered himself to the church for membership and was baptized by Elder Peck, of Clifton Park, in the presence of many members of his former charge. Invited to take the oversight of the church, he was ordained as its pastor October 22, 1823. This year Lewis Cheeseman was licensed to preach the gospel by the church. On the 17th of April, 1824, the church secured a lot for a "burying ground." The records this year report a membership of seventy-one. This same year the Sunday-school was organized. In 1825 the Rev. John Cooper was called to the pastorate at a salary of $150; the lot where the old church stood in Center street was purchased for $150, and the foundation of the edifice laid in the fall, though the building was not occupied by the society until 1828. The following December, Rev. Richmond Taggart was called and entered upon his pastorate at the beginning of 1830, and continued until May, 1831, when, because of the inability of the church to support him, he resigned. At this time the church was much discouraged, because of their inability to provide for the payment of a pressing debt upon the "Meeting House," and were also unable to provide for preaching. Abram D. Gillette supplied the pulpit for three months during the summer, and was ordained as its pastor September 28th, and the church entered upon a season of prosperity that continued during the ministry of this esteemed brother. In 1832 the church was dismissed from the Shaftsbury Association and united with the Hudson River Association. This same year side galleries were put in the "Meeting House," and in 1834 it was enlarged to double its former capacity;

seven young men were in various colleges preparing for the ministry, and its membership reached 242.

On the 20th of May, 1835, Rev. J. M. Graves was called to the pastorate, and resigned, after some difficulty, in 1836. The debt on the church was $2,400. In October, 1836, Rev. Philander D. Gillette commenced his labors as pastor. The church was blessed with a revival, which added 42 to its membership. Elder Gillette closed his labors in March, 1838.

While the church was without a pastor, there occurred one of the most powerful revivals of religion with which Schenectady was ever favored. Elder Jacob Knapp commenced holding protracted meetings about the 1st of June, 1838, which continued far into the summer. He preached his first sermon in the Baptist Church, which was soon found to be too small, and on invitation of the Presbyterians the services were afterward held in their house of worship. So great did the religious interest become, that stores were closed and the citizens generally attended the meetings. The weather being warm in the evening, the voice of prayer was heard from the dwellings of the people throughout all parts of the city. This church being without a pastor, the larger part of the converts joined the other churches. Rev. Dr. Backus, then pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, says of this revival: "Elder Knapp's preaching was apparently very effective in awakening the people to serious thoughts. * * * * It was a season of blessing, and the labor of the evangelist is held in grateful remembrance." In October the Rev. Conant Sawyer began his pastorate, and remained until July, 1840. During this period the church enjoyed great prosperity, the membership reaching 300.

In June, 1840, nine brethren and twenty-two sisters were dismissed, to constitute a new church in the village of Scotia. The church was without a pastor for some little time, when Mr. Leroy was called and ordained as pastor, December 1, 1841. In 1840 a powerful revival of religion was enjoyed, the pastor being assisted by Elder Kingsley.

The Rev. Wm. Arthur (father of President Arthur) was called August 4, 1844, and remained until September, 1846, notwithstanding the church at this time, by the removal of some of its wealthier members, was feeling heavily the burden of its indebtedness, and was hardly able to give a pastor an adequate support.

At the beginning of the year 1847 the present incumbent, Rev. Horace G. Day, accepted the duties of the pastorate. The church was then environed with many difficulties. His ordination took place on the 25th of May. At this time the debts of the church exceeded the value of its entire property. Their meeting-house was undesirably located, because of its proximity to the railroad. There was a long-pending litigation with the railroad for damages to the church property from the disturbance of religious services by the ringing of bells and the blowing of steam whistles on the Sabbath. In 1849 the membership was reduced to 163 by removals and excisions. From this time began to dawn a brighter condition. In 1848 the house of worship in Center street was disposed of, and the meetings were held in the Young Men's Association Hall in the Van Horn building, where they continued within a few months of the completion of the Lecture Room of the present church edifice. In the meantime meetings were held in private houses and also in the old Cameronian Church building in Center street, now occupied by Carley Brothers as a flour and feed store. Such was the burden of indebtedness at this time that some favored disbanding the church and reorganizing as a new society as the readiest way of freeing themselves from debt, but the majority refused to repudiate. The claims against the society were finally settled in an honorable manner, through the liberality of creditors and individual citizens, and the church proceeded to effect measures for the building of a house of worship. The Lecture Room was formally opened January 23, 1883, the pastor preaching the opening sermon, and Rev. Dr. Hickok, of Union College, preaching in the afternoon. From this time forward the church grew steadily for some years. For the first time in many years, at the close of 1855 the church was out of debt and money in its treasury. The main church edifice was finished in 1856, and dedicated the same year, President Nott, of Union College, making the dedicatory prayer. The cost of the edifice and lot was about $12,000.

With the year 1858 commenced one of the most powerful revivals with which the church has been favored. Special revival services were held until the 23d of April, and the revival continued in connection with the regular services of the church far into the summer, adding to the membership of the church 127. Among the converts were about 40 young men. The Rev. David Heagle and the Rev. Norman Fox, Jr., both of them at that time licentiates, were the efficient helpers of the pastor. The baptistry was put into the church this year, and used for the first time March 7th. In the summer of 1870 the house of worship was thoroughly repaired, frescoed and refurnished, at a cost of about $4,000.

During six weeks, services were held in Union Hall. Revivals have been characteristic of this church, and it has been signally honored in being permitted to license many candidates for the ministry who have been successful preachers of the Gospel. Among them we mention Rev. Geo. W. Eaton, late President of Madison University; Emerson Andrews, the evangelist; S. B. Willis, Alanson Baley, J. S. Webber, D. D. Gregory, H. F. Cochrane, David Heagle, Everett R. Sawyer. In 1856 the church ordained Henry L. Simpson, a colored brother, who was said to be the first of his race to take a full course of study at Madison University. In 1866 it ordained Abril Parmater to serve as chaplain in the army. The total number of persons received into the church is 1,048 by baptism and 562 by letters. The present membership is 297.

THE SECOND REFORMED DUTCH CHURCH.

The Second Reformed Church was organized in October, 1851. The importance and necessity of a Second Reformed Dutch Church had been felt and discussed by members of the First Church for several years prior to 1851. At one time a subscription was started and $4,000 was subscribed to start the enterprise, but nothing was done. At a meeting of the consistory of the Reformed Dutch Church held in December, 1850, it was resolved to call a meeting of the great consistory to consider the propriety of organizing a new Reformed Dutch Church in the city. Two meetings of the great consistory were held and the subject of a new church thoroughly discussed, and with only one dissenting voice it was

"*Resolved*, That a Second Reformed Dutch Church in this city is both expedient and necessary."

A committee was appointed to raise $500 to make the experiment. Though nothing was immediately accomplished, the idea was not abandoned, and in July, 1851, it was decided to call a public meeting of all those favorable to the object. The meeting was held in the lecture room of the First Reformed Dutch Church; a large number were present. A communication from Rev. Wm. J. R. Taylor, pastor of the First Church, was read, in favor of the project, and outlining a plan. It was made the basis of action. In the communication referred to, the Rev. Taylor says: "The action of the great consistory last winter has settled the question of the expediency and necessity of the new Reformed Dutch Church. This is a point gained." "What creates the necessity?" "The want of room in the churches for the people of the city." "There are 300 families in First Reformed Dutch Church and only 150 pews; many of these are occupied by two families and at great inconvenience. We have lost valuable families on this account." Further it says: "Something must be done. Begin a prayer meeting and a Sabbath-school immediately. Arrange for a temporary place of worship. Get the pastor on the ground and go to work as soon as possible." After the reading of the pastor's letter, measures were adopted to carry out his ideas. A prayer meeting was held, a Sabbath-school organized in the public school-house on White street. At the meeting of Classis in September a petition was presented, signed by twenty-nine heads of families, asking for the organization of the new church. The request was granted, arrangements made for the organization, supplies for the pulpit arranged until next meeting of the Classis in April.

The first consistory was elected October 30, 1851, and the church organized with 14 members, 11 from the First Reformed Dutch Church, 2 from the Reformed Dutch Church of Cohoes, and one from the Presbyterian Church of Schenectady. On the 16th of November, 1851, the services of organization were held in the First Reformed Dutch Church. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Wm. J. R. Taylor, pastor of the church. An address to the new church was delivered by Rev. Goyne Talmage, of Niskayuna. November 23, 1851, the first service was held in the old Cameronian church on Center street. Rev. N. D. Williamson, of Scotia, officiated.

November 16, 1852, Rev. I. G. Duryea was installed pastor of the church. In 1854 the lot for the church was purchased, and immediately the work of raising funds to build a church was begun. July 4, 1855, the corner-stone of the present church was laid; in September, 1856, it was completed. The church prospered greatly under Mr. Duryea's pastorate until the spring of 1858, when his health failed and he took a brief vacation, the church agreeing to supply the pulpit in his absence. The Rev. Artemus Dean was engaged as a supply. Many of the members preferred his preaching to that of Mr. Duryea, and began to organize a large following favorable to the dismission of the pastor and the calling of Mr. Dean. Mr. Duryea returned in August. A majority of the consistory favored his resignation. He was prevailed upon to offer it, which, after much ill feeling in the congregation, was accepted. Then an effort was made to settle Mr. Dean as pastor; this was opposed by some and Classis rejected the call. The Dean party, having a majority in the consistory and possession of the church, finally declared themselves independent of Classis, and proceeded to install Mr. Dean and change the organization to a Congregational church. This was done in 1859.

Those who remained loyal to the Reformed Dutch Church began a suit for possession of the church. The case was tried before the late Judge Ira Harris, of Albany, as referee; the late Judge Paige counsel for the loyal party, and the late William A. Beach counsel for the Dean party. The case was not concluded until September, 1861, when Judge Harris decided that the Dean party had no right to the church, but must yield the property up to the loyal party.

In July, 1862, Rev. A. DuBois, D. D., was settled as pastor. In 1866 the large debt against the church was paid off. In 1868 the chapel was erected. Rev. DuBois resigned in September, 1869. February, 1870, Rev. Wm. H. Phraner was settled as pastor. The membership under Mr. DuBois had increased from 60 to 113. Under Mr. Phraner's care the membership increased to 200. Mr. Phraner's health failed in 1870, and he resigned the pastorate.

In the fall of 1875 the church made a call of Rev. H. H. Northrop. The Classis refused to accept Mr. Northrop. A large portion of the congregation, who were in favor of Mr. Northrop, left the church on account of the action of Classis. The church was badly broken up, but soon rallied again, so as to continue the Sabbath-school and ordinary church services. In June, 1876, Rev. J. N. Crocker was called, and served the church faithfully until May, 1878, although he was never installed. The church prospered greatly under his care. In September, 1878, Rev. E. C. Lawrence was installed as pastor. He resigned September 1, 1880. Rev. Peter E. Kipp, the present pastor, was settled in April, 1881. The church has greatly prospered under his pas-

torate, the membership at present being 290. The church is centrally located; has a good, convenient lecture room adjoining; a good house for a parsonage, the gift of the late Rev. A. J. Swits, within a few rods of the church. Its success has proved the wisdom and foresight of the Rev. Wm. I. R. Taylor and the men of the First Reformed Dutch Church, who so earnestly labored to establish the second church of the denomination in this ancient city.

P. E. Kipp was born in Paterson, N. J., in 1847, and graduated from the New York University in 1867, and New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1870. He was located in Fishkill from 1870 to 1874; Brooklyn, 1876 to 1880; and became pastor of the Second Reformed Dutch Church, Schenectady, in 1881.

CHRIST CHURCH.

This church was the outgrowth of a Sunday-school Mission, started by a few Christian ladies of St. George's Episcopal Church about 1865.

It was first incorporated as Christ Church, September 23, 1867. The corner-stone of a wooden edifice, much smaller than the present building, was laid during this year by Rev. Dr. Payne, rector of St. George's, assisted by Rt. Rev. D. Randell, Bishop of Colorado. This church was first opened for services March 1, 1868. The first rector was Rev. F. C. Wainright, who remained till the year 1871, when he was succeeded, April 1 of that year, by Rev. Lucius N. Voigt.

During Mr. Voigt's pastorate the vestry room was enlarged 11 by 8 feet, and the number of communicants increased from 18 to 91. The value of the church property was estimated at $5,000.

Mr. Voigt resigned June 1, 1874, and for one year from this date the church was without a regular rector. Dr. Lowell, of Union College, officiated during this interval. Rev. John M. Rogers was elected to the vacant rectorship June 1, 1875. Under his administration the church began to flourish, and in 1876 the building was enlarged to its present size. The vestry room was increased to double its former seating capacity; a new chancel, 12 by 14 feet, was built, a steeple erected, the grounds improved, and the entire church decorated and improved, at a cost of nearly $1,800.

Mr. Rogers resigned August 10, 1880, and was succeeded a few months later by Rev. J. Lewis Parks, who continued as rector till his resignation in June, 1883.

The present rector, Rev. Eugene L. Toy, succeeded Mr. Parks in August, 1883. Under Mr. Toy's ministrations the church has continued to increase in numbers and in influence.

There are at present 151 communicants, an increase of 17 over preceding year. There is a Sunday-school connected with the church of 171 pupils and 20 teachers.

The size of the main body of the church is 22 by 55 feet; the number of seats 180, furnishing seating capacity for about 500 persons. The value of the church property is estimated at $10,500, upon which there is a mortgage of $6,200.

The present officers of the church are the following: Wardens, James E. Curtis and David Guy; Vestrymen, Samuel T. Benedict, William N. Butler, H. C. Van Zandt, M. D., John K. Elwin, E. E. Kreigsman, William W. Craig, David O. Youlen and Prof. Sidney G. Ashmore.

ST. JOSEPH'S GERMAN R. C. CHURCH.

Rev. Father Theodore Noethen, from Albany, and other secular priests, visited the German Catholics of the city before any organization was made, and held services for them in St. John's Church. On January 23, 1859, about 75 members met in Gottfried Blum's marble shop and resolved to build a church, which should be called St. Peter's Church. At the head of this movement stood Gottfried Blum and Xavier Zeiser as presidents, Peter Baldus, Mathias Treis and Peter Selzinger as trustees, Franz Tele as secretary, Julius Meyers as treasurer. At another meeting, on the 6th of February, in Meyer's molder shop, Fonda street, Peter and Karl Baldus, Jacob Garling and Jacob Stener were chosen collectors, to take up a house collection. February 20th the large lot corner of State and Albany streets, where now the Arsenal stands, was purchased from Mr. Ramsay, for $2,000—$100 paid down, the rest to be paid within five years. Quarrels and lack of money afterward made them lose this splendid location. After many fruitless attempts to get a church, the generous Bavarian, Joseph Harreker, bought on sheriff's sale the old Cameronian frame church, on Center street, for $2,000, in his own name. To this was built a new sanctuary, for $300. This church, named after its founder and benefactor, St. Joseph's Church, was dedicated the 29th of June, 1862, by the Rev. Alphonse Zœller, O. M. C., of Utica. The Franciscan Fathers, from Utica, as Revs. Leopold, Oderic, Alphonse, Pius and others, held regular services in the new church. Father Oderic bought the cemetery on East avenue for $300. Father Pius bought the small brick house on Franklin street, west of St. John's Church, for $1,300, for the Sisters of St. Francis, who taught the children in a frame school-house built north of the church. After that, Fathers Leopold and Pius, who was the first residing pastor, bought the east corner lot of Albany and Lafayette streets, with brick house for parsonage, from John McEucroe, for $4,750.

At the end of October, 1868, the Franciscan Fathers were called away, and Rev. Maurus Ramssauer, from Manlius Station, near Syracuse, was made pastor. Soon afterward the Franciscan Sisters were succeeded by a secular teacher. The double house north of the church on Center street was bought for $3,500. The church incorporated April 16, 1869. At the end of April, 1876, Father Maurus resigned and went back to Manlius Station. His successor was Rev. J. Henry Cluever, D. D., from Deerfield Corners, near Utica. Through his energetic efforts the present beautiful church was

built. The corner-stone was laid Sunday afternoon, July 29, 1877, by Rev. Thomas Burke, of St. Joseph's, Albany, N. Y., with imposing ceremonies; the church was dedicated March 3, 1878, by Right Rev. Bishop Francis McNeirny, of Albany.

Architect, M. J. Cummings, of Troy, N. Y.; builder, Jacob Van Zandt, of Schenectady, N. Y. Cost, without furnaces, organ and altars, $27,286.

December 14, 1881, Bishop McNeirny consecrated the new marble side altars.

In August, 1882, the double lot, with house, west of the old cemetery was bought for $1,900, and added to the old insufficient burial place.

December 8, 1883, Rev. J. Herman Wibbe, from St. Peter's Church, Oswego, N. Y., succeeded Dr. Cluever, who took charge of St. Mary's Help of Christians, in Albany, N. Y.

In March, 1884, the new gothic high altar, built by Joseph Stoppelkamp, of St. Louis, Mo., for $1,200, without statues, was put up, and new stations, donated by some members of the parish, at a cost of $370, erected on the evening of Good Friday, the 11th of April, 1884.

Sunday afternoon, October 19, 1884, Bishop McNeirny solemnly blessed three new bells, bought from Clinton H. Meneely, Troy, N. Y., for $1,105.-72; the smallest, weighing 508 pounds, called "St. Jacobus," donated by Mr. Jacob Garling; the second, "Joseph Franciscus," weighing 1,023 pounds, donated by St. Joseph and St. Franciscus Aid Societies; the largest (1,993 pounds), "St. Maria," donated by members of the parish. The bells were first swung on the eve of All Saints Day (October 31st).

In the fall of 1884, the wooden annex of the Sisters' house was torn down and a large brick school-house erected, connecting the old school-house with the Sisters' house, and adding a new story to the latter, bringing the whole under one metal roof. The work was done by Mike Deckelmeyer for $3,647, without the steam boiler. The school is in charge of five Sisters of St. Joseph, and is attended by over 200 children. The congregation has grown to over 400 families. With the church are connected five religious societies, with large membership, and a social club of the young men of the parish, the "Schenectady Eintradit," who meet twice a week in the basement of the school.

GERMAN METHODIST CHURCH.

This church was organized October 24, 1849, with the following members: August and Elizabeth Schweneker, Henry and Maria Strueme, Christian and Sophia Kasten, Frederick and Justine Danneberg.

The first church was erected on Jay street, on the site of the present Congregational Church, May, 1850, at a cost of $1,500.

The first pastor was I. I. Grau, under whose pastorage the church grew in membership and influence.

Following is a list of pastors in the order of their ministration over this church: I. I. Grau, A. Schwartz, Sebastian Mickel, I. I. Grau, Jacob Kindler, Henry Kastendirck, Casper Jost, Francis G. Graty, Christian Blinn, John Sauter, Christian F. Grimm, John C. Deininger, Casper Jost, George Abele, Paul Quattlander, Henry Kastendieck and F. H. Ray.

The present church on the corner of Union and Lafayette streets was erected in 1872. It is 53 x 82 feet, and has a seating capacity of 800 persons.

This church is in a most prosperous and healthy condition, with a full membership of 388, and 65 probationers. The average congregation numbers between 500 and 600. The Sunday-school connected with this church numbers 400 children, with an average attendance of 300.

The value of the church property, consisting of the church edifice and a parsonage on Park place, is estimated at $38,000, against which there is a debt of but $6,000.

THE EAST AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

On Tuesday evening, October 25, 1866, the first prayer meeting of this society was held, Dr. Backus, of the First Church, presiding. About fifteen persons were in attendance.

The meetings in the course of a few weeks became so largely attended, that the private house in which they were held was overcrowded. Accordingly the young men engaged in the work, with commendable enterprise rented a small dwelling in the vicinity and, having removed the partitions, fitted it up as a place or worship. This building was first used December 23, 1866, and from that date meetings were held there on Thursday and Sabbath evenings during the winter and following summer. A Sabbath-school was organized December 15th with five scholars. The second Sabbath it numbered twenty-one scholars and six teachers. February 3, 1867, an infant class was organized. The attendance upon the school and prayer meeting increased so greatly during the winter that the building was again found too small for the accommodation of those who came, and again the laborers recognized the finger of Providence pointing them forward. The idea of building a chapel was talked about, and funds were sought after and obtained, chiefly among the members of Dr. Backus' congregation, and the work was commenced July 23, 1877. October 10th the chapel was finished, and was soon dedicated, with appropriate services; Rev. Dr. Backus, Rev. Dr. Hickok and Rev. John Clancy officiating. The work continued to prosper, and through the influence of the Sabbath-school and prayer meeting, a number of persons were converted and united with the city churches. The Sunday-school, at present, is the largest and most efficient in the city.

During the winter a Sabbath evening preaching service was kept up regularly. In the spring of 1869 those who had been interested in the work from the beginning thought that circumstances warranted them in asking for a separate organization. The proposition was accepted by the pastor and people of the First Church, to whose cordial sympathy and co-operation the success of the undertak-

ing had been largely due. Accordingly sixteen persons were dismissed from the mother church, April 1, 1869, to form the new society. The following Sabbath, April 4th, after the sermon by Rev. Dr. Backus, from Heb. 13:17, the church was organized. From this time the pulpit was regularly supplied, morning and evening, by various ministers. The first stated supply was George Alexander, a licentiate of the U. P. Presbytery of Albany and a student of Princeton Seminary, who preached during the months of July and August. At a meeting of the congregation, August 4th, he was elected and called to the pastoral charge. Having accepted the call, he was ordained and installed January 20, 1870, and dismissed by Presbytery in 1884.

The church edifice is located on Upper State street. It is built of brick, with a Gothic roof, and has a seating capacity of 600. The present pastor, J. D. Paxton, has served since 1884.

THE EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The Evangelical Congregational Church, Schenectady, N. Y., was unanimously recognized by a council of Congregational churches and pastors, April 24, 1877, convened by invitation of the pastor, officers and members of the Free Evangelical Church, an independent religious organization that had been holding religious services in Union Hall for sixteen months previous, under the ministrations of Rev. Henry H. Northrop.

The council was composed of the following pastors and delegates of these churches: Albany, Gloversville, Oswego, Syracuse, Middletown, Harlem, Homer, N. Y.; the Rev. J. C. Holbrook, D. D., secretary of the N. Y. S. Home Missionary Society; Rev. James G. Cordell; also Rev. H. G. Day, of the Baptist Church of Schenectady.

The public services took place in the evening of the same day in Union Hall, when the Moderator, Rev. J. C. Holbrook, D. D., officially recognized the church, welcoming it to the fellowship of the Congregational churches. An address on the Principles of Congregationalism was made by Rev. Jonathan Crane, of Middletown, N. Y. A sermon was preached by Rev. W. S. Smart, D. D., of Albany, and an address delivered by Rev. Samuel H. Virgin, pastor of Pilgrim Church, Harlem, N. Y.

The church continued to hold its public services in Union Hall and prayer meetings in the German M. E. Chapel, on Jay street. Rev. H. H. Northrop continued with the church until March, 1879, when he was regularly dismissed by council.

Rev. John H. Munsell was called to and accepted the pastorate in April, 1879. It soon became evident that Union Hall was not a suitable place to hold Sabbath services, and the same fall they were removed to the chapel on Jay street, in which the prayer meetings were held. Large congregations were accustomed to attend the services in the public hall, not more than half of which followed the church into the chapel to worship there. Soon after a revival of religion greatly blessed and encouraged the church, largely increasing its membership. The capacity of the chapel was soon found to be too small to accommodate those who desired to worship with the church, and in the spring of 1880 active measures were instituted to secure a larger place of worship and a permanent church home, and the lot and buildings comprising the chapel and the adjoining dwelling house—now the church parsonage—were purchased and immediate measures taken to erect a suitable church edifice. After two years of patient toil, constant prayer, and unusual sacrifice, the church was permitted to dedicate its present beautiful edifice on Jay street, April 5, 1882, the Rev. Wm. M. Taylor, D. D., pastor of Broadway Tabernacle, New York, preaching the sermon.

The following year the adjoining chapel was erected. This church, with its accompaniments, is one of the most attractive and convenient church buildings in the city.

The church has steadily grown, comprising now 330 church members. Its Sunday-school numbers more than 300.

EMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH.

This church was organized in 1881 by a number of the former members of the First Baptist Church. At this time the members of the congregation had no church edifice, and used Union Hall in which to hold religious services. The first regular pastor was John C. Breaker, who became pastor April 10, 1882. In 1883 a lot on Nott terrace was purchased, and the present church edifice erected, at a cost of about $3,500. Mr. Breaker remained as pastor of this church until October, 1884, when he resigned his charge. The congregation remained without a regular supply until June 17, 1885, when the present pastor, George M. Muller, accepted the pastorate. This congregation is composed of about 130 members, and is in a healthy financial condition.

JEWISH SYNAGOGUE.

This congregation was organized in 1856. At this time the store a few doors from State street on Ferry street was purchased for $1,400, and is still used in which to conduct religious services. The officers of the Synagogue are president, vice-president, three trustees, treasurer and secretary. The first President was Alexander Susholz, who was succeeded by the present officer, Jonathan Susholz. The remaining officers are Jacob Henry, Vice-President; Phieffer Levi, Treasurer; S. Susholz, Secretary; Henry Heilbronner, S. Sterns and L. Behr, Trustees.

This congregation consists of 38 members, and is known by the corporate name Shara Schomajim. The present Rabbi is Rev. Rudolph Farber.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

The first Roman Catholic congregation was organized in this city in 1880 with less than 20 persons. At this time a small frame building near the Mohawk bridge on Washington avenue was neatly fitted up and used for church services. The congregation had no regular rector, but was occasionally attended by Rev. Charles Smith, of St.

Mary's Church, Albany. The building on Washington avenue continued to be used as a church until October 13, 1839, when the present commodious edifice on Franklin street was consecrated. Rev. John Kelly, who succeeded Rev. Charles Smith, was the first regular rector installed over this church. He was succeeded in 1838 by Rev. Patrick McCloskey. Then followed in succession Revs. Daniel Falvey, McGeough, M. E. Clark, and J. M. Scully, who was installed in 1875. In 1873 the building formerly used by the Methodist congregation on Liberty street, adjoining the rear of St. John's Church, was purchased by the latter church, and has since been converted into a convent.

The present rectory on Liberty street was built in 1876.

The property of this church is centrally located, and one of the most valuable belonging to any religious denomination in the city. A few years ago a tract of land containing over twenty acres, on the upper end of State street, was purchased by this church, and is now used as a cemetery. The total number of persons connected with St. John's Church will probably exceed 2,500.

St. John's Convent.—May 22, 1865, the building opposite to St. John's Church, on Franklin street, was first opened as a convent, under the direct patronage of the church, and presided over by Mother Alphonsus and Sister Mary Montcarmel, who were reinforced the following months by Sisters Ann Michael and Mary Lucy. At the convent and the small school-house adjoining the church, the children of the congregation were taught the common English branches of study by the Mother Superior and Sisters.

But the number of scholars so increased year by year, that in 1880 the old Methodist Church on Liberty street, purchased in 1873, was converted into a convent. This large edifice has been most conveniently arranged for the purpose of a school and convent, and meets the needs of this rapidly growing congregation. At the new convent more than 460 scholars are instructed in the common English branches of study. This school is supported entirely by the church, and is under the charge of Mother Superior Augustine, assisted by five Sisters.

A private school for instruction in the higher branches of study is conducted at the convent, where French, music (vocal and instrumental), drawing, painting and embroidery are taught. This department of the school is attended by both Protestants and Catholics, and is supported by tuition fees. The instruction received at the convent is considered as most careful, thorough and complete, and ranks high in the educational interests of Schenectady.

GERMAN LUTHERAN CHURCH.

This church was organized in 1870. In 1872 the present church edifice was purchased from the Congregational Church for $3,500, since which many improvements have been made on the church property. The first pastor was G. H. Brandan. He was followed by Michael Wolf, Emil Schneider and Henry Homrighaus. The present pastor is Louis Schultze. This congregation is composed of 95 members, and is in a prosperous and flourishing condition.

"THE TEMPLE GEMEINDE" CHURCH.

The German church on College street, called "The Temple Gemeinde," is a branch of the German Temple Society, organized in Germany about 1854, by Rev. Dr. C. Hoffman, which aims at the advancement of the work of Christ and final establishment of the kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven. The only source of revelation to the members of the Society is exclusively the Bible, without ecclesiastical traditions and human doctrines, as far as they are in contradiction to the will of God as interpreted by the members of this Society. Concerning the Temple Gemeinde, we will give an extract of its history:

The congregation was organized in May, 1854, by the Rev. W. Wolf, and incorporated according to the law of the State of New York, under the long and inconvenient name, "Third Evangelical Protestant Reformed Dutch Church." At the end of the same year the present pastor, the Rev. W. F. Schwilk, took charge of the school and congregation, which increased remarkably in number. In 1856 they bought the so-called old Lancaster school and converted it into a chapel. A schoolroom was added in the rear of the building, and afterward used as a dwelling for the sexton and his family. As the little flock steadily increased, it was found necessary to erect a larger and more commodious house of worship—the same which stands a few rods farther from the old one, toward Green street, and which was dedicated in the presence of a highly interested assembly on September 1, 1867.

At the beginning of 1867, Mr. Schwilk started the first German newspaper in the city, *Die Reichs Posaune*, a religious, political and social semi-monthly, and continued it as editor and manager fully seven years, when he was obliged (on account of ill health) to suspend the paper. At the close of the year 1867 the congregation withdrew from the Classis of Schenectady, and declared itself, for various reasons, ecclesiastically free and independent of the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church; yet its officers and members retained their first legal name, and endeavored to make it a living name by being Protestants, not only by birth, but also by conviction. Thus they made themselves worthy of a new name. In the meantime they felt the necessity of changing it more and more, and recently, at a special meeting of the pastor, elders and deacons, they resolved unanimously to drop the old name altogether and adopt a new and better one—"The Temple"—which expresses plainly and distinctly its common faith. They authorized their pastor to take all the legal steps necessary to that effect.

This name was legalized and took effect December 25, 1884. The Temple Gemeinde is composed of 200 members, with a Sunday-school numbering

80 scholars. The church property is valued at over $8,000, and is free of debt. Rev. W. F. Schwilk, who has been pastor of this church more than thirty years, is a highly educated and accomplished gentleman, deeply interested in religious matters, and to his intelligent, conscientious work can be attributed the present prosperity of this church.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

The Ladies' Benevolent Society, an organization which has accomplished great good in this community, was established about 1813.

In this society at this early date were many ladies of the first families of the city. In a book of minutes of this period appears the names of Mrs. James Duane, Mrs. Stebbins, Mrs. A. Yates, Mrs. Dr. Fonda, Mrs. Simon Groot, Mrs. Dr. Mynderse and Mrs. John Constable. In 1817 thirty-five sick and distressed women and 128 helpless children were assisted, necessitating the expenditure of more than $600.

The primary objects of the society were to afford assistance to indigent women and children, although no cases of deserving charity were neglected.

The officers consisted of a first and second directress, treasurer, secretary, and a board of managers. The contribution of a certain sum to the funds of the society constituted the person so contributing a member, with equal privileges in managing the affairs. The board of managers appointed a certain number of ladies in each ward, in prescribed districts, who were expected not only to solicit funds, clothing or provisions for carrying on the work, but to make personal visits to the homes of all persons in these districts who might be in indigent circumstances, and report all cases of deserving charity to the board of managers, in which case the members of the board of managers were expected to afford relief. In many cases sick women and children were removed from their wretched homes to suitable quarters in private houses, the society paying for their board. It was this branch of the good work which ultimately grew to such proportions that the need of a building especially adapted to this purpose became a necessity.

The aims and plan of work of this society have not undergone much change since it was organized, and it will not be necessary to go into much detail concerning the work accomplished.

In 1864 this society was reorganized, and many of the members of that date are still active workers in this society. Among the members might be honorably mentioned the names of Mrs. Dr. Nott and Mrs. Jonas H. Crane, two of the oldest living members, who for more than a quarter of a century have been earnest workers in the cause of this society. Among others who are equally entitled to praise, both in the past and present, are the following ladies: Mrs. Anna Myers, Mrs. Mark Scherwin, Miss Rebecca Duane, Mrs. Dr. A. M. Vedder, Mrs. James Walker, Mrs. Judge Mitchel, Mrs. Maria Barhydt, Mrs. Charles Angle, Mrs. Theodore Brown, Mrs. Aaron Freeman, Mrs Elizabeth Walters, Mrs. Elizabeth De Wigne, Mrs. John C. Ellis, Mrs. D. Cady Smith, Mrs. Richard Franchot, Mrs. Andrew McMullen.

Home of the Friendless.—The present comfortable and commodious building on Green street, known as the Home of the Friendless, was the result of the labors of the Ladies' Benevolent Society.

In 1868 the Ladies' Home of the Friendless Society was organized, mainly composed of the members of the Benevolent Society. At this time, although without a dollar in the treasury, and trusting entirely upon the generosity of the citizens to aid them, the ladies decided to purchase the building, No. 35 Green street, now owned by the society.

But legal difficulies confronted them, from the fact that they were not a corporate body. At this opportune time Dr. A. M. Vedder, Max Schwin, T. W. McCamus, Austin M. Ketchum, David Murray, Charles H. Mathews, Samuel W. Jackson, D. Cady Smith, Andrew Truax, Horace G. Day and Lewis C. Barhydt, under the provisions of a legislative act of 1848 relative to the incorporation of charitable institutions, associated themselves together and became a corporate body, August 4, 1868, under the corporate name of the Home of the Friendless of the City of Schenectady.

The following gentlemen were named as the first trustees: J. Trumbull Backus, Charles H. Mathews, Alexander M. Vedder, D. Cady Smith, Andrew Truax, Horace G. Day and Lewis C. Barhydt.

These trustees were given the entire charge and supervision of the funds, property and affairs of the association. They were at first divided into three classes, two who were elected for one year, two for two years and three for three years; but in 1881 the term of all the trustees was extended to three years, although the three classes remained the same, and the term of not more than three trustees expires during any one year.

The trustees elect a president, secretary and a treasurer; the latter officer cannot be a trustee. At the present time an executive committee of three is appointed by the President from the list of trustees for one year, to whom is given the general charge of all funds, property and affairs of the society, to audit all bills and to invest funds. The trustees are elected by ballot the first Tuesday in September of each year. Every person who shall donate the sum of five dollars to the funds of the society, regardless of sex, is entitled to one vote, and an additional vote for every five dollars donated.

The first trustees immediately purchased the dwelling, No. 35 Green street, of George G. Soley, for the sum of $3,000, paying about $2,000 in cash, raised by subscription; the balance remaining a mortgage upon the property. This property was thus given over to the management of the

Ladies' Society of the Home of the Friendless, and was first opened September 9, 1868.

The real management of the Home, the collection of funds, and the care and supervision of the inmates, devolve solely upon the ladies of the society. The officers consist of first and second directresses, treasurer and secretary, an executive committee and a board of managers. The trustees act as an advisory committee. The first officers were: Mrs. Urania Nott, First Directress; Mrs. Cordelia Crane, Second Directress; Mrs. Mary A. Myers, Secretary; Mrs. Anna Angle, Treasurer.

The subscription fee of annual members is $5; of life members, $25; of life members and benefactors, $100.

The entire internal charge of the Home is under the direct supervision of a matron, who is employed by the Board. This position has been most creditably filled by Mrs. Mary Perkins ever since the Home was established.

Since the establishment of the Home, it has been used exclusively for the support of indigent sick or aged women. But it is the intention of the members, as soon as sufficient funds can be obtained, to so extend the facilities of the institution as to be able to support a juvenile department, when children without homes, too young to provide for themselves, can be maintained.

From the report of the secretary made at the end of the first year of the Home, we find that eight aged and infirm ladies had been the recipients of the comforts of this institution. The total receipts this year were $1,945.40, and total expenditures $1,327.85.

In September, 1873, the present building adjoining No. 35 Green street, used as the Home, was purchased of Mr. Frame for $5,000.

In 1878, mainly through the efforts of the trustees, a debt of over $3,000 was liquidated by public subscription. Dr. Andrew Truax, who had been an enthusiastic friend of the Home since its organization, gave $1,000 of this sum.

During late years, the Home, by the death of a number of its early friends and benefactors, has been the recipient of generous donations. Among the legacies thus bequeathed were $5,000 from Dr. A. M. Vedder, $6,000 from Colon C. Clute, and $20,000 from Dr. Andrew Truax. In 1869 the True Blues, a civic organization in Schenectady, donated the sum of $1,000, the proceeds of a fair held for the purpose of aiding this institution.

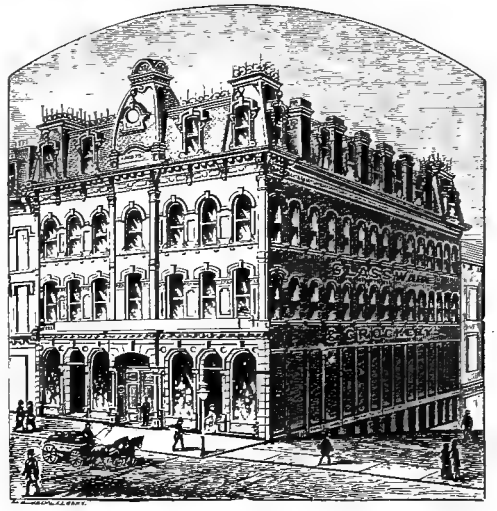
At the present time the Home is in a flourishing condition. Its property, valued as $10,000, is free from debt, and it receives the proceeds of $33,500 invested for its use.

The work accomplished by this institution of charity has been of the most commendable nature. Its average yearly expenses have been about $1,200, while an average number of eight poor, enfeebled, deserving women have received the comforts of a Christian home.

In 1883 an addition of a hospitable room was made to the Home at a cost of $700, which amount was raised by public subscription.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

In the year 1858 the first Young Men's Christian Association was organized in Schenectady. The first officers of the Society were: Prof. John Newman, President; George F. Bollis, Vice-President; Charles S. Vedder, Corresponding Secretary; William F. Fox, Recording Secretary; and James J. Marlette, Treasurer. The Board of Directors consisted of Joseph B. Graham, David Herron, Jr., David J. Tichenor, Charles N. Yates, A. Craig Palmer, Charles Brockmyer, Daniel A. Atwell, Samuel Lyon, William DeGraff, Rembrandt P. Wilkie and Abraham Van Vranken. The plan of work and object of the association, as defined by the constitution of this date, were similar to that followed by like associations throughout the State, and not materially different from the aims and purpose of the present association. The society secured rooms on the second floor of the Clute building on State street, now used as a dental office by John F. Hull.



Young Men's Christian Association Building.

Here the members of the association labored for a number of years, with comparatively limited means and resources, for the beneficent objects of the association. But either through lack of proper support, through imperfect organization, or the usual period of excitement during the late civil war, the work was abandoned some time in 1863, and nothing was done to perfect a reorganization until 1867. During this year, by the exertion of a few of the public-spirited citizens of Schenectady, a renewed interest was awakened in the work of this kind of organization, as exhibited in parts of the State, and a new association was formed and a more perfect constitution adopted. The officers elected under the new organization were as follows: Nicholas Cain, President; C. C. Brown and M. A. Vedder, Vice-Presidents; E. A. Charlton, Corresponding Secretary; George O. Seaver, Recording Secretary; John Brown, Treasurer; and L. Hoyt, Librarian. Directors: Andrew T. Veeder, Jacob Vrooman, Louis Feldman, Richard Farley, C. W.

Backus, D. D. C. Teller, John A. De Remer, Edward S. Sauter and E. W. Moore. At this period the association had rooms in Van Horne's Hall, No. 151 State street. Here a free reading-room, furnished with the leading daily and weekly papers, magazines and various periodicals, was provided. A library of over 300 volumes was also procured this year.

In 1871 application was made to the Legislature for a new charter and for the incorporation of the association. This was granted, and the following citizens of Schenectady were a board of trustees, to hold in trust the property of the association: J. Trumbull Backus, Platt Potter, E. H. Wheeler, Simon C. Groot, Andrew Truax, Peter Rowe, Abram Doty, H. S. Edwards, C. C. Clute, N. I. Schermerhorn, Levi A. Young, H. S. Barney, T. W. McCamus, Nicholas Cain, Robert Furman, G. G. Maxon, C. H. Mathews and Edward W. Paige. This act of incorporation provided that one-third of these trustees should be annually elected after March, 1872. During the year 1871, mainly through the efforts of Nicholas Cain, then president of the association, and a few others equally interested in the welfare of the organization, the project long contemplated by the friends of the association—the erection of a permanent edifice—began to take definite form. In October of this year the lot where the Association building now stands was purchased for the sum of $12,000, the entire amount being raised in a few days by subscription. At this time the task of raising money to erect a building upon this site was begun by the officers of the organization. The following are some of the principal donors at this time: Nicholas Cain, $3,000; J. Trumbull Backus, $2,000; Charles H. Mathews, $1,500; Peter Rowe, $1,000; Platt Potter, $1,000; Abram Doty, $1,000; L. A. Young, $1,000; T. W. McCamus, $1,000; Robert Furman, $1,000; Andrew Truax, $1,000; N. I. Schermerhorn, $1,000; C. C. Clute, $1,000; H. S. Edwards, $1,000; E. H. Wheeler, $1,000; H. S. Barney, $1,000; Simon C. Groot, $1,000. Considerable money was also raised in smaller amounts.

In 1873 the present building began to be erected. Its exterior was completed in 187—. At this time, the association lacking necessary funds, work was suspended. From 1873 to 1877 seems to have been a dark period in the history of the Young Men's Christian Association in this city.

Some time in 1874–5 the room in the Van Horne Hall was abandoned, and no regular place of meeting seems to have been provided until 1877, when, mainly through the efforts of General Secretary O. C. Morse, who came to Schenectady under the direction of the New York State Executive Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association, Stanford Hall was rented for a period of three months. Here the association library was removed and a free reading-room provided.

In March, 1877, the work of completing and furnishing four rooms in the new building was undertaken by the different churches, the First Reformed Church furnishing one, the First Presbyterian Church another, the Baptist a third, and the Episcopal Church the fourth. On the 15th of the following May the association took possession of its new rooms, and the new building was first used for the purpose for which it was erected. Since this date numerous improvements have been made in the Association building, although it is not yet entirely completed. Over $40,000 has been expended on it, and the association is at present $19,000 in debt. The lower part of the building is occupied by the crockery store of S. R. James, the second floor by the association, and the third floor by law offices. For a number of years a coffee or refreshment room has been in the unfinished part of the building, which has enjoyed a liberal share of patronage.

The present officers of the association are: James A. Goodrich, President; Marcus C. Wood, Vice-President; Frank E. Smith, Recording Secretary; James Cantine, Treasurer; William F. Cromer, Acting Secretary. The financial affairs of the Y. M. C. A. are controlled by a Board of Managers, consisting of twenty members.

The reading-room and library has been recently much improved. Many daily papers and most of the leading periodicals are furnished, while the library has increased to nearly two thousand volumes of choice and selected books. The Y. M. C. A. building, as shown in the cut, is one of the finest public edifices in the city.

HISTORY OF MASONIC ORGANIZATIONS.

ST. GEORGE'S LODGE, NO. 6.

St. George's Lodge was founded previous to the American Revolution by dispensation from the Grand Lodge of England, and went into operation in 1774, under the auspices of Sir John Johnson, then Provincial Grand Master of the Colony of New York. The first dispensation under which the lodge was organized has been lost; but a second one, granted by the same authority, is still preserved as a relic in the archives of the lodge. It was given at Fort Johnson, December 13, 1774, and bears the bold signature of Sir John Johnson. By this instrument, Christopher Yates was appointed Master; Benjamin Hilton, Jr., Senior Warden; and John Henghan, Junior Warden.

The book of minutes of the lodge as above constituted, but extending from a time even previous to this dispensation, is still preserved. From this it appears that in addition to the officers mentioned, the lodge had but four members, viz.: Cornelius Van Dyck, Aaron Van Patten, Robert Clinch and Robert Alexander. The first initiation of which there is any account is that of Teunise Swart, which was speedily followed by others, until when this record closes, December 30, 1799, more than one hundred and twenty names had been added to the roll of membership.

From the book of minutes, it appears that the first meetings of the lodge were held at the house of Robert Clinch, afterward in the dwellings of Abram Truax and John A. Bradt. April 16, 1790, the lodge purchased a building and lot of Dr. Nich-

olas Van Der Volgen on the south side of State street, where the Central Railroad now passes, and after properly arranging a room for the use of the lodge, surrendered the remaining part to Andrew Rynex, as Tiler, by whom the dwelling was thereafter occupied. In January, 1797, the growing numbers of the lodge rendered this place too small, and it was considerably enlarged by building. In the same year a Mark Lodge was established, to which the use of the lodge room was freely permitted.

At this time there were in Schenectady three flourishing lodges and a Royal Arch Chapter. They were named respectively, St. George's Lodge, Clinton Lodge and Morton Lodge. St. George's Lodge has alone survived. Cyrus Royal Arch Chapter, No. 57, which existed about this period, has also been disbanded, but in its place has been organized the Mohawk (now St. George's Royal Arch Chapter, No. 157), which now numbers many members.

The record of the proceedings of the early history of St. George's Lodge is full of interest, illustrating the character of the men and times of the most interesting period of our country's history. Among the members of the lodge were many who became active in the war of the revolution, and whose names have been frequently mentioned in this volume as connected with the stirring events of this period.

The following, taken from the book of minutes, is full of significance, and is one of many having reference to the active participation of the members of this lodge in the scenes of the revolution:

"At the regular communication, December 26, 1780, it was unanimously

"*Resolved*, That fifty shillings, hard money, out of the funds of this lodge, shall be delivered into the hands of Brother Robert Alexander, for the use of Brother Walter Voorman's family, who is now captive with the enemy, and the same amount be paid into the hands of John Cummins, for the use of Brother Andrew Rynex's family, who is also taken captive."

The last record contained in this venerable minute book is especially interesting. It is as follows:

"*Whereas*, The death of our Worthy Grand Master, George Washington, was this evening announced to this lodge; therefore, unanimously

"*Resolved*, That the members of this lodge wear (as a token of respect to the memory of our said late Grand Master) a black ribbon in the buttonhole of the waistcoat, until the ensuing Festival of St. John the Baptist, and that the Secretary be directed to give notice of the foregoing resolution to such members as did not attend this meeting.

"JELLIS A. FONDA,
"W. Master."

Thus appropriately closes this valuable record of the last meeting of the last year of the last century.

The minutes of the lodge are preserved in full until the close of the year 1804, when there seems to have been a disagreement between a large number of the lodges in the interior and those in the city of New York and its vicinity, which resulted in a disruption of the ties between them. In common with the lodges with which it had sided in the questions in dispute, which seem to have been little more than "Where shall the meetings of the Grand Lodge be held—in New York or Albany?" St. George's Lodge was declared by the Grand Lodge to have forfeited "its Masonic privileges," and its members were expelled from the order.

From this time the records are imperfect, until 1822, when the lodge was formally reinstated to full Masonic standing, and a new charter granted to Henry Yates as Worshipful Master; Samuel Farnsworth, Senior Warden; and John McMichael, Junior Warden. This charter bore the signature of Daniel D. Tompkins, then Vice-President of the United States, as Grand Master.

From this time to 1834 the records, and even the charter of 1822, are lost, and it would seem that the meetings were either entirely intermitted or but seldom held. This period was that dark one in the history of Masonry in America which followed the Morgan excitement, when most of the lodges in the State were broken up and the order proscribed.

From 1834, however, complete sets of the minutes are preserved, from which it appears that a dispensation was granted by the Grand Lodge, bearing date January 5, 1844, and that on the eighth day of June, 1844, a new charter was granted, naming Giles F. Yates as Worshipful Master; Roswell Perry, Senior Warden; and Jonathan C. Burnham, Junior Warden. Under this charter St. George's Lodge now works, and is to-day in a very prosperous and flourishing condition. In 1868 the temple on Church street was erected, making one of the finest and most complete Masonic buildings in the State.

OFFICERS FOR 1885.—Bro. T. Low Barhydt, Master; Bro. John S. White, S. Warden; Bro. P. M. Doty, J. Warden; W. Bro. W. Scott Hunter, Treasurer; Bro. Thompson Dealtry, Secretary; Bro. Charles E. Palmer, S. Deacon; Bro. Frank Williamson, J. Deacon; Bro. Rev. E. L. Toy, Chaplain; R. W. Bro. John Keyes Paige, Organist; Bro. Charles Hausmer, Physician; Bro. G. A. Wendell, S. M. of Cer.; Bro. E. King, J. M. of Cer.; Bros. J. Teller Schoolcraft and John S. Swits, Stewards; Bro. S. Abrams, Tiler; G. G. Maxon, S. W. Jackson and John M. Wendell, Trustees.

NEW HOPE LODGE, No. 730.—New Hope Lodge was founded November 30, 1872. For a number of years meetings of this lodge were held in Van Horne's Hall, on State street; recent years, Oddfellows Hall, in the Ellis building, on State street, has been used for that purpose.

OFFICERS FOR 1875.—W. Bro. Charles Baum, Master; H. M. Stanton, S. Warden; W. C. Campbell, J. Warden; W. H. Helmer, Treasurer; James L. Foote, Secretary; W. P. Daley, S. Deacon; Wm. J Rosekranz, J. Deacon; D. W. Walpole, S. M. of Cer.; Simon Schermerhorn, J. M. of Cer.; G. E. McDonald, M. D., Physician;

Fred. Reaber, Marshal; E. E. Kreigsman, R. T. Butler and D. Allen, Finance Committee; R. T. Butler, Tiler.

St. George's Chapter, No. 157, R. A. M., was installed in 1856. Officers for 1885: M. E. Comp. John H. White, High Priest; W. Scott Hunter, E. King; T. Low Barhydt, E. Scribe; W. H. Peckham, Treasurer; W. G. Helmer, Secretary.

St. George's Commandery, No. 37, K. T., was instituted 1866. Officers for 1885: E. Sir W. H. Helmer, Commander; George Buskerk, Generalissimo; John H. White, Captain-General; F. Williamson, Prelate; Geo. Weller, S. Warden; John J. Fenwick, J. Warden; H. H. Swart, Treasurer; W. H. Peckham, Recorder.

TEMPERANCE.

The earliest trace of united temperance work in Schenectady is that of the State Temperance Society, organized in 1828 by E. C. Delavan and Dr. Eliphalet Nott. July 8, 1830, an auxiliary society, the "Schenectady City Society for the Promotion of Temperance," was formed. The pledge did not cover the use of malt liquors, but "distilled spirituous liquors, except as a medicine in case of bodily infirmity." The officers were: President, Peter I. Clute; Secretary, James Magoffin; Treasurer, Joel C. Bailey; Directors, Jonathan Crane, George McQueen, Jabez Ward and Obed Chandler. The Reverends E. Mason (Presbyterian), Coles Carpenter (M. E.), Jacob Van Vechten (First Reformed), and Mr. Gillett (Baptist), and Dr. Nott and Mr. Delavan, were also members. By 1832, through the efforts of Mr. Crane and others, 27 auxiliary societies (which included one colored) had been formed. Union College also organized one at this time. During the year last named the city society had a membership of 2,013 males, 421 females. Lectures were occasionally delivered by Prof. Alonzo Potter, Dr. Nott, Reverends Stebbins, Gillett, Van Vechten and Hon. A. L. Linn, and Messrs. Pollard and Wright, of Baltimore, John B. Gough, and Judge McQueen. Dr. Fonda and Dr. Nott were the last survivors of this organization. Its efforts practically ceased in 1846.

The Washingtonian movement gained a foothold and flourished for a few years during the existence of the city society.

From 1847 to 1867 but little public work was done, but in the latter year the "Sons of Temperance" instituted a division, which is now extinct. In 1868 the Good Templars organized their first lodge here, which did good work until 1880, when it too became practically lifeless.

The Independent Order of Rechabites never gained a foothold here. The Father Mathew movement of 1850, which was originated by the Catholics, succeeded in gaining many converts.

In September, 1876, the "Schenectady Temperance Society" was formed, with the following officers: President, J. Charles Lawton; Vice-President, Dr. L. Faust; Secretary, Henry Swan; Treasurer, Peter Chrisler. Articles for the press were written by Prof. Wells, of Union College; Prof. Halsey, Classical Institute; Revs. W. J. Heath and Northorp and Mr. Chrisler. October 19th a Reform Club was organized, and the 31st of the month was merged with the "Schenectady Temperance Society," and these changed to the "Ancient City Temperance Society."

In June, 1880, Peter Chrisler was successful in having the official board of the M. E. Church adopt a resolution discontinuing the use of fermented or alcoholic wine at the communion, and during the same year he organized the "M. E. Church Temperance Society."

July 11, 1878, internal dissensions in the "Ancient City" order resulted in a new society, taking the old name, "Schenectady Temperance Society," with Mr. Chrisler as President.

October 31, 1878, the two societies united, under the name of "Christian Temperance Union," with Jethro W. Chute as President.

The "Women's Christian Temperance Union" was organized in March, 1878, Mrs. Dr. Nott, President, and in July the "Children's Temperance Society" was instituted, all the societies meeting in the same room.

January 29, 1880, a new departure was taken by the society. Good Templarism ideas were followed, and "Ancient City Lodge, 174," formed. No organization since 1830 or 1867 has been so successful. In March, 1884, there were 1,130 members, making it the banner lodge of the State. At the County Lodge, held April 1, 1885, it reported 895 members.

HENRY RAMSAY.

The subject of this sketch was born in Guilderland, Albany County, N. Y., May 18, 1808. He spent the first six years of his life in the vicinity of his birthplace, after which his parents removed to Albany. At this early age he entered the first Lancaster School in the United States, then recently opened in Albany by William Anderson Tweed Dale, under the personal supervision of Joseph Lancaster, the founder of the system.

In 1823, with three others, he was promoted to the Albany Academy, a high mark of honor conferred on pupils of the Lancaster School who had shown themselves specially meritorious in behavior and scholarship, and which entitled them to a free course of instruction at the Academy. Young Ramsay rapidly advanced in his studies, and by orderly conduct and close attention gained the esteem and confidence of the Faculty and Trustees, who, as a signal mark of favor, informed him, after a term of two years, that he could remain as long as he pleased, free of tuition. But the painful necessity of depending for support upon the daily labor of an aged father, constrained the youth to leave the Academy in 1826.

He immediately became an assistant teacher in the Lancaster School, under his former instructor, Mr. Dale. In this position he remained nearly a year, performing his work most satisfactorily to the management of the school and its patrons. But

Henry Ramsay

the care and labor proved too severe for mind and body, and he was obliged to seek rest and recreation in the country. Becoming sufficiently recuperated, the following year he accepted the charge of a school in Glenville, Schenectady County, and the same year he returned to Albany and accepted the appointment of book-keeper in French Webster's hardware store, located on the site of the present post-office.

This position did not meet the ambition of the young man, and he determined to seek future advancement in the great city of New York. Here he arrived in 1829, without money and without friends, not knowing a single person to whom he might apply for aid and assistance. He encountered all the discouragements and difficulties so many deserving young men similarly placed have experienced in securing employment in the metropolis. For a short time Benjamin C. Watson gave shelter and assistance to our young friend, and secured for him a position as clerk in the land office of Isaac M. Woolley, at the small salary of $10 per month and board.

While a student at the Albany Academy, young Ramsay became very proficient in penmanship and map-drawing, and gained valuable knowledge of the art of surveying. These various accomplishments served him most advantageously while in the employ of Mr. Woolley, who was quick to utilize the talents of his young clerk in drawing and copying maps as needed in the transaction of the business of his office. So well did young Ramsay execute this work, that maps drawn by him and exhibited in the real estate sale-rooms of the old Merchants' Exchange attracted general attention for their excellence. Among those who were attracted by the ability of Mr. Woolley's clerk, were John C. Morrison, Dr. Van Soligen and Mr. Parker, author of "Parker's Arithmetic," who induced young Ramsay to open an office, under promise of immediate patronage. Accordingly in 1830 he opened an office in an attic bedroom in Greenwich

street. His ability soon gained for him the friendship and patronage of influential citizens. Philologus Holley, who proved a most valuable friend at this period, in return for such services as he could render him, gave him office room in his office in Carmine street. While at Holley's he became acquainted with John Lewis, the confidential clerk of the celebrated Col. Aaron Burr, and by the latter he was frequently employed in making surveys, maps and plans of buildings.

Reuben Spencer, a city surveyor, at this time occasionally employed young Ramsay to assist him in making surveys "on the Island," and in return allowed him to use his instruments when he could find a job for himself.

This soon brought him into prominence, which resulted in his securing a lucrative business, and in bringing his sterling worth into public recognition. During this period he met Miss Isabelle Westervelt, eldest daughter of Jacob Westervelt, then Sheriff of New York County, whom he married May 17, 1831, and soon accepted the appointment of book-keeper in the Merchants' Exchange Bank, but shortly after became deputy sheriff under his father-in-law, which position he retained under the latter's successor, John Hillyer ; and after an interval of two of Hillyer's successors, was appointed to the position again, under his wife's uncle, John J. V. Westervelt.

In 1836, Mr. Ramsay, by prudence and economy, had amassed sufficient means to gratify his desire for the quietude of country life, and accordingly removed to Schenectady in this year, purchasing fourteen acres of land, including his present homestead at the head of State street. At this time there were but two small frame buildings upon the property, which, at the present, has become one of the most eligible building sites in the city, upon which have been erected more than eighty buildings, including the State Armory. After making some improvements on his property, Mr. Ramsay again returned to New York to accept a situation offered by his brother. Here he remained for nearly four years, returning to Schenectady in 1839.

At this time Mr. Ramsay resolved to permanently adopt the profession of surveyor and engineer, for which his early training and experience peculiarly fitted him. In 1842 he received the appointment of chief engineer on the Mohawk and Hudson Railroad between Albany and Schenectady. At this time, the expenses of operating the two stationary powers at the heads of the inclined planes at the two cities nearly exhausted the receipts of the road, and rendered the construction of new sections to supersede the inclined planes absolutely necessary. This difficult work was Mr. Ramsay's maiden professional effort, and was accomplished without a single adverse occurrence or the interruption of a single train. He was made assistant engineer of the Erie Canal enlargement, his section extending from Little Falls to the tower aqueduct. While engaged in this work, he was appointed Resident Engineer of the Seneca River Survey and Triangulations, from the Montezuma Marshes to the foot of Jack's Reef. His administration of this office was so satisfactory, that, December 10, 1853, he was appointed, without solicitation, State Engineer and Surveyor.

In 1853, he was chosen by the Board of State Officers to locate the wharf or water-line of Newtown Creek and East River. In 1844-5-6, he was engaged by Eugene and Montgomery Livingston in defining the subdivision of the great Hardenburg Patents, which he accomplished with much difficulty and danger during the "anti-rent" craze in Ulster and Delaware Counties. Mr. Ramsay has held the position of City Surveyor by appointment for several terms, though he has never taken an active interest in politics, and in 1852 he received the Democratic nomination for Mayor of the city, which, for private reasons, was declined, although equivalent to an election. After the close of his State service, Mr. Ramsay received the appointment of Chief Engineer of the United States Petroleum Company, at Pithole, Venango County, Penn., and on Duck Creek, Ohio, driving the first stake in the oil enterprise on the Thomas Holmden farm. He remained, making surveys during the oil excitement in this remarkable region, until he terminated his professional services in 1866-7.

In 1867, he began preparations to carry out a long cherished plan, which, he says, "had been the dream of my youth and hope of my age—to visit Europe, Egypt, Palestine and Syria," hoping thus not only to gain needed recreation and rest, but more especially to satisfy the natural craving of his mind to visit places and scenes associated with ancient Biblical lore. On May 1, 1869, he sailed for Scotland, and at Glasgow began a tour of the wonderful places of the Old World, which, as described in his graphic and intelligent language, would fill a volume of valuable and instructive material for the students of ancient history.

Most of the time consumed by Mr. Ramsay's journey abroad was spent in Egypt and the Holy Land. Here his devout nature was inspired and filled with reverence, as he visited and trod over places and scenes made sacred and ever to be revered as associated with the lives of the early patriarchs, and as connected with the life and history of our Savior. Only those personally acquainted with this venerable gentleman, and who have heard him relate with a remarkably intelligent comprehension, aided by a most retentive memory, can fully realize how thorough was his research in this interesting portion of the world.

Since his return home he has frequently been called upon to deliver lectures upon the subject of his travels, and whenever he has complied has been highly appreciated.

Up to this period of Mr. Ramsay's biography we have given but the mere outlines, without much comment, of the chief events of his remarkably successful and active life. His struggles and successes as a poor boy, without assistance, family prestige, or influential friends, furnish an example of what pluck, brains and honesty can do on the great stage of life, and is an incentive to every young man

struggling with adverse fortune. His success was not the result of what the world calls "good luck." He went to the city of New York at an early period to be sure, but even then there was no place in this country where competition was stronger, and where any young man without influential personal friends would be less sure of winning success, except upon true and proved merit. Here young Ramsay, by application, hard work, perseverance and honesty, won not only the nucleus of a comfortable fortune, but, what is better still, the sincere respect and esteem of all who knew him. Mr. Ramsay early became attached to a Christian church and through a long career has been active in promoting all matters pertaining to church work, and by action and deeds has led a consistent Christian life.

Mr. Ramsay's domestic relations have been of the most pleasant nature. His wife, who shared the trials and struggles of his early days and witnessed the successes and triumphs of his later years, still remains his congenial partner in his declining years. Ten children have been the result of their union, nine of whom are still living. Mr. Ramsay has always felt much indebted to the Albany Academy, and considers that the instruction there received had much to do with his success in life. In 1883, out of friendship, if not as a debt of gratitude, he endowed this institution of learning with the sum of $1,000, to be used for the permanent establishment of the Henry Ramsay Scholarship, to aid poor and deserving young men to obtain an education.

Mr. Ramsay has ever been a progressive, public-spirited citizen, and has taken a keen and active interest in everything pertaining to educational matters. He himself has been a careful, painstaking student of history, men and passing events, and now, in his seventy-eighth year, enjoys good health and a high degree of intellectual vigor. In this city, his adopted home, where he is best known, he is justly honored for his sterling worth and integrity of character, and is quietly enjoying the remaining years of a well-earned repose, surrounded by family, kindred and friends.

EDUCATIONAL.—OLD MASTERS.

"Full well they laughed, with counterfeited glee,
At all his jokes, for many a joke had he;
Full well the busy whisper circling round
Conveyed the dismal tidings when he frowned."

GOLDSMITH'S "Deserted Village."

Chronologically arranged, and as accurately as is now possible, the early school-teachers of Schenectady are given below. These all, as will be seen, ante-date any organized State school system. Education in the things taught from books in those days was of minor importance. The schoolmaster was a curious combination of ignorance and of a little learning. Oftener than not to his profession he joined one of the homely but useful trades, generally cobbling. Sobriety was considered commendable, but it was no noteworthy thing for the "master" to indulge all too freely during his hours of freedom from the school-room. Physical propulsion, conveyed by the impressive whip, was thought a wise way of inducing into the mind of the young scholar a proper understanding of his studies; though, even then, there were some eccentric fathers who surmised that the best road to a boy's brain was not to be found at the sharpest end of a whip.

The first school was opened here by Peter Tassermaker, the first pastor of the First Dutch Church, who was killed by the Indians when Schenectady was burned in 1690.

In 1725, Peter Feeling, the grandfather of Mrs. John Clark, was teaching here.

The following is a copy of the oldest school-bill extant in Schenectady:

Mr. Jno. R. Schermerhorn to Thos. Nielson, Dr.

	£	s.	d.
Schooling 2 children from ye 17th April, 1738, to ye 21 November, being 7 months	1	8	7
Schooling 2 children from ye 21st April, 1739, to ye last December, Being 8 mo	1	13	4
2 Psalters		5	0
	£3	6	11
Abatement for ye children Being at Home at Harvest		6	11
Due	£3	0	0

SCHENECTADY, ye mo. March, 1739–40.

There appeared before me, Nicholas Schuyler, Esq., one of his Majestie's Justices of ye Peace for ye County of Albany, ye above Thomas Neilson, and made oath on ye Holy evangelist of Almighty God, that ye above acct. according to the Best of his Knowledge is a Just and Fair account Jurat Corma made. THOS. NEILSON.

NICH. SCHUYLER.

On the reverse side of which is:

Recd. from Mr. R. Schermerhorn, three pounds, New York Currency, Being the full Contents of the Acct. on the other side, and is in full of Debts, Accts. and Demands Whatsoever to this 24th March, 1739–40.

I say recd. by me,

THOS. NEILSON.

Witnesseth:

ANNA WENDOL.

£3 0 0.

In 1755, Caleb Beck; in 1757, William Johnson, the "dominie;" and from 1759 to 1763, Hendrick Hausen, were schoolmasters; and by a bill dated 7th April, 1762, we learn that Mr. Matthew Lyne was then master, and for the years 1760–4–5–6 bills were also rendered by him: "1 year, £2 2s.," and "1 yr. 9 mo., £3 3s." In 1766 Richard Oliver was teacher, and from 1765 to 1768 Andrie Johnson received from 2 to 4 shillings per month for his services. From an account rendered by Peter Sparling to Ryer

Schermerhorn, and paid 13th March, 1767, it appears that Mr. Schermerhorn paid for "6½ months day and 5 months night school, at 16s. per quarter," the sum of £3 os. 4d. for his son John; that "syphering" cost the same amount per quarter; and that to his other qualifications Master Sparling added that of a spinner, receiving 2s. a pound for "spinning 11 lb." In 1769, George Passage, "shoemaker and schoolmaster," was paid 2s. 6d. per week for his services as teacher. In 1770 Hendrick Hausen is again master, and in the same year George Passage renders a long account, amounting to £15 10s. 8d. to Reyer Schermerhorn, for mending and making shoes, boots and pumps, for instructing "his son Bartholomew in the cordwaning trade." In 1771 William Andrews, who was a catechist among the Mohawk Indians and missionary, and first rector of St. George's Church, opened a grammar school. In 1772–3 "William Johnson was shoemaker and schoolmaster." Patrons of the school needed a little urging to pay their school-bills, as the following will show, though, as has already appeared, the receiver of this polite request had not been remiss with previous bills:

"Mr. Schermerhorn, Sir: When I 'broke up school at New Ark, this spring, I sent my acct. by your son Richard, the amount of which was £5 2s. 8d. As I have heard nothing from you since, should be glad if you would order the payment of it in New York, either to Mr. Cobham, at the great Dock, or Mr. Quakenbush, or where else it may suit you, and please to advise me of the same by a Letter directed to William Haddon, Elizabeth Town, and you will oblige, Sir,

Your very h'ble serv't,
WILLIAM HADDON.

New York, June 9, 1772."

In 1773 Dominie Miller was master, and on October 5th of the same year, Master P. H. Raworth made out a bill for "one quarter's schooling at 13s," on which he had received "one Load of Wood, at 3s. 6d." William Wellman, master, writes in August, 1773, to one of his patrons: "I would be verry glad if you Could let me have that Trifle, as I am very much in want, for your Boy Schooling, from the 23 of Apriel to the 28 of July, which is one quarter, 9s."

In 1774, Francis Rawert (Raworth), as is shown by a bill he then makes out, and in May, 1775, Mr. Fletcher, were teachers. Ph. Ryley renders an account, in 1776, of £1 13s. for his services as teacher, which is offset by a bill of fourteen items, in which "cash" is charged three times and "rum" eleven times, bringing the bibulous professor's demand down to nine shillings. A year later Master Ryley has another account of £2 8s., and this is reduced by offsets to eight shillings, but to his credit be it said, that the word "rum" is not so frequent. In 1779–80, "Mr. Martin kept a school in a house standing then between the house of C. Vibbard and Dr. A. G. Fonda, on the north side of Union street." In 1780, John Clute, and from 1783 to 1785, Edward Johnson, taught school.

A history of the Schenectady Academy elsewhere appears in this article. The teachers for 1785 were: Michael Tyms, English teacher, appointed April 29; Nicholas Van Vranken, September 22, and Mr. Basset, October 24. Jacobus Romeyn was made usher August 14, 1786. In July, 1787, Basset and Van Vranken were still teaching; and August 20, Mr. Wilkie is engaged, to begin November 1. Mr. Basset to "leave at next quarterly examination, on September 5, 1787," and on that day, Rev. Dirck Romeyn is appointed superintendent of the academy. January 18, 1788, the teachers were: Tyms, Van Vranken and Wilkie, and May 28, Morris, Tyms and "Beck's room." From the fact that, on June 12, "Mr. Beck, usher," is directed to "leave at end of quarter in September," it is to be inferred he may have been the "teacher" in "Beck's room." Mr. Wilkie also leaves then. September 1, 1789, Mr. Elliott was teaching the English branches there. In March, 1790, Mr. Tyms was teaching arithmetic, and from September 1, 1789, to March 1, 1790, Van Vranken was Latin and Greek professor. Mr. Wilkie "taught reading, arithmetic, etc." "D. Hale was Latin preceptor as early as January, 1792." John Taylor and Luther Halsey were also professors there in 1792 and 1793.

In 1793, John Lambert kept school in Church street, in what was, in 1865, the Tannahill house.

Temperance teachings seem to have made some progress, or at least the masters were willing to make the effort to avoid the blue Mondays so frequent heretofore. The following iron-clad pledge speaks for itself:

"This agreement, made the twentieth day of March, 1800, Witnesseth, That the subscriber hereunto will not, betwixt this date and the first day of June next ensuing, neglect his school through means of his getting intoxicated, with any kind of liquors whatsoever, under a forfeit of five dollars for each time, time to be stopped out of his school pay by me. BARTHOLOMEW SCHERMERHORN.

SCHUYLENBERGH SCHOOL,
March 20, 1800.

(Signed) JOHN HETHERINGTON."

True, this pledge only provides for "neglect" of his duties, but it was a good step in the right direction.

With the beginning of the Schenectady Academy, and particularly after it merged into Union College, education proper commenced here. While the bulk of the students attended these schools, still there were some private schools in existence, among which were the following:

In 1800, Mrs. Van Orden taught a school in the second house from the corner of Washington and State streets. A Mr. Barhydt and a Mr. Wiggins (who also read prayers in the Episcopal Church) were teaching here in 1802, and four years later "Mr. Ganley taught school in a room in the yard on the south side of State street, back of where Gray's shoe store afterwards was." Mr. Shumway in 1805 "kept school" in a house at the west corner of Front and Ferry streets, and

Thomas Dunlap taught vocal music at Mr. Mooney's school-house in 1807.

By a notice published March 28, 1808, it appears that a "French professor" had recently been engaged for the "Schenectady Female Academy," who "will devote two hours in the forenoon of each day to the instruction of such young ladies as wish to acquire a knowledge of that language." Mr. Malcom and C. C. Cuyler were teachers of the Female Academy in 1808. It was located at 32 Church street, the lot afterward passing into the hands of the Masonic Order.

February 4, 1812, the president of the consistory of the Dutch Church was authorized to subscribe fifty dollars "toward the support of a suitable person to instruct the people of color in this place," and April 20, measures were taken by them to establish a school, and they "procured the late Mr. Murdock's store" for that purpose.

This ends our recital of the "Old Masters" of Schenectady. The opening of the "Lancaster" School in 1816 marked an important epoch in our educational development.

THE LANCASTER SCHOOL, 1816–1854.

In the Lancasterian System of Schools, thus named after its inventor, Joseph Lancaster, of England, the seats and tables were arranged in the center of the school-room, leaving a passage clear around the outside; on the walls hung stiff cards or pasteboards containing the lessons, so that the class, standing in a semicircle, could learn to read and spell from the same card. The tables were divided into partitions, or shallow boxes, filled with sand, and occupying the spaces in front of each scholar. The child was taught the letters and how to make them by drawing them in the sand with a stick, cut sharp at one end and flat at the other, so that light and heavy lines could be made without having to retrace them. The sand was smoothed over with a rule of exactly the same width as the partition, and the lines to rule the sand were made by little pegs in the ruler, on the other side, which was used after the sand had been smoothed. After learning to trace the letters in the sand, the scholars were given slates and pencils, afterward pens and ink. Monitors from the higher classes were assigned classes to teach, being changed frequently, so that teaching might not occupy too much of their time to the detriment of their own studies.

An act to incorporate the Schenectady Lancaster School Society was passed November 12, 1816. The act provides that this school could be established in the compact parts of the first and second wards of the city; and that the thirteen trustees therein appointed should receive all the moneys rightfully due them under the act relative to common schools.

The thirteen trustees named in the act (and who by the act were to be elected annually by the citizens) were; Maus Schermerhorn, Henry Yates, Jr., Cyrus Stebbins, Jacob Van Vechten, Hooper Cumming, Isaac Riggs, Elisha Taylor, Eliphalet Nott, James Bailey, David Boyd, Abraham S. Groot, Charles Kane and James C. Duane.

The first meeting of the Board of Trustees was held November 20, 1816, at the office of Henry Yates. James C. Duane was elected President; David Boyd, Treasurer; and Isaac Riggs, Secretary. Different committees were appointed, among which was one to draft by-laws and one to ascertain "the probable expense of a building for the school-house." February 12, 1817, a committee reported to the Board that "they had procured a lot from the corporation" for school purposes, and a committee was appointed to receive proposals for building such house. The by-laws were adopted five days later.

December 17, 1817, a committee reported that they had "obtained for the benefit of the Lancaster School Society, from the corporation of this city, seventy acres of land on the hill opposite Jacob Lyons'" which was situated on "the north-east side of the Albany and Schenectady turnpike,' * * * that "they expect to receive for the taxes laid on the two inner wards, the sum of $213.72," and in February next, "to receive from the State about the said sum of $213," which, with about $90" in the hands of D. L. Van Antwerp, "will make a total of about $500 to be received during the current year." It was also resolved at this meeting that the salary of the teacher should be $750 yearly, provided enough money was received to make that amount; if not, then the salary was to be all above "the current expenses of the year."

January 10, 1818, Nicholas Van Vranken was unanimously chosen to be the teacher upon the opening of the school.

The report of 23d May, places the tuition at "one dollar a quarter, paid in advance," and that school be opened June 24. (The building in which it was located is now occupied, 1885, by the Union School Primary Department on Union street.)

July 24, the committee reported that they had "caused the school-house to be finished, and that there remained due to Mr. Lyon the sum of $317.-25, after deducting $488.70, the price of 54 acres 1 rood 8 perches of land at $9 per acre. Cost of the whole, $809.95.

The first Teacher's Report to the Board, showing the result of the Lancasterian system, was presented by Nicholas Van Vranken, March, 1820. In this remarkably able paper it is stated. "The whole number of scholars admitted into the school since the 1st March, 1819, is 267. The school is divided into 8 reading classes; from the first to the second of these there have been 27 promotions; to the third, 28; to the fourth, 26; to the fifth, 44; to the sixth, 31; to the seventh, 39; and to the eighth, 36." The method in use is then spoken of: "When it is taken into consideration that none are permitted to write on paper but those who write a fair and handsome hand on the slate, and that 154 out of 267 have done this, the excellence of the place * * * must stand unquestioned."

March 27, 1824, tuition was reduced to twenty-five cents; the salary of the teacher to $500; and resolved that "poor scholars, not exceeding forty, be admitted into the school gratuitously."

June 27, 1831, the corporate seal, a circular seal with the letters "S. L. S." engraved thereon, was adopted.

March 23, 1832, it was resolved that the teacher receive for his salary for the ensuing year, after deducting therefrom the incidental expenses of the school, "the total amount of the public money arising from tax and school fund, and also the amount received for tuition, at twenty-five cents per scholar." "The poor children" to be received as per resolution of March 27, 1824. Many outside duties were thrown upon the teacher; he personally bargained for and superintended all repairs, building of walks, etc. March 13, 1833, Ezekiel Sexton was elected teacher in place of Mr. Van Vranken, who declined a reappointment. Resolutions commendatory of Mr. Van Vranken for his fifteen years' services as teacher were passed by the Board, and Mr. Van Vranken was elected one of the Trustees of the Board. October 16, 1833, it was resolved that the present school-house be sold to Dr. Nott for $225, "reserving the benches and fixtures," and that they purchase of Gov. Yates, a lot on College street for $500, of forty feet front, upon which a new school-house is to be erected. October 28th the committee reported that Dr. Nott wanted the outhouses, etc., included with the school-house. This the Board refused to grant, and it was decided that the buildings should be turned into the general building fund, to be used as far as practicable in the new school-house. The Joseph C. Yates lot was bought for $500, as is shown by the report of March 19, 1834, and on March 26th it appears that Dr. Nott had finally purchased the school-house for $250, "the benches being reserved." The school "to be vacated the 1st of April next."

Proposals, as follows, for building the new school-house, were submitted 21st April:

John N. Vrooman, for $759.98½; Frederick Tupper, for $800; Henry Vine, for $775; Berten & Kingsley, for $850; Edward Clark, for $800. Mr. Vrooman's bid being accepted.

Mr. James Slater was elected teacher one week later, and specifications for the new school-house in College street were decided upon. It was to be "forty feet from front to rear, thirty feet wide, and twenty feet high from top of sills to top of plates," and to be "finished June 1st next." The first meeting was held in the building July 16th, when it was ordered that the second story be completed.

April 1, 1836, it was *Resolved*, "That this corporation feel themselves obliged to appropriate, for the purposes of the education of the colored children of this city, such proportion of the public money as may hereafter be collected on the enumeration of such children," and in June, 1837, $25 was set aside from the school funds to be applied for the maintenance of a teacher in the "African Lancaster School Society."

March 15, 1839, this resolution, etc., was adopted: "*Whereas*, Doubts have been expressed whether any other mode of instruction than what is called the 'Lancaster System,' can be used in the schools of this Society; *Resolved*, that this Board request our members of Assembly and the Senate * * * to procure a law to remove such doubts, and leave this Board the power of causing all the branches of education taught in any of the common schools of this State to be taught in the schools of this Society, and in any approved mode that this Society may deem expedient to adopt." Mr. Slater was hired as teacher for another year; his pay to be so much of the public money as does not exceed $550 and the tuition money. "He to employ at his own expense a female teacher for the female department." April 18th, a District Library was ordered to be paid for with the State money. At this meeting $200 was appropriated for the establishment of a school or schools in the first ward, and $300 for schools "in the part of the third or fourth wards, or in both, or either of them, within the Police District." These schools to be subject to the regulations of the Board, so long as their teachers "receive any part of the appropriation." By December 30th, $279.34 had been expended for the new library, and the books were, "for the present," in the rooms of the "Young Men's Association," and Alexander Cameron was appointed Librarian.

The committee appointed April 18, 1839, reported February 25, 1840, that: A school be established in the first ward; teacher's salary to be $250; tuition to be $1.50 per quarter from May to November; $1.75 November to May. Grammar, geography, bookkeeping, navigation and surveying to be taught. Section 8 of the report is as follows: "It is proposed to continue some parts of the 'Lancaster System' (such as the mode of teaching the names and mode of forming figures and letters) in the first or primary school, and in the other schools in the wards for beginners, but to depend upon instruction from the teachers personally so soon as the scholar has made progress beyond the first elements of literature;" and section 7 states that they "hope to have" furnished by the corporation "the engine-house in Liberty street, and the old market belonging to the heirs of Peter Smith." The treasurer's report of April 6, 1840, shows $833.75 on hand.

Wm. D. Cockran and Miss Stiles were engaged as teachers for the "Lancaster School;" Martin C. Hall for Ferry Street School; and Harvey Moore for Liberty Street School. These two last opening May 4, 1840.

The annual report, made to the Superintendent of Common Schools, November 1, 1840, shows that during the past year the whole amount of public money received from the County Treasurer was $1,396.88, of which $279.37 was paid for books, $48 to the African School, and the balance of $1,069.51 for wages of teachers (they also received about $450 tuition fees). The number of children taught in all the schools in which the trustees had any voice was 360; the number of children re-

siding within the Police between the ages of five and sixteen years was 1,065. The teachers were: James Slater, Martin C. Hall, Misses Ritchie, Thurston and Stiles, their monthly wages running from $15 to $45.

April 1, 1841, Myndert Veeder was teacher for the Liberty street school, James Slater and Miss Stiles re-elected for the Lancaster School, and Nicholas Merselis for the Ferry street school. The "Lancaster School Report," submitted at this meeting shows the total amount of school money received for the year to be $1,409.12.

April 11, 1842, the school money was divided as follows: "The school in College street, male department, $330; female department. 135; Ferry street school, $190; Liberty street school, $190; John B. Clute School, in State street, $115 (this is the first mention in the minutes of this school); and the African School, $40." July 15 "the rear lot of the Lancaster House was leased to James D. Felthousen for a term of fifteen years" (price not stated). November 1st, Joseph Blanchard was appointed teacher in the State street school.

The school money, as reported April 9, 1843, was $1,335.88, and at this meeting Nancy Ferrell was engaged as teacher for the female department, and Frederick De Lamater for the State street school. On March 5th there were 1,009 volumes in the Library.

During 1843–44 the question of changing the present school system was seriously agitated, when, on January 6, 1845, it was decided "not to take any action thereon at present."

The annual report of Alexander Holland, made April 2, 1845, was so unusually accurate and detailed, that he was given a special vote of thanks.

The appropriation for 1845 for the pay of teachers was:

College street school, male department,	$265 00
" " " female "	110 00
Maiden lane "	175 00
Ferry street "	175 00
State street "	175 00
Miss Clark, a private teacher in Yates st.,	20 00
Miss Ritchie, " " " Front "	20 00
Miss Joanna Crooks, " Wash'n'ton "	20 00
African School,	40 00
Total,	$1,000 00

Wm. G. Caw was appointed teacher for the Fourth ward school in May, in place of Mr. De Lamater, resigned, and, in October, M. Myndert Veeder was elected teacher in the Lancaster School *vice* Mr. Hall, resigned. It appears, from the minutes of this meeting, that the "Fourth ward school was held in Wm. Hannah's building in State street."

The report made April 10, 1846, shows that the average attendance at the different schools had been:

College street, male department,	94
" " female "	117
Ferry "	51
Maiden Lane,	61
Fourth ward,	90

The amount of school money received for the year, reported April 24th, was $1,295.85. On May 6th the gradual introduction of uniform text-books was recommended.

This was brought forth by a memorial from the teachers, presented at the last meeting. The following is a list of the books designated by them, with those also named by the committee:

Webster's Spelling Book, Hazen's Speller and Definer, Sanders' First, Second and Third Reader, Hale's History of the United States, Porter's Rhetorical Reader, New Testament, Smith's Grammar, Mitchell's Geography, First and Second, Crittenden's Arithmetic, Parley's History, Davies' Algebra, Olmstead's Philosophy, Marsh's Bookkeeping (Single Entry), Crittenden's Bookkeeping (Double Entry).

The introduction of music books was also favored. It seems that music very soon became part of the curriculum, as on August 20th the teachers invited the Board "to attend an examination of their scholars in musical exercises" soon to be held, which invitation was accepted by the Board as a body. The following week, on the 29th, a grand concert was given by the united scholars in the consistory of the Dutch Reformed Church, which was well attended. Mr. S. B. Marsh was the musical instructor.

The agitation regarding a change from the Lancaster system was again raised during 1847. During this year—1847—the Maiden Lane school was removed to a room leased in the Cameronian Church. Mr. Vedder, the retiring secretary, added these words to the minutes of the meeting held July 17th: "*Vale, vale, longum vale.* How mutable are all human affairs. Othello's occupation gone. Bread or no bread."

The amount appropriated April 10, 1848, for pay for teachers was: three male teachers at $250 a year, or $750; one female teacher at $100; and one at $125. Total, $975.

The apportionment of the school money for teachers' salaries made April 6, 1849, was as follows:

College street school, male department	$245 00
" " " female "	110 00
Maiden lane "	245 00
Ferry street "	245 00
Miss Sanders' "	110 00
African "	40 00
Total	$995 00

During 1849 there were various complaints made against different teachers, but in every case the teacher was sustained by the Board.

January 4, 1850, the customary resolutions were passed regarding the death of Frederick R. Van Ingen, Esq., a late member of the Board. Hiram Champion was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by his death. January 26th it was recommended "that the schools be made entirely free from the present quarter," but no definite action was taken thereon, and March 7th it was reported that there would be sufficient school money ($1,997) to pay the teachers enough more to make up for their deprivation of tuition money, and also to establish

another school of a higher grade. April 4th the appropriation for teachers was :

First ward school,	male	$310 00
Second " "	"	310 00
" " "	female	170 00
Fourth " "	male	310 00
" " "	female	170 00
Total		$1,270 00

and $225 was applied for the Library.

The report of the Treasurer, made April 18th, shows the school money received for the year to be $1,261.10, which, with $307.69 received from the former Treasurer, made $1,568.69 total cash received. April 25th, the Special Committee upon By-laws made their report. This report provides for the routine business of the Board, the appointment of committees, regular and special, etc. The report of the "Library and Text-Book" Committee, made at this meeting, is :

Year.	Appropriation.	Vols. purchased.
1839	$279 34	185
1840	274 91	218 probably.
1841	281 84	218 "
1842	267 25	205 "
1843	267 17	183
1844	268 00	131
1845	259 17	95
1846	260 60	197
1847	264 59	195
1848	247 47	135
1849	254 70	118
11 years.	$2,915 04	1,879 vols.

119 volumes are reported as missing, and "96 volumes probably."

May 2, the following uniform system of text-books was recommended :

Reading and Spelling—Mandeville's Course, 1 to 6,

New Testament,

Swan's Spelling Book,

Mitchell's Primary and large Geography,

Perkins' Primary, Elementary and High Arithmetic, and Colburn's Intellectual,

Grammar—Brown's first lines and larger,

Cutter's Physiology,

Hall's History of the United States,

Gray's Natural Philosophy,

Perkins' Elements of Algebra and Geometry,

Johnston's Catechism of Agricultural Chemistry, which was adopted by the Board May 23. The tuition for children under five years of age was fixed at $2 per quarter. The report of July 11 shows that John W. Schoolcraft had been teaching the African School since June 3d, at $15 per month. (This school had not been in operation for some months), and October 11th it was decided that this school should be closed November 3d.

The question of a free school had, by this time, become universally agitated, and in January, 1852, a committee was appointed to prepare a draft of a law for such a school in the city, with a view of having the same presented to the Legislature at its present session. The committee reported, through its President, February 24th, that "the free school of the city of Troy, with such alterations and amendments as may be necessary, as being suitable for this city," and the report was adopted.

In 1853 a new school was opened in the Third ward, on "The Green," and Miss Frances M. Sacia was engaged as teacher on April 1st.

The last meeting of the "Lancaster School Society" of which there is any record, was held March 16, 1854, the minutes being in the handwriting of Mr. B. V. S. Vedder, for many years its Secretary. By these minutes it appears that the Trustees recently elected were :

A. A. Van Vorst, B. V. S. Vedder, W. H. Clute, A. M. Vedder, Francis Van DeBogart, Peter Vedder, Jont. Pierson, Nathaniel Clark, D. M. Chadsey, John Foster, S. L. Hand, M. C. Myers and A. M. Mull.

A. A. Van Vorst was elected President, B. V. S, Vedder, Secretary, and A. M. Vedder, Treasurer. At this meeting the following resolution was adopted :

"That this Board do approve of the act now before the Legislature of this State, providing for the reorganization and improvement of the school system of this city, and that we recommend its immediate passage," and "that the President and Secretary be requested to forward a copy of the foregoing resolution to the chairman of the proper committee of the Senate of this State, under their official signatures."

The "Lancaster School System," after a life of nearly forty years (1816 to 1854), gave way during the latter year, to our present Free School system.

THE FREE SCHOOL SYSTEM, 1854–1885.

April 9, 1854, an act was passed by the Legislature in relation to the public schools in the city of Schenectady, and on the 15th of the month the Union School was established. In the evening of that day the first meeting of School Commissioners was held at the Common Council Chamber at the Court House. There were present : Alonzo C. Paige and Nicholas Van Vranken, from the First Ward; D. M. Moore and Wm. M. Duane, of the Second; Charles Chequer and Hiram Champion, of the Third ; and Rev. I. G. Duryee and D. M. Chadsey, of the Fourth Ward. After organization, Mr. Nicholas Van Vranken was elected president, and D. M. Chadsey, secretary. James J. Marlette succeeded Mr. Chadsey the following year. The commissioners, at this meeting, drew lots to decide which should hold the long or short terms. Steps for the purchase of a proper building for school purposes were at once taken, and, May 26th, David M. Moore, of the committee, reported that the West College, which originally cost over $53,000, could be purchased by the city for $6,000. The grounds were 225 feet front on College street. This property was secured shortly after this report, and the first two stories were made ready to accommodate about 450 scholars, it being believed that that number would cover all those ready to attend the school.

October 15, 1852, the school was formally opened. In the evening appropriate exercises were

held at the Presbyterian Church, at which speeches were made by Dr. Nott, Dr. Hickok and Judge Paige. That the commissioners had been in error in concluding that the two lower stories would accommodate those desirous of attending was soon made apparent. From 450 the pupils immediately increased to over 1,100, and it was necessary to close the school in order to prepare the third story.

The re-opening was December 10th, at which time there were accommodations for 1,200 pupils; 800 in the main building, 200 in the old Lancaster school building, and 200 in the White street building.

In the beginning the Union School was divided into ten departments over which George B. Cook was principal; he was assisted by the following teachers: Mary A. Morrill, junior and senior primary departments; Lizzie A. W. Hill, junior secondary department; Huldah A. Allen, senior secondary department; Isabella E. Fisher, junior intermediate department; Angeline A. Monk, senior intermediate department; Caroline Van Voorhis, junior grammar department; Malvina Proctor, senior grammar department; Jane L. Olmstead, Catharine S. Olmstead, Mary Wilds, higher English department; John S. Parsons, Mary A. Bodge, Caroline L. Bridgman, academical department; Abby W. French and two assistant teachers, boys' library school; and Rebecca M. Gurnsey and Jane I. Cunningham, White street school.

The attendance at this school, from its commencement, has steadily increased. The whole building was soon in use, and 1859, what is known as the "New Building" was erected. In 1872 another change was necessary, and the classical department was removed to the Delavan building at the corner of Union and Church streets, and the Fifth ward school was erected. Five years later, 1877, the Park Place school was put up, and the Nott Terrace school followed in 1883.

The yearly school-money now is about $30,000. Mr. Samuel B. Howe was appointed Superintendent of Schools August 31, 1868, and has held the position continuously ever since. To his personal efforts much of the success of the schools are due.

The number of scholars' names now on the registers is 2,500, and the average daily attendance is about 1,800. To instruct these the following named teachers are required, the year of the commencement of their services in Schenectady being also given: Anna E. Gilbert, Main School, August, 1860; Sarah E. LaRue, August, 1860; Elizabeth M. Yates, June, 1867; Mary C. Paine, December, 1870; Marie Hastings, October, 1871; Mary L. Buell, August, 1872; Elizabeth Hallowell, November, 1873; Ella McNee, March, 1876; Emma Lee, August, 1880; Augusta Oothout, November, 1880; Helena A. Hall, November, 1880; Jennie Vedder, June, 1881; Emma C. Chubb, February, 1882; Susie C. Vedder, June, 1882; Susie N. Sprague, October, 1882; Anna Ferguson, November 1882; Lillie D. Daley, June, 1883; Carrie A. Brown, June, 1883; Ella McKenry, June, 1883; Ella Terworth, October, 1884; Mary Cleary, March, 1885. Total, 21.

C. S. Halsey, Classical School, July, 1875; Helen E. Carley, June, 1881; Emma L. Clare, June, 1881; Ida J. Fenn, September, 1882; M. H. Duurloo, July, 1883; Dow Beekman, June, 1884; Georgia Gates, Classical and Elocution, June, 1884. Total, 7.

Olive Morris, Nott Terrace School, August, 1866; Ernestine Stockwell, January, 1868; Lydia H. Brown, February, 1872; Minnie A. Piper, December, 1881; Alice D. Stevens, June, 1882; Mary F. Caw, February, 1883; Lottie Allen, June, 1883; Carrie R. Smith, October, 1884. Total, 8.

Anna E. Cunningham, Albany Hill School, May, 1867; Lucinda Sands, April, 1874; Joanna Chandler, October, 1874; Lillian G. King, April, 1885. Total, 4.

Rachel Baker, Park Place School, September, 1874; Etta W. Felthousen, March, 1877; Margaret L. Groot, March 1877; Irene Schermerhorn, March, 1882. Total, 4.

Helen Palmer, Instrumental Music, August, 1864.

RECAPITULATION OF TEACHERS.

Main School, 21; Classical, 7; Nott Terrace, 8; Albany Hill, 4; Park Place, 4. Total number, Teachers, 44.

S. B. HOWE was born in Tompkins Co., N. Y., and graduated from Union College in 1862. He served as adjunct professor in the college, and previous to his location here, in 1868, as school superintendent, in Ithaca (1862), Catskill (1865), and Albany (1867).

CADY STALEY, Professor of Civil Engineering in Union College, was born in Florida, Montgomery County, N. Y., December 12, 1840, and graduated from Union College in 1865. He became a civil engineer in 1867, and in 1881 served on the Central Pacific Railroad as bridge engineer, and is at present Dean and Acting Treasurer of the College.

Many graduates from "Old Union" remember JAMES PICKETT, who was for many years prior to his death the superintendent of the college grounds. Mr. Pickett's unobtrusive kindness and Christian character made for him many friends.

CHARLES S. HALSEY was born in Cambria, Niagara County, N. Y., December 20, 1834, and graduated from Williams College in 1856. He served as principal in Macedon Academy, Wayne County, N. Y., from September, 1856, to March, 1858; Newton Collegiate Institute, Newton, N. J., from April, 1859, to April, 1861; Macedon Academy, from August, 1862, to June, 1865; High School, Burlington, Vt., from 1872 to 1875; and in 1875 was elected principal of the Union Classical Institute, Schenectady, N. Y. He is author of "A Genealogical and Chronological Chart of the Rulers of England, Scotland, France, Germany and Spain" (1873), and (1882) "An Etymology

of Latin and Greek." His studies in philology have been extensive.

SCHENECTADY ACADEMY.

The first authentic information of any special attention being given to an organized school system in Schenectady dates back to the revolution.

The coming of Dominie Romeyn as pastor of the Dutch Church, was the inspiration of the Schenectady Academy. Through his influence the church was induced to erect a commodious building, the citizens agreeing to give it their patronage and furnish it with a library. The church contemplated constructing a house of two stories, with two rooms on each story, upon the lot of ground upon which the old guard-house now stands, at the junction of Church and State streets. Three rooms were to be assigned for the use of the school and academy.

On account of the great cost of the Academy-house to the church, it was "resolved, that said church shall receive four shillings from every scholar taught in said house, and if said academy or *Illustre School* shall become changed into a college, then the presidents of such college, as well as the rector of said school, shall be a member of the Dutch Church and minister of this church; and the said four shillings for each scholar shall be bestowed upon such poor scholars as the church shall name."

The consistory, about March 5, 1785, were still negotiating with the town magistrates for the improvement of the common schools of the town and for the establishment of an academy. The consistory ordered the gathering of materials for the academy on the 16th of the same month, and on the 28th it was considered expedient to build the academy, not upon the old guard-house lot, but upon the north corner of Union and Ferry streets.

April 7, 1785, the academy building was well under way, and the consistory, together with twenty-seven respectable citizens of the town, met at Rueben Simond's public-house in Church street, to close the matter of the academy by signing articles of agreement for its management and support. (This agreement is drawn with great formality and particularity in eleven sections, and is written upon fifteen pages of foolscap—probably by Do. Romeyn, who was president of the meeting.)

William Schermerhorn was appointed superintendent, and a committee, both of citizens and consistory, to urge forward the Academy building. A stone of an oval shape was built into the front on which were cut the names of the building committee; this stone is now in Union College Museum.

An effort was made in 1791 to endow this school by a grant of Indian lands; and November 16, Dr. Dirk Van Ingen announced to the consistory that he and others had rented 10,240 acres of land of the Oneida Indians for twenty-one years, on consideration that he paid after five years £100 yearly to said Indians. Inasmuch as the academy, unincorporated, could not hold real estate, he offered the land to the consistory for the benefit of the Dutch Church. At first the consistory agreed to receive the land but subsequently gave it up, finding, doubtless, that it could not be legally held by the church.

On the 2d day of April, 1793, the Dutch Church made the building over to the trustees of the academy; and on September 24, 1796, it was made over to the trustees of Union College, to be sold and the money put into a more commodious building. The proceeds of this sale were finally merged in the building fund of the present Union School edifice.

Academy Building, 1795.

The academy building was of brick, two stories in height, about 50 x 30 feet on the ground, and cost about $3,000. It was used by Union College until 1804. This school was opened in 1793 under the care of Col. John Taylor, of New Jersey. This school appears to have been conducted with much ability, and being well sustained by the community in which it was planted, became the germ of the college.

An academic school, in connection with Union College, was established by President Nott immediately after his election in 1804. The teachers of this school were appointed by him, and the principal was recognized by the laws of the college as a member of the faculty. This academic school became popular and extensively useful for many years.

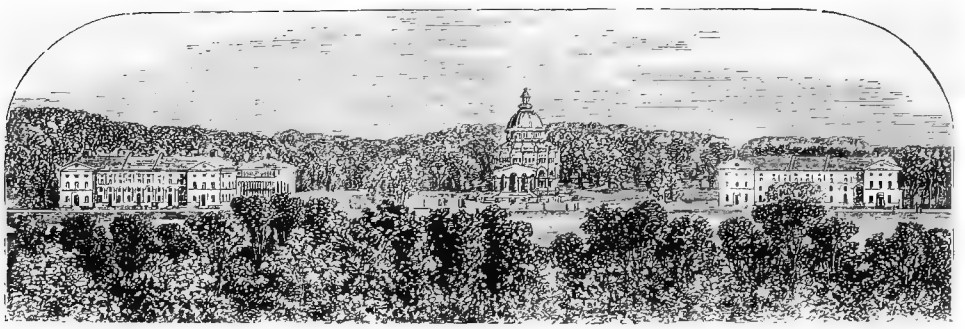
On the 7th of April, 1818, an act was passed authorizing the revival and reorganization of the Schenectady Academy, which was done by the election of a Board of Trustees on the 1st day of April, 1819. The academic department of Union College was merged into this school.

The Rev. Dr. Nathan N. Whiting was appointed principal of the academy, and was succeeded by Mr. Wm. Beattie, who resigned in 1828, and was succeeded by Daniel Fuller.

The academy continued until the reorganization of the schools of the city in 1854.

UNION COLLEGE.

Union College was founded at Schenectady, February 25, 1795. The Legislature having vested in the regents of the university the right of granting college charters, a memorial was addressed to the board by the trustees of the Schenectady Academy, which led to the granting of a charter to twenty-four persons therein named, and their successors, under the title of "The Trustees of Union College in the Town of Schenectady, in the State of New York." The first trustees were Robert Yates, Abraham Yates, Jr., Abraham Ten Broeck, Goldsbrow Banyar, John V. Henry, George Merchant, Stephen Van Rensselaer, John Glen, Isaac Vrooman, Joseph C. Yates, James Shuter, Nicholas Veeder, James Gordon, Beriah Palmer, Samuel Smith, Henry Walton, Ammi Rodgers, Aaron Conduit, Jacobus V. C. Romeyn, James Cochran, John Frey, D. Christopher Pick, Jonas Platt, and Jonas Coe.



COLLEGE BUILDINGS AND CAMPUS, UNION COLLEGE.

Of these, seven resided in Albany, six in Schenectady, three in Ballston; and in Saratoga, Troy, Kinderhook, Palatine, Herkimer and Whitestown, N. Y., and Hackensack, N. J., one each.

Under an act passed March 30, 1805, the charter was amended by the regents, March 29, 1806, by reducing the number to twenty-one and adding the Chancellor, Justices of the Supreme Court, Secretary of State, Comptroller, Treasurer, Attorney-General and Surveyor-General, by virtue of their civil offices. The Constitution of 1821, by reducing the number of Judges made further vacancies, which by an act passed February 14, 1823, were to be filled by the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor.

The Constitution of 1846, by abolishing some of the above offices, required further changes, and the *ex officio* trustees are now the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller and Treasurer. They were empowered to hold an estate with an income of $\$13,333\frac{1}{3}$, were vested with the usual powers of a college, and were empowered to fill vacancies in their board.

The chronicles of the day record that the event of receiving a college charter was celebrated by great rejoicing, with the ringing of bells, display of flags, bonfires and general illumination.

The name "*Union College*" was given as expressing the intention of uniting all religious sects in a common interest for the common good, by offering equal advantages to all, with preference to none.

It is believed that this is the first college in the United States not confessedly denominational in its character.

The college was organized on the 19th of October, 1795, by the election of Rev. John Blair Smith, D. D., of Philadelphia, as president; John Taylor, A. M., as professor of mathematics and natural philosophy; and the Rev. Andrew Yates, as professor of the Latin and Greek languages.

The first commencement was held May, 1797, and the first degree conferred upon three young men, who had completed the course of study required.

This was an occasion of signal and novel interest all over the country around, and drew together a large and enthusiastic audience. The public exercises were held in the old Reformed Dutch Church.

Dr. Smith was succeeded by Rev. Jonathan Edwards, D. D. (son of Rev. Jonathan Edwards, afterwards President of the College of New Jersey), who died in 1801, and was followed by Rev. Jonathan Maxcy, D. D., a Baptist clergyman from Providence, R. I., who resigned in 1804, and went to Columbia, South Carolina, as President of the South Carolina College.

Under the presidency of Dr. Edwards a new edifice was begun on a scale magnificent for that day, and still one of the finest and best built in the city.

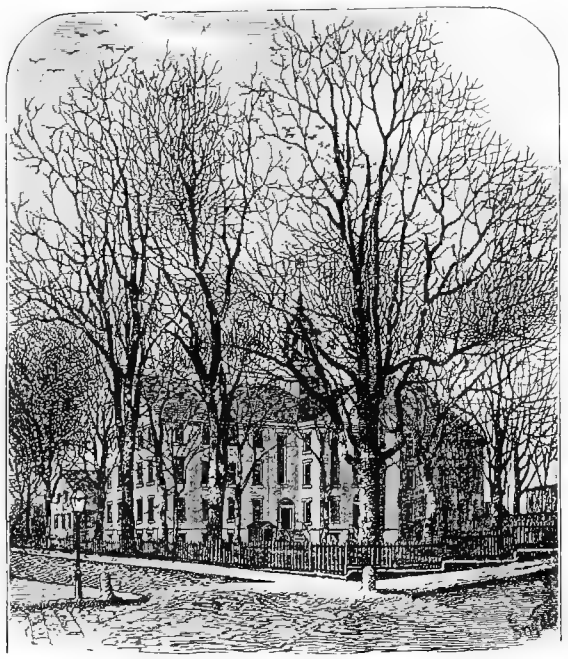
Rev. Eliphalet Nott was chosen president in 1804.

Dr. Nott found the college wanting both means and students. The inhabitants of Schenectady had proposed an endowment of $30,000 in lands, obligations and money; but the largest subscription was only $250, the next $100, and the total sum altogether, from sources other than direct gift of the State, but $42,043.74 Grants were made by the State as follows:

April 9, 1795, for books and apparatus, $3,750; April 11, 1796, for buildings, $10,000; March 30, 1797, for salaries, $1,500; March 7, 1800, for

completion of building, $10,000; March 7, 1800, ten lots, of 550 acres each, in the military tract, for support of president and professors, $43,483.-93; April 8, 1801, and April 3, 1802, sale of garrison lands near Lake George, $9,378.20. Total grants before 1804, $78,112.13.

The building, begun under President Edwards, in 1792, was still unfinished, and the college was burdened with a heavy debt. It was completed during the first year of Dr. Nott's incumbency. The original cost, including the site, was $60,000. It contained a residence for the president, the



THE OLD WEST COLLEGE, NOW UNION SCHOOL.

chapel, library and recitation-rooms, and a considerable number of dormitories. In 1815 it was sold to the city and county for a court-house, jail and city offices, and, while thus owned, was commonly known as the "City Hall." The college received in payment 3,000 acres of land, in detached parcels, in various parts of Schenectady County. In 1831 it was repurchased by the college for $10,000, and used for library, cabinets and residents of freshmen and sophomore classes until 1854. It was then resold to the city for the sum of $6,000, and is now known as "Union School." Between 1805 and 1810 a row of two-story brick buildings was erected on College street for use of dormitories. It was known as "Long College," and was sold in 1830. The means that had been provided were quite inadequate to the wants of a prosperous college, and to supply the needed endowment recourse was had to an expedient, now forbidden by a better public sentiment, but then deemed proper, for raising funds in aid of every religious, educational and benevolent enterprise of the day and for public improvements. It was therefore deemed advisable to urge the passage of a law, which was secured March 30, 1805, for raising the sum of $80,000 by lottery. This sum was to be drawn by four successive lotteries of $20,000 each. The act directed $35,000 to be applied to the erection of additional buildings; an equal sum to be invested, the interest to be applied to the support of professorships, and the remaining $10,000 to be invested, one-half of the proceeds for a classical library and the balance toward defraying the expenses of indigent scholars. It appears, from a legislative report made in 1814, that but $55,000 were realized from this grant.

A few years' experience showed that the location in the city was not sufficiently ample, and the observing eye of Dr. Nott, at an early period in his presidency, had noticed in the suburbs a better one, that combined in rare degree every advantage desirable.

A tract of some 250 acres was secured, and new buildings begun, on College Hill, in 1812, and were occupied in part in the summer of 1814. To provide the means for these improvements, and for a substantial endowment, application was made to the State for another grant of a kind similar to the last. An act was accordingly passed, largely through the efforts of Dr. Nott, for raising the sum of $200,000 for Union College and considerable sums for other institutions. Of the sum allowed to Union College there was specially given:

For the erection of buildings, $100,000; for payment of existing debts, $30,000; for library and apparatus, $20,000; for relief of indigent students, 50,000. Total, including all sums previously given by the State, $331,612.13.

The proceedings consequent upon these transactions extended through many years, and the drawings of the lotteries were not entirely closed until the end of 1833.

From the time of completion of buildings on the new site the college entered upon a season of general prosperity, and the unusually large proportion in the senior classes shows a fact well known throughout the country, that many students, after passing through the lower classes elsewhere, came hither to enjoy the instruction of Dr. Nott, and receive from him their first degree.

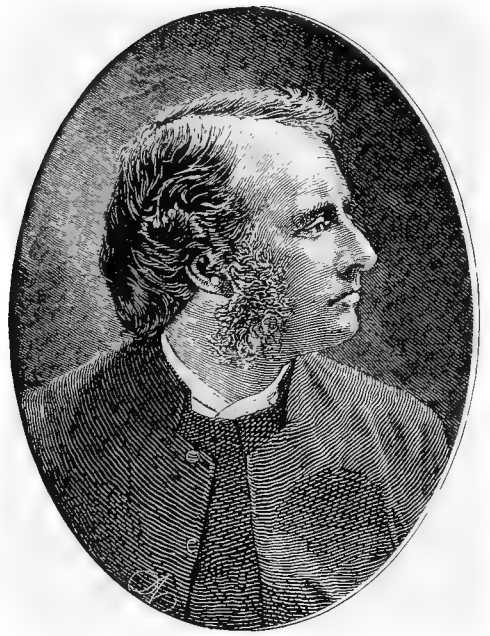
The advancing age of Dr. Nott led to the calling, in 1852, of the Rev. Laurens P. Hickok, D. D., from the Auburn Theological Seminary to serve as vice-president, and upon him gradually devolved the cares of the presidency, although they were not actually conferred in name until after the death of Dr. Nott, in 1866.

Semi-Centennial of the College.—This event in the history of the college was celebrated in connection with the commencement exercises in 1845. The occasion called together an immense number of the alumni and literary strangers, to receive whom the common council extended the hospitality of the city, and all the principal citizens opened their houses to receive guests. The Rev. Josh. Sweetman, of the first class graduated, and the Rt. Rev. Alonzo Potter, of the class of 1818, then recently elected Bishop of Pennsylvania, delivered addresses on the occasion.

Semi-Centennial of Dr. Nott's Presidency.—This occasion was celebrated on the 25th of July, 1854. As on the previous gathering, the hospitalities of the city were tendered to the returning sons of Union, and to the literary strangers called together by so unusual an event. The address of Dr. Nott was a compact and interesting review of the labors, joys and trials of the last fifty years. The principal orators of the occasion were the Rev. Francis Wayland, President of Brown University, and the Hon. Wm. W. Campbell, of Cherry Valley.

Recent History.—On the retirement of Dr. Hickok, Charles A. Aiken, D.D., of Dartmouth College, was chosen president, and he filled the duties with acceptance until 1871, when, for domestic reasons, he resigned; and in the selection of a successor, the choice fell upon the Rev. Eliphalet Nott Potter, D. D., the grandson of Dr. Nott and son of Bishop Alonzo Potter.

With the declining years of Dr. Nott the number of students decreased, and during the late war the college was nearly stripped of its students by the withdrawal of the whole number from the South, while many from the North were attracted to new institutions that were competing for favor. It became a subject of serious thought on the part of those intrusted with the affairs of Union College as to how the emergency was to be met, and no plan appeared more feasible than that of yielding to the progressive spirit of the age by enlarging its facilities, extending its courses of study, and, in the best sense of the word, rendering it fully the peer of the first institutions of the country.



President Eliphalet Nott Potter.

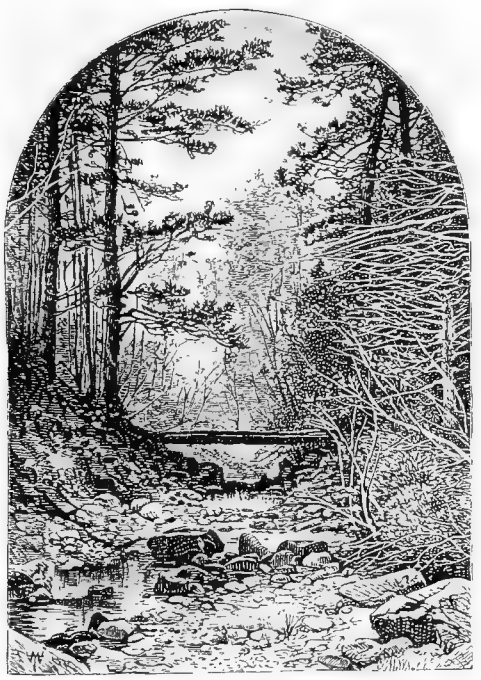
Present Buildings.—The principal buildings of Union College are North College and South College, six hundred feet apart, and each with a colonnade facing inward; a memorial hall midway between but standing back three hundred feet from

Blue Gate.

the front line; a gymnasium in the rear of South College; a president's house, and three other dwellings on the line with the main college buildings, and a professor's residence at some distance east of the principal group of buildings; also a

semi-circular building facing westward on the campus, the centre of which is used for the library and the wings for recitation rooms.

PRESENT GROUNDS.—The original grounds acquired for college uses have been somewhat reduced by railroad and street improvements, but are scarcely liable to further encroachment, and are amply sufficient for every probable want. They embrace about one hundred and thirty acres, including the campus, gardens and grounds properly belonging to the college and essential for its use, besides some one hundred acres of woodlands and fields adjoining.



College Brook.

OTHER REAL ESTATE.—The college owns considerable land in Long Island City, that was purchased by Dr. Nott for Union College from the Hunter family, after whom Hunter's Point was named. The property has been laid out in streets and building lots, and graded. It extends about half a mile along Newtown Creek, and has a frontage on the East River of about half a mile. The property consists of several hundred building lots. In 1873 this property was considered to be worth a million dollars. The estimates now put upon it vary.

In addition to the Long Island City land, the college owns three lots on One Hundred and Eighteenth street, and a house and lot on Fourth avenue, in New York City.

COURSES OF STUDY.—The "classical course" of study usual in first-class colleges is now pursued in Union. In 1802 the required studies for the first, second and third terms of the freshman class were "Latin, Greek and English languages, arithmetic, Sheridan's Lectures on Elocution, and the writing of Latin exercises as the faculty shall appoint." "For the Sophomore year, geography, algebra, vulgar and decimal fractions, the extraction of roots, conic sections, Euclid's Elements, trigonometry, surveying, mensuration of heights and distances, navigation, logic, Blair's Lectures, and such parts of eminent authors in the learned languages as the officers of the college shall subscribe."

A Department of Engineering was established in 1845; its course of instruction aiming to impart skill and experience in mechanical drafting, instrumental field-work, and numerical calculation, combined with the study of text-books and lectures on numerous subjects where these are wanting. This course was afterward extended to four years, and intermingled with the scientific course of the college proper. This department is unusually well supplied with models, the most important of which is the original Oliver collection, purchased in Paris, France, in 1855.

SCIENTIFIC COURSE OF STUDY,

now so popular in many colleges, originated with Dr. Nott, and was first introduced in Union College. The plan was looked upon with much distrust at first by other educators, but its benefits soon came to be appreciated and it was gradually adopted by other colleges. The system has proved its excellency and justifies the foresight of its originator. The scientific course of Union College has always maintained a first position among the educational institutions of the country.

CHEMICAL LABORATORY.

A laboratory was established for chemical analysis in 1855, at a cost of about $7,000 for fixtures and $10,000 for chemicals and other stock. It has been successively in charge of Professors C. E. Joy, C. F. Chandler, and of Maurice Perkins, M. D., the present incumbent.

MILITARY INSTRUCTION.

In 1873 Union College applied to the War Department requesting that an officer of the Engineer Corps might be detailed for the purpose of giving military instruction, in pursuance of the policy favored by act of Congress, with the view of inducing colleges to supplement in some degree the work of the military academy in this department of useful knowledge. The Government has, in accordance with this request, supplied the college with muskets and equipments for drill and instruction, under a commissioned officer of the army. A plain, inexpensive uniform has been adopted, and a course of military instruction has been added to the college curriculum without abating anything from the course of studies formerly prescribed. The drill is regarded chiefly as a physical training.

COLLEGE SOCIETIES.

Union College has at present two literary societies with libraries—the Philomathian Society, formed in 1793 by the young men of the town in the old academy building before the college charter was granted, possessing a library of 3,000 volumes;

the Adelphic Society, founded in 1797, and its library, containing about 3,000 volumes; eight "Greek letter" societies, some of which originated with this college; and a chapter of "Phi Beta Kappa Society," established here in 1817, and is a strictly honorary society. There is also a "Senate," formed for purpose of debate on political subjects, consisting of the Senior class. The rules of order and method of procedure are modeled, as near as may be, after those of the Senate of the United States.

An Alumni Association was formed in 1857, and has several branches. A modification of the charter was procured in 1871, by granting to the alumni a representation in the board of trustees, so that now there are four graduates holding that trust, one being chosen annually for a term of four years. The election is held on alumni day, the one preceding commencement, in the college chapel.

SCHOLARSHIPS.

Under an act passed in 1814, the sum of fifty thousand dollars was set apart as a fund, the income of which has ever since been applied in aiding young men of narrow means. This fund has been increased by several benefactions. Miss Catherine L. Wolf, of New York City, has given fifty thousand dollars in pursuance of a purpose entertained by her deceased father, Mr. John David Wolf, for aiding the education of young men from the Southern States. Dr. John McClelland (class of 1832), of New York City, influenced largely by the aid he had himself received while in college, has given fifty thousand dollars, and a worthy son of Union College has placed a bequest of thirty thousand dollars in his will to endow an emeritus professorship.

ORDINARY SCHOLARSHIPS.

To a large class of students Union College presents extraordinary advantages in its numerous scholarships. In the scholarships of the first grade the incumbents, on condition of good conduct and satisfactory application to study, receive at the end of each term a credit on the books of the registrar to the full amount of term bills.

In the scholarships of the second grade, the incumbents, on the same condition, receive a credit to the amount of half the term bills.

These scholarships are accessible, under certain restrictions, to all who present the requisite certificates of character and sustain the examinations required for admission to the regular classes of the college.

PRIZE SCHOLARSHIPS.

Among the several classes of scholarships founded by the late Dr. Nott—a few of which only are yet actually founded, but their ultimate endowment is secured by the prospective sale of valuable lands—is a class of prize scholarships granted according to certain prescribed rules. The pecuniary emolument of a prize scholarship is thirty-five dollars a term, or four hundred and twenty dollars for the whole college course, a provision which enables the incumbent, after paying his college bills, to retain the sum of one hundred and twenty dollars.

The possession of a prize scholarship demands, thoughout the whole course, high standing as a student in all respects; and the incumbent is forbidden to use intoxicating liquor as a beverage, and tobacco in all its forms. Some of these scholarships enable the student to pursue post-graduate studies for a certain time.

PRIZES AND MEDALS.

There are a number of prizes given at commencement, consisting of medals, money or books, awarded for proficiency in oratory, essays and deportment, some of which can be competed for by the seniors only; others by the juniors and sophomores.

COLLEGE LIBRARIES.

There are three libraries connected with the institution, of which the college library proper contains about 20,000 volumes, the Philomathian Society library about 4,000 volumes, and the Adelphic Society about 3,000 volumes.

COLLECTIONS IN NATURAL HISTORY.

The college has long been a center of special interest for students of natural history. In 1841 it received a large collection of minerals and fossils from the State cabinet. In 1860 the "Wheatley Collection" of shells and minerals, worth more than $20,000, was presented by E. C. Delevan. Large and valuable additions of specimens were added by Prof. H. E. Webster as the results of his labors in dredging on the coasts of Maine, Massachusetts, Virginia and Florida.

PHILOSOPHICAL DEPARTMENT.

In this department the collections, under the care of Prof. John Foster, have grown to be among the finest in the country. The donations of friends have added largely to the collection, but the principal part has been purchased by the friends of the college or by special funds raised for this purpose.

ART DEPARTMENT.

Memorial Hall affords a fine opportunity for the preservation and display of works of art, a considerable collection of which is already procured. Through a liberal annual gift of Miss Catharine L. Wolfe, of New York, the prospect that this department will become unusually fine is promising.

THE SONGS OF UNION.

This feature of college literature deserves notice. For many years they were floating waifs. Some of them were productions of real merit. A few of these songs are perennial in their fragrance and are always sung on festive occasions. The song of "Old Union," composed by Fitzhugh Ludlow, class of 1856, is always sung on commencement day at the close of the graduating services. The hearty good-will and feeling with which returning sons join in the grand chorus:

> "Then here's to thee, the brave and free,
> Old Union smiling o'er us;
> And for many a day, as thy walls grow gray,
> May they ring with thy children's chorus."

show that the gifted poet did not attune his lyre in vain.

UNION UNIVERSITY.

About forty years after the incorporation of Union College, the people of Albany conceived the idea of establishing a series of post-graduate institutions at the capital, and began by the founding of the "Albany Medical College," April 14, 1838.

The "Albany Law School" was incorporated in 1851.

The "Dudley Observatory" was incorporated in 1852.

The above institutions, together with "Union College," were incorporated as "Union University" in 1873.

"The Albany College of Pharmacy" is also a part of the University.

OFFICIALS.—President *ad interim*, Hon. Judson S. Landon, LL.D., of Schenectady. President-elect, Rev. Joseph Tuttle Duryea, D.D., Pastor of the Central Congregational Church of Boston, Mass.

TRUSTEES.—Rev. Dr. J. Trumbull Backus, Hon. E. A. Paige, Hon. Platt Potter, Hon. Judson S. Landon, of Schenectady; Hon. Fred. Townsend, Albany; Rev. Dr. Wm. Irwin, Troy; Rev. Dr. J. L. Reese, W. H. H. Moore, Hon. David Murray, LL.D., Albany; Rev. Dr. Denis Wortman, Saugerties; Hon. L. W. Rhodes, Troy; Col. D. C. Robinson, Elmira; Rev. Dr. George Alexander, Hon. Hooper C. Van Voast, Silas B. Brownell, Thomas W. Featherstonehaugh, New York; Rev. Dr. E. Nott Potter, Geneva; Dr. P. R. Furbeck, Gloversville; and the officers of the State of New York, *ex-officio*.

PROFESSORS.—Henry Whitehorne, A.M., Greek Language and Literature; Wm. Wells, A.M., Ph. D., Modern Languages; Maurice Perkins, A.M., Chemistry; Cady Staley, A.M., C. E., Civil Engineering; Samuel B. Howe, Principal Union School; Chas. S. Halsey, A.M., Principal Classical Institute; Sidney G. Ashmore, A.M., Latin; First Lieutenant, First Artillery, Henry W. Hubbell, U. S. A., Military Science; Winfield S. Chaplin, A.M., Mathematics and Physics (Knight of the Rising Sun, Japan); W. E. Griffis, D.D., Mental Science, Adjunct Professor; James R. Truax, Rhetoric and English Literature; Henry F. Depew, Adjunct Professor, Mathematics; Rev. Rudolph Farber, Hebrew.

ACTING TREASURER.—Cady Staley.

REGISTRAR.—Mrs. M. L. Peissner.

Carlyle says that the history of the world is the biography of its great men. This applies with peculiar force to the life of Eliphalet Nott. He was born in Ashford, Windham County, Connecticut, June 25, 1773. At the time of his death, January 29, 1866, he had occupied the position of President of Union College for sixty-two years, a period without parallel in the history of our literary institutions. He had long stood in the foremost rank of American educators. His reputation as a pulpit orator was hardly less distinguished; while as a reformer and philanthropist he had now an honorable position among the benefactors of his kind. Such a life well deserves a written memorial.

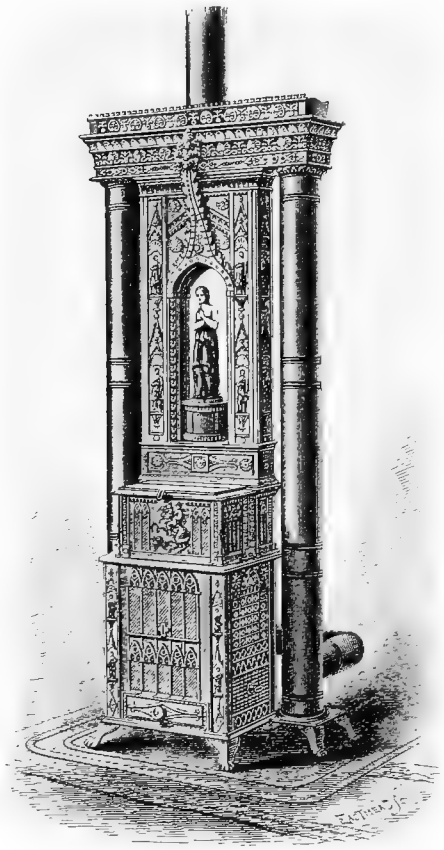
In 1804 a young Presbyterian clergyman, Eliphalet Nott, was called to the presidency of Union College. A year before the organization of the college he had passed from Connecticut through Albany to a new settlement in Cherry Valley, where he became pastor and teacher. He

Eliphalet Nott.

was soon called to Albany, where, in 1804, he made the most fortunate effort of his life, which told greatly upon his future career. His sermon upon the death of Hamilton, at the hands of Burr, stamped him as one of the rising men of the period, and he was at once called to the presidency. President Nott found the college in imperative need of means and students. He soon appealed to the State for aid, and thus laid the foundation of measures which resulted in training the legislators and the people of the commonwealth to consider the matter of popular and higher education as the paramount duty of a Republican Government. The college was soon so rapidly increasing in numbers under his management that new buildings became a necessity, and the site now occupied by the college was obtained. During 1814 Dr. Nott succeeded in having a bill passed by the Legislature of the State, by which Union College was to have $200,000. In this period this was a princely sum for such purposes. The discussion attending the passage of this measure attracted the attention of the whole State, during which the movement in favor of establishing common schools became so popular that men who were first opposed to it began to tone down their opposition. The president watched the bill day by day, and from this period, down through the days of Marcy, Silas Wright and Seward, the influence of Dr. Nott at the capital was very potent, and aided greatly in advancing the welfare of the institution. It is not our purpose to relate in detail the grand educational work of this man. The best years of his long life were given, un-

reservedly, to the enhancement of the college. He had time for other and important things. He was a leader in temperance teachings, his sympathies were loyal during the Civil War, and in the counsels of his own religious denomination, as well as others, his advice was often sought. His Christian sympathy and charity identified him in a practical way with every movement for moral and religious advancement.

Dr. Nott was a genius in the line of mechanical invention, and the utilization of the latent wealth of the country. "He was among the first to aid and supplement the labors of Fulton, in his efforts to introduce steam navigation on the Hudson



Nott Stove.

River, and the steamer 'Novelty,' which was largely constructed under his guidance, came from New York to Albany at a speed that astonished the age." In these efforts to improve and introduce machinery, and especially to utilize the newly discovered power of steam, Dr. Nott's attention was largely directed to the production and materials of combustion for mechanical and domestic purposes. The famous "Nott" stoves were long in use at the college, and gained, for a time, a broad public popularity. Albany and Troy owe their pre-eminence in the stove manufacture not a little to his immediate presence and counsel.

The countenance of Dr. Nott was a striking one, even in its repose; the eye, which was of a grayish color, and capable of great variety of expression, being one of its most marked features. His forehead was high and straight, nose prominent and aquiline, and the mouth and chin well-formed and symmetrical. He was nearly six feet high, with a stalwart frame. In his intercourse with students, his quick sympathy with youth was very marked. The stern aspect of one jealous of authority was not seen in the class-room. He had a way of passing from grave to gay so easily and gracefully, that it was at once seen to be nature instead of studied art. He obtained, with some, the character of an adroit manager. It was said that he reached his ends, at times, by indirect methods, but those most familiar with him unite in their testimony to his truthfulness and honor. By necessity he was discreet, cautious and wary. He knew men and how to approach, move and convince them. His method of doing this was his own. He was a scholar, a teacher and an inventor; but it was, however, as a man, a great souled, energetic, practical man, intent on making other energetic, practical men, who should leave their mark upon their times, as he has done, that he chiefly claims our admiration. No better epitaph can be written of him than the words applied by an orator to General Grant: "He is great by the arduous greatness of things done."

Tayler Lewis.

For nearly thirty years the figure of Tayler Lewis was among the most prominent and striking upon the streets of Schenectady, and within the enclosures of Union College. His presence was not such as impressed by muscular vigor or accumulated flesh and blood. His physical frame was slight in build, and his air was that of a studious scholar, to whom vigorous or violent exercise was unknown. Yet it was not that of a recluse, but gave even the casual observer the impression of a man among men who knew what was in man. Thoroughly acquainted with human nature, Tayler Lewis chose to sway the public by

thought and argument, rather than by personal contact or by dramatic action. In his later years, when his hearing ceased, this was a necessity. Debarred from social converse with his fellows, the pen became the potent instrument of his influence, and in his venerable old age a real sceptre of power.

In his prime, his voice swayed assemblies, and during nearly a half-century of his life as a teacher he spoke with wisdom, tact, and mastery.

Though a scholar whose fame was world-wide, Tayler Lewis did not become a familiar figure in the local history of Schenectady until the outbreak of the great civil war in 1861. Long known as an earnest friend of Africa and the Africans in America, he yet had conservative views in the matter of slavery. The outbreak of the slaveholders' rebellion was to him a revelation by divine light upon those questions which the civil war brought to solution. He became a hearty supporter of the Union cause, and a prophet who cried aloud and spared not. In the dark days, when the defeat of the Union armies made the home traitors exultant, Tayler Lewis lifted up his voice like a trumpet, and showed the iniquity of secession and the righteousness of the Union cause. Like bugle blasts were his constantly issuing editorials, letters, addresses and books, inspiring alike the hearts of young and old. His "*State Rights, a Photograph from the Ruins of Ancient Greece,*" powerfully affected the minds of patriots, and "*The Heroic Periods in a Nation's History*" welcomed home the returning veterans. The loss of his son-in-law, Colonel Elias Peissner, at Chancellorsville, kept the flame of his patriotism at white heat until the day of his death. Tayler Lewis loved his country with romantic ardor and an intensity of devotion rarely surpassed. He exercised great influence over S. G. Hamlin, the fearless editor of the *Schenectady Union,* many a time encouraging him to boldness and courage of utterance in the trying times that followed the war. Often at midnight, with quivering frame and flashing eyes, he would seek the young editor to cheer, encourage and provoke him to be equal to the political situation. Sallying out with his cane behind his back and thrust between the elbows, while his hands were clasped over his breast, he would pace the streets, meditating his argument or fulminating some thunderbolt which the next day would sway hearts or strike conviction. So do many people of our city remember Tayler Lewis, a venerable man, yet full of energy and fire, with long gray hair that fell over his collar, eyes deep-set that shot forth earnestness, slight body in long black coat of clerical cut, with meditative air and walk, in speech and in writing closely approaching one's idea of a prophet of the old times, yet of this century's garb and mien.

Let us glance at his life as a scholar and Christian. Born in Northumberland, Saratoga County, N. Y., March 27, 1802, he prepared for Union College under Dr. Proudfit, and was graduated at Union College in 1820. He studied law with Judge S. A. Foot, in Albany, and commenced practice at Fort Miller in 1824. He was not, however, in his natural element, and took greater pleasure in the study of the classics. Under the influence of Rev. George Mair, he began the study of Hebrew, following it up with absorbed delight. Turning aside from law to letters, he became principal of the Academy at Waterford in 1833. He married on May 18th of the same year. He spent two years (1837–39) in Ogdensburg, and was called to the Chair of Greek in the University of New York. In 1849, after the delivery of an address, "Faith, the Life of Science," before the Phi Beta Kappa Society of Union College, he was made Professor of Greek at his Alma Mater's home, and henceforth resided in Schenectady. Later, he filled the Chair of Oriental Biblical Literature, retaining this position until his death. Space does not allow us to speak in detail of Professor Lewis' attainments as a scholar, nor of his versatility, accomplishments, native ability or literary achievements, except as they have a bearing on local history. In early life he became a member, in full communion, of the Reformed Dutch Church, and so continued until the last. As an elder he attended her consistory and class meetings. His seat in the First Reformed Church in Schenectady was on the west side, near the Bancker screen. In this church, in front of the pulpit, now stands a memorial baptismal font, in dark red marble, erected chiefly by his fellow-members of the Old Testament Company of Bible Revision. It is inscribed, near the base: "Tayler Lewis. In Memoriam. Ab. Amicis Multis. In pacem. May 11th, 1877." His favorite text—"I know that my Redeemer liveth"—is incised in Hebrew characters on the polished rim of the bowl.

An eager and life-long student, Tayler Lewis was a master of many subjects. In the higher mathematics, in astronomy, music, philosophy and languages, he was at home, and used his attainments as instruments of pleasure. With the Greek and Latin he was as familiar as with his mother tongue, and in the Semitic languages he had no superior in America, while in Arabic he was without a peer. Among the revisers of the Old Testament he was, except Dr. Strong, the only layman in attendance at the sessions. In the work on Lange's Commentary he was selected by Dr. Schaff to furnish the introduction and notes on Genesis, and the metrical versions of Job and Ecclesiastes. His "Six Days of Creation" was a true epoch-maker, and anticipated by a whole generation the current interpretation of the first chapter of Genesis. Despite an avalanche of hostile criticism it emerged scathless, and is now recognized as a masterpiece of sound argument and prophetic utterance. It is still printed.

Omnivorous in his tastes, Tayler Lewis fed his mind in all fields of literature, and sought recreation, not in bodily exercises, but in intellectual variety. He enjoyed fun, humor, caricature, and refreshed himself with light literature. A bundle of books for a morning's reading in vacation time, in Jackson's garden, might include his Hebrew Bible, Syriac New Testament, The Arabian Nights in the original Arabic, Romola, and a novel or two from

the press of yesterday. In his last sickness, amid the agonies of sciatica, he would conquer pain by absorbing his mind in working out profound mathematical problems. He was a profound and brilliant Christian scholar, who, if not always in accord with the spirit of the age, was ever in harmony with the spirit of the ages.

On the dome of the Memorial Hall of Union College, in Hebrew and Latin letters, chosen and actually wrought in the slate-work by Taylor Lewis himself, is the motto which illustrates the great scholar's life principles :

The time is short,
The work is vast,
The reward is great,
The Master is pressing.

ISAAC W. JACKSON was born at Cornwall, Orange County, N. Y., August 28, 1804. Both of his parents were members of the Society of Friends. He was sent in his seventeenth year to the Albany Academy; completed his studies there with the highest honors; entered Union College, where he attained high standing in the classics, and from which, in 1826, in his twenty-second year, he graduated with the first honors in mathematics and chemistry. He was at once appointed a tutor in the college.

During his collegiate course he founded and maintained a society for social and literary purposes. In succeeding years other like associations were formed, and hence Union College has been called the mother of the Greek-letter societies of the country. He was promoted to be professor of mathematics in Union College in 1831. He published books on trigonometry, optics, conic sections and mechanics, which were adopted in American colleges, and in one important British institution.

As an executive officer of the college, he was prompt, energetic, ever-watchful, selecting his measures judiciously, and pursuing them with discretion. In his general intercourse he was social and genial. He was always neatly and simply attired; slight in form, well built and active, with clear, piercing eyes looking out from under a large and prominent brow; his head finely developed; his voice frank and friendly.

The science and art of horticulture were the delight and solace of his life. Valuable works on this subject made up a large part of his library. His life centered in, and was mainly bound by, his college. It was passed in his family circle, his study, his class-room, or with members of the faculty. He was always sympathetic, especially so with the sorrowing and the needy. Professor Henry, late of the Smithsonian Institution, who was his fellow student in boyhood, and his life-long correspondent, said that he was "the truest and most generous soul he ever knew." Fulfilling the duties of his position ably, faithfully, contentedly, no achievements of wealth or fame could have brought him wider usefulness or higher happiness. Thousands of the educated men of the country attest their gratitude for his aid in the development of mind and character.

In 1876 Professor Jackson had completed a term of service in the college of fifty years. This event was made the occasion of a notable tribute of respect from his friends and former pupils. It was on this occasion that Dr. Tayler Lewis delivered one of his most remarkable addresses.

The titles of Professor Jackson's publications are: 1, Elements of Conic Sections; 2, Elementary Treatise on Optics; 3, Elementary Treatise on Mechanics. The honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred on him by Hobart College. His death took place July 28, 1877.

JOHN FOSTER, now the senior professor of Union College, was born August 18, 1811, at Hebron, Washington County, N. Y. His parents were Scotch-Irish. His earliest schooling was at the county district school of Hebron. In the winters of 1828, 1829 and 1830 he taught in the district schools of Argyle and Salem, and in the summers pursued his studies of Latin and Greek under the Rev. James Irvine, of Hebron. In the spring of 1831 he went to the academy at Fairfield, Herkimer County. Here he studied mathematics and classics till the close of the summer term of 1832, after which he became an assistant in the academy. He entered the junior class of Union College in 1834, and graduated July, 1835. He resumed teaching at the Fairfield Academy even before his graduation, and continued during the following year, teaching almost all branches, and working about ten hours daily.

In the fall of 1836 Mr. Foster was appointed tutor in Union College, and was placed in charge of the building called West College. The freshman and sophomore classes were domiciled at this building, and Tutor Foster's duty was to look after these two classes. For about a year he held this place, and then, having an offer to take charge of the North Pearl Street Academy for Boys in Albany, he spent about a year in this work; but in the winter of 1838 he returned to Union College, and took charge again of West College. He had classes in algebra, geometry, trigonometry and conic sections, and besides this he taught classes in Latin and Greek. After the death of Professor Edward Savage in 1840, Mr. Foster was appointed Adjunct-Professor of Natural Philosophy, and gave instructions in the "Cambridge Mechanics." Soon after he began to give lectures to voluntary classes on electricity, magnetism, galvanism, electro-magnetism and acoustics. These subjects were subsequently added to the regular course, and on these Professor Foster has continued to give lectures. He also issued for the use of his classes a syllabus of his lectures, which forms a text-book on the subject. About 1842 Professor Foster organized a voluntary class, to whom he taught astronomy and surveying and leveling. This led to the establishment in 1845 of the Department of Civil Engineering, to which Professor W. M. Gillespie was appointed.

In the spring of 1867 Professor Foster visited Europe. He visited the Universities of Bonn, Heidelberg, Munich and Zurich, and spent consid-

erable time at Paris. After his return he devoted himself to building up the scientific apparatus of his department. He obtained from the graduates of the college, mostly his old students, about $5,000, which he spent in the purchase of apparatus. He visited Europe again in 1874, authorized by the Board of Trustees to expend $6,000 in physical apparatus. He visited the principal workshops of London and Paris, making selections and giving orders. After an extended tour he returned with such a variety of new and useful apparatus as to place the collection of Union College among the best in the country.

Among the students who have passed under his instruction he has a reputation as a teacher of unusual force. Being himself a man of great industry, he expects and usually secures a large amount of good work from his pupils. He is genial in his temperament, and kind-hearted and ready to advise and help those who come to him. Professor Foster was made Doctor of Laws in 1872 by the University of the City of New York.

JONATHAN PEARSON, A.M., is by lineage an alien to the Dutch community whose annals he has so diligently explored. His descent can be traced through seven generations from the Puritan Fathers of New England.

At some time previous to 1643, John Pearson, an English carpenter, settled in the town of Rowley, Essex County, Mass. There he erected a fulling mill, and became the first manufacturer of cloth in the infant colony. He was evidently a substantial and leading citizen. He died near the close of the century. The family record for two hundred years, with its scriptural names, reads like a genealogical chapter in the Old Testament.

Caleb Pearson, the grandfather of Professor Pearson, served through the revolutionary war. After its close he settled in Chichester, N. H., where, February 23, 1813, Jonathan was born. When he was 18 years of age his father removed to Schenectady, N. Y. Jonathan had previously secured a preparatory education at Dover, Pembroke, and New Hampton, in the vicinity of his former home. In January, 1832, he entered Union College, and graduated with honor in 1835. The following year he was appointed tutor, and in 1839 Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Natural Philosophy. In 1849 he was elected Professor of Natural History, and in 1873 was transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Botany, where he still serves. Thus, for more than half a century his life has been incorporated with the life of his Alma Mater.

In addition to the work of his department of instruction, other onerous and responsible duties have devolved upon him. Since 1854 he has been Treasurer of the College, having in charge its varied and intricate financial interests. For years he has also held the office of Librarian, and has devoted a vast amount of time and labor to the puzzling and petty details of that trying vocation. The preparation of the general catalogue of the college has always devolved upon him, and he has repaid the affectionate esteem of thousands of alumni by maintaining a constant interest in their individual fortunes. His mind is an encyclopedia of facts concerning the sons of Old Union. His diverse services is sufficient proof of his versatility and tireless industry.

His antiquarian researches have been the recreations of a busy life. The task of exploring the scattered and puzzling records of the Dutch families who founded the settlements at Albany and along the Mohawk Valley was one of unusual difficulty. He continued his labors in this field through many years. He first transcribed, translated, and collated the records of the Dutch Church in Schenectady. Having mastered the provincial dialect, he performed a similar work upon the records of the Dutch Church in Albany, and also of the County Clerk's Office. The results of these studies, and others of a like character, are embodied in his histories of the old families of Schenectady and Albany, published years ago, and to some extent in this history.

It would be indelicate, in a sketch published during the lifetime of Professor Pearson, to refer to those incidents which belong more especially to his private and domestic life, or to those qualities which have endeared him to his more intimate personal friends. He has been for many years a faithful and active member of the Baptist Church, trusted and revered by all. As a son, a husband, and a father, his relations have been too tender and sacred to permit of comment here. Those who may survive him, and have shared and prized his friendship, will wonder that they did not prize it more, when the genial and unobtrusive presence lives only in memory or immortal hope.

PRINTERS AND NEWSPAPERS.

The first printers in Schenectady were Cornelius P. Wyckoff and ——— Brokaw, about the year 1792. Their office was on the south corner of State and Washington streets. This firm continued until 1795, when Brokaw went out and Wyckoff continued the business alone.

The first newspaper printed in Schenectady was called

The Mohawk Mercury. It was published as early as February, 1796, and as late as 1798. It was probably started by C. P. Wyckoff, who published it as late as December, 1797. Some time, probably in 1798, Wyckoff was succeeded in his business by John L. Stevenson. Whether Stevenson continued to publish the *Mohawk Mercury* is not known.

The Schenectady Gazette began to be published by J. L. Stevenson, January 6, 1799, on the corner of Albany (State) and Ferry streets, and December 20, 1802, he gave it the more comprehensive name of

The Western Spectator and Schenectady Weekly Advertiser, which was continued as late as May 23, 1807, when he removed his printing office to Union street, a few doors west of the Dutch Church, and discontinued the paper.

The Western Budget was issued by Van Veghten & Son, at No. 10 Union street, the next month following the discontinuance of the *Western Spectator*. The *Budget* continued three years, and the last year was issued by Isaac Riggs, and at about the same time, June, 1807, Ryer S. Schermerhorn began the publication of

The Mohawk Advertiser, and continued it at least three years, and was succeeded by T. Johnson, who published it for W. S. Buel, at his bookstore, near the corner of State and Ferry streets. Schermerhorn was the first *native* printer, and followed his trade for many years. He kept a small supply of books on sale at his office, and among publications which he issued was an edition of Smith's History of the State of New York, with additions.

The Western Budget was continued by Isaac Riggs until June, 1810, when he changed the name to the

Schenectady Cabnet. In 1814 Isaac Stevens was associated with him for a short time, occupying No. 2 Cook's Row (No. 34), Ferry street. Thence he removed to No. 23 Union street, next east of the Dutch Church, which he occupied until his death as a dwelling, and for many years his printing office was under the same roof. In 1837 he was succeeded by his son, Stephen S. Riggs, who changed the name of the *Cabnet* to

Freedom's Sentinel, under which name he continued the paper until January, 1843, when he resumed the former name, calling the paper the

Schenectady Cabnet and Freedom's Sentinel, which name it bore until January 1, 1850, when it was again called the *Schenectady Cabnet*, and until it ceased to be published January 1, 1856.

The Miscellaneous Cabinet, a weekly publication of eight pages octavo, was begun in July, 1823, Isaac Riggs, printer. The first twenty-four numbers are in Union College Library. Its contents were mainly literary selections, and original productions written mostly by the students of the college.

The Mohawk Sentinel was begun June 24, 1824. It was printed by G. Ritchie, Jr., at the sign of Faust and Franklin's head, Ferry street, and is said to have been edited by Archibald L. Linn, then a young lawyer of the city. This paper advocated the election of Mr. Crawford for the Presidency.

The Protestant Sentinel began June 11, 1830, and was printed and published by Rev. John Maxon, at No. 39 State street (now 64 and 66). It continued there but a few years and then removed elsewhere. It was understood to be the organ of the Seventh-day Baptist denomination.

Schenectady County Whig.—This paper was commenced November 1, 1830, at 34 Ferry street, by C. G. & A. Palmer, and continued till October, 1834, when the paper and all the appurtenances of the printing office were sold to Nathan Stone, who, on the 18th of November following, assigned the paper to Giles F. Yates, Esq.

Stone was the owner of the "Schenectady Bookstore," on the west corner of State street and Mill lane. He published the *Whig*, at 77 State street, for ten weeks, the last number being issued December 30th. Its direct descendant was

The Reflector and Schenectady Democrat, the first number of which was issued January 1, 1835. Mr. Yates made this a very entertaining family paper. During 1835–6 he published many valuable articles of an antiquarian and historical character. It was printed by Robert P. Paine, on the west corner of State street and Mill lane. In July, 1835, the printing was done by Yates & Cook, the latter being associated with G. F. Yates. July 1, 1838, E. H. Kincaid became proprietor of the *Reflector* for the next three and a half years, when, February 5, 1841, Abraham A. Keyser purchased it at the commencement of Vol. VII., and David Cady Smith was associated with him as editor.

The Schenectady and Saratoga Standard was published about the year 1833, at 96 Washington street, by Israel Sackett, printer, with Thomas Jefferson Sutherland, attorney at law, No. 14 Ferry street, as editor. Its principles were anti-masonic. After the first year the name was changed to *The Saratoga and Schenectady Standard*, and it was published in Ballston by the same printer.

The Wreath, "devoted to polite literature," was commenced November 22, 1834, by William H. Burleigh, proprietor and editor; Isaac Riggs, printer. It was a half-monthly of forty pages, and was issued about six months. During this time its name was changed to *The Literary Journal*, "a repository of public literature and fine arts." It was published in Albany, Troy and Schenectady, and numbered consecutively with the *Wreath*, and continued until June, 1835, perhaps a little longer. The articles were chiefly original.

The Mohawker was published by Riggs & Norris in 1835.

The Schenectady Star was published by Jesse & Daniel Stone, and this partnership was dissolved in October, 1835.

The Antiquarian and General Review, a monthly magazine, mainly of a religious character, edited and published by Rev. Wm. Arthur (father of President Arthur), was begun in 1845 and continued two years, making two thin octavo volumes.

Freeman's Banner, a political paper, was published during the presidential campaign of 1848. It was the organ of the party known as the "Barn-burners." It was edited and published by Judge Platt Potter.

The Daily Ancient City was the first daily paper issued in this city, and commenced in 1852 by Mr. Riggs. It lived only a few months.

The Schenectady Democrat was begun January 3, 1854, by William H. Coulbourne and W. N. Clark. In 1857 it was sold to A. J. Thompson, and in April, 1859, to Cyrus Thayer, and united with the *Reflector* October, 1860, The united paper was called *The Schenectady Reflector and*

Democrat. It was published in 1864 at No. 134 State street.

The Morning Star was the first successful daily established in this city. Its first issue appeared February 24, 1855. It was edited and published by Walter N. Clark and Wm. M. Colbourne. September 17th of the same year its time of issue was changed from morning to evening and was called the *Evening Star*. March 5, 1857, the firm of Colborne & Clark was dissolved, and Mr. Colborne took entire charge. During this year Isaac M. Gregory, now managing editor of the *New York Graphic*, was associated with Coulbourne in editing this paper.

About 1861 Mr. Colborne sold the paper to H. L. Grose, of Ballston, who conducted it until 1863, when it was sold to Wm. D. Davis and Isaac M. Gregory. During the following year Mr. Gregory sold his interest to Davis, who continued proprietor till 1865, when the paper was sold to J. J. Marlette, under whose management it has remained ever since. Since 1876 the publishing department has been under the management of A. A. Marlette. Preceding its sale to Mr. Marlette the *Star* had been Republican in politics, but since its sale in 1865 it has been an organ of the Democratic party. In 1880, when the *Morning Gazette* was discontinued, that paper was purchased by the proprietor of the *Star*, and for a time the name *Schenectady Evening Star and Gazette* was assumed, but was soon after changed to the original name of the *Schenectady Evening Star*.

The Schenectady Republican, a weekly made out of the *Evening Star*, was commenced in September, 1857, by Wm. M. Colborne, with Judson S. Landon as editor.

The Schenectady Daily News was begun April, 1859, by I. W. Hoffman and E. F. Loveridge, and expired June, 1861.

The Railsplitter, a political weekly paper, was published a few months during the fall of 1860.

The Schenectady Daily Times was commenced January, 1861, and united with the *Evening Star*, in June of the same year, under the name of the *Schenectady Daily Evening Star and Times*, and was published in 1864 by W. D. Davis and Isaac M. Gregory, at No. 170 State street.

In 1865 Mr. Davis, who was then sole proprietor, sold it to J. J. Marlette.

The Schenectady Evening Star.—A history of the paper will be found in the account of *The Morning Star*.

The Schenectady Daily Union was started in November, 1865, by Charles Stanford. During the exciting political events of this period, the Republican party had no organ in this city, and this paper was started to meet this want. Col. S. G. Hamlin was long connected with it as managing editor, being succeeded by Welton Stanford; Orvil F. Vedder was managing editor from April, 1882, to October 31, 1883, when it was sold to John A. Sleicher. May 15, 1884, it was sold to its present publisher, George W. Cottrell.

The Dorpian was published in 1867. It was edited by A. A. Marlette and A. W. Kelly. Its publication was continued but a few months.

The Schenectady Gazette, a weekly paper, was begun in 1869 by W. N. Thayer. In 1872 James H. Wiseman and Harman Seymour were the publishers. In 1874 it was purchased by G. W. Marlette and Wm. H. Lee. Mr. Lee subsequently withdrew from the partnership, since which time it has been published by Mr. Marlette.

The Deutscher Anzeiger, a weekly, published in the German language, was commenced by Ernst Knauer, at 176 State street, August 22, 1873, and is still published by the original proprietor.

The Schenectady Daily Gazette was started by the proprietor of *The Weekly Gazette*, January 1, 1879, and ceased to be issued July 28, 1880, when it was sold and united with *The Schenectady Evening Star*.

The Schenectady Weekly Union, made out of *The Schenectady Daily Union*, was started in connection with the daily in 1865, and has been published ever since.

The Locomotive Firemen Monthly Journal was first published in 1872 under the direction of the International Union of Locomotive Engineers. It was edited by Henry Hoffman until 1878, when it was discontinued.

PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS FROM UNION COLLEGE.

The Floriad, published by the students of Union College in 1811. Vol. I., Nos. 1–15, is in the Boston Public Library.

The Students' Album, commenced in 1827, contained essays and tales, scientific items, and notices of new works. It was published half monthly by Isaac Riggs, at No. 10 Union street, and probably continued about six months. It was of 8° size, and each number contained 16 pp.

The Parthenon and Academian's Magazine. It began in 1832, and continued two years, forming two volumes 8°. Nine monthly numbers a year were issued.

The Censor was published from November, 1833, to May, 1834, one number each month, 8°.

The Union College Magazine was commenced in June, 1860, and was continued, with some interruptions, until June, 1875. It was published under the joint auspices of the Philomathian, Adelphic, and Theological Societies, two editors being appointed by each. It was a very creditable publication.

One number appeared each college session, or three a year. In the third year there was begun a series of portraits, one in each number, of distinguished men once connected with the college.

The College Spectator, a monthly publication, 4°, began April, 1872, and continued until December, 1875.

The Concordiensis succeeded the *Spectator* in November, 1877, and now continues.

The Scroll began its publication in 1849. In May, 1850, its form was made smaller.

Several other fugitive publications, such as *The Unonian*, etc., have been issued from time to time, but soon ceased.

J. J. MARLETTE, editor of *The Evening Star and Weekly Reflector*, was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., in 1822, and received his education at district schools. He came to this county in 1837, and to the city in 1852. He became connected with the *Star* in 1865. He has always taken a deep interest in public education and was for many years a leading member of the Board of Education of the city.

LOUIS C. BEATTIE was born in Chicago, Ill., November 9, 1856, removing to Schenectady in 1864. He received his education at public schools and Union College, and was admitted to the Bar in 1877. He then followed his profession in New York, returning to Schenectady in 1883, since which time he has been on the staff of *The Daily Union* and *The Evening Star*. Gifted with keen perception and a ready pen, his work is highly valuable.

MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

The first medical society of the county of Schenectady was organized in Schenectady, June 11, 1810.

The society was formed under an act passed by the Legislature of New York, April 4, 1806, entitled "An act to incorporate medical societies for the purposes of regulating the practice of physic and surgery." The physicians and surgeons of each county of the State being thus empowered to join themselves into societies, those of this county met on the day first above given and enacted their by-laws and regulations. Under such, the society was to consist of a "President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and not less than three nor more than five Censors, to be chosen by ballot annually at the anniversary meeting of the society." The president was "to preside at all meetings, preserve order, put all questions, declare the decisions of the society, and in case of an equal division shall have the casting vote; he shall also appoint all committees, unless the society choose to appoint them by special resolution."

Article 5th provided that the "Censors shall meet whenever notified * * * to examine all students in Anatomy, Physiology, Surgery, Midwifery, Materia Medica, Pharmacy, Theory and Practice of Physic and Chemistry." Not less than three censors to form such examining board.

By article 6th, the stated meetings of the society were to be held on the "second Tuesday in June, September, December and March," at 10 o'clock A. M. Special meetings could be held though at any time "when the President, at the request of two of the members, shall order the Secretary to send to each member a notification" of the intention of such meeting. Not less than five members constituted a quorum. A student, successful in his examinations before the Censors, received, upon the payment of two dollars, and signing the declaration prescribed by the State Medical Society, his diploma. It cost one dollar to become a member, and the annual dues were two dollars, payable quarterly, and for non-attendance at the stated meetings a fine of $1.00 was levied.

We quote article 12th, as follows: "Any member who shall be convicted of base or dishonorable practices, tending to bring dishonor on himself or the profession, shall be expelled." From this it is uncertain whether "convicted" applied to a regular trial and conviction by civic or military authority, or whether it concerned only such "dishonorable practices" as could be adjudicated by the original society.

To these by-laws and regulations the following names are signed: Thos. Dunlap, Dan'l J. Toll, Alex. G. Fonda, Cornl Vrooman, Robt. M. G. Walmsley, Abraham D'Lamater, John Wood, Dan'l McDougall, P. B. Noxon (?), J. J. Berkley, E. B. Sprague, J. W. Conklin, Stephen Remington, Jno. B. Judson, Arch'd W. Adams, David Low, Joseph Koon, J. C. Magoffin, John S. L. Tonelier, Benj. F. Joslin, Edw'd H. Wheeler, Abram W. Van Woert, Edgar Fonda, A. J. Prime, Andrew Truax, L. Sprague, James Chandler, Orasmus Squire (living 1885), A. M. Vedder, Benj'n Weeks, John S. Crawford, N. Marselis, J. Stackpole, Edwin A. Young.

As we have stated, the society was organized June 10, 1810. Its first meeting was held the next day "at the Court Room," and Archibald H. Adams was elected President; William Anderson, Vice-President; Alexander G. Fonda, Secretary; and Dr. Corns. Vrooman, Treasurer; Doctors Thomas Dunlap, Alexander G. Fonda, and Corns. Vrooman were the Committee upon the Code of Laws, and it was resolved that they meet "annually, the second Tuesday in June, at 2 o'clock P. M., in the Court Room, * * * which time shall forever thereafter be the anniversary meeting" of the society. Adjournment was had until the following day, when the Code of Laws was adopted, and Doctors Vrooman, Anderson, Dunlap, Daniel Toll and Abram Delamater were elected Censors. Daniel McDougall was "unanimously chosen as a suitable person to attend the lectures in the City of New York on the different branches of medicine." An adjournment was then taken until September 11, 1810. This quarterly meeting was held at the "House of James Rogers, innkeeper." Joseph F. Yates was examined and admitted to practice Physic and Surgery, and Drs. Toll, Fonda and Dunlap were appointed a committee to revise the by-laws, to report at the next quarterly meeting to be held December 10, to which time adjournment was then taken, and on that date the society met at the house of Dr. Vrooman. The committee upon the revision reported, and their report ratified. Dr. Archibald H. Adams was elected a delegate to the State Society, and Christopher T. Fonda examined and admitted to practice.

At a special meeting, held at the Court House, March 19, 1811, Daniel J. Toll was elected Treasurer, in place of Cornelius Vrooman, deceased,

and Daniel McDougall became a member of the profession.

The first anniversary meeting "was held Tuesday, June 11, 1811, at 2 o'clock P. M., at the Court Room," and Daniel J. Toll elected President; Robert M. G. Walmsley, Vice-President; Alexander G. Fonda, Secretary; and Daniel J. Toll, Treasurer; and Doctors A. G. Fonda, Daniel J. Toll, R. M. G. Walmsley, Abram Delamater, and Thomas Dunlap, Censors; and Dr. Toll, a delegate to the State Society. Doctors Daniel McDougall, McClearg, Brown, Wood, and Christopher G. Fonda were proposed as members of the society.

At the anniversary held one year later, June 11, 1812, at the Court Room, Dr. Toll was elected President; Dr. Walmsley; Vice-President; and Dr. Fonda, Secretary and Treasurer; and Doctors Toll, Walmsley, Delamater, Fonda, and Wood, Censors. The gentlemen whose names were proposed at the last meeting were admitted as members, and Dr. A. G. Fonda was sent as delegate to the State Society. Doctors Jno. Dodge and Lyman Carpenter were proposed as members of the society.

The quarterly meeting was held at the Court Room, September 11, 1812, and Jno. Dodge and Lyman Carpenter elected members. The following addition to the Code was passed: "That no member of the society shall hold any nostrum or specific for the cure of a disease under the penalty of forfeiting his seat in the same." Doctors Ellis, Woodward, Devoe, Vought, Veeder, and Mynderse were proposed as members. The sum of $3 was received from Dr. Toll "being the balance of licentiate fees on hand," and "Dr. Jno. Wood paid $1 as an initiation fee."

A regular adjournment was then taken. From this time, up to 1825, the records of the society are lost, and nothing but a vague general legend of its doings is extant.

The minutes of a meeting held 31st January, 1825, that there were present Doctors Daniel J. Toll, the President; and Doctors Thomas Dunlap, James Magoffin, J. S. L. Tonelier, J. Schermerhorn, D. Low and Daniel McDougall. Dr. McDougall was appointed Secretary, and Dr. Magoffin a delegate to the State Society. Drs. Dunlap, Low and McDougall were appointed as a committee to revise the by-laws, to report at the next anniversary meeting, which was held June 14, 1825, at the house of Harvey Davis. Angus McDermid appears to have then been a member. The report of the committee appointed 31st January, 1825, was adopted. Thomas Dunlap was elected President; James Magoffin, Treasurer; and Dr. McDougall, Secretary. Drs. Dunlap, Magoffin, McDougall, G. Wade (whose name first appears here), and Peter Delamater were elected Censors.

A meeting of two of the Censors, Dunlap and Magoffin, was held in April, 1826, when Dr. ——— Cole was given his diploma, and at a subsequent meeting, held in November, Wade and McDougall being also present as Censors, Dr. ——— Chamberlin was admitted to practice. Frederick Orlop received his diploma from the Censors in June, 1827.

A period of six years now elapsed, of which no record appears. February 25, 1833, the Censors, Drs. Dunlap, Magoffin and McDougall, met, and Edward H. Wheeler successfully passed an examination. There were two meetings of the Censors in 1834—March 23d, when Andrew Truax received his diploma, and July 23d, when Joseph Harman received his. It does not seem that the society met again during this year until September 9th, when the following new members were present: B. F. Joslin, J Coon, E. H. Wheeler. A committee of three, Joslin, Magoffin and McDougall was made to revise the By-laws, to report at the next quarterly meeting. Alexander G. Fonda was sent as delegate to the State Society, and a contribution of five dollars was made by them to it.

The committee appointed in September reported at the next anniversary meeting, held June 9, 1835. Among the amendments suggested, and at once adopted, was: that the officers annually elected should hold until their successors should be elected; that the President should, at the meeting one year after his election, "deliver to the society a dissertation upon some appropriate subject," and the fee for a diploma was raised from two to five dollars. At this meeting Andrew Truax, A. J. Prime and Orsamus Squire became members; and Dr. Dunlap was elected President; Dr. Magoffin, Vice-President; Dr. Prime, Secretary; and Dr. McDougall, Treasurer; and as Censors, Drs. Dunlap, Magoffin, Squire, McDermid and McDougall. The new meeting, or attempted meeting, is best described in the words of Dr. A. J Prime, its Secretary: "June 14, 1836. When the members gathered together, not enough stayed long enough to form a quorum. Drs. Magoffin, Dunlap, McDougall and Prime, after waiting till the hour was expired, thought it was for their own private and others' interests to absquotulate, and therefore decamped. A. J. Prime, Secretary." D. Edgar Fonda received his diploma from the Censors January 31, 1837, and at a special meeting of the Society, held in the City Hall, July 18, 1837, G. E. Fonda, A. W. Van Woert, William N. Duane, J. Harman, J. Beakeley and J B. Noxon were elected members. At the next anniversary meeting, held at the City Hall, June 12, 1838, Dr. J. B. Noxon was elected President; Joseph Koon, Vice; Andrew Truax, Secretary; Wm. N. Duane, Treasurer; and Magoffin, Squire, Beakeley and Noxon, Censors. The customary committee on revision of the by-laws was appointed, consisting of Drs. Koon, Beakeley and Truax. Andrew Huyck and James Chandler received their diplomas from the Censors, June 25, 1838; and at a meeting of the Society, December 11th, Dr. Sprague was elected a member. The anniversary meeting of 1839 was held the second Tuesday in June, at the City Hall. Alex. M. Vedder, John O. Crawford, James Chandler and Benjamin Weeks were elected members, and James C. Magoffin, President; A. G. Fonda, Vice; Edgar Fonda, Secretary; and Andrew

Truax, Treasurer; and Drs. Dunlap, Magoffin, L. Sprague, McDougall and A. M. Vedder, Censors. James C. Magoffin was sent as delegate to the State Society.

The anniversary meeting, held at the City Hall the second Tuesday of June, 1840, proved, as far as the records show, to be the last wherein business of importance was done. On motion of Jacob Beakeley, it was "Resolved, That it is proper to charge the sum of one dollar, and not less than fifty cents, for visit and medicine in ordinary cases;" and, on motion of A. M. Vedder, it was resolved, "That a committee of three be appointed for the purpose of regulating the charges of physicians, whose duty it shall be to report at the next quarterly meeting." A. M. Vedder, J. Beakeley and Sprague were appointed to deliver a dissertation at the next meeting. The President was also directed to deliver an annual address, or pay a fine of one dollar. Dr. Magoffin was elected President; A. M. Vedder, Vice; J. Chandler, Secretary; Andrew Truax, Treasurer; and Dunlap, Sprague, Magoffin, Young and Beakeley, Censors.

The last anniversary held under the old organization, of which there is any written record, was the one held June 8, 1841, at the Court House. By resolution, the officers then holding were directed to hold over for another year. Judging by the minutes, internal dissensions began to make themselves felt at this time. It is not our province to enter into their merits or demerits. The society soon ceased, practically, to have an existence. For twenty-eight years there was no regular organized medical society in Schenectady. In the *Daily Union* of January 16, 1869, there appeared a call for a meeting of physicians and surgeons to organize a medical society. In furtherance of this design, January 19th, at the Cadey House, the following-named gentlemen appeared: A. M. Vedder, L. Ellwood, J. D. Jones, Charles Hammer, N. S. Cheeseman, B. A. Mynderse, G. W. Van Voast, Robert Fuller and Wm. N. Duane; and the society formed by the election of A. M. Vedder, President; J. D. Jones, Vice; L. Ellwood, Secretary; N. S. Cheeseman, Treasurer; and G. W. Van Voast, B. A. Mynderse and A. M. Vedder, Censors.

Dr. Vedder was sent as delegate to the State Society. The membership fee was fixed at $2, and in order to become a member, it was necessary to submit the diploma to the Censors for examination.

The title of the society, as shown by its by-laws, adopted January 11, 1870, is "The Schenectady County Medical Society." Annual meetings are held the second Tuesday of every January, and semi-annual meetings the second Tuesday of June. Special meetings may be called. From the time of its organization it has been in a healthy condition, and bids fair to outnumber in members, years of life and usefulness, any of its predecessors. In addition to those present at its first meeting, January 19, the following joined during the same year: Alex. Ennis, N. G. Daggett, Geroe Greene and Andrew Veeder.

The officers for the present year (1885) are: M. G. Planck, President; Geo. E. McDonald, Vice-President; Chas. C. Duryee, Secretary; J. L. Schoolcraft, Treasurer; Censors, E. P. Van Epps, J. Reagles and H. V. Hull.

The delegate to the State Society is L. Ellwood, and to the "American Medical," H. C. Van Zandt.

The members, past and present are: Brummaghen, Peter A., Mariaville; Cheeseman, N. S., Scotia; Clute, W. T., Schenectady; Daggett, N. G., Schenectady; DeLamater, S. G., Duanesburgh; Duryee, Chas. C., Schenectady; Ellwood, L., Schenectady; Ennis, Alexander, Pattersonville; Featherstonhaugh, T. (left city), Schenectady; Fuller, Robert, Schenectady; Greene, Geroe (dead), Schenectady; Hammer, Charles, Schenectady; Hill, John (dead), Quaker street; Hoag, Peter C. (left city), Schenectady; Hull, H. V., Schenectady; Johnson, T. B. (dead), Schenectady; Jones, J. D. (dead), Schenectady; Mackay, John P., Schenectady; McDonald, Geo. E., Schenectady; Munderse, B. A., Schenectady; Pearson, W. L., Schenectady; Perkins, Maurice, Schenectady; Planck, M. G., Schenectady; Roach, Paul, Quaker street; Rowe, George (left city), Bramans's Corners; Reagles, James R., Schenectady; Steinfühuer, G. A. F., Schenectady; Schoolcraft, J. L., Schenectady; Van Voast, G. W., Schenectady; Van Zandt, H. C., Schenectady; Veeder, A. T., Schenectady; Vedder, A. M. (dead), Schenectady; Van Epps, E. P., Schenectady; Vedder, L. T., Schenectady; Van Patten, John, U. (dead), Schenectady; Whitehorne, E. E. (left city), Schenectady; Young, Edwin, West Glenville.

Among the leading physicians of the city not previously mentioned are:

JOHN KASTENDIECK, M.D., graduated from the New York Homœopathic Medical College in 1878. He located in Schenectady in 1882.

JAMES DUANE JONES, M.D., who deserves special mention, was born in Schenectady, January 20, 1828. His ancestors, both paternal and maternal, were among the earliest settlers of Long Island and New York City. He graduated from Union College in 1846, and from the Albany Medical College in 1849. He then went to the Seaman's Retreat Hospital, Staten Island, remaining there for three years, 1849–51, coming to Schenectady, and entering upon his practice in 1851. He was married in 1872 to Anna M. Bigelow, daughter of John M. Bigelow, of Schenectady. In 1873 he became a member of the County Medical Society. Was city physician, and physician to the County Alms-house, and during General Sheridan's Virginia campaign he served as surgeon-in-chief to the 25th New York Cavalry.

Dr. Jones' professional career was marked by that success which close attention, allied with natural aptitude, always commands. While a leading physician, nature had made him a fine surgeon, and to that he willingly devoted the greater portion of his time. Dr. Jones died December 31, 1879, his wife surviving him.

LIVINGSTON ELLWOOD, M.D.

Among Schenectady's numerous skillful and honored physicians, no medical practitioner is better or more favorably known than the gentleman whose name heads this brief biographical sketch.

Dr. Ellwood was born at Minden, Montgomery County, N. Y., on the twentieth day of July, 1825. After acquiring his education, he engaged in the study of medicine and surgery, and graduated from the Medical Department of the Buffalo University in 1848, at the age of twenty-three years.

He did not long delay the beginning of that which was destined to be his successful life-work, for we find him in August, 1849, a new-comer in Schenectady, where he soon established himself in practice, and entered upon a career which has marked him as a man of energy, perseverance, business ability, and high scholastic and professional attainments.

As a physician he gradually, but surely, rose high in the esteem of the public and his professional brethren. He was one of the originators and a charter member of the Schenectady County Medical Society, in the deliberations and management of which he has ever since been conspicuously active. His knowledge of his profession and its requirements is thorough and of broad scope; he has often been called in counsel with physicians of undoubted eminence in very difficult and important cases, and from time to time he has prepared valuable and interesting papers upon topics of deep interest to the medical profession.

During the more than thirty-six years of Dr. Ellwood's residence in Schenectady, he has closely identified himself with the best interests of the city and county. That such a man has been called to places of public trust, is only an evidence of the good judgment of his fellow citizens. Dr. Ellwood has served as a member of the Board of Supervisors of Schenectady County, has represented his Ward as Alderman, and has been prominently identified with the Boards of Health and Education. He has also served as both City and County Physician.

Hearty, but unostentatious in manner, he speaks with moderation and to the point. His fidelity is undoubted, and his circle of personal friends is wide, embracing many of the most prominent physicians and citizens of this section of the State.

Lewis Faust, M.D., graduated from Wallace College, Berea, O., and from the New York Homœopathic Medical College. He is a member and an ex-president of the Montgomery County Homœopathic Medical Society, and of the New York State Homœopathic Medical Society.

George L. Van Allen, M.D., 134 Centre street, was born in Bethlehem, Albany County, in 1851; graduated from the medical department of Union University; practiced his profession in Galway, Saratoga County, and Albion, Orleans County; has traveled and studied in Europe. Located in Schenectady in 1882, and makes a specialty of the treatment of chronic diseases and diseases of women.

PIONEER PHYSICIANS.

Rynier Schaets, in the year 1681, was a practicing "chyrurgion" in Schenectady, though Pieter Van der Linde, or Van O'Linda, was a surgeon in North America in 1639, and by some it is thought was here about 1640, but of this there is nothing positively known. October 18, 1703, Jacobus V. Dyck petitioned for the right to practice surgery here, and from 1758 to 1767, Dr. Dirk Van Ingen was in regular practice.

From 1764 to 1788, Dr. Spitser (de Spitser). In 1773, Dr. William Constable is "said to have been a surgeon to a British regiment sent over in the French wars." He died in New York. His son, John Constable, lived in Schenectady many years. A widow of Dr. John Constable, "formerly of this city," was buried in St. George's Church Cemetery in 1805. From 1779 to 1781, Dr. Onger was "the hessen docktor." In 1780 Dr. William Mead was practicing surgery. He was a surgeon in the revolution, and died in Schenectady Feb. 1, 1829, aged 80 years. In 1784 he was in possession of the McCamus & Co. lot on State street, which was afterward owned by Dr. William Adams. Dr. William Adams practiced here in 1785 and subsequently. His sons, Dr. Alex. Hamilton Adams, died April 1811, aged forty-two years, and Dr. James Adams died April 20, 1803. They both practiced in this city. Dr. Cornelius W. Vander Heuvel was a physician from 1747 to 1797, dying two years later. Dr. Stringer, of Albany, at about this time visited patients here, and in 1795, Dr. John Constable occupied the house afterwards owned by Dr. Wm. Duane in Union street. In 1799 Peter Mabee was a "practitioner of physic." Dr. Rogers lived here in 1800. Dr. William Anderson and Dr. Joseph W. Hegeman were partners here for some years previous and including 1811. In that year Dr. Anderson, while on his return passage from New Orleans, died with yellow fever. Dr. Hegeman removed to Cincinnati a few years subsequently, and in 1827 to Vicksburg, where he died in 1837. Cornelius Vrooman, son of Simon Vrooman, was born here, and for a few years previous to his death, which occurred in 1811, when he was but thirty years of age, followed his profession.

DENTISTRY.

O. J. Gross began the study of dentistry in 1875 at Great Falls, N. H., and received the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery in 1879 at the Dental College, Philadelphia, Pa. He came to Schenectady in 1880, and resides at 235½ State street.

B. F. Carmichael, dentist, established himself at 37 Union street in 1878, and has had a successful and increasing practice.

Among other dentists deserving special notice for extensive and well-merited practice, are Dr. F. D. F. Gray, Dr. John B. Hull and Dr. D. R. Smith.

BANKS.

MOHAWK BANK.—Among the first banks organized in this State was the Mohawk Bank of Schenectady. In 1807 a special act of the legislature was passed to incorporate the stockholders of this bank. At this date there were but a small number of banks in the State, and only two in the city of New York.

In the act of incorporation, James Constable, Henry Yates, Jr., Lewis Farquharson, Garret S. Veeder, Moses Beal and David Boyd were appointed a board of commissioners to open books on the first Tuesday in May, in which all persons willing to be associated for the purpose of establishing a bank were inscribed, together with the number of shares taken. The value of each share was ten dollars, and the number limited to twenty thousand.

On the second Tuesday of May of this same year, the stockholders elected the first board of directors, which consisted of thirteen members. Charles Kane was selected by the directors as the first president, and David Boyd as cashier.

It is impossible to ascertain the exact date when the bank was first opened for the transaction of business.

This bank was first located in a comparatively small building on the corner of Union and Church streets, on the site of the present Classical Institute building, a structure built by the bank in 18—, and used for banking purposes until 1852, when it was sold and converted into a private dwelling. In 1852 the bank was removed to the building on State street now occupied by J. H. Barhyte & Co. Here it was located until 1857, when its present building was erected at a cost of about $15,000. This bank continued to do business, under its charter of 1807, until 1852, when it was reorganized under the general banking laws of 1837, with a capital of $200,000. In 1859 the capital was reduced to $100,000. In 1865 it was reorganized as a national bank, for a period of twenty years. Its charter expired this year (1885) and was extended by the Comptroller of the Currency to 1905. The following is a list of its various presidents and cashiers from 1807 :

Presidents : Charles Kane, James Duane, David Martin, John I. De Graff, D. D. Campbell, James R. Craig, G. G. Maxon.

Cashiers : David Boyd, William Walton, Edward Walton, Nicholas Swits, Charles Thompson.

SCHENECTADY BANK.—This bank was organized under a special charter in 1832 as a Safety Fund Bank, for a period of thirty years, with a capital of $150,000. Its first directors were : Archibald Craig, Alonzo C. Paige, Samuel Cook, Ephraim Benedict, Benjamin F. Mumford, Jay Cady, Stephen Clark, Freeman Stanton, George McQueen, Judiah Ellsworth, Harvey Davis, Isaac I. Yates, and William Cunningham.

Its charter expiring in 1862, it was reorganized under the State banking laws, with a capital of $100,000.

This bank was first located in a building on State street, near the corner of Church street. Here it continued to do business until 187–, when it was moved to its present location. Archibald Craig was its first president. He was followed by Jay Cady in 1842. In 1862 Simon C. Groot was made president. He was succeeded by William L. Goodrich in 1866, who remained in this position until 1869, when he was succeeded by Jay Cady, the latter remaining in this position until the election of Abraham A. Van Vorst in 1875, since which date Mr. Van Vorst has retained this position.

The first cashier was Thomas Palmer. He was succeeded in 1843 by William H. Palmer, who was succeeded in 1845 by William L. Goodrich. Mr. Goodrich remained in this position until 1866, when Samuel L. R. Buchanan was made cashier. He was succeeded in 1869 by William L. Goodrich, who has remained in this position ever since.

ABRAHAM A. VAN VORST.

ABRAHAM A. VAN VORST, President of the Schenectady Bank, was born in Glenville, Schenectady County, November 28, 1806. His father, Abraham F. Van Vorst, was a farmer, and, though also a native of Schenectady County, was of Holland descent. The progenitors of the Van Vorsts were three brothers, who emigrated to the Empire State in the early part of the last century. One of them settled in Brooklyn, where there was at that time a flourishing colony of his countrymen ; another located on the Hudson, near Kingston ; and the third, who was the immediate ancestor of Mr. Van Vorst's family, fixed upon Schenectady County as his future home. Inheriting the thrifty and industrious habits of their nation, they engaged in the cultivation of the soil, and, like their countrymen generally, soon accumulated a handsome competence as the result of their honorable labor. His mother was the daughter of Jacob Wallace, a native of New York, but of Scotch extraction.

Mr. Van Vorst pursued his studies at the district schools till he attained the age of seventeen, when, preferring a mercantile to an agricultural occupation, he entered, as clerk, a country store in Schenectady, and continued thus employed four years. Soon after attaining his majority, in 1828, he engaged in the hardware business in the same place, in company with Henry Peek, the firm being Peek & Van Vorst. This copartnership lasted until 1835, when the firm was dissolved, Mr. Van Vorst continuing the business on his own account until 1853. For a few years subsequently he was connected with the New York Central Railroad. In 1858 he became a member of the firm of Van Vorst, Vedder & Co., for the transaction of the lumber business, in which line of operations he continued until 1874, when he retired from the active duties of mercantile life.

Previously to 1845 Mr. Van Vorst had been elected a member of the Board of Directors of the Schenectady Bank, then a State bank. Upon its reorganization in 1862, he was elected its vice-president, and on the death of Jay Cady in 1875,

Hon. A. VanVorst

he succeeded to the office of president. This bank, one of the most flourishing financial organizations in the State, has a competent capital and also a surplus fund, and declares an average dividend of five per cent. semi-annually, clear of State and national taxes. Mr. Van Vorst is also vice-president of the Schenectady Savings Bank, a sound and prosperous institution. For nearly fifty years he has been connected with the vestry of St. George's Episcopal Church in Schenectady.

Though naturally averse to political preferment, Mr. Van Vorst has served as alderman for several terms, and as member of the County Democratic Committee, and was induced, through the persuasion of his party, to accept the nomination for mayor, to which important office he was elected, serving for the terms of 1853–54, 1869–70 and 1882–83. This responsibility he accepted very reluctantly, and only after the urgent appeal of his friends to his patriotism and his desire for the welfare of the community—those higher motives that influence men to the acceptance of public trusts. During the period of our civil war, Mr. Van Vorst was an active "war Democrat," upholding, by all the means in his power, the hands of the Government. He was for many years identified with the business interests of Schenectady, in which his thrifty and sterling habits made him a prominent mercantile character. Since 1862, his financial skill and conscientious management of monetary interests have been an important factor in the prosperity of that city. He was married in 1830 to Miss Amanda Hulbert, daughter of Dr. Hulbert, of Pennsylvania, who bore him one son and three daughters (all of whom are living), and died in 1880, six months after the celebration of their golden wedding. Mr. Van Vorst built his residence, No. 25 Liberty street, in 1835, and has lived there continuously since.

City Bank.—This bank was organized in June, 1874, with a capital of $100,000, under the general banking laws. The first directors were: T. W. McCamus, Andrew Truax, William J. Van Horne, E. Nott Schermerhorn, William Johnson, C. Van Slyck, Charles G. Ellis, George Curtis, Abraham Gillespie, Garrett S. Veeder, Marcus N. Millard and O. S. Luffman. T. W. McCamus was elected president, and O. F. Luffman as cashier, and remained as such officers from the organization of the bank until they resigned in March, 1884. At this time Charles G. Ellis was chosen president, E. Nott Schermerhorn, cashier, and O. S. Luffman, assistant cashier.

December 15, 1884, it suspended, and John A. A. De Remer was appointed receiver.

James H. Davis, gentleman, is a well known and respected citizen of Schenectady.

SCHENECTADY WATER-WORKS.

During the latter part of the preceding century, a company was formed in this city to supply the town with water. Water was taken from a spring, which now in part supplies the cemetery pond. It was conducted by wooden pipes through the main streets at that date. In 1835, this system of water supply seems to have become inadequate for the needs of the city, for in that year an act was passed by the Legislature, empowering the corporation of Schenectady to build a new water-works. Water at this time was obtained by means of a spring on Engine Hill. The pipes were simply logs, with a hole bored through them of a diameter of about two to three inches. For many years this system was in use. Even a small portion above the canal was in use a few years before the present works were constructed. During the excavation made for the present water system, the pipes of the first works were unearthed, and in many cases found to be in a comparatively preserved condition.

The Schenectady Water Company.—In 1865, an act was passed by the Legislature incorporating the present Schenectady Water Company. The first directors named in the act were: William Van Vranken, George G. Maxon, D. Cady Smith, John W. Veeder, Simon C. Groot, Benjamin F. Potter, and T. W. McCamus. The capital stock was limited to $80,000. At a meeting of the directors, shortly after the passage of the act, William Van Vranken was elected President, T. W. McCamus, Vice-President, and D. Cady Smith, Treasurer and Secretary. This, and the following year, ineffectual efforts were made to secure sufficient capital to construct the works.

In 1867, a few of the citizens of Schenectady, believing that the city should own its own water-works, secured the passage of an act, which created William Van Vranken, William J. Van Horne, John C. Ellis, G. G. Maxon, and Andrew McMullen, Water Commissioners. These commissioners were empowered to consider all matters relative to supplying the city with water, to furnish estimates and plans for the construction of water-works to the Common Council; which plans, upon the approval of the Common Council, were to be submitted to the resident taxpayers for their approval or rejection.

The Water Commissioners did agree upon a plan of construction, which was submitted and approved by the Common Council; but when the subject came before the taxpayers some time in the following May, it was overwhelmingly voted down.

The failure of the people's consent to the construction of a city water-works, again brought into active existence the company formed in 1865. In 1869, this company, which had not forfeited its corporate rights, reorganized, by the election of Charles Stanford, President, and William Van Vranken, Treasurer and Secretary. At the reorganization all of the capital stock was subscribed, and the construction of the works commenced the following year, and was completed in 1871. The system adopted is known as the Holley system. The pumping-house is situated at the lower end of Ferry street, adjoining the river. The water is pumped from a large cistern or well, 114 x 6 feet, built under the ground near the margin of the river. The walls of this well are dry, permitting the filtering

of water from the river into the well, while over the top is an arched covering composed of brick and cement. Around the walls is a course of gravel and sand, which has a tendency to purify the water before it reaches the well. A conductor pipe, three feet square and one hundred feet long, extends from the well, along and under the bed, out into the middle of the river. The end of this pipe is protected by a perforated sheet of iron.

In 1872 the works were in active operation, and have been ever since. During 1872, a contract was made by this company, with the city, to furnish water for the extinguishment of fires. Since the adoption of this system, much valuable property has been saved and no fire has extended beyond the building in which it originated, and the losses by fire have been proportionately less than at any other corresponding period of the city's history.

In 1871 only nine miles of pipe and 100 fire hydrants were constructed; at present over fourteen miles of pipe have been laid and 140 hydrants furnished.

The capital of this company was increased to $100,000 in 1871.

The present officers are: Charles Stanford, President and Treasurer; Charles Stanford, Jr., Secretary. Directors: Charles Stanford, G. G. Maxon, Charles G. Ellis, John McEncroe, Wm. Van Vranken, Edward Ellis, and Charles Stanford, Jr.

GAS-WORKS.

In 1852, a company, composed entirely of capitalists outside of this city, built the first gas-works ever constructed in Schenectady. This company subsequently sold the concern to Abell Smith and James R. Craig. Afterwards it was sold at public auction to Gershom Banker, who conducted it until 1872, when two-thirds interest in it was purchased by Charles Stanford and William Van Vranken. Shortly after, Mr. Banker's interest was sold to John McEncroe. The works have since been operated and controlled by these three gentlemen.

The capital of the company is $100,000, and the works are capable of producing yearly, 11,000,000 cubic feet of gas.

Robert Clement, who for over thirty years was superintendent of the gas-works, was born in Belfast, Ireland, in 1824. He died in 1883. Mr. Clement was a citizen widely known and esteemed, being a progressive, intelligent and exemplary man. He was largely interested in real estate in this city, and did much to promote the business interests of Schenectady. He was so long and intimately connected with the gas-works in Schenectady, that he may almost be said to have been its real founder; certain it is, that to his intelligent work, much of its present prosperity can be justly attributed.

Joseph H. Clement, son of Robert, was born in New York in 1849. He received his education in the public schools. In 1860 he became connected with the Schenectady gas-works and has remained with this company ever since. At present he is superintendent of the works.

CASPER PRATT HOAG.

Casper Pratt Hoag was born in Troy, N. Y., September 24, 1810. His father was a vessel owner and he was early inured to the dangers and hardships of a seafaring life, which were then many times greater than they are now. Before attaining to his majority he had at times taken charge of his father's vessel, and had made some progress in the acquisition of a practical knowledge of navigation. Soon after that time he accepted a proposition from a merchant who had built a brig for sea service, to take an interest in the vessel and assume the command. He made two voyages to the Gulf of Mexico, and two to Europe, Madeira and the Canary Islands. After Mr. Hoag's return to New York from the last of these, he and his partner leased the brig to the Brazilian Government to make a voyage to South America, from which she returned in due time newly rigged and in excellent order, having lost her masts, rigging and sails in a tornado, and been refitted at the Isle of St. Thomas at an expense of about $9,000.

In the meantime, Mr. Hoag had married the youngest daughter of Peter I. Clute, of Schenectady, and had determined to abandon the sea and engage in business at Schenectady in partnership with his brother-in-law. His partner in the ownership of the brig consented to a proposition looking to this end very reluctantly, and after many vain endeavors to persuade Mr. Hoag to reconsider his determination.

The brig was sold to the Brazilian Government, and Mr. Hoag relinquished forever an avocation which had been the means of his visiting many remote and interesting portions of the world, which had many charms for him, and in which he had met many appalling dangers which, if we had space to relate them, would form one of the most interesting portions of this volume. In partnership with C. C. Clute, he purchased five lots in Schenectady and erected a mill, thus establishing a business which the two owned and managed co-jointly for three years, at the expiration of which time, by purchase of his brother-in-law's interest, Mr. Hoag became sole proprietor. He continued the business with considerable success, gradually increasing it until 1845, when, on July 25th, the mill was destroyed by fire. Mr. Hoag's energy is no better evidenced than by the fact that within six months he had erected a brick foundry on his property, and began work therein during the following April. This enterprise Mr. Hoag made a success, as he invariably did such enterprises as he connected himself with, continuing its active personal management until 1860, when his health had failed in so marked a degree that his physician advised him to relinquish his confining business entirely, and take a necessary season of rest and recreation. He leased his foundry to a company of Albany men for five years, and devoted himself to the care of his garden, pleasurable pursuits and such gentle exercise as was most conducive to good health, with such results that his physical condition was vastly improved.

In 1838 he united with the First Reformed Church of Schenectady, and was long officially connected therewith, and one of the most earnest and liberal contributors to its support and advancement. When, in the summer of 1860, its house of worship was destroyed by fire, he was one of the foremost in working to save it, and in all measures for its rebuilding took a leading position, and was a member of its Building Committee. Under their supervision, the erection of a stone edifice of the Netherland Gothic style was begun in October, 1860, and completed in January, 1863.

Since his retirement from business in 1860, Mr. Hoag has not re-entered the manufacturing business in any of its branches; but he has been, as he was previously, prominently identified with several of Schenectady's leading commercial interests. He was a stockholder in the Mohawk Bank, and for twenty-two years, until his resignation about a year ago, a Director in the Schenectady Bank. At various times other important interests have commanded his co-operation. During the past twenty years, the general confidence in his honor and business ability have been attested by his administration of two estates, and his closing out of two others by power of attorney. One of these estates required six years of his time in its settlement, and was divided among thirty-five heirs to their general satisfaction. The settlement of another one of them, the real estate of which was located in Michigan and Delaware, consumed five years of Mr. Hoag's careful attention.

Since the organization of the Republican party, Mr. Hoag has been identified with it; prior to that time he was a Whig, holding principles nearly akin to those of the earlier Republicans. He has represented his ward in the City Government several times as Alderman, and some years ago was chosen Mayor, to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of an incumbent of that office. His administration of all trusts, private, public, commercial and political, has been marked by the uprightness and careful intelligence which have characterized him through life. He is one of the many self-made men of Schenectady, and one of the few who stand as connecting links between the Schenectady of fifty years ago and the Schenectady of to-day. Now in his seventy-fifth year, in the enjoyment of good health and a fine intellect, with no wish for worldly honors, made happy by those he loves, he calmly awaits the summons to the reward of a well-spent life.

THE MANUFACTORIES AND INDUSTRIES OF SCHENECTADY.

Broom Corn.—For half a century Schenectady County produced more broom corn than any other in the State. The New York "Gazetteer," of 1860 and 1872, states that one-half of the entire crop of the State was raised in the county. The introduction of Western corn has reduced the acreage of 1,500 acres, which it was up to 1880, to one-third that quantity. There will not be over 500 acres planted this year—1885. The soil has become somewhat exhausted by this long repeated work, and land that formerly gave 900 pounds to the acre will now produce only 550 pounds.

The history of this interest is a large factor to a proper commercial knowledge of our county. While the industry shows a marked decline from its former condition, it is yet one of the largest of its kind in the State.

As all old citizens will remember, the broom of former days was a rude device compared with that of to-day. It was simply a few round bunches of corn sewed on to a stick. George Canfield, who came here from Utica about fifty years ago, was the inventor of the improved "Shaker" broom, the flat broom we now use. Mr. Canfield also invented, about 1850, a seed planter, planting previously being done by hand. He also, ten years later, made a horse planter, which is yet in general use. Mr. Canfield never protecting his contrivances by patent, met with the usual result of inventors, and died a poor man.

The Pioneer.—The very first grower in the county was Otis Smith, who came here from Connecticut over fifty years ago. A Mr. Willard, who owned a farm at the west end of the town, had planted two acres on the island. This was the first land ever planted to broom corn on the Mohawk River. After preparing his land, Mr. Willard, not himself a practical corn grower, sent for Mr. Smith to superintend the crop. Smith purchased land until he owned about 125 acres, and raised and manufactured corn until his death in about 1870.

The following list gives the best information attainable of the pioneers in this industry, beginning on the north side of the Mohawk River at Schenectady, and running thence to Hoffman's Ferry, a distance of ten miles.

North Side of River.—David F. Reese, fifty years ago, owned the islands a mile from the city. known as the Hook Islands. He had 200 to 250 acres, and up to about 1865, the year of his death, was a grower and manufacturer. After his decease, his son Frederick continued the business until his death, some seven or eight years later, when the farm was divided. Mrs. Frederick Reese now owns the Big Island, Hook Island belonging to the Collins family.

Next west to the Reese farm, in Scotia, was that of Charles P. and Edward P. Sanders, who, forty-five years ago, owned 700 acres there, seventy-five of which were devoted to corn. They also manufactured and continued until about 1870, when they retired, though they still grow some corn. They belong to one of the old families of the county.

The next farm on the west was that of 100 acres, owned by Col. Abraham Toll. He raised and manufactured from about 1840 up to about 1865, when his brother, Charles H., bought it and continued the business for ten years. He then gave it up and became a general farmer.

Next west to the Toll place was seventy-five to eighty acres owned by Reuben Ellwood, who, from about 1845 to 1855, grew and manufactured corn.

He then removed to Illinois, selling his property to Wm. Cramer, who, up to his death about fifteen years ago, as has his family since, remained in the same business.

Cornelius and Nicholas Velie had fifty acres, next west to Ellwood, forty-five years ago. Up to about 1860 they grew and manufactured, when they died, Wm. Haslow becoming owner of the farm. He has continued the business ever since.

Next west of the Velie property was that of Nicholas Brooks, who, forty-five years ago, owned sixty acres there. He grew and manufactured corn for about five years, when David F. Reese rented the farm. In about 1855 Harvey Vedder leased it, and in 1865 Christian F. Seeley bought it. Through all these changes the corn business was kept up. The homestead is now owned by James Wyatt and the balance of the farm by Frederick Larbey. No corn is grown now.

Garrett Barhydt owned fifteen to twenty acres, next west to Brooks', thirty years ago, and from that time to date has grown corn.

West of Barhydt's, Wm. Rector began, in about 1845, with thirty-five to forty acres. Has never manufactured, but continues the raising of broom corn.

For thirty years, ending in 1884, Adam H. Swart grew corn upon fifteen acres situate next west to the Rector farm.

Next west to Swart's are forty acres owned by John S. Barhydt, who, fifty years ago, was a grower and manufacturer there. Mr. Barhydt died in 1854, since then his son John has run the farm. He has a manufactory in the city.

Forty years ago Aaron Swart raised corn upon 20 acres next west of Barhydt's. He made a few brooms at first, but soon gave it up. Mr. Swart sold out to Latin Johnson in 1866, and moved to Illinois. Mr. Johnson raised corn until 1884.

Next west to Aaron Swart's is the estate of Philip Vedder, who owned it a century ago. In 1845, Albert H. Vedder began growing corn upon from 40 to 50 acres of the original 150-acre farm. In 1863 he sold 80 acres to Nicholas H. Swart, including the land he had been working. Mr. Swart remained there until 1866, when he sold to Cornelius Van Patten, a grower. Mr. Van Patten died in 1883, leaving the property to his daughter, who shortly afterwards sold it to Bartholomew Clute. No corn is raised there now.

We have traced every farm within the territory specified upon which broom corn was cultivated or brooms made. Next following is given a history of the farms along the ten-mile strip and through the town of Rotterdam on the

SOUTH SIDE OF THE RIVER.—Beginning at Schenectady, on the south side of the river, are the Watervliet Shakers, who, when Otis Smith harvested the first two acres above described, were making preparations to cultivate and manufacture corn in this county. They came here from New Lebanon, and were the first to make brooms for the Schenectady trade. They leased the Tomilson farm of 90 acres. They already owned—and still do—60 acres two miles up the river, making, with the Tomilson property, 150 acres, which they planted to corn. Nicholas I. Schermerhorn was their superintendent from 1835 for forty years. In 1850 the Tomilson portion was sold to John Myers, who grew and manufactured up to the year of his death, about 1870. He was a large operator. After his death his family rented the land and manufacturing was stopped. The 60-acre piece was recently leased to John Van Epps.

Nicholas I. Schermerhorn, from about 1840 to 1880, had 90 acres where the Jones Car Company is now located. Mr. Schermerhorn was a large grower, manufacturer and dealer. He bought for years about all the corn grown in Schoharie Valley.

Next west to the Schermerhorn property, fifty years ago, John, Alexander and Jacob Van Epps had 200 acres of land and grew and manufactured. In about 1860 the Van Epps' sold a part of the farm to John Veeder. John Myers subsequently bought out Mr. Veeder, and after the death of Mr. Myers his family continued to grow corn, but no longer manufactured. Jacob Van Epps died about 1860, and John Van Epps, 1868. Alexander now lives in the city and still raises corn upon the homestead, though no brooms have been made there since 1863.

Two brothers, John and Simon Schermerhorn, fifty years ago owned 50 acres next west to the Van Epps' home, and from that time to date have grown corn and made brooms.

Fifty years ago, Nicholas Vrooman and Josiah Van Patten owned 150 acres next west to the Schermerhorns, upon which corn was grown. Forty-five years ago, Nicholas also owned 25 acres there, upon which he grew corn and made brooms until 1880, when his son succeeded to the business. Josiah sold his land to Lewis Clement in about 1873, and is now living in the city. Mr. Clement grows corn. Vrooman Van Patten is yet living on his farm, his son, Abram, growing corn and making brooms there.

Next west to Van Patten's, forty years ago, Anthony H. Van Slyke owned 50 acres. He died in about 1865. Corn was cultivated and a few brooms made. His sons, John and Harmon Van Slyke, own the farm, and until 1882 grew some corn. In that year they leased the land, upon which corn is still cultivated.

Abram A. Bradt, next west to Van Slyke's, in 1845 cultivated 25 acres; he also made brooms. After his death, in about 1882, Harvey Bradt took possession and in 1883–4 corn was grown. From 1870 to 1883, Harvey Bradt had quite an extensive manufactory in the city.

In 1835, Simon Maybee, next west to Bradt's, cultivated 15 to 20 acres, continuing until about 1870, the year of his death. Jacob Maybee then grew corn there for about five years.

In 1845, Aaron Bradt cultivated 30 acres next west to Maybee's. He died about 1860, and Francis Bradt grew corn and made a few brooms.

Next west was the 35-acre piece of Abram N. Bradt, who, in 1835, grew corn there. He died

in about 1880, and was succeeded by his son, Simon Bradt, who continued until 1883, the year of his death. The property was bequeathed to his nephew, Abram A. Bradt, who now lives there and grows some corn.

Nicholas Bradt has cultivated twenty acres next west for fifty years, and is yet living there.

John M. Veeder raised corn upon thirty acres next west, from 1857 to 1882. He also made a few brooms, but is now out of the corn business.

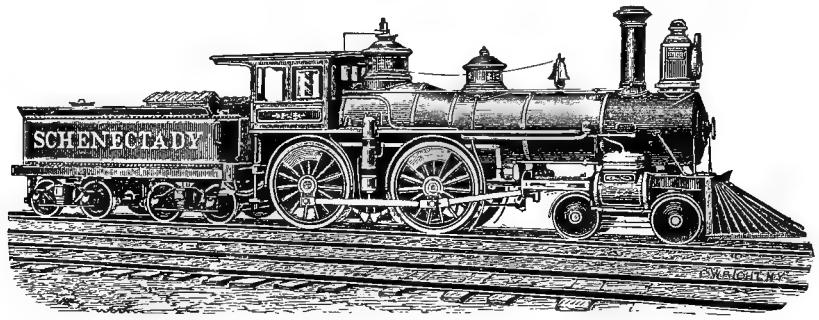
Next west to Veeder's farm, and the last on the ten-mile track, is the thirty-acre farm of John Byce, who began raising corn there twenty years ago. He also made a few brooms, but in 1883 retired from the business. The farm is still his home.

CITY DEALERS AND MANUFACTURERS.—Among the prominent dealers and manufacturers of broom corn doing business in the city, are the following:

Nicholas H. Swart has been a buyer and seller since 1835, and since that time has dealt with nearly every prominent grower in this section. Mr. Swart shipped the first load of broom corn ever brought from any Western State to this city. This load was from Illinois, in the year 1852.

We are indebted to Mr. Swart for a recital of many of the facts given in this article, and to his remarkably clear memory any credit due to its accuracy should be given.

H. J. Ansicker, Water street, corner Washington avenue, house 3, Ferry, continued; John Barhydt, 21 Washington avenue; Henry Bradt, broom handles, Mill lane; H. S. De Forest, 100 Centre street; Charles Horstman & Co., 6 River; C. F. Rankins & Co., 121 Front street; Henry Whitmyre, 19 North street; Chas. L. Whitmyre, 12 and 14 Washington avenue; Christopher Van Slyck, 7 Pine and 57 Centre street; James A. Flinn, John street.



THE SCHENECTADY LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

Are under good management, and deserve the success they enjoy.

The capital of the Schenectady Locomotive Engine Manufactory, the first company formed, was raised by the citizens of Schenectady in January, 1848, and was expended in buildings and machinery by a company who agreed to pay the interest on the capital annually, and to pay to the stockholders the whole capital in eight years, and thus themselves become the owners of the property. This company carried on the works about one year; their affairs turned out so badly that they abandoned the works, which remained idle for twelve months, during which time a part of the personal property was sold for taxes. The whole works were finally sold at one-half cost.

The purchasers under the sale were John Ellis, Daniel D. Campbell, and Simon C. Groot, who, with others, raised a new capital, and on June 14, 1851, the present company, The Schenectady Locomotive Works, was incorporated. Walter McQueen acquired an interest in 1851, which he still retains. By February, 1863, John Ellis had, by purchase, acquired, substantially, the entire stock. October 4, 1864, Mr. Ellis died, and his stock was subsequently divided among his heirs, his sons, John C., Charles G., and William D. John C. Ellis died October 4, 1884, just twenty years after the death of his father.

The officers and stockholders—all stockholders being trustees—are: Charles G. Ellis, President; Walter McQueen, Vice-President; Edward Ellis, Treasurer. The estate of John C. Ellis, deceased, and William D. Ellis.

The plant of this large concern occupies an area of ten acres (though they use for all purposes twenty-one acres), upon which are erected fifteen brick structures, ranging in size from 25 x 71 feet to 100 x 252 feet, and 85 x 345 feet. It is bounded by Fonda, Romeyn, and Nott streets, and the New York Central Railroad. They own, in addition, lumber yards on Romeyn street, coal yards between the canal and Fonda street, and their water-works upon the west side of the canal are constantly pumping water from the Mohawk River.

All classes of locomotives, from the small, narrow gauge to the large consolidation, with eight driving-wheels, are made, their annual capacity being 225 engines.

One thousand one hundred men are employed, to whom is paid, monthly, from $50,000 to $60,000.

The products of this establishment are seen throughout the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

The Superintendent, A. J. PITKIN, was born at Akron, O., in 1854; served an apprenticeship as

machinist there; entered the drawing room of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, Philadelphia, in 1876; was Mechanical Engineer for the Rhode Island Locomotive Works, Providence, in 1880; came to Schenectady in 1882 as Mechanical Engineer for the Schenectady Locomotive Works, and was appointed Superintendent of the Works in 1884.

WILLIAM GIBSON.

WILLIAM GIBSON was born near Edinburgh, Scotland, February 16, 1812, and died in Schenectady, March 28, 1881. During his boyhood, until his eighteenth year, he attended the schools of that city. He came to America in 1830 and soon located in Troy, where he speedily secured work in Burden's iron works. Shortly afterward he was appointed foreman in the spike factory. Six years later he was made superintendent of the works, which, however, were not so extensive as they are at the present time. In 1853 he severed his connection with the Burden works and removed to Albany, and became Superintendent of the Albany Northern Railroad, now a part of the railway system controlled by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company.

In 1855 he engaged in the manufacture of spikes in the shop of Mr. Townsend, which was located in what is now the lower part of Albany, thus embarking in business on his own account. He sold out this enterprise a year later and removed to Schenectady. In 1858, Mr. John Ellis, formerly owner of the Schenactady Locomotive Works, and father of the present proprietors, knowing his worth, secured his valuable services, and promoted him to the position of assistant superintendent of the shops. The duties of his position he performed with zeal and fidelity, until his failing health compelled him to relinquish them in 1876, subsequent to which date he was in no wise occupied, save in taking care of his own property and that of others left to his immediate charge.

Mr. Gibson was scarcely twenty-one years of age when he married Mary McQueen, sister of Walter McQueen, for some time superintendent of the locomotive works. His marriage occurred on July 4, 1832, during his residence in Troy. At that time he was a member of the Associate Presbyterian

Church of that city, of which Rev. Dr. Bullions, author of Bullions' English Grammar, was pastor. He was a leading spirit in that church until his removal to Schenectady, when he united with the First Presbyterian Church of the latter city, which was then under the pastoral charge of Rev. Dr. Backus. As a Christian he was ever fervent and staunch, doing willingly and unostentatiously his utmost for the advancement of the cause he loved. He was a man of active temperament, and his sensitive nature often stood in opposition to his better judgment. He was counted a man worthy of unlimited respect and confidence, and he won and retained numerous friends who mourned his death with sorrow. He left a family of four: a widow, two grown-up sons, William W. and Peter M. Gibson, and a daughter, Jennie M., widow of the late John Gilmour. Another daughter, Mary E., died in 1852, aged four and one-half years. His father died in Scotland and his mother came to America with her son. She never made Schenectady her home, but lived with her daughter at Auburn, where she died some years ago.

The firm of McQueen & Stage, mechanical engineers and manufacturers of steam engines and boilers, and self-regulating boilers for steam heating, 170 Centre street, was organized April 1, 1884. The individual members are Hon. Daniel P. McQueen and David L. Stage. The plant covers an area of 80 x 125 feet. Fifteen to twenty men are employed, the annual output amounting to $25,000. They also do plumbing and gas and steam-fitting.

Among the buildings which were fitted up by them, are the Classical Institute, the German Catholic School, and the home of Hon. John D. Campbell. Mr. McQueen was member of Assembly in 1874, and has also been inspector of foreign vessels, while Mr. Stage, for twelve years prior to 1884, was chief engineer of the Schenectady waterworks.

The Westinghouse Company, manufacturers of agricultural engines, grain-threshers, horse-powers, etc., is known throughout the United States. In 1837, George Westinghouse began at Fonda, N. Y., the manufacture of his patent threshing-machine and horse-power. Facilities were added from time to time, as trade demanded, and in 1850 the works were removed to Schenectady, where they were enlarged. In 1870, Mr. G. Westinghouse retired from business. In 1874 the buildings were destroyed by fire, and were immediately rebuilt. In 1884 the Westinghouse Company was organized, the stock being held by the partners of the firm, which was succeeded by the corporate body. The officers are: J. Westinghouse, President; Spencer Moore, Vice-President; John Westinghouse, Treasurer; H. R. Hegeman, Secretary.

The premises are between Dock street and the Erie Canal, with a track from the Central Railroad running through them. The main building is of brick, 300 x 500 feet, three stories. Around it are the foundry, blacksmith shop, warehouses, office, etc. A force of 175 to 200 is employed, and the annual capacity is 300 threshers, 150 engines, and corresponding number of horse-powers.

Henry V. Jackson is the senior member of the firm of Jackson & Sands, engineers and machinists, corner Jay and Franklin streets They are builders of engines and machinery for yachts, launches and for stationary purposes. They also repair machinery of all kinds.

The history of the Kilmer Wire Band Manufacturing Company, Dock street, is unique in the annals of the city. In 1876, Augustus Kilmer, then a resident of Howe's Cave, Schoharie County, N. Y., aided by members of his family, invented the wire band now so extensively manufactured by them. Patent was obtained in 1877, and one year later the manufacturing began. In 1880 the company built and moved into their present works. They occupy an area of 100 x 180 feet, upon which are buildings to the extent of 1400 square feet. The machinery, most of which is patented by the company, is driven by a steam engine of fifty-five horse-power, and 125 men are employed. The average daily output of completed work is eight tons.

They make annealed Bessemer steel wire bands for baling hay, straw, flax, etc., fence wire, and ornamental fencing, by a process of which they are the inventors and proprietors. The company is composed of the father, Augustus Kilmer, and his seven sons, Ransom, Martin L., Irving A., Thalas S., Melvin D., Elmer E. and William A., and Edward Davis, a son-in-law. Among the leading inventions of the firm is the fancy fencing and the arrow bale-fastener cutter invented by Irving A., and the twisting machine for bale loops by Irving A. and Elmer E. Additional buildings are soon to be constructed.

The Jones Car Manufacturing Company.—The Jones Manufacturing Company came to Schenectady from West Troy in 1875, renting the premises of the Schenectady Car Company for the manufacture of street cars. Soon after the works were enlarged and they began the manufacture of drawing-room cars and sleepers, which continued until February 4, 1884, when E. Nott Schermerhorn was appointed its receiver, and for about eight months the business was continued by him. About the beginning of 1885, Mr. Walter A. Jones leased the works of the receiver, and in June, 1885, they were re-leased to the New York Sleeping Car Company, which is at the present time the controller of the works.

Thatcher Elevator.—What is now commonly known as the Thatcher Elevator, was built in 1865 by George G. Maxon, of this city, and John W. Thompson, of Ballston Spa. From then until May 1, 1884, George G. Maxon and his son, Ethan A. Maxon, conducted the business. Mr. Thompson having previously sold his interest in the real property to Mr. Maxon, Sr., a stock company was formed, the name being the Schenectady Elevating Company, of which George G. Maxon is President and Treasurer, and Le Grand C. Cramer, Secretary. In May, 1884, Ralph W. Thatcher, of

C. C. Clute.

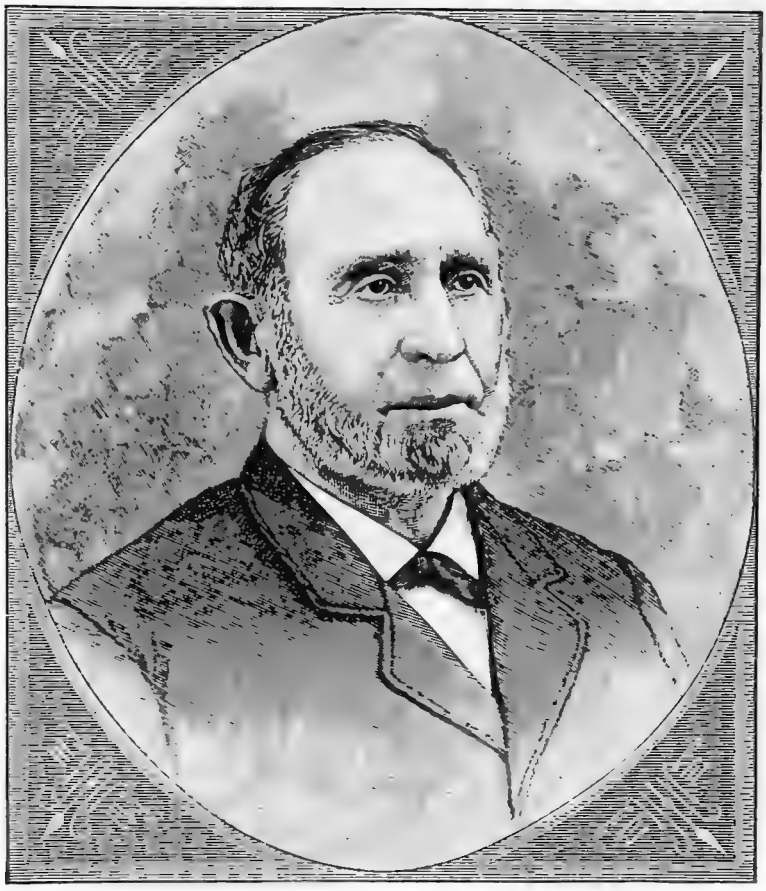
Albany, leased the property of the company for a term of years yet unexpired.

An elevator and general mill business is done, from one to one and one-half million bushels of grain being annually handled. Their principal business is in receiving and transferring grain which reaches here from the West *via* the Erie canal and the railways, for Northern New York and New England States. The main building is 60 x 100 feet in extent, 95 feet high. A 200 horse-power engine is used. From 15 to 30 men are employed.

C. C. CLUTE.

CADWALLADER COLDEN CLUTE, eldest son of Peter I. Clute, was born in the City of Schenectady, October 18, 1814. Becoming associated in early life with his father (afterward of the firm of Clute & Bailey) in the general foundry business, he laid the foundation for those strict methodical business habits which were so characteristic of him through life. Dissolving this connection, he started in trade for himself, conducting successfully for a number of years a hardware store, located on the block between the canal and railroad crossing on State street, Schenectady. During this time, and about the year 1841, he associated with one or two others, and took a contract for building sections 19 and 28 on the Western Railroad. In 1842 he purchased the interest of Joel C. Bailey, of the firm of Clute & Bailey, and the firm of P. I. Clute & Sons was organized, continuing until the year 1849, when it was merged in the firm of Clute Brothers, P. I. Clute retiring. His connection with this firm, subsequently changed to that of Clute Brothers & Co., remained up to the day of his death. On the organization of the firm of G. Westinghouse & Co., and the establishment of that house in Schenectady in 1856, he became a member, and continued such until the reorganization of the firm in 1870. On the organization of the Mohawk Bank of Schenectady in the year 1859, he was elected a director, and held that position uninterrupted until his death, August 16, 1876.

He left a legacy of six thousand ($6,000) dollars to the Home of the Friendless.



N. I. Schermerhorn

SHAWL FACTORY.—In 1848, the building now occupied by James Roy & Co. for the manufacture of woolen cloth, was built by Schenectady capitalists, and up to 1854 was used as a carpet factory. During this year Messrs. Roy & Co. purchased the property, changing its name to the Watervliet Mills, by which name it is now known. Up to about 1870 shawls were the main production, when, by the introduction of proper machinery, the manufacture of woolen cloth and ladies' dress goods was begun. A few shawls are still made yearly. Since Roy & Co. have owned the concern no cotton has been ever mixed with their goods, and the annual consumption of wool is now one-half million pounds.

The buildings front 235 feet on Church street, and run through to Railroad street. One hundred horse-power is used, and 75 males and 75 females are employed. The company's real estate covers an area bounded by Church, Water and Railroad streets, with the exception of one house at the angle formed by Railroad and Church streets. They also own two brick wool store-houses opposite the factory on Church street.

James Roy & Co. were incorporated January 1, 1866, and two woolen mills at West Troy are owned by them, also being known to the trade as the Watervliet Mills.

Arthur W. Hunter was the first manager of the concern here, continuing as such up to 1875, when he retired, and his son, Winfield S. Hunter, took his place, which he still retains. Among their old employees are John Jarvie, boss carder, with 23 years service to his credit, and John Moorhouse, boss wool sorter, with 30 years.

KNITTING MILLS.—THE IMPERIAL HOSIERY MILLS, McLachlin, Conde & Co., proprietors, was organized January 3, 1881, with $50,000 capital. The individual members are John McLachlin, Cornelius S. Conde (who is manager and superintendent), and Edwin Groat. Mr T. K. Conde was a partner up to 1883, when he retired. Knit goods of all kinds for children, ladies and gentlemen are made. 300 sets of cards, 750 spindles, 9 knitting machines and 14 sewing machines, keep busy 40 female and 26 male operatives, who produce 1,500 dozen goods monthly, which are in value from $5 to $10 per dozen.

The works, corner Ferry street, continued, and Erie street, are two stories, frame, 90 x 50 feet, with an L 24 x 36 feet. A 70 horse-power boiler and 60 horse-power engine are used. The value of the building and furniture is $50,000.

SCHENECTADY KNITTING MILL.—The Schenectady Knitting Mill Company was organized in 1875. The principal stockholders were Hon. Charles Stanford, N. I. Schermerhorn, D. D. Campbell and William H. McClyman. The building was completed in 1876, and a prosperous business conducted until 1878, when the entire property was destroyed by fire. In 1879 the building was rebuilt and work again resumed. For a number of years Hon. Charles Stanford was president of this company. He resigned a few years ago, when N. I. Schermerhorn was elected in his place. Wm. H. McClyman is treasurer and general manager of this mill. About 130 persons have been continuously employed in this flourishing establishment since it was rebuilt.

NICHOLAS I. SCHERMERHORN.

NICHOLAS I. SCHERMERHORN was born in the town of Duanesburgh, N. Y., March 26, 1818. His father, of German descent, was born in Schodac, N. Y., July 14, 1779, and moved to the town of Duanesburgh, 1817.

In 1824, when he moved to Rotterdam, Nicholas was about eight years old. In 1833 his father died, and his remains now rest in the family plot in Vale cemetery. Nicholas was now in his fifteenth year, and being the oldest son, the direction and care of the household was assumed by him, managing the farm in the interests of the family. At twenty-three years of age, in 1841, he was married to Susan, daughter of Conrad Chism, and remained upon the farm for three years longer. His first enterprise, in 1844, was in raising broom corn for the Watervliet Shakers on the Rotterdam-Mohawk Flats, two miles west of the city of Schenectady. The second year he commenced the manufacture of brooms on his own account.

His business increased from year to year, until he became the largest producer and manufacturer in this part of the country, up to 1877, when he disposed of his interest in this business.

In 1855 he moved his family on the old homestead of Bartholomew Schermerhorn in Rotterdam, opposite the grist-mill, and there bought three hundred acres of land, including all that part of the Mohawk flats adjoining the city of Schenectady. Here he lived until 1870, when he bought the fine residence of Dr. L. Ellwood, 230 State street, in the city of Schenectady, and removed there with his family, and where he still lives.

In 1865 he bought the Vandebogart Brothers' coal business, and formed a co-partnership with his son-in-law, Mr. W. H. McClyman, in which they continued until 1874, when Mr. McClyman retired from the firm and Mr. Schermerhorn's son, William G., was taken into partnership with his father.

Messrs. Schermerhorn & Son also entered into the hay and straw business about 1872, on the dock between the Erie Canal and the New York Central Railroad, in which they still continue. The coal business was sold out in 1884. In 1880, Mr. Schermerhorn and his brother-in-law, William Christler, bought the Schenactady flouring mill, which they still continue to operate.

Outside of his mercantile business, he took the contract to build the Schenectady and Duanesburgh railroad and took into partnership with him on the contract Messrs. Samuel Donaldson, of Fultonville, and Harmon Van Slyke, of Rotterdam. The work was completed within a year.

He was one of the originators and stockholders of the Schenectady Car Works, built on a part of his Rotterdam farm near the city. He was also one of the originators and stockholders of the Schenectady

Knitting Mills, known as the Brandywine Mills, and he still continues to be an active member of the firm, and is also its president. He is one of the originators and a large stockholder in the McQueen Locomotive Works in Rotterdam, situated on the flats near the Jones Car Works, and he still remains connected with that enterprise.

He has been a director of the Schenectady Bank for the past twenty years, and also a trustee of the Savings Bank. He is also a trustee of the Young Men's Christian Association of this city, who own one of its finest buildings.

He has taken an active part in the political interests of his county, and has held the office of Supervisor in the town of Rotterdam two terms, County Superintendent of the Poor three terms, and County Treasurer from 1867 to 1882.

Thus it may be seen that Mr. Schermerhorn has been an active and honored citizen ; a promoter of the industries of the community ; that he has done much to advance the material and social interests. His life has been a success in many respects. He is a model of enterprise and is highly esteemed by his acquaintances.

Mr. Schermerhorn has also shown the art of ruling his own house well. He has three children, one son and two daughters. His son, William G., resides with him and is an active partner in his business. He married Sarah L. Swart and has one son, N. Irving, ten years of age. His daughter Anna M., married William H. McClyman, of the Schenectady Knitting Mills, and they have one daughter, Susie May, age sixteen. His other daughter, Catherine E., married G. S. Veeder Miller. They have four sons: Abram G., age 22 years ; William S., age 20 years ; Nicholas I., age 13 years ; and Garret S., age 7 years.

He is a member of the congregation of the First Reformed Church, and one of its Advisory Committee.

Susholz & Myers.—The house of Susholz & Myers, with Solomon Susholz, George Susholz and Adolph Myers, was organized in 1880–81. In February, 1884, George Susholz and Mr. Myers retired, Solomon succeeding to the business, and the firm name becoming S. Susholz. George remained as superintendent. Their mills, on Dock street, are of brick, 4 stories, 50 x 150 feet; an engine of 100 horse-power turns 4 sets of cards, 4 self-operating mules, and 16 knitting cylinders, the average daily capacity being 800 pounds yarn. 75 females and 25 males are employed, who produce scarlet-colored woolen knit underwear for men, women and children.

They have selling agents in New York City.

The firm of John Wiederhold & Co., manufacturers of ladies' underwear, children's garments, dress wrappers, aprons, hoop skirts, etc., 180 Centre street, was established in 1870. For a time the firm was Wiederhold Brothers, but it was subsequently changed to its present form. Mr. John Wiederhold, the senior member, has been at the head of the business from the first. The factory is a three-story brick building, 50 x 100 feet, and employs one hundred women and girls. It is fully equipped with sewing and other necessary machines and implements.

Brewers, Maltsters, etc.—The first brewery in Schenectady of which there is any knowledge was in 1820. It was located in the First ward on Washington avenue. A Mr. Moffatt conducted it for seven or eight years, when he discontinued, and the brewery was closed.

About this time (1820), but possibly two or three years later, two brothers, Hugh and Daniel Martin, started one on the same avenue. This was soon sold to Mr. La Britton, who continued it for a few years, when he in turn stopped brewing. Still another, and located on the same avenue, at the head of Union street, was the one started in about 1824 by John S. Vrooman and Isaac M. Schermerhorn. Mr. Vrooman soon retired, and, shortly afterward, Francis Myers purchased the same. Mr. Myers evidently did not meet with much financial encouragement, for he soon withdrew from the business. While the exact dates of the closing of the above-named concerns is not attainable, all of them were out of existence by the year 1831.

In about 1830, Reed Brothers started a malt-house on the dock, in the building erected by Daniel D. Campbell, of Rotterdam. The building passed through the hands of Messrs. Millard & Crane, Cornelius Thompson, H. Rosa and Martin De Forrest, and finally into the hands of the Susholz Manufacturing Company.

Peter Engle owns and conducts a lager-beer brewery at 47 Nott terrace. This is the only brewery now in the city.

Cornelius Thompson has a malt-house on Dock street, and has been in the business for many years.

In 1860, George Weller began the manufacturing and bottling of soda water at 62 College street, remaining there until 1863, when he removed to No. 46 of the same street, his present location. The manufactory covers an area of 60 x 190 feet, and is two stories high. He employs eight males, and his trade extends through a radius of forty miles. Mr. Weller is the only manufacturer and bottler of soda water, lemon soda, sarsaparilla and ginger ale in the county. He also makes seltzer water.

In 1875 he became agent for the Bartholomay Brewing Company, and since then has kept a supply depot for this and Montgomery Counties. The curious yet simple bottling machine used by him for his soda water is well worth an inspection.

Charles Weincke, proprietor of the Hotel Germania, corner Liberty and Centre streets, has for many years had a large share of public patronage.

HOWLAND S. BARNEY.

Howland S. Barney, the recognized head of the mercantile fraternity of Schenectady, and one of the most notable of the self-made men of Schenectady County, was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., March 23, 1822, a son of Dr. Z. H. and Eliza

(Swain) Barney. When his son was about four years old, Dr. Barney removed to Minaville, Montgomery County. There, as he grew older, the boy attended the common schools till he had reached the age of fourteen, when (in 1836) he came to Schenectady and became a clerk in the dry goods store of Sydney B. Potter. He was thus employed four years.

Next he found employment in the store of John Olin, whose partner he became in 1849, under the firm name of John Olin & Co. In 1853 he bought the interest of a retiring partner in the firm of Barringer & Co. In 1858, through changes in its *personnel*, this firm was reorganized under the style of H. S. Barney & Co., and so it has since been known. It has been due largely to Mr. Barney's mercantile ability and sound and enterprising management that this house has outgrown all rivals, ranking as the wealthiest and most extensive dry goods concern in the city, and occupying commodious and well-appointed quarters at Nos. 93, 95, 97 and 99 State street. This large building was erected in 1872, and occupied in April, 1873.

Mr. Barney is a Republican, but has always been too busy, and has never been inclined, to take any active part in politics. He has done his full share to promote the interests of the city. In 1856 he married Sarah, daughter of Joseph Horsfall, of Schenectady. They have two children.

Dry Goods.—The firm of H. S. Barney & Co., dealers in dry goods, carpets etc., 95, 97 and 99 State street, was established about 1843 by Messrs.

Barringer & Co. In 1854 it was purchased by the present firm, who in 1873 completed the Barney Block. This block has a frontage on State street of 60 feet, a depth of 120 feet and is three stories high. They also manufacture ladies' robes, wraps, mits, etc. The stock averages $90,000.

The junior member of the firm is Mr. H. H. Swart. Mr. Barney has been in business here 48 years.

The house of T. H. Reeves & Co., dealers in dry goods, carpets, rugs, etc., 137 State street, was established in 1822 by McManus & Co. The individual members of the present firm are T. H. Reeves, T. R. Barringer and C. F. Veeder, who succeeded to the business in 1874. The store is 30 x 140 feet, with an L 40 x 60 feet, and two stories high. The carpet and upholstering department is 60 x 60 feet and 18 feet high, and is the oldest carpet room in the city. They also manufacture ladies' cloaks, dresses, mits, and wraps.

Pfeiffer Levi, clothing merchant and dealer in gentlemen's furnishing goods, 90 State street, is an old and well-established merchant of the city.

L. R. Reagles, 103 State street, is a dealer in ladies' furnishing goods, and ranks with the leading merchants of the city.

Lumber Yards.—In 1855 Peter Vedder and Henry Vedder started a lumber yard, locating it where the elevator now is. In 1857, Abram A. Van Vorst was added, and the firm became Van Vorst, Vedder & Co., and moved to Green street near the railway, remaining there until 1867, when they located on Pine street near the Locomotive Works. During this year Walter S. Van Vorst became a member of the company, remaining until 1873, in which year he, with his father, Abram A., retired, and Wm. C. Sweet was added, the firm becoming Vedder & Sweet. In 1875, Albert Van Voast bought the interest of Mr. Sweet, and the firm name was Vedder & Van Voast up to 1881, when the Pine street property was sold to the Delaware and Hudson Railroad Co. Peter Vedder retired, and Albert Van Voast opened a yard on John street, near Green street, where he now is.

In 1867, Peter B. Yates, John Bradt and Peter Van Dyck opened a yard, the office being at 31 Dock street. The firm was known as Bradt, Yates & Van Dyck. April 17, 1876, Horace Eggleston and Wm. C. Sweet purchased the property. January 14, 1878, Mr. Sweet retired, Mr. Eggleston being sole owner until August, 1880, when Walter S. Van Vorst became a member, and remained as such until October, 1883, when he retired, and the present firm of Eggleston, Vedder & Co. was organized, the firm being Horace Eggleston, Wm. H. Vedder and Albert G. Vedder. They operate a steam planing mill, deal in all kinds of lumber, wholesale and retail, and manufacture doors, sashes, blinds and moldings.

The lumber, lime, cement, hair, and building-paper business of Charles L. Blakeslee, 27 Dock street, was established in 1876. The yard extends from Dock street, facing the canal, to the railroad track. There is a planing mill, 50 x 80 feet, in the yard. Mr. Blakeslee built a large number of portable buildings for use at the stations of the New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad. Alexander F. Vedder, formerly with Eggleston & Co., is foreman.

Grocers.—March 1, 1849, Marcus N. Millard and Jonas H. Crane formed a partnership, under the firm name of Millard & Crane. The firm has remained up to this time without change. They were then located at 176 State street, where the American Express office now is, and were engaged in a general grocery business. In 1857 they removed to 160 State street, their present quarters. The building occupied by them was erected by Wm. W. Treadway in 1836–7, and sold by him April 1, 1837, to Cadwallader C. Clute, Messrs. Millard & Crane buying of Mr. Clute, December 31, 1855. Up to 1865 they did a large jobbing trade, but since then have confined their attention mainly to the retailing of groceries, liquors, wines, ales and porter.

Mr. Millard was born at Charlton, Saratoga County, N. Y., in 1820, coming to Schenectady, June 1, 1847.

J. H. CRANE.

This gentleman, who is one of the oldest and most highly respected merchants in Schenectady City or County, was born in Amsterdam, Montgomery County, April 22, 1813. His father was Caleb C. Crane, who was born in Newark, N. J., April 17, 1768. He was but a lad at the time of the destruction of Newark by the British in revolutionary times, and with many others fled to the high ground from which he viewed the burning of the town. That was one of the most memorable days in the history of Newark, and it was with streaming eyes that many then saw their homes swept away under the torches of the ruthless invaders. But it was such scenes that fired the American heart with hatred for the oppressors of Americans, and nerved desperate men to press forward to victory. During all the years that followed, Caleb C. Crane never quite forgot the feeling of resentment which took root in his being on that occasion. When he reached maturity, being of an ambitious turn of mind, he resolved to strike out for himself in some other part of the then new country. He made his way to a point two miles north of where the village of Cranesville, Montgomery County, now is, and there, in the midst of an almost undisturbed wilderness, made a settlement.

Buying lands he improved them and made a home for himself and his family, and there he lived out the remainder of his allotted years, and died, passing into the local history as one of the pioneers of that section.

Of the fourteen children of Caleb C. Crane, J. H. Crane was the eighth born. His early years were passed on his father's farm. The common schools of the time and place supplied him the only means of education. As he neared manhood it became evident to him that he was not physically

strong enough to make a successful farmer of himself, and he concluded to enter upon a mercantile career as soon as an opportunity should present itself. He came to Schenectady January 1, 1835. He first found employment for several years in a hotel, and later he kept the Givens House four years. In 1849 he formed a copartnership with Mr. Marcus N. Millard, which has continued uninterruptedly through a period of more than thirty-six years to the present time, Mr. Crane facetiously remarking that he and Mr. Miller "had yet to have their first quarrel." This business has kept pace with the public progress, and they have ever held a place among the leading merchants of Schenectady. Mr. Crane is an old school Democrat, but is not inclined to take any active part in politics. He was married in 1844 to Cordelia A. Seely, of New York, and resides at No. 24 Church street.

W. E. VAN DEUSEN, 28 and 30 State street, occupies a leading position as a grocer. He also deals in wooden-ware, fruit, etc., and makes flour a specialty.

Messrs. W. E. Walker and James W. Mairs, composing the firm of WALKER & MAIRS, dealers in groceries, seeds, housekeeping goods and farming implements, 118 and 120 State street, occupy the block, 60 x 120 feet, with cellars and lofts.

This firm was founded in 1786 by the grandfathers of the present proprietors. The business has always remained in the family, handed down from father to son, and the history of the firm is part of the city's life. Their trade extends for miles around Schenectady.

JOHN J. HART, grocer, 235 State street, has been in the trade since 1876, when he purchased a busi-

ness then located at 235 State street, which had been established since 1840.

L. N. Reese, of the firm of Reese & Hartley, corner Union and Romeyn streets, is one of the leading grocers, and enjoys the reputation of a fair and honest dealer.

Charles N. Smith, grocer, a son of the late Abel Smith, has been in business in Schenectady since March, 1883, in connection with A. Dillenbeck.

Willis T. Hanson & Co., druggists and apothecaries, 195 State street, was established in 1879. The premises are 25 x 100 feet, with the prescription department and private office in the rear. They deal in all the standard medicines, trusses and other surgical appliances, toilet articles, pure wines and liquors, mineral and medicinal waters, cigars, etc.

Their specialty, and which is their manufacture, is "Hanson's Magic Corn Salve," a remedy widely known.

Mr. Willis T. Hanson is the active partner of the concern.

In 1835, Andrew Truax established the pharmacy at 141 State street, which is now conducted by Andrew T. Veeder. Mr. Truax retained his connection with it for forty-eight years In 1864 Mr. Veeder became partner, and in January, 1883, Mr. Truax retired, leaving his former junior partner sole proprietor.

The premises are 30 x 100 feet in dimension, and the stock carried embraces all necessary articles. Dr. Veeder is a descendant of one of our oldest families, is an accomplished pharmacist, and treasurer of the County Medical Society.

ANDREW TRUAX, M.D.

Dr. Andrew Truax was born in Schenectady April 10, 1811, and died there September 26, 1883. About 1830 he became a clerk in the drug store of Richard Fuller (the old Dunlap & Fuller drug store), and while thus employed studied medicine. After his graduation, he located and practiced for a few years on the Hudson River. Returning to Schenectady about 1835, he opened a drug store, which has grown to be the most extensive concern of the kind in the city, and is now under the management of his nephew, Andrew T. Veeder, who became his partner in 1866.

Dr. Truax was successful in business. Ever attentive to all duties, he was economical, but never penurious. His reputation for all those qualities which characterize the honorable, upright man of affairs was well known, and as a citizen his virtues were as conspicuous as his honor. He was a quiet, unassuming gentleman, courteous to all, whether high or low. His words were few, but to the point. No appeal for charity, when the object was deserving, was made to him in vain. Many an aching heart was made glad by his kindly hand, and many a poor soul, whose necessities he relieved, felt, at his death, that a faithful friend was gone. Like his life, his charities were unostentatious, and in this he but obeyed the promptings of his noble heart, which turned from vain display. He never married. Although not a professor of religion, he was a faithful attendant at the First Reformed Church. His friendship was steadfast, and the many who knew him will respect his memory while they live.

Ed. L. Davis, druggist, began business in Schenectady in 1881, and has a flourishing trade.

G. A. F. Steinfueher has sustained a prosperous business in the drug trade for some years, and well merits the extensive patronage he controls.

Furniture and Undertaking. — The present firm of Albert Brown & Son, 154 State street, upholsterers and furniture manufacturers and undertakers, is the outcome of the business established by Albert Brown in 1829 in the Lassell building. In 1830, Mr. Brown bought the cabinet shop of Nicholas Yates, State street, and occupied it until 1833, when he leased the store of Cornelius Groot, subsequently Vedder & Co. Six years later he was burned out, and then leased the Doty Block. In 1857 he moved into the I. I. Truax Block across the way, remaining there until 1872. His son, Clinton C., purchased Fuller's Hotel, corner State and Dock streets, and converted it into the present establishment, to which place Mr. Brown removed October 1, 1872. During the years from 1872 to 1882, the firm was known as Albert Brown, A. & E. Brown, A. Brown & Son, Albert Brown and A. Brown & Son, under which head it still exists. Since the death of Mr. Brown, March 6, 1882, the business has been conducted by Clinton C. Brown. Mr. George Harding has been with the house since February 16, 1843.

The semi-centennial of Mr. Albert Brown's business life, April 10, 1879, was a memorable event in the history of Schenectady.

In 1849, Charles N. Yates learned his trade of Albert Brown, in the same building now occupied by the former. Mr. Yates during the years 1849–50–51 was with his father, Nicholas Yates, at 27 Front street. After several business changes, Mr. Yates purchased his present property, 62, 68, 70 and 72 State street, and engaged in the wholesale and retail furniture and upholstering business, where he has since remained. He also manufactures, from the raw stuff, any custom work ordered. Fifteen males are employed, and their productions reach Saratoga and Montgomery Counties. The undertaking department is in charge of Mr. J. S. Timeson. A son of the proprietor, M. De Forest Yates, is associated with the business.

The establishment of Levi T. Clute, hatter and furrier, 101 State street, was founded in 1839 by his father, William H. Clute, and Levi W. Teller, under the firm name of Clute & Teller. They were then located at 96 State street. Mr. Teller died in 1861, and the business was carried on by Wm. H. Clute until 1867, when Levi T. was added, the firm name becoming W. H. Clute & Son. The firm remained without change until 1871, the year of Mr. Clute's death, since which time Levi T. Clute has conducted the most extensive business

A. Thiers

in the line of hats, caps, furs, robes, trunks and satchels in the county.

JAMES SANDERS, importer and dealer in watches and jewelry, 109 State street, has been established for about forty years. The store is 30 x 90 feet in extent, is richly fitted up, and presents an attractive appearance. Mr. Sanders also deals in clocks, spectacles and eye-glasses. He is also sole agent for the Charles E. Jacot watches.

J. V. VROOMAN has been a dealer in stoves, hardware, tinware, etc., and a plumber, gas and steam-fitter since 1854, the year he established his present business There has been no change in the firm name since the admission of his son, W. C. Vrooman, when the name was changed to J. V. Vrooman & Son.

Their premises at 64 and 66 State street are 28 x 106 feet in extent, and three stories high. The first floor is devoted to general retail purposes. In the mechanical department from fifteen to twenty men are employed in plumbing, gas and steam-fitting, tin 'and sheet metal-working, etc. Buildings are fitted up for steam heating at high or low pressure.

W. J. SWITS, 136 and 138 State street, hardware merchant, is a well known business man of the city. He also deals in house furnishing goods, stoves and agricultural implements, and all kinds of metal work is done to order.

CLARK WITBECK is a wholesale dealer in hardware, cutlery, iron, steel, farming and agricultural implements, at 217 State street. The annual output is large, and his trade extends throughout a large section of country.

The establishment of LEVI W. CASE, coppersmith, gas and-steam fitter, 12 and 14 Warren street, was founded in 1849. The shop is of brick, two stories high and 60 x 50 feet in dimensions. It is equipped with proper machinery, which is driven by a stationary steam engine. From twelve to fifteen skilled workmen are employed. A specialty is fitting up public buildings, factories, dwellings, etc., for heating by steam at high or low pressure. In addition to the manufacturing and jobbing department, Mr. Case also deals in pipe, fittings, cocks, rubber hose, drive-well pipes, drain and sewer pipe, drive-well pumps, steam radiators, etc.

J. W. MCMULLEN, marble and granite dealer, 7 State street, purchased in 1871 his present establishment of Mr. F. Kinney, who founded it in about 1855. The premises are 60 x 150 feet, the front portion being used as a shop and the rear as a yard for storage. Mantels, windows, caps, monumental and other architectural work of all kinds are produced. Mr. McMullen was born and reared in Albany, where he resided until his removal here, about fourteen years ago.

For twenty-one years previous to 1876, J. H. BAME was engaged in the livery business in this city. During that year he retired from that business and became a dealer in carriages, harness, robes, horse clothing, etc., locating in the Bame block, corner of Centre and Liberty streets. He built and owns the block, of which he occupies a part. He also lets money on real estate, and buys and sells horses.

In 1852, Mr. E. L. Freeman came here from Chenango County, and succeeded Mr. Jonathan Crane as a dealer in paints, oils, glass, putty, etc., locating at 18 Wall street. Mr. Crane established the firm about 1840. Shortly after Mr. Freeman purchased the business his two brothers were added, under the style of E. L. Freeman & Co., which continued without change until 1874, when Mr. E. L. Freeman died.

Jonathan R. Freeman and A. T. Freeman then formed the present firm, FREEMAN BROTHERS. Their trade is wholesale and retail, and their stock embraces everything legitimately connected therewith.

JAMES W. DARROW & Co. (Gerardus Smith), coal and wood dealers, office, 110 Centre Street, commenced in 1878. The large yard on Ferry street, near the canal, has good facilities for receiving the coal and shipping it in large quantities; the yard on Centre street is convenient for delivery through the city. Both yards are fully equipped with necessary sheds and screens.

ANDREW MCMULLEN, coal, wood, lime, cement, broom-handles, etc., 92 and 94 Union and 8, 9 and 10 Dock street, has been in business since 1858. The Union street premises have a frontage of 60 feet, extending along the railway 200 feet. An office and two-story warehouse is also there. The office, warehouse and yard on Dock street were opened so as to obtain easy access to the canal.

Mr. McMullen has resided here for 55 years; has served as Alderman and Supervisor; and was for four years Mayor of the city. Associated with him is his son, Henry McMullen.

SIMON H. VEDDER, grandson of Nicholas Vedder, was born in Schenectady July 17, 1839, and in 1872 established at 61 Park place his present business, that of wholesale and retail dealer in coal and wood, and manufacturer of refined cider and pure cider vinegar.

H. ROSA, dealer in coal and wood, 15 Dock street, has been in this business for forty years. The yard, which is in the rear of the office, is accessible to the canal on the front and to a branch track of the railway in the rear. It is fitted up with the necessary appliances.

F. W. RANKINS is a dealer in coal on the dock, and ranks as a popular business man of the city.

In 1868, J. H. DAKIN founded his present business, that of plumber, gas and steam-fitter, jobbing machinist and brass-founder, at 102, 104 and 106 Liberty street. The premises are 125 x 69 feet, upon which is a building 125 x 30 feet containing the warerooms and shop. It is equipped with proper machinery and steam power.

Mr. BENJAMIN VAN VRANKEN is an old resident. From 1853 to 1865 he was engaged as a grocer, building in 1862 the block corner Jay and State streets, which he occupied for three years. He was, in 1870, superintendent of section two, Erie Canal, being that part of the canal running from the lower

Mohawk aqueduct to Amsterdam, a distance of 32 miles. He held the position for two years, and was reappointed in 1874, holding it for four years. Since then Mr. Van Vranken, as contractor and builder, has been busily engaged, erecting, among others, the bridge across the North River from Luzerne, Washington County, N. Y., to Hadley, Saratoga County, N. Y.

The contract for the first foot of sewer ever laid in Schenectady was let to Benjamin Van Vranken, in August, 1884. Work was commenced in October, 1884, for constructing ten miles.

In 1867 he invented the improved "Empire" brick machine, which is yet in universal use.

DUNCAN ROBISON, builder and contractor, has been in business in Schenectady more than thirty years. His grand-parents emigrated from Scotland and landed in New York July 4, 1776, and soon afterward located in Rotterdam and engaged in farming. Many of their descendants are now living in that town.

The history of Schenectady County would be incomplete without mention of one of its most enterprising citizens.

Hon. CHARLES STANFORD was born in Albany County in 1819, and became a resident of this county in 1861. He represented this county in the Assembly of 1864–5, and this district in the Senate, 1866–9. In the Senate he distinguished himself by his connection with canal reforms. He was largely interested in public enterprises in this city, being President of the Schenectady Water Company, Gas Company, and the McQueen Locomotive Works, and was one of the largest real estate owners in the city. He resided in the town of Niskayuna, where he conducted a stock farm, being largely interested in the breeding of horses. He died in August, 1885.

Hon. JOHN W. VEEDER was born in this city in 1825. He was educated at the old Lyceum. He was engaged in transportation and grocery business for a number of years. In 1854 he was appointed Canal Collector, and in 1858 elected County Clerk. The latter office he resigned in 1861, to accept the appointment of postmaster under President Lincoln. He held this position for eight years. From 1874 to 1883 he was employed in the State School Department, under State Superintendent of Schools Neil Gilmour. In 1884 he was elected Member of Assembly.

STEPHEN LUSH, son of Major William Lush, was born in Albany, January 7th, 1818, and early retired from mercantile life to attend to personal affairs. He represented the City of Albany in the Board of Supervisors three terms, and has occupied several positions in the State departments. He married the daughter of John Gansvoort, and resides in Schenectady.

JOSIAH VAN VRANKEN was born in the town of Niskayuna in 1843. He has been a merchant, manufacturer, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and Common Council, and Deputy County Clerk. At present he is Deputy Superintendent of the State Banking Department.

ATWELL & DENNINGTON are the leading real estate and insurance firm of the city. Frank J. Atwell attends to the real estate, and H. W. Dennington to the insurance department of the firm. They enjoy a lucrative business and the entire confidence of the community.

C. L. SCOTT conducts the business of real estate and insurance, and is a manager in the office of the *Evening Star*.

Major A. FREEMAN was born in Galway, N. Y., September 30, 1802, and with Captain Richard Freeman, his father, removed to Schenectady when he was seventeen years old. In 1824 he married Miss Elizabeth Clute. In 1825 he became commander of one of the first passenger packet boats on the Erie Canal. In 1831 he was appointed Brigade Inspector of the Fifty-seventh Regiment Militia, with the rank of Major. He owned and kept several popular hotels. Retiring to Schenectady in 1870, he died in his eightieth year. He left two sons: E. L. B. Freeman, of New York, and Charles Freeman, of Schenectady.

PAUL RAMSAY has been connected with the New York Central Railroad for ten years, and is now its ticket agent at Schenectady.

JAMES B. ALEXANDER is also ticket agent in the same office.

A. M. POWERS, photographer, has resided in Schenectady since 1873. In 1879 he opened a photographic gallery at 225 State street, where he has built up a large and lucrative business.

ISAAC I. YATES, at present a retired gentleman, is a graduate of the Annapolis Naval Academy. He retired from naval service as a Lieutenant in 1883. He served in the European, North Atlantic, South Atlantic, North and South Pacific squadrons, and was one of a few saved at the time of the wreck of the Oneida, January 24, 1870.

Among the leading builders and contractors of the city are Joshua Davis, Centre street, near Veeder's Mill; Benjamin Fraking, 530 State street; Thomas Gunn, 16 Romeyn street; Thomas Killian, 27 Romeyn street; R. W. Lampman, 28 Paige street; John McEncroe, 185 Union street; John McDermott, 66 Romeyn street; John U. Sitterly, Hamilton street, near Paige; P. Van Dyck, 152 Barrett street; A. R. Van Dermoor, 16 Ferry street; F. H. Weston, Hamilton street, corner Lafayette; Alonzo Warner, 24 Park place; J. M. Wendell, Mill lane; and Thomas Harrigan and F. P. Wright.

ROBINE HATHAWAY for a number of years prior to his death was a superintendent on the Erie Canal. He was also a contractor and builder. His son, William, now holds the same position in the canal service formerly occupied by his father.

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF DUANESBURGH.

SITUATION AND BOUNDARIES.

DUANESBURGH is the western town of Schenectady County, and is bounded north by Montgomery County; east by the town of Princetown; south by Albany and Schoharie Counties; and west by Schoharie County.

TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURES AND ITEMS OF INTEREST.

This town has an area of about 42,000 acres, and its population in 1880 was 2,995. Its form is irregular, and its situation elevated from 400 to 500 feet above the level of the Hudson at Albany. Its surface consists of an upland broken by the narrow valleys and gullies of small streams. Schoharie Creek forms a portion of the western boundary, and Norman's Kil flows through the south part, entering the Hudson further down, at a point about two and one half miles below Albany. The Bozen Kil, or Mad Creek, one of the branches of Norman's Kil, is a picturesque stream on which is a fall of seventy feet. Corry's Brook and Chucktennuda Creek also do their part in draining the town.

The hills which border upon these streams are steep and in some places rocky. The soil is a stiff, clayey loam with a slight intermixture of gravel. The products are various, but grass succeeds better than grain, and, as a whole, the town is better adapted to pasturage than to tillage. Formerly the dairy interests were of considerable importance, but during late years the principal crops cultivated have been hay, oats, potatoes, corn, buckwheat and rye. But few of the large or small fruits are grown, the demand for home consumption being only supplied. Maria Pond and Featherstonhaugh Lake are two small sheets of water in the northeast part, about 250 feet above the canal. The former is beautiful, especially during the summer, its circumference being about two miles.

This town contains few important manufacturing interests. The Albany and Susquehanna Railroad extends through the south part, with a station at Quaker street. This village and Duanesburgh are stopping places on the old Schenectady Railroad, the terminal points of which are Schenectady and Quaker Street.

Judge Duane, on his withdrawal from active life, selected a plot of ground ten acres in extent, which he gave to the town. This is known as Centre Square or Lot, and was designed as a commons for the village of Duanesburgh. The situation did not prove favorable for the growth of sucht a settlement, though two churches, a school-house and other buildings mark the locality.

SETTLEMENT.—EARLY PURCHASES.

Large tracts in what is now this town were purchased by different parties between 1736 and 1770. Among the purchasers were Thomas Freeman in 1736; Timothy Bagley in 1737; A. P. and William Crosby in 1738; Walter Butler in 1739; and Jonathan Brewster in 1770. The tract embraced about 60,000 acres, which, with the exception of about 1,000 acres known as Braine's Patent, came into the ownership of Hon. James Duane, either by inheritance from his father or by purchase.

Though, as has been seen, considerable land had been taken up, most of it in bulk, actual settlement practically began about the time of the organization of the town (1765), when Judge Duane contracted with about twenty German families from Pennsylvania to begin a settlement. Sixteen of these families came and located permanently. These lands were rented at the rate of about $15 per annum on each one hundred acres on perpetual leases, payable in gold and silver. The agents of Sir William Johnson excited prejudice against them, and were instrumental for a time in retarding the progress of their settlement and improvement. Long continued disaffection on the part of tenants, intensified by the anti-rent troubles round about, culminated in the spring of 1858 in the formation in Duanesburgh of an Anti-rent Association, the members of which pledged themselves to pay no rents, to resist all attempts to collect them, and to share equally the expense which any of them might incur in contesting at law the rights of landlords in the matter. The settlement of these difficulties forms a part of the general history of the territory treated in this article.

JUDGE JAMES DUANE.

Hon. JAMES DUANE was born in New York City, February 6, 1733. Having acquired the fitting education, he selected the law for his profession, and entered the office of James Alexander, one of the most eminent counsel of our colonial bar, and the father of the American General, Lord Stirling. He was admitted as an attorney in 1754, and was soon intrusted with a large professional business.

October 21, 1759, Mr. Duane married Mary, the eldest daughter of Robert Livingston, then proprietor of Livingston Manor. This alliance tended to give direction to his studies and practice, and caused him to be actively engaged in all of the lawsuits and decisions relative to the boundaries of New York colony with New Hampshire, Masssachusetts, Connecticut and New Jersey. The standing Mr. Duane had acquired in his profession before the revolution, led to his retention in numerous important cases. Among these may be mentioned, as of some local interest, the case of Schermerhorn against the trustees of Schenectady Patent, a long-continued struggle, and his connection as counsel for Trinity Church with the oft-repeated claims of the heirs of Anneke Jans.

But it was as a high-toned patriot in the early period of our revolutionary struggle that Mr. Duane assumed his noblest character, and was among the unappalled actors. He was a member of the first Provincial Congress that met in Philadelphia, September 5, 1774, to enter on daring measures. He was associated with such spirits as Patrick Henry, John Adams, John Jay, Richard Henry Lee, Benjamin Franklin, and others of similar temperament, and sustained his manly share of responsibility. He was again elected to Congress in 1775, and went soon after the battle of Lexington, reaching Philadelphia on the day the session opened, and co-operated with his fellow-delegates in raising an army, appointing Washington commander-in-chief, issuing bills, establishing a post-office, and, in fact, assuming the powers of government. He continued in Congress until May 31, 1776, when he was called home to attend the New York Congress, of which he had been chosen a member from the city of New York in the preceding April. The object was to form a State Government—an object so near and dear to the heart of every patriotic man of New York; and it was neither fear nor inclination that drew Mr. Duane, Robert R. Livingston and John Jay from the general Congress at this time, and prevented them from appearing as signers of the Declaration of Independence, to the preparatory steps of which they had effectually contributed, and to the maintenance of which they all devoted so many years of their lives.

So devoted was Mr. Duane to the cause of liberty, that he did not again set his foot on the soil of his native city, or visit his extensive property there, until he entered it in triumph November 25, 1783, on the evacuation of New York by the British troops and authorities. It is impossible in a sketch like this to recount Mr. Duane's patriotic labors. He was either a member of the General Congress of the Union or the Provincial Congress of New York during almost the whole of the revolutionary period. February 5, 1784, he was elected Mayor of the City of New York, which office he held several years; and in March, 1789, welcomed to that city the first Congress under the present Constitution, and General Washington as President of the Republic which their joint labors in diverse fields had helped to establish. Our general Government under the new Constitution went into operation in the spring of 1789, and in September of that year, without solicitation on his part, Mr. Duane was nominated by President Washington, and appointed by the United States Senate, United States District Judge of the District of New York, and entered upon the duties of his office upon the fourteenth of the following month. For about five years Judge Duane continued to execute the duties of this office, earnestly endeavoring to fulfill the wishes of his great friend, Washington, and with the still higher object of satisfying his enlightened conscience. But forty years of indefatigable labor had so undermined his health as to induce him to resign and retire to his estate in Duanesburgh. Accordingly, on the 10th of March, 1794, he addressed a letter to the President, announcing his wishes, and urging the appointment of a successor by the middle of April. The President replied with a kind letter, and April 8th, so soon as the business of the court permitted, he resigned, and retired finally from a long and honorable public life.

In a few days after this he removed to Schenectady, where he owned some property, and had frequently spent portions of the year with his family. The large buildings which he owned were destroyed by the great fire of 1819. There it was his intention to remain until he could carry into effect his wish to fix his permanent home on his estate in Duanesburgh, where he had already erected a church, and in 1796 commenced building a country seat which he was destined not to live to complete. On the morning of February 1, 1797, at his city residence, just as he was arising from his bed, he was taken with an affection of the heart, and expired almost immediately. Thus passed away one whose name will live while the records exist of the days of the revolution, and the deeds of the patriots, statesmen and soldiers of that memorable period. He was laid to rest in a vault, now closed, underneath Christ's Church, Duanesburgh, and beside him have been placed the remains of his wife, Mary Livingston, and other members of his family.

General William North.—Mary, the eldest daughter of Hon. James Duane, married Gen. William North, a distinguished soldier of the revolution. He was the friend and companion-in-arms of Baron Steuben, and with that patriot rendered most efficient service to his country in the time of her need. With his distinguished father-in-law he enjoyed the confidence and friendship of Washington, and was with him at Yorktown in 1781, when Lord Cornwallis surrendered.

In 1783, on that most memorable occasion in New York City, he bade farewell to Washington and his fellow officers, and shortly thereafter, in the same year, retired to Duanesburgh. This town was then but little better than a wilderness, sparsely settled and infested with wild animals. Here he settled upon a large estate, living in a fine house and enjoying a well-earned leisure.

The General's services to his country remained fresh in the public mind, however, and in 1796 he

was again called into public life and elected to the Assembly of the State, and when that body convened he was selected, from among the many eminent men composing it, to be the Speaker of the House. The succeeding year he was returned to the Assembly, and again made Speaker. In 1809 he had the satisfaction of seeing Schenectady County established. He had been one of the chief promoters of that project, and upon the political organization of the county in 1810, he was the first to represent it in the Assembly, and for the third time was chosen Speaker. His arduous life, however, was beginning to tell upon him, and he remained in retirement thereafter until his death at his home in Duanesburgh. He is buried in the vault of the family church before referred to in these pages, and a mural tablet records his services as a patriot and statesman, and his high integrity as a man.

His son, William North, and one daughter survived him. The former owned and occupied the North homestead until his death. He is buried beside his father. Mary and Hannah North were his only children. Mary married Rev. D. C. Weston, who for some years was the clergyman of the old Duanesburgh Church. She died a few years since, and the only surviving member of the family, of the family name, is her sister, Hannah North, of New York City. The North residence is standing and in good condition, but it long since passed out of the possession of the family.

THE FEATHERSTONHAUGH FAMILY.—Sarah, the second daughter of Judge Duane, was celebrated for her great beauty and her many accomplishments. Her father's prominence and position had given her the acquaintance of many of the distinguished men of the time, and her girlish grace had won for her the friendship of Washington himself. There is now in possession of one of her descendants an original portrait of General Washington, which was presented to her by its illustrious original shortly before his death. She was married in 1808 to George William Featherstonhaugh, an English gentleman who had come to this country in the service of the British Government. After his marriage Mr. Featherstonhaugh removed to Duanesburgh, and in the midst of a large estate upon the banks of Featherstonhaugh Lake, he erected a magnificent mansion. Featherstonhaugh Park, as the place came to be called, in all its appointments resembled an elegant English country residence.

Mr. Featherstonhaugh was of striking personal appearance, and a man of remarkable and diversified attainments. Of high education, he was an accomplished scholar and linguist as well as a fine musician. He enjoyed the friendship and society of many of the most distinguished scholars and scientists of the day, and few Englishmen of culture and note came to America without receiving his hospitality. He was quick to perceive worth and talent in others, and it gave him great satisfaction to afford encouragement to young men. When Thomas Cole, afterward the celebrated landscape painter, was struggling for recognition, he found in Mr. Featherstonhaugh the first substantial appreciation of his talent. Mr. Featherstonhaugh, in his Journal, speaking of Cole, says:

"I have staying with me a young Englishman by birth of the name of Thomas Cole, who has quite a talent for painting. He is now at work finishing a view of the lake and house for me. He shows great talent and I predict for him a brilliant career."

How well that prediction was verified!

That painting is now in the possession of the Featherstonhaugh family at Duanesburgh. Mr. Featherstonhaugh, with his friend, Stephen Van Rensselaer, originated the idea of a railroad between Albany and Schenectady, and it was owing to his indomitable will and perseverance in obtaining and selling stock, enlisting friends and arguing away countless objections, more than to any other cause, that the project was at last realized. He was the author of several works on agriculture, and took an active part in promoting farming interests, by importing blooded stock and organizing a State Agricultural Society, and by getting favorable and salutary laws passed by the Legislature. He was also the author of several books on geology and travel, besides numerous essays on various subjects. He resided in Duanesburgh until about 1828, when, having just returned from foreign travel, he had the misfortune of seeing his magnificent house and all its contents destroyed by fire. His wife dying a few years afterward, he returned to England, and was appointed by the government as consul. to Havre. He resided in his official capacity at that place until his death in 1866. The following is extracted from a French paper:

"He was borne to his grave by six consuls of the English department, preceded by the clergy of the Church of England, All the principal authorities, civic and military, followed, together with the officers of the English vessels in the port. An eloquent eulogy was delivered at the grave, commemorating the eminent qualities and high character which had distinguished the honorable dead."

Mr. Featherstonhaugh was descended from one of the oldest families in England, and one celebrated in story and ballad of olden time. He belonged to many of the literary and scientific societies both of this Country and England, and was an honored Fellow of the Royal Society. By his first marriage two sons survived him. These were George William Featherstonhaugh, now of Milwaukee, Wis., and James Duane Featherstonhaugh, of Duanesburgh. By a second marriage he left three children, all residing in England. Three grandchildren, sons of James D. Featherstonhaugh, are now living in New York State, viz.: Dr. James Duane Featherstonhaugh, of Cohoes; Dr. Thomas Featherstonhaugh, of New York City; and George William Featherstonhaugh, a lawyer of Schenectady, residing in Duanesburgh. A young child of the latter represents the last generation of the family to the present time—a great-grandchild of the founder of the family in America.

The Featherstonhaughs own and occupy the last of the family mansions erected in Duanesburgh.

This, known as the Duane Mansion, was built about 1810 by Catharine Livingston Duane, the younger daughter of Judge Duane, upon an eminence overlooking nearly the whole town of Duanesburgh, and but a short distance from the North mansion. It is large and imposing, a piazza seventy feet in length extending along its entire north side. The roof over the piazza, twenty feet high, is supported by eight massive columns, turned out of huge pine trees. Surrounded by ample grounds and sheltered by beautiful shade trees, this is one of the most charming of country residences. Miss Duane occupied it until 1852, when she died, noted for her charity and benevolence. By will it descended to her nephew, James D. Featherstonhaugh, and is the last property of any consequence in the town remaining in the possession of descendants of Judge Duane.

PROMINENT CITIZENS IN 1838 AND 1858.

The following were prominent citizens of Duanesburgh in 1838, as appears from the town records and other authentic documents; Jacob A. Radley, Thomas Holmes, Jr., David Beverage, Charles O. S. Patterson, Samuel Slawson, John Wiltse, Israel R. Green, Bradford Berckley, Thomas W. Patterson, Silas H. Marsh, John Bentley, Ira Bennett, Alexander McMillan, Amos Chapman, Ebenezer Cady, Joseph Braman, Frederick Shute, Leonard Herrick, James Tullock, Jr., Thomas Holmes, Henry I. Smith, David Lander, A. C. Clogston, John Combs, Nathaniel Wiggins, John Tullock, Alexander Liddle, Alexander Eggleston, William McMillan, William Turnbull, Robert Liddle, Lester Mott, Joseph Eggleston, Thaddeus King, George Ingersoll, Lawrence D. Long, William H. Morey, Jacob Coons, John L. Jones, Jesse Abbey, John Shute, John T. Wright, Matthew H. Rector, Philip Paige, David Koon, Alonzo Macomber, Caleb H. Carpenter, James Ferguson, Samuel Ostrander, Ralph W. McDougall, Henry Ladd, Isaac C. Stevens, Kirby Wilber, Shelden J. Hoag, Jacob White, Nathaniel Jenkins, William D. Cary, John Tullock, George E. Cady, Stephen Badgley, Daniel P. Wing, Abraham Montanye, James Clement, Lyman Hows, George Lasher.

Twenty years later the following list comprised most of the leading men in the town. It will be seen that some of the names appear in the preceding list. Henry Sniffers, Charles Dennison, Henry Pulver, John McCally, Charles A. Patterson, James M. Lasher, Elijah Rockwell, John D. Stillwell, Stephen Fuller, J. J. Green, Thomas Freydendall, Hiram Hausett, George Mason, Joseph Bennett, James Macomber, Amos Chapman, Charles Cady, Lovell Doty, Lysander Markle, Elnathan Abrams, Elijah Ladd, William Marsh, Samuel Wingate, William Turnbull, Silas Tripp, Henry J. Smith, Henry Quick, James Liddle, Daniel Wiggins, Charles L. Tullock, Thomas Liddle, Adam Humphrey, Jonathan Soule, William Waddell, William McMillan, John Combs, James Wilkinson, Peter Cameron, Joseph Eggleston, Lemuel Sisson, G. T. McFarland, Albert Morey, David Hughes, William Koons, Charles Ladd, Henry Jones, John Shutt, Philo Avery, Peter Deyo, Orlando Root, Ira Marsh, M. H. Rector, William S. Gordon, Benjamin Warden, Joel J. Smith, Leonard Gaige, Jonathan Harden, Joseph Moore, Jesse Ketcham, John Ferguson, Elias Gey, Ralph W. McDougall, Charles Davis, Jacob Weaver, Charles Case, James Tullock, Reuben Briggs, David Griffith, Joseph Lason, B. F. Wood, Isaac Quimby, Allen Wilber, Samuel Rulison, Jacob Patterson, Abraham Ball, Alexander Dorn, Anthony De Long, Stephen Badgley, George Badgley, David Underhill.

OTHER EARLY SETTLERS AND MEN OF PROMINENCE.

The DENNISON FAMILY in Duanesburgh dates back to the early settlement of the town. Charles Dennison, the ancestor, was a native of Ireland. He located on the farm now owned and occupied by George L. Dennison, about 1773, and was a soldier in the patriot service during the revolution. He had but one son, Ezekiel, who was born on the homestead, and married a Miss Pulver, living to the advanced age of eighty-four years, and having a family of several children, of whom Charles Dennison, the eldest, was born November 20, 1797. Charles was twice married; first to Maria, daughter of John Thomas, April 10, 1819. She was born November 16, 1793, and died in 1848. His second marriage was to Mary Lockwood, of Princetown. His children by his first marriage were Margaret (deceased), John (living in Iowa), Elizabeth, Charles P. (deceased), Ezekiel (deceased), and George L. and William, both of whom are farmers in Duanesburgh. George L. Dennison was born September 16, 1834, and was married January 9, 1866, to Miss Malinda A. Root, of North Norwich, Oxford County, Canada. Their children are Sherman H. Dennison, born October 3, 1867; John M. Dennison, born September 26, 1868; Sarah M. Dennison, born October 3, 1870; Mary A. Dennison, born August 21, 1872; L. Louise Dennison, born November 20, 1874; Martha E. Dennison, born January 12, 1880; and Margaret A. Dennison, born April 8, 1882.

RALPH MCDOUGALL was a son of Alexander McDougall, a native of the Scotch Highlands, and emigrated to America with his father-in-law, Ralph Wesley, about 1774. He first located upon land now occupied by Duanesburgh Four Corners. His son, Ralph McDougall, was born June 6, 1785, and married Abigail, daughter of Benjamin Armstrong. His father-in-law was a native of Albany County, and at that time a farmer in Duanesburgh. Of the nine children of Ralph and Abigail McDougall, Ann married Joseph Rector and is dead; Hannah died, aged twenty-one; Hugh settled on a farm in Duanesburgh, and died there November 7, 1878; John lives in Walworth County, Wisconsin; Benjamin is a farmer living near Binghamton, N. Y.; Alexander located adjacent to the old homestead, married Abigail, daughter of Alexander Gifford, and has a family of six children: Ralph A., Purson R., Elizabeth, John, Wesley and Hannah; Thomas and Abigail are dead; and Ralph W. occupies the old homestead of two hundred acres about a mile east of the village of Duanesburgh,

and is well known and highly respected by his fellow townsmen. Ralph McDougall died June 1, 1857.

The venerable ROBERT LIDDLE, of Duanesburgh, represents one of the earliest families of the town. His grandfather, a Scotchman, emigrated from the shire of Roxburgh about 1775, and settled on the place now owned and occupied by Robert Kelly, in Princetown. He was a mason by trade and did much work in Albany, going thither through the wilderness to earn money with which to pay for his home. He was born in 1741, and had married and had a family before leaving Scotland. His wife, and his sons, Thomas and Alexander, and his daughter, Margaret, accompanied him. His daughter Elizabeth was born during the voyage. Christie and John, other children, were born after the establishment of the family in this country. Of this generation none are now living. Robert Liddle is the oldest son of Alexander and Mary (Gifford) Liddle and was born January 12, 1803. He has been three times married. His first wife was Sally Smith, daughter of Charles Smith, of Duanesburgh. Her children were Alexander, Mary, Abigail, Ann E., Charles, Thomas, Abram S., and Robert W. For a second wife he married Sarah, daughter of John Robinson, of North Duanesburgh, who bore children named Agnes, McDermott, and Janet. His third wife, now living, was Janet Young, of Duanesburgh. The Liddle family is both numerous and highly respected throughout Schenectady County.

EZEKIEL TRIPP was among the earlier settlers of the town. With his family of four sons and four daughters, he emigrated from Rhode Island to Dutchess County about 1789. There he remained about a year, when he removed to Duanesburgh, and located upon the present homestead of Daniel C. Hoag. This farm, then comprising 110 acres with small improvements, he purchased for $30. His wife was Mary Lawton. Benjamin Tripp was their oldest son. He married Hannah Deuel, and located on the farm of 107½ acres now owned by Darius Tripp, a grandson of the pioneer. They had a family of ten children. Silas Tripp was the seventh in order of birth. He married Martha A. Stevens, and succeeded to the ownership of the home. Of the children of Silas Tripp, Darius and Emily are living on the old Tripp homestead; Jedediah S. is in Wisconsin; Ezekiel, Mariette, Samuel B. and Ursula are deceased; Mercy A. is Mrs. I. G. Quimby, of Duanesburgh; and Seneca is in Minnesota.

WILLIAM LADD was one of the pioneer settlers in the vicinity of Braman's Corners. With his two sons, Thomas and William, Jr., he came from Barrington, Mass., in 1781, and cleared about three acres of heavy forest at the spot now occupied by the farm buildings of Mr. Walthousen, being lot 160 Duane survey, and commonly known as the Old Ladd Homestead. This land was cleared, plowed and planted to wheat without the aid of team, plow or drag. That same year a small log cabin was erected, and late in the fall Mr. Ladd and his sons returned to Barrington, Mass., retracing their tree-marked way to their old home. They came back in the spring of 1782, bringing with them Mrs. Ladd and other children named John, Levi, Sally, Betsey, Susan, Hannah, Polly, Nancy, Elizabeth, and Lemuel. In health, size and muscular strength, this generation of Ladds was a remarkable one. The ancestors of William Ladd were of pure English blood, and he, with two brothers, emigrated from England in 1633, and located at Saybrook, Mass. He was married to Elizabeth Vining, in Abington, Mass., November 4, 1776. John D. Ladd, of Schenectady, is a son of John Ladd, Jr., and Mary Disbrow, his wife. John Ladd, Jr., was a son of John Ladd, son of William Ladd, the pioneer in Duanesburgh. Thus it will be seen that John D. Ladd is of the fourth generation of the family in Schenectady County. He was born in Duanesburgh, October 13, 1827, and until 1862, when he removed to Schenectady, lived continuously in his native town with the exception of about two years, during which he was a salesman in a dry goods store in Burtonville. In 1866 he entered the employ of William McCammus & Co., and has held the position ever since, though the old firm has been succeeded by T. H. Reeves & Co. He married Amanda, daughter of Joseph H. Jones, of Duanesburgh, who was born September 21, 1833, and has three children, as follows: Nettie, born December 11, 1862; Frank, born May 14, 1872; and Justus, born February 11, 1875.

HENRY SHUTE was born in Chatham, Columbia County, N. Y., October 13, 1769. He married Sarah Irish, September 25, 1788, and doubtless located in Duanesburgh that same year, on the farm now owned and occupied by his two grandsons, F. W. and J. H. Shute. He had a family of four sons and four daughters, named Daniel, Henry, Betsey, Ruth, Eunice, Cynthia, John, and Frederick, all of whom are dead. Frederick W., John H., and Luther Shute represent the third generation in the town, and are sons of John Shute who was the seventh son of Henry, and married for his first wife Fannie Norton, who died, leaving three sons and a daughter, named Jensen, Jerome, William, and Sarah A. Of these Jerome only survives, living at Ballston Springs, N. Y. His second wife was Prudence, daughter of Asaph Eddy, of Albany. The latter was born in 1758, and married Sarah Moon, who was born of New England stock in 1763, and whose ancestry in the line of the Moons is traceable back to about 1693. William Shute, Henry Shute's father, served under Lieutenant Washington at the time of Braddock's defeat, and was a daring soldier.

JOHN L. JONES is one of the oldest residents of Duanesburgh, and is a son of one of the early settlers of the town. His father, Lewis Jones, came from Westchester County in 1787, and located near Braman's Corners on the farm Mr. Jones now owns and occupies. He was a revolutionary soldier, and married Eunice Ketcham

while yet a resident of his native county, and had nine children, named Ephraim, Jonathan, Nathaniel, Hannah, William, John L., Benjamin, Polly, Joseph H., and Lewis. John L. Jones was born December 28, 1798, and married Amy Bagley. She died, leaving a daughter named Polly Ann, and he married Catharine Koons, by whom he has eight children, named Julia, John E., Augusta, William, Amy, Lewis, Janet, and De Witt. His farm consists of 175 acres.

WILLIAM TURNBULL was the first of the name in Duanesburgh. He located on the property now in possession of Charles Titball, 100 acres taken on a lease. George Turnbull was a son of this pioneer, and grandfather of John L. Turnbull, the well known merchant and present town clerk. He was a native Scotchman. A professional gardener, he worked in the royal gardens, and was a man of prominence. His ancestry is traceable in a direct line to the Douglasses, a great and powerful Scottish house. He married Jane Kennedy, lived to the close of his life on the homestead, and raised a family of three sons and three daughters. William Turnbull succeeded to the ownership of the homestead. He is remembered as a thrifty farmer and a popular townsman. He never married, and is dead. James, the second son, began life as an employee on the Union College Grounds under President Nott, and by economy and industry was enabled to enter mercantile life. He was a flourishing merchant at Esperance and Burtonville, Montgomery County, and later was a farmer on the George Lasher Place, where he died in 1858. He married Isabel, daughter of Alexander McIntosh, an early Scotch-American settler of Princetown. They had a family of nine children, eight of whom grew up: Jane, now Mrs. James Warner, of Redwing, Minn.; Arseneth, now Mrs. Burr Deuel, of Winona, Minn.; George A. (deceased), who served two years during the Rebellion as captain of Co. A., 134th N. Y. Volunteer Infantry; John L.; Rebecca, who became Mrs. T. Romeyn Herrick; A. G. W., a farmer in Dakota; William J., a partner with John L., who married Alice Jarvis; Isabel, living in Duanesburgh; and Helen, who died at the age of two years. The family has always figured conspicuously in the social and business circles of the town, and, in addition to the other important trusts which have been confided to him, John L. Turnbull has been chosen Supervisor of Duanesburgh.

T. ROMEYN HERRICK represents one of the oldest and most honored families of the town. His grandfather, Judge Jonathan Herrick, was born in Dutchess County, of Welsh and English parentage, in 1760, and located in Duanesburgh in 1792, on the property now occupied by John Holmes. He married Patience Palmer, of Dutchess County, by whom he had two sons (James and Smith) and two daughters (Mary and Amanda). James located on the present George Bender Place, and married Julia, daughter of John Sherburn, and had ten sons and two daughters, of whom T. Romeyn Herrick is the eighth son and the tenth in the order of birth. He lived on the homestead until he was about twenty-five years of age, when he married Rebecca Turnbull. He engaged in business in Albany, and later was for several years in New York City. In 1875 he returned to his native town, where he has since lived, and during the past eight years held the office of Justice of the Peace.

IRA ESTES, merchant at Quaker Street, is a native of Duanesburgh, as was his father. The latter—Benjamin T. Estes—was born on the Lister Farm in 1791. He was a carpenter and a Quaker minister, and was a regular attendant at the Quaker Street meeting for about fifty years. He was a son of Thomas Estes, one of the original settlers of the Duane tract, and doubtless a native of Rhode Island. He married Rebecca, daughter of Enoch Hoag, an early resident of the town and a member of another prominent Quaker family, and they had six children, of whom Ira Estes is the oldest living. He was reared a farmer, has been sixteen years a stock dealer and twelve years a merchant. He has been twice married, and has several children. He is justly rated as one of the leading men of the town.

Hon. ALONZO MACOMBER was born in Chesterfield, Essex County, N. Y., in 1806. He is a mechanic by trade, and as such worked during his earlier years. In 1828 he located on a farm about half a mile southwest of Quaker Street, and there lived until he took up his present residence in 1846. In 1850 he entered upon a mercantile career, in which he continued successfully several years. He has served his fellow-citizens as Member of Assembly one term, as Assistant Internal Revenue Assessor seven years, as Justice of the Peace about twenty-four years, and as Postmaster one year. He retired from active life several years since. He married Eliza, daughter of Nathaniel Wilber (deceased), and has a son, who is a successful druggist, located at No. 42 Hudson avenue, Albany.

MELVILLE MEAD, one of the most enterprising young merchants of Schenectady County, is a son of Daniel and a grandson of Zaccheus Mead, both deceased. The children of Zaccheus Mead were Stephen, Zaccheus, Jr., John, Jehial, Nathaniel, Titus, Mary Jane (who married J. Shelden), and Daniel. The latter was in early life a money lender. Later he engaged in carriage-making at Quaker Street, in company with W. R. McGraw. His son, Arthur, was also for a time connected with this business, which was discontinued in 1881. Daniel Mead was twice married, first to Miss Lucretia Wait, by whom he had one son, Arthur, and afterward to Mary J. Haight, of Dutchess County. Melville Mead was the only issue of the marriage. Mr. Mead died May 6, 1884, aged seventy-five years. His widow survives him. Melville Mead is a practical tinsmith. He began business on his own account several years ago. He occupies the old W. S. Lang stand at Quaker Street and does a general trade, including tinware, silverware, agricultural implements, stoves, furniture and other articles, also doing jobbing in tin gutters and roofing and similar supplies.

Another representative man is CORNELL W. BRONK. Since the year 1797, when Abram Bronk settled on the present farm of A. Bronk, the family have figured more or less conspicuously in the business and social development of the town. He came from Columbia County and was of Holland Dutch parentage. He married Catharine Radley, or Ratcliff, as the name was formerly spelled. Nicholas Bronk was a son of Abram, and married Eunice Wiltsie, and was the father of Cornell W., Margaret, Catharine, Eunice, and Isabel Bronk, of whom the first mentioned is the only one living in the county. Cornell W. Bronk married Elizabeth, a daughter of John Levey, of Princetown, and they have five children: Catharine, now Mrs. John Marclay, of Mariaville, John L., Abram N., William J., and Nancy E. Mr. Bronk has served his town as assessor six years. Abram N. Bronk, of Mariaville, succeeded the firm of Lasher & Son, in partnership with J. A. Bradshaw, in 1879, and in 1881 purchased his partner's interest.

His stock consists of a full line of such goods as are to be found in all important country stores. He obtained his first mercantile experience as a clerk during nine years with Lasher & Son. He married Maria, daughter of Marcus Delamater, of Mariaville, and has two children, named Berdella and Emmett. Another, named Clifton, died in infancy.

G. W. CONOVER has been a resident of Duanesburgh about twenty-five years. He was born in Florida, Montgomery County, March 19, 1812. His father, Marcellus Conover, was a native of the town of Glenn, and was a son of Isaac Conover, who served as an aid-de-camp to General Washington during the revolution. Mr. Conover's ancestors were Holland Dutch and first located in New Jersey. The name as now spelled is an English modification of the old Dutch name of Covenhoven, by which members of the family were known not longer than a generation ago. Isaac Covenhoven and his brother Abraham were bold patriots and daring soldiers during the struggle for American independence, as is attested by passages in Sims' "Border Wars of Schoharie." George W. Conover married Sarah M., daughter of J. P. Rodley, of Florida, Montgomery County, and they have one son, John M. Conover. They live at Scotch Church, where they own a fine farm of 265 acres.

ABRAHAM DEVENBURG is an aged and respected citizen. He was born in Knox, Albany County, November 2, 1807. He was one of the founders and a liberal supporter of the Free Dutch Church of Mariaville. He owns and, in company with his son, John, operates the Devenburg Mills, the only circular saw-mill in the town. His wife was Ann Lloyd. Their son, John Devenburg, was born June 27, 1845, and learned the trade of carriage-making at Port Jackson, N. Y. He carries on the business of carriage-making at Mariaville. July 3, 1866, he married Martha A., daughter of William H. How, of Port Jackson. They have four children, named Ettie L., Ann M., William H., and Satie. Harrison P., another son, died young. Mr. Devenburg is known as an enterprising and progressive business man.

EBENEZER WRIGHT was born in the town of Westerloo, Albany County, January 27, 1800. His father was John Wright, his mother, Susan, daughter of Captain Nehemiah Bassett. His grandfather was Mathew Wright, and his grandmother Esther Lewis, who was born in Chatham, Conn. Some years before the revolution, Mathew Wright and wife, with their sons, Daniel, John, Earl, Mathew, Thomas, and Ebenezer, removed from Sinsbury. Conn., to Sharon, Schoharie County. He, with Daniel and Earl, shortly afterward removed to Otsego County, N. Y. He lived to be 103 years old and his wife 90 years. Thomas enlisted in the patriot army in the war of the revolution; was taken prisoner and confined in a British ship in Boston harbor, where he died from starvation with a chip in his mouth, with which he was vainly trying to satisfy the cravings of hunger. John Wright, the father of Ebenezer, was in both the revolutionary war and war of 1812. After his marriage he moved to Albany County and afterward to Schenectady County. His children were Thomas, John Y., Justus, Nehemiah, Samuel, Anna, Fanny, Ebenezer, and Jane. Ebenezer married Susan, daughter of Olive Briggs, and settled in Quaker Street. He learned the carpenter's trade. As a workman, "Boss Wright," as he was called, had no superior in the town. There still remain many specimens of his work in buildings and furniture which show the ability of the builder. He was the undertaker for the neighborhood, When he began this business the Friends, or Quakers, who composed the largest part of the inhabitants in that part of the town, demanded Puritanical simplicity, and many of the coffins were of pine-wood, not stained or varnished, without handles or ornaments. The height of extravagance was reached when for pine the native cherry was substituted. Instead of varnish, wax was used in finishing the coffins. He lived to see the time when the plain customs of the ancient Friends were forgotten, when ornamented and expensive caskets, and a hearse to carry them, were in as much demand from their descendants as from the "World's People." He was a man of sterling integrity and positive convictions. He was an earnest supporter of the Abolition party, and with John Sheldon, James Sheldon and Reuben Briggs, acted as agents for the "Underground Railroad," assisting fleeing slaves on their way to Canada and freedom. The next station west was the house of Mr. Griggs, a miller at Schoharie. He was one of the Washingtonian temperance workers, and Quaker Street thirty-five to forty years ago was noted for the intelligence, temperate life and industry of its inhabitants. Upon the organization of the Republican party he became identified with it, and was honored by his townsmen with several positions of trust. A champion of the unfortunate the poor, and the oppressed, he was sometimes called fanatical, but even his greatest opponents unite in pronouncing him honest and sincere.

Doctor P. A. BRUMAGIN, who for about thirty-six years has been a successful practicing physician at Mariaville, was born in Root, Montgomery County, February 4, 1816, of which town his parents, John and Elizabeth (Carr) Brumagin, were natives and life-long residents. He attended school in Root and received a higher education at the Ames Academy. He studied medicine with Dr. Thompson Burton, of Charlestown, attended lectures at Albany Medical College three successive terms, and graduated in the class of 1844. He at once began practice at Currytown, Montgomery County, and in 1848 located in Mariaville. He married Mary, daughter of Albert and Susan McMaster, of Root, Montgomery County, and has two children, Patience, now the wife of Peter Turnbull, of Albany, and Charles, a resident of Florida, Montgomery County.

Doctor P. I. DODGE, of Duanesburgh, is a native of Palmyra, Jefferson County, Wisconsin. He was born April 13, 1857, and is a son of Rev. C. F. and Catharine (Darling) Dodge of that place. He attended the public schools of Palmyra and took an academic course at Big Rapids, Michigan. Later he was a student at the Indiana Northern Normal School. He studied medicine at the Bennett Medical College, graduating in 1880. After attending the Eclectic Medical College of New York in 1883 and 1884, he entered upon his practice at Mariaville under auspicious circumstances.

JAMES MCMILLEN, deceased, was the progenitor of a numerous family in this section of New York. He was born in Scotland in 1785, and in 1792 emigrated to America with his parents, locating in New Scotland, Albany County. Marrying Sarah Jane, he located on the present James Cullings Place in Duanesburgh. They had six sons and two daughters named as follows: John, James, Isaac, Alexander, William, Samuel, Mary, and Sarah. William succeeded to the ownership of the old homestead. He married Leah, daughter of William and Margaret (Walker) Allen. Their children were: James L., Margaret I. (now Mrs. James Cullings), Samuel, who lives in Livingston County, Michigan; and William (deceased). Hugh McMillen, a prominent farmer of Duanesburgh, is the only one living of the three children of Isaac McMillen, son of William.

DAVID W. WALPOLE is the youngest son of Richard Walpole, deceased. Richard Walpole emigrated from Ireland, where he was born, to America about 1836, and located as a farmer in Princetown. Removing to Duanesburgh he erected the Walpole Mill in 1844, and managed it until 1873, when he removed to Oswego County, where he died, aged 79 years, in 1881. He was an active business man, and as a citizen held high in the public esteem, as is attested by the fact that he was elected Justice of the Peace, serving thirteen years in succession. His wife was Margaret, daughter of Thomas King, who bore him eight children. In 1873, David W. Walpole purchased the mill property, which he has since greatly improved by the introduction of broom-handle machinery and a cider-mill and otherwise, doing a good business in the different branches. He married Julia, daughter of William B. and Martha (Barrows) Dorn, of Duanesburgh, and has three children, Mary Belle, Martha J., and Mansfield B.

WILLIAM J. GARDENIER, the present merchant at Braman's Corners, is a grandson of William S. Gardenier, who located in Duanesburgh on William J. Gardenier's farm about 1830, coming from Columbia County, where he was born. Samuel W. Gardenier was one of the ablest of his family of three sons and six daughters. He married Mary M., daughter of John Clayton, of Charlestown, Montgomery County. Their children were: William J., born July 18, 1847, and John A., born March 31, 1854, now living on the homestead. William J. Gardenier made farming his principal business until the spring of 1884, when he opened his store. He carries a well assorted general stock, and aims to do a cash business at the lowest possible prices. He married Miss Ellen Nethaway, of Duanesburgh, but formerly of Schoharie County, and they have five children, named Judson, Wilmer, Arthur, Mary E., and Martha.

BENJAMIN WILTSIE, of Mariaville, was born on the farm in Duanesburgh now owned by William and John De Graff, in 1824. His father was John B. Wiltsie and his grandfather Cornelius Wiltsie, who came from Dutchess County as one of the early settlers of the town. The pioneer had a family of four sons and three daughters, of whom John B. was the third, born May 26, 1803. The latter married Maria, daughter of Abraham and Rebecca (Van Vechten) Dorn, in 1823. Benjamin Wiltsie located at Mariaville in 1853. In 1856 he took possession of the Wiltsie House, which he has since conducted. He married Jane S., daughter of Hiram Hansit, who was for many years postmaster of Mariaville, and has four children: Emma H. (now Mrs. A. J. Bradshaw), John B., Emmet H., and Ann M.

BENJAMIN GAIGE was one of nine brothers, all of whom settled in Albany and Schenectady Counties within a circuit of ten miles. Their parents, Joseph and Mary Mortimer Gaige, came from England. Benjamin Gaige came in 1791 from Quaker Hill, Dutchess County, to the property now of Asa M. Gaige, a great-grandson. He brought with him a family of six children. Of these, Phebe married Henderson Smith and removed to Western New York; Ebenezer and Mortimer removed to Silver Lake, Susquehanna County; Abram removed to Pennsylvania and thence to Otsego County, where he died; Miriam married Abram Coon and removed with him to Broome County, where both died; and Jane became the wife of Isaac Stevens and lived at Quaker Street and later at Kirkwood, N. Y., where she died. Five other children were born in Duanesburgh. Of these, Asa B settled on the homestead, where he died May 2, 1869; Benjamin removed to Pennsylvania and thence to Michigan, where he died; Philip is living at an advanced age at Quaker Street; Mary married and located in Root, Montgomery County; and Lydia married John Lake and

removed to Orleans County, where she ended her days. Isaac B. Gaige was twice married, first to Joanna, daughter of Joseph and Apphia (Mosher) Lason, of Columbia County, who died August 27, 1833, and secondly to Margaret, daughter of Abram and Helen (Ball) Sternberg. By the first marriage were born children named Walter, Ebenezer, Joseph L., and Phebe; by the second marriage children named Lucy B. and Helen M. The latter married Joseph Wright, of Brooklyn, N. Y. Joseph L. Gaige, the third son of Isaac B. Gaige, married Eliza J., daughter of Asa and Mary (Birdsall) Marshall, of Westchester County. He died in 1870, leaving two sons, Asa M. and Isaac B., both living in Duanesburgh. Asa M. married Fanny G., daughter of Nathaniel and Sarah J. (Forge) Estes, of Utica, N. Y., and they have a daughter named Jennie, born July 1, 1884.

Elnathan Abrams settled about one mile east of Braman's Corners about 1839. He was born in Florida, N. Y., and married Anna, daughter of Solomon Strong, one of the pioneers of that town. They had three sons: Solomon, John K., and J. Danforth Abrams. Solomon Abrams was born near Swan's Corners, Florida, N. Y., February 10, 1824; marrried Charlotte, daughter of John Victory, of Duanesburgh; and has been a resident of Schenectady about thirty years. John K., a school teacher, lives at Little Falls, N. Y. J. Danforth enlisted and served in the United States Army in the late war, and died, in service, of fever, November 12, 1864. He married Susan, daughter of Elijah Ladd, who survives him, living near Braman's Corners. They had two sons, one of whom is Dr. A. E. Abrams, of Hartford, Conn., and the other, Elijah D., is a machinist in the Ellis Locomotive Works, Schenectady. Anthony Abrams, great-grandfather of the present generation of Abramses, was a native-born German, who emigrated to America when a young man and married a Miss Mickle. They had a son named Andrew, who was drowned at about the age of twenty-one years; another named John, who was the grandfather of Solomon and the father of Elnathan Abrams; and a daughter who died unmarried. The former orthography of the name was Abrahams.

Rev. David Cook Davis is a son of David Davis, of New Hampshire, and was born in Stratford, that State, September 10, 1815. His mother was Mary Cook. He attended the Wolfsbury Academy, N. H., until the death of his mother, when he was obliged to abandon school for a time. In 1842 he began to study for the ministry at Boston, and in 1845 began preaching the Gospel at Dedham, Mass., and continued the work at other places in New Hampshire and New York. From 1851 to 1874 he was engaged in secular business in New York City. At the latter date he was called to the pastorate of the Church of the Redeemer (Universalist) at Braman's Corners, where he remained several years. He married Euphemia, daughter of John and Isabella (Russell) Murray, June 14, 1835. The fruits of this union have been David M. Davis, of Trenton, N. J.; Alexander M. Davis, of Boston, Mass.; Mary E. (Mrs. George Turnbull); Isabella R. (deceased); Jessie (Mrs. Dr. A. E. Abrams, of Hartford, Conn.); and Eliza H. (Mrs. G. N. Banker, of Duanesburgh). Mr. Davis has for some years lived the quiet and honored life of a retired clergyman.

Rev. David B. Hall, of Duanesburgh, was born March 16, 1812, at Middle Granville, Washington County, N. Y. He spent two years in study at Burr Seminary at Manchester, Vt., and four years at Union College, Schenectady, where he graduated in 1839. He studied theology at Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, N. J., and was ordained to preach the Gospel by the Association of Pawlet, Vt. He has labored with success in several churches in connection with the Reformed Dutch Church of America, among them the Reformed Dutch Church of Princetown, Schenectady County, of which he was pastor several years. He was many years compiling an elaborate genealogy of the Hall family of New England, which has resulted in a creditable work of 800 large octavo pages, and containing many valuable portraits. He was married April 14, 1856, to Jane Eliza, daughter of Mulford and Rosanna (Hitchcock) Dayton, of Middle Granville, N. Y. His children, born in Princetown, are Mary Jane, born August 31, 1857; Sarah E. D., born October 11, 1862; and Hattie E. M., born April 15, 1868.

Samuel Brown, an old and respected citizen of the town, was born in Saratoga County in 1807. His parents were Daniel and Louisa (Palmer) Brown, his father a native of Saratoga County, and his mother of Stockbridge, Mass. Samuel was the second of a family of five children. He married Jane, daughter of William Rose, of Saratoga County, and has one son, named Samuel, living at home. He owns a farm of sixty-five acres, purchased of William I. McIntosh.

William Chadwick is a representative farmer. He was born in Rensselaerville, Albany County, a son of John Chadwick and a grandson of Aaron Chadwick, who was originally from Cape Cod, Mass., where his ancestors located as emigrants from England in the days of the old Cape Cod Colony. Locating for a time in Dutchess County, Aaron Chadwick removed to Otsego County, and soon afterward to Albany County. John Chadwick, his youngest child, married Ann, daughter of Caleb Spencer, of Westerloo, and had five sons: Henry (deceased); Aaron; William, who married Martha, daughter of Joel Moore, of Duanesbugh; E. Spencer, a merchant at St. Paul, Nebraska, where he was a pioneer; and Thomas R., a farmer near Rensselaerville, Albany County.

John O. Becker has been a resident of Duanesburgh since 1862. He was born in Sharon, Schoharie County, June 20, 1824, a son of David and Elizabeth (Bellinger) Becker, both natives of the town of Middlebury, N. Y., he of the second generation from Holland and she of German ancestry, their parents having been among the first settlers of Middlebury, where they lived in the wilder-

ness during the most perilous period of the revolution, subjected to the many hardships of those times which tried men's souls. John O. Becker left home at about the age of fourteen, alone and penniless. He found employment for a time on public works at Fort Plain, and, accumulating some means, purchased property in Florida, Montgomery County, where he lived until his removal to Duanesburgh. In 1843 he married Margaret Cooley. She died in 1844, leaving a son, David. In 1847 Mr. Becker married Sophia Casey, now deceased. David Becker married Miss Melissa Levey, of Mariaville, and has a son and a daughter.

Luly Patterson, the founder of Pattersonville, was born in Duanesburgh, in 1812, and died February 19, 1881. He married Adeline Montgomery and she bore him five children, as follows: Alexander, a resident of Amsterdam, N. Y.; William H. Patterson, of Pattersonville; Lina (Mrs. S. L. Marlett); Clara (deceased); and Frances (wife of J. W. Olney, who is connected with the West Shore Railway). He located at the little hamlet which now bears his name, in 1856, and bought the John T. Hoffman property. A man of energy and enterprise, he was instrumental in establishing a post-office at that point, and he soon erected a store, hotel and several dwellings, and opened quite an extensive trade. He was Supervisor of the town, and took an active interest in all public affairs. His son, William H. Patterson, began trade in 1884, his building and stock are new and fresh, and he is a prominent business man. He married Gertrude Wiley, who died, leaving two children named Harriet and Seely. Bina Bradford was his second wife, and died without issue. His present wife was Gertrude O. Dickerman, by whom he has a son, Freeman M.

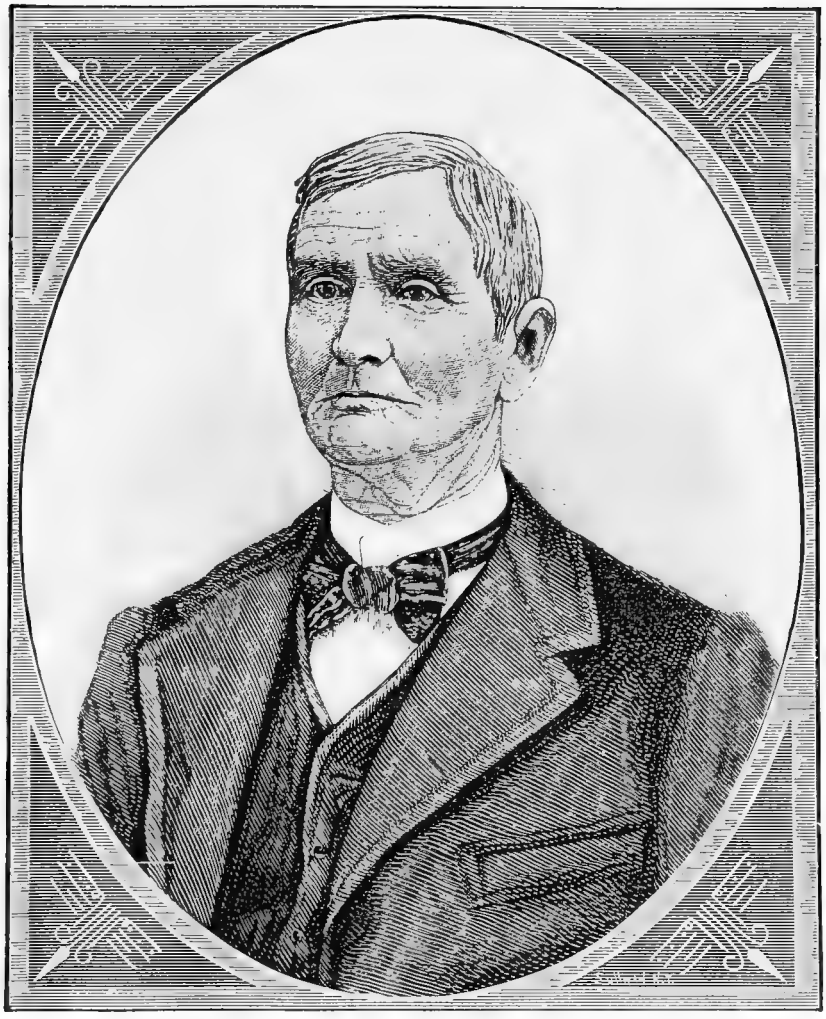
Joseph Green, of Green's Corners, represents one of the old families of the town, Robert Green and John Manning, his brother-in-law, having located at the Corners about 1780. They came from Dutchess County. Sarah Manning was Robert Green's wife. She bore him six sons, five of whom lived to advanced age. John M. Green was their second son, born August 11, 1792, on the homestead at Green's Corners. He married Mary, daughter of Philip Radley, an early settler in Montgomery County, and located on a farm adjoining the homestead and there lived until December 16, 1883, when he died. He had two children, Susannah (deceased) and Joseph, who owns both his father's and grandfather's homesteads, aggregating 235 acres. He married Janet, daughter of William Lendrum, of Duanesburgh, and they have one son, John.

James Frost, Sr., was born in Easton, Washington County, N. Y., in 1783, and when a boy came with his father's family to Duanesburgh. His father, Lot Frost, came to the town soon enough to be placed in the catalogue of the earlier settlers. The boy, taking naturally to books and scientific knowledge, educated himself, and for a time was a schoolmaster. In the meantime he had become an expert surveyor, and, in connection with the able surveyor Zoller, he made numerous important surveys. He was the engineer of the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad; made many valuable and extensive surveys in Albany, Schenectady, Schoharie, Franklin and Montgomery Counties, N. Y.; and laid out the City of Elizabeth, N. J. He married Mary, daughter of Major Marsh, and had five sons and five daughters, three of whom are now living: General D. M. Frost, of St. Louis, who served the Confederate cause during the rebellion; Mrs. Daniel Yost, of Fort Plain; and Miss M. Louisa Frost, of Mariaville.

The late Doctor Joseph Braman came from Tolland County, Conn., to Esperance in 1811, and from Esperance in 1814 to Duanesburgh. He was a son of Joseph and Anna (Jenks) Braman, the former of whom was born in 1760 and the latter in 1764. Their children were born in the following order: Bartimeus, 1786; Isaac, 1788; Fanny, 1790; Joseph, 1792; Betsey, 1795; Sophia, 1797; Orsamus, 1799; Ephraim, 1801; John J., 1803; Aurora, 1806; and Orrin, 1808. Dr. Joseph Braman came of age in 1813, at which time he was made a Mason. He taught school and read medicine, and for many years was a leading physician and citizen. He died March 24, 1885. He was twice married, first to Rachel Shute, and second to Catharine Stewart. Their children were born as follows: Catharine, 1816; Elvira, 1818; Emma, 1822; Mariette, 1825; Delos, 1829; and Harriet, 1833. Doctor Delos Braman graduated from the Albany Medical College in 1852. He practiced his profession three years with his father, in Duanesburgh, and twenty years in the West, when he returned to Duanesburgh, In 1859 he married Miss Agnes Tanner, of Wisconsin. They have two children, named Anna and Joseph.

COLONEL JOHN D. WOOD.

This well known gentleman, who has been a life-long resident of Duanesburgh, is a son of Doctor John Wood, who was an early and highly esteemed physician and surgeon in this section. Doctor Wood was the oldest son of Benjamin Wood, once a farmer in Wright, Schoharie County, who settled there in 1789, married a Miss Tygert, and had nine sons and three daughters. He studied medicine with Doctor Williams, in Knox, Albany County, and came to Duanesburgh about 1808, locating on the turnpike near the present residence of I. R. T. Wood, and beginning the practice of his profession in partnership with Doctor Peter Delamater. This association was dissolved a year or two later, Doctor Wood continuing his practice alone and enjoying an extensive patronage for about forty years. He married Martha, daughter of Robert Dennison, of Knox, Albany County, who was a native of Mystic, Conn. She bore him eleven children. Of these, Eunice died April 1, 1831; Datus died February 12, 1817; E. Darwin died April 23, 1840; Edwin died August 24, 1843; Robert died January 28, 1846; Benjamin F., a merchant at Duanesburgh Corners,



John D. Wood

Jacob J. De Forest

near the old homestead, and at Esperance, N. Y., died May 11, 1882, aged seventy-one years; Ada L. is Mrs. Brice Jarvis, of Duanesbergh; Angeline L. is Mrs. William E. Knight, of Binghamton, N. Y.; another daughter is Mrs. Henry Sherburne, of Esperance, N. Y.; Isaac R. T., who lives on the old homestead, married Clarissa M. Shoudy, of Guilderland, and has a son named Edwin; and John D. is a farmer, whose possessions adjoin the old homestead. The latter, whose name heads this sketch and whose portrait appears in this work, was Colonel of the 188th Regiment New York State Militia, succeeding Colonel Allen, and was formerly one of the best known and most popular of the old time military officers. His regiment was disbanded in 1835. Advanced in years, he lives a quiet and retired life. His friends are many and his friendships have been accounted hearty and helpful. His interest in the welfare and prosperity of the town has been earnest and unflagging, and all measures promising the enhancement of the public weal have ever received his willing and substantial support. The Wood estate comprises 240 acres.

COLONEL JACOB J. DE FOREST.

The De Forest family, who were of Huguenot descent, came to America about the year 1620 and located on Long Island. There were three brothers, one of whom went to New England, one to Western New York, and one located in Greenbush, opposite Albany. From the latter branch Mr. Jacob J. De Forest, of Duanesburgh, is descended. His grandfather, Jacob De Forest, came from Greenbush to Duanesburgh about 1780, and moved to Schenectady late in life and died there. His sons were named Jacob, Obediah L., Martin, John, and James. Jacob, the eldest, born October 23, 1797, married Anna Schermerhorn, born August 14, 1799. They had twelve children, of whom Jacob J. De Forest was the first born, October 10, 1820. Mr. De Forest died June 19, 1882, and his wife April 27, 1851. Jacob J. De Forest was born at the old Schuylenberg mansion, the birth-place of his mother and for two hundred years the homestead of his grandfather's family, about a mile south of Schenectady. He was educated at the Schenectady Lyceum, under the

tutelage of Rev. Dr. Huntington. He taught a winter term of school in Rotterdam, and afterward apprenticed himself to learn the carpenter trade with James A. Van Vorst, then a prominent carpenter and builder of Schenectady. His apprenticeship concluded in 1844, and in 1845 he removed to Albany and engaged in contracting and building on his own account, continuing successfully till 1851, in the meantime erecting many large buildings and business blocks. In 1851 he formed a copartnership with R. J. Patten and Benjamin Myers, under the firm name of De Forest, Patten & Co., and leased the Kenwood saw-mills and opened a lumber yard at the corner of Columbia and Quay streets, at the extreme southern point of the old lumber district. The firm did a large business until the expiration of the term of their copartnership in 1858, when Mr. De Forest retired from active business.

Mr. De Forest had long had a liking for military life. December 28, 1855, he was commissioned Engineer of the Twenty-fifth Regiment of the Eleventh Brigade, Third Division of the Militia of the State of New York. July 1, 1856, he was promoted to be the Engineer of the Eleventh Brigade. June 9, 1858, he was commissioned Inspector of the Eleventh Brigade, which position he held until the outbreak of the rebellion. In April, 1861, he was placed in charge of the old Adams House recruiting rendezvous in Albany, and served there until the following August, during which time the first thirty volunteer regiments of the State were recruited and organized. During the month last mentioned he was ordered to repair to Oswego, and there organize a regiment which was designated as the Eighty-first Regiment New York Volunteers, and of which he was elected colonel by unanimous vote; but, in deference to Colonel Edwin Rose, of Long Island, he withdrew in the latter's favor. February 19, 1862, he was commissioned lieutenant-colonel of the regiment with rank from December 20th preceding, when the regiment was mustered into the United States service. July 19, 1862, he was promoted to the colonelcy of the regiment, with rank from July 7th.

The regiment formed a part of the Fourth Corps of the Army of the Peninsular, under command of General Keyes, and participated in all of the service incident to McClellan's Peninsular Campaign. At the battle of Fair Oaks, May 31, 1862, Lieutenant-Colonel De Forest, at the time temporarily in command of the regiment, was shot through the left lung. He was sent to the Douglas Hospital at Washington, and when he became convalescent was granted a furlough to return home. He recovered his health in a measure and rejoined his comrades September 1, 1862. On the 5th day of that month he was mustered as colonel of his regiment under authority of his commission previously issued as above mentioned. About January 1, 1863, the command to which the Eighty-first Regiment was attached was ordered into North Carolina and took part in the active service which followed in that section. Thence the command was sent to Beaufort, South Carolina, and attached to the command of General Hunter. March 30th a reorganization of the forces was effected, preparatory to the siege of Charleston, under which Colonel De Forest was placed in command of the Second Brigade of Heckman's Division, Eighteenth Army Corps. After the conclusion of that unsuccessful attempt against the Confederate stronghold, the Union forces gathered in the vicinity were ordered to Morehead City, N. C., where the Eighty-first Regiment and other troops did garrison duty until late in the fall. During this interim, Colonel De Forest was placed in command of the sub-district of Beaufort. The forces there were sent to Fortress Monroe, and the Eighty-first Regiment and a company of cavalry were ordered by General Benj. F. Butler to Northwest Landing, Va., where they were engaged in a desultory warfare with guerillas until April 1, 1864, when the regiment returned home on veteran furlough, having re-enlisted for three years, at the expiration of which it joined Grant's army and participated in all of the campaigns, from the battle of Cold Harbor (June 1st, 2d and 3d) until the close of the war. In the memorable and bloody engagement just mentioned, the Eighty-first Regiment was literally cut up, no less than seven out of nine of the company commanders falling in the fight, and Colonel De Forest having several hairbreadth escapes. On account of disability, arising from his old wound, the Colonel was sent to Point of Rocks Hospital, near Petersburgh, Va., and thence to the Annapolis (Md.) Hospital, where he remained until he was mustered out of service on the 1st of September, 1864, the lieutenant-colonel commanding the regiment until the close of the war.

Since the rebellion, Colonel De Forest has lived a quiet life on his farm in Duanesburgh, broken only by service at times in the census bureau, taking a deep, but not active, interest in politics, and doing his share in developing the resources of his town. He has been three times married, and has seven children living. He has always been interested in educational questions and has done much to advance the standard of the schools of Duanesburgh and elsewhere. At one time, in association with the late Hon. Horace Greeley and others, he was a trustee of the People's College, at Ovid, N. Y.

CIVIL HISTORY.

Duanesburgh, named in honor of James Duane, its principal proprietor, was erected as a township by patent, March 13, 1765. It was first joined with Schoharie under the title of the United District of Duanesburgh and Schoharie. It was made a separate district March 24, 1772, and recognized as a town March 22, 1788.

It is to be regretted that the loss of the town records by fire, about 1830, prevents the introduction of many interesting extracts from the early books. The first record of an annual town meeting extant is that of the year 1832; but we are enabled to present the names of all the Supervisors since the organization of the Board of Supervisors of the county of Schenectady.

SUPERVISORS FROM 1809 TO 1831.—1809, William North; 1810, John Young; 1811, John

Brown; 1812, John Brown; 1813, James Cantley; 1814, James Cantley; 1815, James Cantley; 1816, James Cantley; 1817, James Cantley; 1818, James Cantley; 1819, Lewis Eaton; 1820, James Cantley; 1821, James Cantley; 1822, James Cantley; 1823, Joseph Gaige; 1824, William A. S. North; 1825, William A. S. North; 1826, Benjamin S. Knight; 1827, Benjamin S. Knight; 1828, Ebenezer Kniblae; 1829, Joseph Gaige; 1830, Joseph Gaige; 1831, Joseph Gaige.

CIVIL LIST.

Following is a civil list for the town of Duanesburgh from 1832 to 1885 inclusive:

1832.—Joseph Gaige, Supervisor; Thomas Knight, Town Clerk; John Herrick, Jonathan Jones, James Gale, Assessors; Job Cleveland, John Herrick, Justices of the Peace; John Victory, Henry Slawson, Abram Durfee, Commissioners of Highways; John Wood, Abram Durfee, Overseers of the Poor; John B. Duane, David Wing, James Stewart, Commissioners of Common Schools; Jacob Patterson, Thomas Knight, Joseph Braman, Inspectors of Common Schools; Matthew Putnam, Collector; William B. Abell, Matthew Putnam, Joel J. Smith, Constables.

1833.—David Wing, Supervisor; Job Cleveland, Justice of the Peace; Thomas Knight, Town Clerk; Jonathan Jones, Ebenezer Frisbee, Abram Durfee, Assessors; John Victory, Henry Slawson, Abram Durfee, Commissioners of Highways; John Wood, Abram Durfee, Overseers of the Poor; Matthew Putnam, Collector; Joseph Braman, Benjamin F. Wood, Jacob Patterson, Commissioners of Common Schools; Ichabod W. Briggs, Thomas Knight, Nathaniel J. Herrick, Inspectors of Schools; Matthew Putnam, William B. Abell, Joseph Rider, Constables.

1834.—Thomas Knight, Supervisor; John Titus, Justice of the Peace; Benjamin F. Wood, Town Clerk; Ebenezer Foster, Jonathan Jones, Perry T. Briggs, Assessors; Henry Wiltse, Collector; John Victory, Henry Slawson, Abram Durfee, Commissioners of Highways; John Wood, Roderick Frisbee, Overseers of the Poor; Joseph Braman, John Wood, Jacob Patterson, Commissioners of Common Schools; John Banks, M. R. Case, Ichabod W. Briggs, Inspectors of Common Schools; Nathaniel J. Herrick, Matthew Putnam, Oliver D. Briggs, Constables.

1835.—Thomas Knight, Supervisor; John F. Vedder, Justice of the Peace; Benjamin F. Wood, Town Clerk; Ebenezer Foster, Jonathan Jones, Kirby Wilber, Assessors; Hebron W. Briggs, Collector; Lemuel Ladd, James Herrick, Abram Durfee, Commissioners of Highways; John Wood, Abram Durfee, Overseers of the Poor; Joseph Braman, John Wood, Jacob Patterson, Commissioners of Common Schools; N. J. Errick, Benjamin F. Wood, I. W. Briggs, Commissioners of Common Schools; I. W. Briggs, R. H. Wood, M. R. Case, Constables.

1836.—Thomas Knight, Supervisor; Benjamin F. Wood, Town Clerk; Nathaniel J. Herrick, Ira Avery, John A. Van Pelt, Justices of the Peace; Thomas W. Patterson, James Herrick, Abram Durfee, Commissioners of Highways; John Wood, Abram Durfee, Overseers of the Poor; John Smith, Collector; John Wood, Joseph Braman, Jacob Patterson, Commissioners of Common Schools; Benjamin F. Wood, R. P. U. Wilber, Ichabod W. Briggs, Inspectors of Common Schools; Oliver P. Dorn, Reuben H. Wood, Stephen Griffith, Jr., Hebron W. Briggs, Constables.

1837.—Marvin Strong, Supervisor; John A. Van Pelt, Justice of the Peace; Benjamin F. Wood, Town Clerk; Roderick Frisbee, James Herrick, James Gale, Assessors; Peter Soule, Collector; John Wood, Ira Avery, Overseers of the Poor; John Victory, James Herrick, Perry T. Briggs, Commissioners of Highways; Silas H. Marsh, Jacob Patterson, Thomas Knight, Commissioners of Common Schools; B. F. Wood, J. B. Duane, Peter Carpenter, Inspectors of Common Schools; James I. Harris, Jonathan R. Tiffany, John Murray, Constables.

1838.—Marvin Strong, Supervisor; Benjamin F. Wood, Town Clerk; Matthew H. Rector, Justice of the Peace; Roderick Frisbee, Perry T. Briggs, James Herrick, Assessors; Peter Soule, Collector; John Wood, William A. S. North, Overseers of the Poor; Kirby Wilber, James Herrick, Jacob A. Radley, Commissioners of Highways; Joseph Braman, Jacob Patterson, Thomas Knight, Commissioners of Common Schools; John B. Duane, Benjamin F. Wood, Abram Conklin, Inspectors of Schools; John Murray, Jonathan R. Tiffany, Bradford Bailey, Constables.

1839.—Marvin Strong, Supervisor; Benjamin F. Wood, Town Clerk; James Herrick, Ira Avery, Justices of the Peace; Ebenezer Frisbee, James Herrick, Perry T. Briggs, Assessors; Jonathan R. Tiffany, Collector; John Wood, Abram Durfee, Overseers of the Poor; John Shute, William Conklin, Abram Durfee, Commissioners of Highways; Thomas Knight, Job Cleveland, Wm. A. S. North, Commissioners of Common Schools; Nathaniel Mead, Abram Conklin, Jonathan R. Tiffany, Inspectors of Common Schools; Jonathan R. Tiffany, Peter Simmons, Constables.

1840.—Benjamin F. Wood, Supervisor; Abraham Conklin, Town Clerk; Bradford Baily, Ira Avery, Justices of the Peace; John Herrick, Kirby Wilber, Henry Dutcher, Assessors; James Herrick, Perry T. Briggs, William Conklin, Commissioners of Highways; John Wood, Abram Durfee, Overseers of the Poor; William A. S. North, Thomas Knight, Jacob Patterson, Commissioners of Common Schools; John H. Salisbury, Frederick Delamater, Nathaniel Mead, Inspectors of Common Schools; James Tullock, Collector; Peter Simmons, Thomas Tullock, J. R. Tiffany, Constables.

1841.—Benjamin F. Wood, Supervisor; Marvin Strong, Justice of the Peace; Abraham Conklin, Town Clerk; Perry T. Briggs, George E. Cady, Roderick Frisbee, Assessors; John Smith, Collector; John Wood, Abraham Durfee, Overseers of the Poor; Abram Durfee, John Tullock, William Conklin, Commissioners of Highways; Job Cleveland, Thos. Knight, Joseph Braman, Commissioners of Common Schools; Nathaniel Mead, Frederick Delamater, Thomas N. Beebe, Inspectors of Common Schools; Peter Simmons, V. Tompkins, J. N. Tiffany, Constables.

1842.—Benjamin F. Wood, Supervisor; Job Cleveland, Justice of the Peace; Abraham Conklin, Town Clerk; Perry T. Briggs, Matthew H. Rector, Roderick Frisbee, Assessors; Paris Phillips, Collector; John Wood, Abraham Durfee, Overseers of the Poor; George Conklin, Joseph Eggleston, Benjamin Briggs, Commissioners of Highways; Job Cleveland, Thomas Knight, Joseph Braman, Commissioners of Common Schools; Frederick Delamater, Thomas N. Beebe, Inspectors of Common Schools; Stephen Hyser, George Conklin, V. Tompkins, Constables.

1843.—Perry T. Briggs, Supervisor; Abraham Conklin, Town Clerk; Ira Avery, Justice of the Peace; Truman Case, George E. Cady, Elisha Chapman, Jr., Assessors; Adam Cole, Collector; John Wood, George Lockwood, Overseers of the Poor; Benjamin James, Alonzo Ladd, Abraham Durfee, Commissioners of Highways; Job Cleveland, Thomas Knight, Joseph Braman, Commissioners of Common Schools; Benjamin F. Wood, Thomas N. Beebe, Inspectors of Common Schools; Joseph Braman, Bradford Bailey, James Frost, Truman Case, Matthew H. Rector, Caleb H. Carpenter, Inspectors of Election; George Conklin, V. Tompkins, Benjamin Briggs, J. R. Tiffany, Constables.

1844.—Thomas Knight, Supervisor; Abraham Conklin, Town Clerk; George Conklin, Collector; Bradford Bailey, Justice of the Peace; Benjamin F. Wood, Town Superintendent of Schools; John I. Lawyer, Benjamin Jones, Alonzo Ladd, Commissioners of Highways; John Wood, George Lockwood, Overseers of the Poor; Joseph Braman, Nathaniel J. Herrick, James Frost, John I. Lawyer, Matthew H. Rector, David E. Wing, Inspectors of Election; George Conklin, John Chilson, John S. Ladd, Constables.

1845.—Thomas Knight, Supervisor; John D. Wood, Town Clerk; Marvin Strong, John Robison, Justices of the Peace; Jacob Patterson, Town Superintendent of Schools; Jacob White, Joseph Eggleston, James Lendrum, Assessors; Stephen V. Gaige, Collector; Isaac B. Gaige, James Tullock 2d, Johannes Houghtaling, Commissioners of Highways; John Wood, Israel R. Green, Overseers of the Poor; Bradford Bailey, Israel R. Green, Alonzo Ladd, Daniel T. Hoag, Matthew H. Rector, John S. Van Aernam, Inspectors of

Election; Miles Lester, George Conklin, Reuben T. McIntosh, Constables.

1846.—Thomas Knight, Supervisor; John D. Wood, Town Clerk; Marvin Strong, John Robison, Justices of the Peace; Jacob Patterson, Town Superintendent of Schools; Jacob White, Joseph Eggleston, James Lendrum, Assessors; Stephen V. Gaige, Collector; Isaac B. Gaige, James Tullock 2d, Johannes Houghtaling, Commissioners of Highways; John Wood, Israel R. Green, Overseers of the Poor; Bradford Bailey, Israel R. Green, Alonzo Ladd, Daniel T. Hoag, Matthew H. Rector, John S. Van Aernam, Inspectors of Election; Miles Lester, George Conklin, Reuben T. McIntosh, Constables.

1847.—Abraham Conklin, Supervisor; Matthew H. Rector, Benjamin F. Wood, Justices of the Peace; William E. Knight, Town Clerk; Jacob Patterson, Town Superintendent of Schools; Joseph Bennett, Assessor; Benjamin Jones, Alonzo Ladd, Simon S. Vedder, Commissioners of Highways; Job J. Williams, Collector; John Wood, Joseph Braman, Overseers of the Poor; Charles Mosher, John Smith, Constables; James Kearns, William Ladd, John Smith, Seneca Enders, Paul White, Peter H. Hallenbeck, Inspectors of Election.

1848.—Abraham Conklin, Supervisor; William E. Knight, Town Clerk; Bradford Bailey, Justice of the Peace; William H. Morey, David Griffith, Assessors; James Tullock, Jr., Commissioner of Highways; Charles Frisbee, Town Superintendent of Schools; Joseph Braman, Jacob White, Overseers of the Poor; Nathan J. Cornell, Collector; Charles T. Mosher, Nathan J. Cornell, Constables; Nathaniel J. Herrick, James Lester, Peter Overbaugh, Perry T. Briggs, Seneca Enders, Benjamin Sheldon, Inspectors of Election.

1849.—Abraham Conklin, Supervisor; Job Cleveland, Benjamin F. Wood, Justices of the Peace; William E. Knight, Town Clerk; William H. Morey, Assessor; Alonzo Ladd, Commissioner of Highways; John Wood, Ira Bennett, Overseers of the Poor; John G. Smith, Collector; Charles T. Mosher, Delos Sloan, John Bailey, Constables; Charles L. Tullock, William Ladd, Charles A. Frisbee, Lester Mott, Joseph D. Head, Hiram P. Allen, Inspectors of Election.

1850.—Alexander Liddell, Jr., Supervisor; Alonzo McComber, Justice of the Peace; Alonzo Ladd, Town Clerk; John G. Smith, Collector; William Conklin, Assessor; James R. Crawford, Town Superintendent of Schools; Nathaniel C. Jenkins, John Ladd, Overseers of the Poor; Simon S. Vedder, Commissioner of Highways; James Kearns, William Ladd, Charles Tullock, Miles Lester, Addison Wilber, William Hunt, Inspectors of Election; Griffin Whipple, Nathan J. Cornell, Charles T. Mosher, Delos Sloan, Miles Lester, Constables.

1851.—Alexander Liddell, Jr., Supervisor; Griffin Whipple, Town Clerk; John W. Head, Justice of the Peace; David Griffith, Assessor; James Tullock, Jr., Commissioner of Highways; Nathaniel C. Jenkins, John Ladd Jr., Overseers of the Poor; Asa Hurd, Collector; William Ladd, Thomas Black, Charles S. Tullock, Matthew H. Rector, William Whipple, Lester Mott, Inspectors of Election; Stephen H. Abell, Benjamin Wilber, Griffin Whipple, Delos Sloan, Constables.

1852.—Alonzo Ladd, Supervisor; Griffin Whipple, Town Clerk; Nathaniel J. Herrick, Justice of the Peace; Hugh H. McMillan, Assessor; William B. Dorn, Commissioner of Highways; Alanson Lester, Superintendent of Schools; Asa Hurd, Collector, N. C. Jenkins, John Ladd, Overseers of the Poor; James Lendrum, Charles S. Tullock, James Murray, Simon S. Kidder, William E. Knight, Samuel Wingate, Inspectors of Election; David Hughes, John G. Smith, Griffin Whipple, George P. Cramer, Constables.

1853.—Alonzo Ladd, Supervisor; Orlando Root, Town Clerk; Benjamin F. Wood, Justice of the Peace; William Conklin, Assessor; Perry T. Briggs, Commissioner of Highways; Nathaniel C. Jenkins, John Ladd, Overseers of the Poor; Asa Hurd, Collector; Benjamin Van Deusen, Charles S. Tullock, Charles Cady, William Young, David N. Mericle, George Wright, William M. Gaige, Simon S. Vedder, Edwin G. Wilber, Inspectors of Election; Isaac Ladd, David Hughes, Erwin C. N. Miller, Benjamin Wilber, Constables.

1854.—James Donnan, Supervisor; Bruce Jarvis, Town Clerk; Alonzo Macomber, Justice of the Peace; Silas Tripp, Assessor; Samuel Wingate, Commissoner of Highways; Alanson Lester, Town Superintendent of Schools; Israel R. Green, John D. Wood, Overseers of the Poor; Asa Hurd, Collector; Charles S. Tullock, James Lendrum, Elisha Chapman, Adam Cole, James Love, Stephen Badgley, Peter Overbaugh, Thomas Black, David Griffith, Inspectors of Election; Jacob M. Swart, David Hughes, Orlando Root, Eli Mickle, Constables.

1855.—Alexander Liddell, Jr., Supervisor; J. H. Case, Town Clerk; William B. Dorn, John W. Head, Justices of the Peace; Henry Wilber, Collector; Hugh H. McMillan, Assessor; John D. Wood, John Ladd, Overseers of the Poor; Henry Mickle, Commissioner of Highways; Charles L. Tullock, George W. Lester William Ladd, H. P. Allen, M. R. Victory, David Griffith, James Lendrum, John McDougal, William Young, Inspectors of Election; Jacob M. Swart, Eli Mickle, William Marsh, James I. Harris, Constables.

1856.—Angus McIntosh, Supervisor; Orlando Root, Town Clerk; William B. Dorn, Justice of the Peace; Caleb Frisbee, Assessor; N. C. Jenkins, Commissioner of Highways; John D. Wood, David Griffith, Overseers of the Poor; Asa Hurd, Collector; Alanson Lester, Superintendent of Common Schools; M. R. Victory, William Young, H. P. Allen, C. S. Tullock, Moses C. Avery, John S. Van Aernam, William Wells, Ira Marsh, J. Lester Mott, Inspectors of Election; Eli Mickle, James Volk, Jesse P. Chamberlain, George Westfall, Constables.

1857.—Angus McIntosh, Supervisor; James H. Case, Town Clerk; Benjamin F. Wood, Justice of the Peace; David Griffith, M. R. Victory, Assessors; John D. Wood, Ebenezer Wright, Overseers of the Poor; Joseph M. Lason, Collector; Samuel Wingate, Commissioner of Highways; T. R. Liddle, Lester Mott, Moses C. Avery, M. R. Victory, Charles L. Tullock, Asa Hurd, William Ladd, Ebenezer Wright, Hiram P. Allen, Inspectors of Election; Benjamin Wilber, Eli Mickle, Constables.

1858.—Benjamin T. Wood, Supervisor; Alonzo Macomber, Justice of the Peace; George Allen, Town Clerk; Henry Wright, Asa Hurd, Assessors; William Wells, Commissioner of Highways; Benjamin Wilber, Collector; Ebenezer Wright, Truman Case, Overseers of the Poor; M. R. Victory, M. R. Brumoghim, C. L. Tullock, John S. Markle, William Ladd, Elisha Chapman, H. P. Allen, Hugh H. McMillan, Lewis Hunt, Inspectors of Election; Benjamin Wilber, David M. Limmer, James Volk, Smith Conner, Constables.

1859.—William Young, Supervisor; George Allen, Town Clerk; John W. Head, Justice of the Peace; Asa Hurd, Assessor; Nathaniel C. Jenkins, Commissioner of Highways; Richard Walpole, Ebenezer Wright, Overseers of the Poor; Charles Slawson, Collector; Peter A. Brumoghim, M. R. Victory, Charles L. Tullock, John S. Markle, William Ladd, George Priest, Hiram P. Allen, Hugh H. McMillan, Lester Mott, Inspectors of Election; Henry Tripp, Adam V. Snyder, Benjamin Wilber, John M. Bradt, Isaiah R. Connor, Constables.

1860.—Samuel Wingate, Supervisor; Oliver B. Wood, Town Clerk; Richard Walpole, Justice of the Peace; John McClure, Assessor; Henry G. Herrick, Commissioner of Highways; Abraham Devenberg, Ebenezer Wright, Overseers of the Poor; Benjamin Wiltse, Collector; M. R. Victory, Peter A. Brumoghim, James W. Waddell, William Ladd, John S. Markle, William R. McLean, Hiram P. Allen, Ralph W. McDougall, Lewis W. Hunt, Inspectors of Election; Benjamin Wilber, Henry Tripp, Constables.

1861.—Samuel Wingate, Supervisor; John L. Turnbull, Town Clerk; John S. Van Aernam, Justice of the Peace; Henry Wright, Assessor; James Harvey, Commissioner of Highways; Ebenezer Wright, Overseer of the Poor; Stephen V. Gaige, Collector; M. R. Victory, Peter A. Brumoghim, William B. Dorn, William Ladd, John S. Markle, William R. McLean, Hiram P. Allen, Ralph W. McDougall, Lewis W. Hunt, Inspectors of Election; James A. Love, Benjamin Wilber, Heath Markle, Hiram Munger, Constables.

1862.—Samuel Wingate, Supervisor; John L. Turnbull, Town Clerk; Alonzo Macomber, Justice of the Peace; Asa Hurd, Assessor; David Griffith, Commissioner of Highways; Ebenezer Wright, John Berckley, Overseers of the Poor; David V. Wilber, Collector; M. R. Victory, Peter A. Brumoghim, Bradford Bailey, William Ladd, Stephen Badgley, William R. McLean, Hiram P. Allen, Ralph W. McDougall, Lewis W. Hunt, Inspectors of Election; James A. Love, Benjamin Wilber, Constables.

1863.—Samuel Wingate, Supervisor; John L. Turnbull, Town Clerk; John Liddle, Justice of the Peace; John McClure, Assessor; Hugh H. McMillan, Commissioner of Highways; Ebenezer Wright, John Berckley, Overseers of the Poor; John M. Bradt, Collector; M. R. Victory, Peter A. Brumoghim, William B. Dorn, William Ladd, John S. Markle, Elisha Chapman, Hiram P. Allen, Ralph W. McDougall, Lewis W. Hunt, Inspectors of Election; James A. Love, Benjamin Wilber, Constables.

1864.—Samuel Wingate, Supervisor; John L. Turnbull, Town Clerk; Richard Walpole, Alonzo Ladd, Justices of the Peace; Henry Wright, Assessor; James Harvey, Commissioner of Highways; Ebenezer Wright, Cornwell W. Bronk, Overseers of the Poor; M. R. Victory, Peter A. Brumoghim, Nicholas Smith, Frederick W. Shute, Mott T. Sheldon, Thomas R. McClure, Hiram P. Allen, R. W. McDougall, Philip J. Fredericks, Inspectors of Election; Edward Reynex, Benjamin Wilber, William Marsh, Cornelius L. Smith, John M. Bradt, Constables.

1865.—William Malloch, Supervisor; George Allen, Town Clerk; John S. Van Aerman, Justice of the Peace; John Turnbull, Assessor; Benjamin F. Ruff, Collector; David Griffith, Commissioner of Highways; C. W. Bronk, Ebenezer Wright, Overseers of the Poor; M. R. Victory, P. A. Brumoghim, Charles L. Tullock, F. W. Shute, Mott T. Sheldon, Thomas R. McClure, Jacob Tingue, Hiram P. Allen, Lewis W. Hunt, Inspectors of Election; John Dean, Benjamin Wilber, Edward P. Reynex, Constables.

1866.—William Malloch, Supervisor; George Allen, Town Clerk; Addison Wilber, Justice of the Peace; David Griffith, Assessor; Martin Bradt, Collector; Ebenezer Wright, Cornell W. Bronk, Overseers of the Poor; M. R. Victory, James A. Love, Charles L. Tullock, Frederick W. Shute, Jacob J. Gardner, Thomas R. McClure, Hiram P. Allen, Ralph W. McDougall, Lewis W. Hunt, Inspectors of Election; Benjamin Wilber, Silas Gallup, James A. Love, Edward P. Reynex, Constables

1867.—William Malloch, Supervisor; George Allen, Town Clerk; Alonzo Ladd, Justice of the Peace; Asa Hurd, Assessor; Martin Bradt, Collector; John D. Stillwell, Commissioner of Highways; Ebenezer Wright, Cornell W. Bronk, Overseers of the Poor; M. R. Victory, James A. Love, William Conklin, William Ladd, Mott T. Sheldon, John W. Head, Hiram P. Allen, Ralph W. McDougall, Lewis W. Hunt, Inspectors of Election; Jacob J. Gardner, James A. Tallock, Edward P. Reynex, Benjamin Wilber, Luke Donohoe, Constables.

1868.—William Malloch, Supervisor; George Allen, Town Clerk; Richard Walpole, Justice of the Peace; John Turnbull, Assessor; Richard Hunter, Commissioner of Highways; Daniel W. Bronk, Collector; Jeremiah M. Deys, William Wells, Overseers of the Poor; M. R. Victory, Peter A. Brumoghim, William B. Dorn, Frederick W. Shute, Adam Hunter, John W. Head, Hiram P. Allen, Ralph W. McDougall, Duncan R. Coulter, Inspectors of Election; Benjamin Wilber, Benjamin Rector, Edward P. Reynex, Delas B. Denise, Constables.

1869.—William Malloch, Supervisor; George Allen, Town Clerk; John S. Van Aernam, Justice of the Peace; David Griffith, Assessor; F. W. Shute, Commissioner of Highways; Elias Warner, Collector; Nathaniel C. Jenkins, Cornell W. Bronk, Overseers of the Poor; George Lasher, Peter A. Brumoghim, William P. Dorn, John Blanchard, Adam Hunter, Jr., John W. Head, Ralph W. McDougall, Hiram P. Allen, Lewis W. Hunt, Inspectors of Election; Charles Lenwood, Benjamin Wilber, Jacob J. Gardner, Constables.

1870.—William Malloch, Supervisor; George Allen, Town Clerk; Alonzo Macomber, Justice of the Peace; Stephen H. Abell, Assessor; Abram Devenberg, Commissioner of Highways; James H. Van Patten, Collector; John O. Becker, Nathaniel C. Jenkins, Overseers of the Poor; George Lasher, Henry C. McMaster, James Waddell, John C. Blanchard, Henry G. Herrick, Clark W. Head, Hiram P. Allen, Ralph W. McDougall, Lewis W. Hunt, Inspectors of Election; Edward P. Reynex, John L. Barton, Benjamin Wilber, Alonzo Van Patten, Delas B. Denise, Constables.

1871.—William Malloch, Supervisor; George Allen, Town Clerk; John W. Head, Justice of the Peace; John Turnbull, Assessor; Julius N. Kimball, Collector; Nathaniel C. Jenkins, John O. Becker, Overseers of the Poor; Marcus Delamater, Henry P. McMaster, William B. Dorn, Henry G. Herrick, William R. Baird, Ira E. Avery, Hiram P. Allen, Ralph W. McDougall, Lewis W. Hunt, Inspectors of Election; John L. Barton, Charles A. Lenwood, James Van Patten, George Stevens, Constables.

1872.—Emmett O'Neill, Supervisor; Hicks W. Sheldon, Town Clerk; Richard Walpole, Justice of the Peace; David Griffith, Assessor; Henry P. McMaster, Collector; Jesse B. Carpenter, Commissioner of Highways; William Weaver, John O. Becker, Overseers of the Poor; Zachariah Smith, M. R. Victory, Nicholas Smith, Mott T. Sheldon, Richard Hunter, Jr., Jirah Rockwell, Hiram P. Allen, Ralph W. McDougall, Lewis W. Hunt, Inspectors of Election; John L. Barton, Charles W. Lenwood, James Van Patten, Eli Mickel, Constables.

1873.—Emmett O'Neill, Supervisor; Hicks W. Sheldon, Town Clerk; John S. Van Aernam, Justice of the Peace; Elisha B. Morse, Assessor; Arthur D. Mead, Collector; James W. Waddell, Commissioner of Highways; William Weaver, John O. Becker, Overseers of the Poor; Cornell W. Bronk, John Buckley, Nicholas Smith, Frederick W. Shute, Andrew Hunter, Jirah Rockwell, William Chadwick, Ralph W. McDougall, Lewis W. Hunt, Inspectors of Election; John L. Barton, James A. Tripp, Jacob Gardiner, George Mickel, Constables.

1874.—Emmett O'Neill, Supervisor; John L. Turnbull, Town Clerk; Alonzo Macomber, George Lasher, Justices of the Peace; Cornell W. Bronk, Assessor; Thomas Hemstreet, Collector; Spencer Christman, Commissioner of Highways; William Weaver, Abram P. Bronk, Overseers of the Poor; John H. Markle, John Buckley, George H. Love, Joseph C. Wright, John Blanchard, Frank Chapman, Ralph W. McDougall, Hiram P. Allen, Lewis W. Hunt, Inspectors of Election; James A. Tripp, John L. Barton, John C. Gilbert, Eli Mickel, Constables.

1875.—Arthur D. Mead, Supervisor; Duncan R. Coulter, Town Clerk; John W. Head, Justice of the Peace; David Griffith, Assessor; Peter Smith, Collector; David Durfee, Commissioner of Highways; Abram Wemple, John Conklin, Overseers of the Poor; Austin Delamater, Nicholas Smith, J. H. Love, Ralph W. McDougall, Hiram P. Allen, Lewis W. Hunt, William S. Knight, W. G. Sears, Henry G. Herrick, Inspectors of Election; Eli Mickel, John S. Barton, William H. Becker, Constables.

1876.—George Lasher, Supervisor; W. S. Knight, Town Clerk; W. H. Barkhuff, Justice of the Peace; Andrew Hunter, Assessor; James W. Waddell, Commissioner of Highways; John L. Bronk, Nathaniel C. Jenkins, Overseers of the Poor; Austin Delamater, John H. Marcley, George Dennison, Charles B. Carpenter, Charles Liddle, Oscar Durfee, John A. McClure, William Chadwick, Lewis W. Hunt, Inspectors of Election; William Landers, Collector; John M. Bradt, Eli Mickel, George W. Patterson, J. Chapman, Jirah Rockwell, Constables; Robert N. Durfee, Game Constable.

1877.—Arthur D. Mead, Supervisor; William S. Knight, Town Clerk; Chalmers Devenberg, Ralph W. McDougall, Justices of the Peace; Nicholas Smith, Assessor; John W. Feidler, Commissioner of Highways; Nicholas S. Pangburn, Collector; Nathaniel C. Jenkins, John Bronk, Overseers of the Poor; George Malloch, George H. Love, Frederick Delamater, William H. Avory, George T. McFarland, R. J. Liddle, William Chadwick, A. S. Liddle, W. L. Schermerhorn, Inspectors of Election; John M. Bradt, Hiram Hliton, Jacob Gardiner, Eli Mickel, Jacob Waggoner, Constables; William McMillan, Game Constable; John O. Becker, Frederick Shute, A. H. Delavan, Auditors.

1878.—George Lasher, Supervisor; George Mickel, Town Clerk; John McClure, Assessor; George Love, Col-

lector; Zerah Jenkins, John L. Bronk, Overseers of the Poor; David Walpole, John F. Marckley; John Smith, Orlando Jones, Zachariah Smith, R. J. Liddle, Abraham Osterhout, Elwood Moore, William L. Schermerhorn, Inspectors of Election; H. P. McMaster, Jacob W. Gardiner, Jacob Waggoner, George Fellows, Eli Mickel, Constables; William McMillan, Game Constable.

1879.—John W. Head, Supervisor; George Mickel, Town Clerk; James Staly, Assessor; George H. Love, Commissioner of Highways; J. W. Head, T. R. Herrick, Justices of the Peace; Martin J. Wilber, Collector; G. D. Durfee, John L. Bronk, Overseers of the Poor; Daniel S. Pulver, Frederick Delamater, William Bronk, N. S. Pangburn, R. L. Hunter, J. J. Gardiner, William L. Schermerhorn, Andrew Harbeck, Elwood Moore, Inspectors of Election; Eli Mickel, J. M. Bradt, Henry McMaster, Jonathan Clayton, Jacob Waggoner, Constables; M. H. Sheldon, Game Constable.

1880.—George Lasher, Supervisor; William L. Schermerhorn, Town Clerk; Cornell W. Bronk, Assessor; John W. Feidler, Commissioner of Highways; David W. Walpole, Justice of the Peace; Robert J. Liddle, Collector; Gilbert D. Durfee, John L. Bronk, Overseers of the Poor; James Quick, Robert Cullings, David N. Peek, F. W. Shute, Orlando Jones, Robert J. Liddle, Andrew Harbeck, Elwood Moore, J. M. S. Wilber, Inspectors of Election; Henry P. McMaster, Jacob W. Gardner, Jonathan Clayton, John L. Barton, John M. Brodt, Constables; William McMillan, Game Constable.

1881.—James W. Waddell, Supervisor; John L. Turnbull, Town Clerk; A. H. Delevan, Assessor; Simon Dare, Commissioner of Highways; Lewis A. Wilber, Justice of the Peace; Robert J. Liddle, Collector; Eli Hart, John L. Bronk, Overseers of the Poor; George Astrander, Henry I. Smith, Edward Day, J. J. Gardner, John H. Shute, Horace Avery, Abram S. Liddle, William Chadwick, Hiram Hilton, Inspectors of Election; Henry McMaster, J. J. Gardner, Howard Sperbeck, Abram Ostrander, Constables; George W. Mickel, Game Constable.

1882.—James W. Waddell, Supervisor; John L. Turnbull, Town Clerk; Jacob D. Patterson, Assessor; George H. Love, Commissioner of Highways; John M. Delamater, Justice of the Peace; David N. Peek, Collector; John Levy, Eli Hart, Overseers of the Poor; Juan Pangburn, John Buckley, Edward Deay, John H. Shute, Jay Abbey, William Tiffany, Andrew Harbeck, William T. Waddell, J. M. Swart Wilber, Inspectors of Election; John L. Barton, Obediah Stillwell, Howard Sperbeck, Newton J. Gardner, Constables; William S. Knight, Game Constable.

1883.—James W. Waddell, Supervisor; John L. Turnbull, Town Clerk; Nicholas Smith, Assessor; William Chadwick, Commissioner of Highways; Frederick W. Shute, Justice of the Peace; Stephen Pratt White, Collector; John Levy, Charles B. Carpenter, Overseers of the Poor; John Green, Marshall Wilkinson, John W. Smith, John H. Shute, Jay Abbey, Edward T. Liddle, John A. McClure, Edward Moore, Darwin E. Mott, Inspectors of Election; John L. Barton, Obediah Stillwell, Howard Sperbeck, Jacob J. Gardner, Constables; Austin Delamater, Game Constable.

1884.—John A. McClure, Supervisor; John L. Turnbull, Town Clerk; Spencer Churtman, Assessor; William Tiffany, Commissioner of Highways; David W. Walpole, Justice of the Peace; Robert J. Liddle, Collector; Charles B. Carpenter, John Levy, Overseers of the Poor; John Turnbull, James Wells, Daniel Pulver, John H. Shute, Jay Abbey, Horace Avery, Elwood Moore, William T. Waddell, J. M. Swart Wilber, Inspectors of Election; John L. Barton, James Durfee, Obediah Stillwell, Jacob J. Gardner, William Levy, Jr., Constables; William McMillan, Game Constable.

1885.—John A. McClure, Supervisor; John L. Turnbull, Town Clerk; Jacob D. Patterson, Assessor; William D. McMillan, Commissioner of Highways; T. Romyne Herrick, Justice of the Peace; Robert J. Liddle, Collector; Charles B. Carpenter, John Levy, Overseers of the Poor; Jethro Rockwell, Theodore Vandescar, David N. Peek, Jay Abbey, John H. Shute, William Avery, William T. Waddel, Elwood Moore, J. M. Swart Wilber, Inspectors of Election; James Durfee, Augustus Taber, Edward Montanye, John Stebbins, Constables; William McMillan, Game Constable.

EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS.

The whole number of schools in this town is twenty-two. There are, besides, three joint districts—that is, districts partly in Duanesburgh and partly beyond the town limits, with school-houses beyond the lines. Two of the joint districts extend into Montgomery County, and one into Schoharie County. The amount of State money appropriated to the schools of Duanesburgh during the last fiscal year was $2,163.70. The amount raised by district tax was $3,359.85 The total was $5,523.55. The number of scholars attending school in 1884 was 970.

CHURCH HISTORY.

Judge Duane, on his retirement, sought to establish in Duanesburgh a home for his declining years. One of his first thoughts was for a church. Centre Lot, or Square, having failed in its purpose of becoming the center of Duanesburgh village, he devoted it to the uses of this church, and in its center he built the present house of worship, about 1792 and 1793. Before the date of its consecration it was conveyed to the corporation. At a meeting of the rector and inhabitants of the town of Duanesburgh, in communion of the Episcopal Church of said town, on Tuesday, September 22, 1793, the following instrument respecting the consecration, entitled "an act of the founder for consecrating Christ's Church at Duanesburgh," was laid before the vestry.

"I, James Duane, proprietor of the town of Duanesburgh, in the County of Albany, do hereby make known and declare that the edifice lately erected at the place called Centre Square of the said town, and the ground on which the said edifice is situated, are intended and hereby appropriated for the public worship of Almighty God, according to the rites and ceremonies of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of New York, for which use they shall always remain and continue. And that I have requested, and do hereby pray the Right Reverend the Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the said State of New York to consecrate and set apart the said edifice, with the ground on which it is erected, by the name of Christ's Church in Duanesburgh, according to the rights and ceremonies of the said Protestant Episcopal Church. In Witness," etc.

(Signed)

[Seal.] JAMES DUANE.

The duplicate of this instrument was publicly delivered by Mr. Duane into the hands of the Right Reverend Samuel Provost at the chancel of the church, and there read and published by the Rev. Mr. Ellison, rector of St. Peter's Church, Albany, immediately before the consecration, to a large audience, on Sunday, August 25, 1793. There was also present, to assist at the service, the Rev. Leonard Cutting, minister of the Protestant Episcopal Church, U. S.

The parish evidently had a corporate existence for some years previous to 1795, and was in charge of the Rev. Mr. Belden. It was admitted to the Convention of the Diocese of New York in 1789. Under the State law then recently passed, action was taken to comply with the new requirements.

"To all people to whom these presents shall come or concern: The Rev. David Belden, minister of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Town of Duanesburgh and County of Albany, and William North, James C Duane, Edward Cumpston and Joel Thompson of the said town, members of the said church, do hereby certify and make known, that on the twenty-third day of August, 1795, immediately after divine service, they were present and assisted at a meeting of the male adult persons of the congregation, or church in communion, of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of New York, at Christ's Church in the said Town of Duanesburgh, for the purpose of incorporating themselves under the act of the Legislature of this State, entitled 'An Act for the Relief of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of New York,' passed the 17th day of March, 1795. That the said minister presided at the said meeting. That William North and James C. Duane, of the said town, were

then and there respectively and unanimously elected and chosen churchwardens of the said congregation or church; and George Wasson, Joel Thompson, Edward Cumpston, John Thornton, Joseph Thompson, Nicholas Righter and William Skeels, also of the said town, and John Dorn, of Corrysbush, were in like manner respectively and unanimously elected and chosen vestrymen of the said congregation or church; and that it was further then and there unanimously agreed and determined that on Tuesday in Easter week the said offices of churchwardens and vestrymen of the said congregation or church shall yearly forever hereafter cease, and their successors in office be elected and chosen; and, lastly, it was then and there agreed, determined and declared, that the said congregation or church shall forever hereafter be known and recognized in law by the name, style or title of the Rector and Inhabitants of the Town of Duanesburgh, in communion of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of New York. In testimony whereof, the said David Belden, William North, James C. Duane, Edward Cumpston and Joel Thompson have hereunto set their hands and seals this twenty-third day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five.

"Sealed and delivered in presence of us,

JAMES DUANE, [SEAL.]
DAVID BELDEN, [SEAL.]
W. NORTH, [SEAL.]
J. C. DUANE, [SEAL.]
E. CUMPSTON, [SEAL.]
JOEL THOMSON." [SEAL.]

In 1811 a tower and spire was added to the building and a few changes were made in the interior. Since then no changes have been made. The building has been kept in excellent repair, and is the oldest church edifice in the Diocese of Albany which has preserved its primitive architectural design.

Immediately after the consecration of the church, Judge Duane, "desirous to make some permanent provision for the present and future incumbents of the said church," presented a glebe of eighty acres near the church and parsonage. The land thus designated was a part of the Farm No. 116. Subsequently, the heirs of James C. Duane added a number of acres, increasing the glebe to its present size. Judge Duane also contributed materially toward the building of the parsonage house, and, at his instigation, the vestry applied for further aid to Trinity Church, New York. In answer to the request, Trinity Church furnished 300 pounds for this purpose. Before any further action was taken in the matter, Judge Duane died. It having been deemed inadvisable to place the parsonage on the glebe, a plot of ground was leased on the western side of the public square, at an annual rent equal to the value of five "Spanish milled silver dollars." The first parsonage was erected on this lot. The present rectory stands in the glebe, facing the turnpike.

On the 28th of January, 1811, Mary Duane, widow of Hon. James Duane, transferred to Robert Troup, of the City of Albany, and Peter A. Jay, of the City of New York, fifty-three shares of the capital stock of the Merchants' Bank of New York City, its income to be applied toward the uses of this parish. At the death of the original trustees, the fund was placed in the trust of the Protestant Episcopal Society for the promotion of Religion and Learning, the present trustee. By wise and judicious management the fund has gradually accumulated, and now provides an annual income equal to nearly twice the amount of the original principal, not a dollar having been lost through bad investment or otherwise. October 17, 1845, the heirs of Elizabeth North, granddaughter of Hon. James Duane, conveyed to the church all transferable interests, in furtherance of her wish, in the farm known as lot 85, containing 106 acres, occupied by Warren Fuller at a perpetual rent of $200 a year, to be applied to the needs of this church. She had given the rent to the church since 1834. It was paid regularly until, in 1858, during the anti-rent movement, the tenant refused to pay longer, and removed from the farm all the buildings and such other property as he could conveniently secure. Unable to effect an amicable settlement of the difficulty, the wardens and vestry instituted legal proceedings, which eventually resulted favorably to the church. The entire property was finally disposed of and the proceeds invested in bond and mortgage. By the will of Catharine L. Duane, a fund of $500 was left in trust, its annual income to be divided equally between the Sunday-school of Christ's Church and the Duanesburgh Library Association. The entire fund was lost by the recent failure of Emmet O'Neil. Several small funds obtained by sales of timber are invested, the income from which is applied for specific purposes.

There is no record of the first services held in Duanesburgh. It is probable that the rectors of St. Peter's, Albany, from 1710 to 1770, officiated when there was need. The services of Christ's Church were, from the first, provided for by the parish. The building was erected, the organization effected, and all the essentials appertaining to a formed parish were provided at the outset. The measures then taken to maintain the services have, during the subsequent history, demonstrated their wisdom and efficacy, there having been no period during the more than ninety years of its life when any difficulty existed in providing the support of a rector.

The first minister after the incorporation under the then new State Law was Rev. David Belden. Mr. Belden had officiated as a deacon in Duanesburgh for some time before the organization and had presided at the business meetings during the formative period. Upon his advancement to the priesthood he was instituted rector. His official connection with the parish is thought to have ceased in the early part of 1797. On the 30th of July, 1798, Rev. Robert G. Wetmore was called to the rectorship, the wardens agreeing "to become responsible for the payment of one hundred and thirty pounds sterling. * * * and further to find a house for him to live in from the time he begin to preach in Duanesburgh." The right was reserved on the part of the vestry to make such agreement with the church at Schenectady respecting Mr. Wetmore's officiating there as they might deem advisable, provided he should not be obliged to officiate in the church at Schenectady oftener than once in three Sundays.

August 23, 1798, the vestry of Christ's Church agreed "to allow, permit and enjoin on the said Robert G. Wetmore to preach in the Episcopal Church in Schenectady one Sunday in three for and through the said year." November 8, 1800, the vestry having passed a resolution commending most highly "the Rector of Christ's Church, Duanesburgh," for "his zeal, knowledge and integrity," declared that "no deduction of his salary shall be made on account of any disability that may take place during the ensuing year." His health beginning to be impaired shortly after, he remained until April, though he was unable to minister publicly after the 1st of February, 1801. He died soon afterward. During his rectorship in Duanesburgh, he baptized one hundred and performed eight marriages, the smallest fee being eight shillings, the largest a guinea.

Between 1801 and 1817, the names of the following clergy appear on the records as having officiated at various times: N. Lilly, Mr. Burtess, R. Hubbard, Dr. Mansfield, Gross Stebbins, F. Clowes. Of these, Mr. Hubbard is thought to have been rector for some time. Rev. Nathaniel F. Bruce, deacon, was called to be minister June 12, 1817, at a salary of $400. He was advanced to the priesthood between the latter part of March, 1818, and April 13, 1819, at which date he signs himself as rector. He resigned about the close of 1819. Rev. Charles W. Hamilton was called to officiate as resident minister September 9, 1820. By mutual agreement his connection terminated May 6, 1822. Rev. Richard Bury began his services February 10, 1823, at $400 per year, which was subsequently increased to $500. He resigned about the last of December, 1827. Rev. William B. Thomas succeeded him early in 1828 and remained until 1841. Rev. Kendrick Metcalf appears on the records as rector October 26, 1842, remaining until October, 1850. During the interim the vestry invited Rev. Mr. Babcock to officiate at the rate of ten dollars per Sunday. Rev. William O. Jarvis was elected rector August 27, 1851. A suit at law was entered by the Reformed Presbyterian Society against the rector, wardens and vestry, for a portion of the glebe. The issue was in favor of the defendants. The resignation of Mr. Jarvis took effect March 13, 1859.

Rev. Robert T. S. Lowell, D.D., was elected rector April 26, 1859. Dr. Lowell's ministry was successful, and he was associated with many important improvements to the parish

property. At the earnest solicitation of the vestry he consented to withdraw his resignation, presented December 13, 1866, and remained until Easter, 1869. Dr. Lowell is well and widely known as an author and poet of high rank. Rev. George L. Weide was elected rector October 20, 1869.

In the summer of 1877, Trinity Chapel, near Esperance, was erected on land given by Benjamin M. Duane. Services had been held in a school-house near, by Dr. Lowell and Mr. Weide, for several years previous. A society of women raised the building fund. The chapel was formally deeded to Christ's Church, July 29, 1877, and consecrated August 7th following by the Right Rev. William Crosswell Duane, S. T. D., Bishop of the Diocese. Mr. Weide resigned in the spring of 1881. Rev. H. L. Zeller was elected rector October 15, 1881, and remained until August, 1883. Rev. Ernest A. Hartman, the present incumbent, was elected January 24, 1884, and assumed his duties March 16th following.

Below are the names and terms of service of the wardens of Christ's Church from the foundation of the parish to 1885.

William North, 1795–1821; James C. Duane, 1795–1805; George W. Featherstonhaugh, 1805–25; Col. William S. North, 1821–45; John B. Duane, 1825–44; Benjamin M. Duane, 1844–82; Ralph McDougall, 1845–57; Hugh McDougall, 1857–79; Alexander McDougall since 1879; Ralph McDougall since 1882.

THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKER STEEET.

The Society of Friends of Duanesburgh was organized about 1790, when its first meetings were held. Its first meeting for discipline, subordinate to a monthly meeting, was established by a committee sent from Nine Partners Quarterly Meeting in Dutchess County in the fall of 1800. This meeting was then a part of Coeymans Monthly Meeting. In 1806, by a division of Coeymans Meeting, Duanesburgh Monthly Meeting was established and a provision made to hold its meetings one-third of the time at Otego and Burlington, in Otsego County, and two-thirds of the time in Duanesburgh. Some time between 1800 and 1806, a lot of land was deeded to Oliver Briggs, two acres of which was to be held by the Society of Friends. In 1807 this lot was exchanged for part of lot No. 360 in the village of Quaker Street, where the Friends' log meeting-house then stood, by four brothers, named Job, Jeremiah, Robert and Richard Briggs, and was deeded by them to Jedediah Tallman and Zaccheus Mead, who were to hold it in trust for the society "to be used for a burying ground and for the erection of a meeting-house thereon." In 1828 a new deed was given to Nathaniel Wilber, James Shelden, Isaac Gaige, Zaccheus Mead, Benjamin T. Estes, Joseph Moore, Michael Hoag and Isaac Stevens, who were to act as trustees for the society and transfer the property to their successors. A framed addition of ten feet was built to the log meeting-house in 1804, and in 1807 the meeting-house now standing was built. From that time until 1828 the Meeting consisted of about two hundred members. Prominent among these early Friends were members of the families of Gaige, Estes, Hoag, Shelden, Moore, Briggs, Wilber and Wing, and many of their descendants now live in the vicinity. In tracing the history of this society down to the present time, we find that through the close proximity of other churches, and various other causes, the membership has fallen off to nearly one-fourth its former number. Yet, as a society, it still holds a wide influence for good.

REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DUANESBURGH.

The frame church building of this society is situated a little more than a mile west of the village of Duanesburgh. The cemetery adjoins the churchyard on the west, and the parsonage grounds adjoin it on the north.

The nucleus of the Duanesburgh congregation was formed in 1793 by Rev. James McKinney, who that year came from Ireland, although the formal organization may not have taken place for two or three years afterward. Rev. Mr. McKinney was settled as pastor in 1797. The congregation worshipped mostly in a stone church in Princetown. This was a kind of union church, occupied by different denominations as they could arrange among themselves, though finally occupied solely by the Presbyterians. Mr. McKinney resigned his pastorate in 1802 and removed to South Carolina, where he died the same year.

For six years the congregation was without a pastor, though not without preaching. In 1804 they built a substantial frame church upon the present site. Before this they often worshipped in private houses, and during the summer in the woods; but more frequently in the barns of Walter Maxwell and Robert Liddle. The land for the church and burying ground was given by the Hon. James Duane. The first elders were Walter Maxwell, Robert Liddle, John Cullings and James Duquid, all natives of Scotland.

The second pastor was Rev. Gilbert MacMaster. He was born in Ireland and came to this country when a boy. He first entered the medical profession and engaged in that work for a time in Pennsylvania, but feeling that he had a call to the ministry, he fitted himself for it. He was ordained and installed August 8, 1808. He remained pastor of this congregation for nearly thirty-two years and exerted a wide influence, not only in the town where he lived, but throughout the country. He was one of the organizers of the County Bible Society in 1823. He received the title of Doctor of Divinity from Union College in 1828. He wrote several volumes, all on religious topics. He resigned and removed to Indiana in 1840. His death occurred at New Albany, Ind., in 1854.

In the following year, Rev. Andrew Gifford Wylie became pastor of the congregation, and was ordained and installed August 29, 1841. He was born in the City of New York, and was educated at the University of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia. He remained for nearly thirty years, ending his labors here with the close of 1870, when he accepted a call to a church in Philadelphia. In 1880 he was called to a church in Cincinnati, O., where he remained till his death in December, 1884. Rev. S. M. Ramsey became the next pastor, and is now (1885) occupying the pulpit. He began his labors here in October, 1873, and was installed the 14th of the following month.

The parsonage was built in 1829. The lot (some eight acres) was given by Miss Catherine Duane. The present church building was erected in 1836 and 1837, and was first occupied for worship June 18, 1837. A Sabbath-school was opened about 1834, and has been steadily carried on since. Mr. Robert Liddle occupied the position of superintendent for thirty-three years. The following persons have held the office of Ruling Elder: First Elders, Walter Maxwell, Robert Liddle, John Cullings, George Duquid; elected in 1811, James Young, James McBean; in 1825, John Tulloch, John Liddle, James Maxwell, Charles McClew; in 1839, Alex. Liddle, Daniel Stuart, James Turnbull, Ebenezer Cullings; in 1856, Robert Liddle, Robert Cessford Charles L. Tulloch, John Cullings; in 1867, Daniel Stuart, Richard Hunter, James McCallum, Andrew Hunter. The following named persons have held the office of Deacon in the congregation: 1811, John Liddle, James Maxwell, John Tulloch, Thomas Kelly, Wm. Cummings; 1825, Daniel Stuart, Ebenezer McMillan, Simon Kennedy; 1826, Alex. Liddle, Samuel Young, James Ingersoll; 1839, Robert Cessford, Walter Maxwell, Robert Liddle, Thomas Liddle, John Cullings; 1856, Daniel Stuart, Richard Hunter, Peter Cameron, Andrew Hunter, James McCallum; 1867, Thomas R. McClew, James Liddle, Alex. Liddle, John E. Cullings, Richard L. Hunter.

Dr. Alexander McLeod, who for thirty-two years, from 1801 to his death in 1833, ranked among the leading ministers of the City of New York, was for six years a member of this congregation. Dr. E. D. McMaster, who in 1838 became President of Hanover College, Ind.; in 1845, President of Miami University, Oxford, O.; in 1850, Professor in the Presbyterian Theological Seminary at New Albany, Ind.; and at the time of his death, in 1866, was at the head of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Chicago, Ill.; spent his boyhood days here, and early became a member of this congregation. Dr. A. S. MacMaster, for nearly fifty years a gifted Presbyterian minister, as also his brother Benjamin J. MacMaster, editor of *The Freeman's Journal*, New York City, were also members of the congregation. Through Divine grace this congregation has been a blessing to many, and the names of Maxwell, Cullings and Liddle, Tulloch, Stuart and McCallum, McClew, Hays and Young, Cessford, Hunter and Turnbull, with many others, will long be precious in Duanesburgh.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DUANESBURGH.

Concerning the origin of the First Presbyterian Church of Duanesburgh, usually designated the Mariaville Presbyterian Church, the records show that on May 11, 1842, an application was made "TO THE REV'D CLASSIS OF MONTGOMERY," by the following named persons, for the organization of a church agreeably to the Constitution of the Protestant Reformed Dutch Church of North America. George Lasher, S. H. Marsh, J. D. Brown, J. M. Lasher. Daniel Nellis, James Haver, James Frost, Hiram Hansett, F. J. Quackenbush, Alex. McGaugh, Jacob M. Pulver, Henry Pulver, Philip Bronk, James Love, Thomas Gifford, Jeremiah Murray, Charles Dorn.

An entry in the records relates that,

"*Whereas*, by virtue of an act entitled 'An Act making such alterations in the Act of Incorporating Religious Societies, as to render the same more convenient to the Reformed Protestant Dutch Congregation,' passed the 7th day of March, 1788, we, the subscribers, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, or Congregation, formed or established in Duanesburgh, in the County of Schenectady, having assembled together at the school-house in Mariaville, on the 19th day of July, 1842, by virtue of the said act, do by these presents certify that the Trustees of said Church or Congregation, and their successors forever, shall, as a body corporate, be called, distinguished and known by the name, style and title of the Minister, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church at Mariaville, Duanesburgh, in the County of Schenectady.

"In witness whereof, we, the Elders and Deacons, have hereunto set our hands the day and year above mentioned.

"George Lasher, Philip Bronk, Elders; Henry Pulver, Hiram Hansett, Deacons.

"The above-named consistory were ordained to their respective offices after a sermon was preached from Phil. 2: 15, by Rev. James Stevenson, of Minaville, Montgomery County, on the 19th day of July, 1842."

George Lasher was elected President of the Consistory, and Philip Bronk, Stated Clerk.

It appears that the movement toward the erection of a house of worship somewhat preceded the petition to the Classis of Montgomery asking the organization of a church. A record of the proceedings of the Building Committee is preserved, and opens as follows:

"At a meeting of the inhabitants of Mariaville and vicinity, held at the school-house on the 24th day of June, 1841, convened for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety and necessity of erecting a church edifice in said village, Silas H. Marsh was called to the chair and James M. Lasher appointed secretary.

"On motion, it was resolved that a committee of six persons be appointed to ascertain the terms upon which an eligible site can be procured, and to report to the next meeting; and that said committee consist of the following named persons, viz.: Silas H. Marsh, James Frost, Daniel Nellis, Jeremiah Murray, Henry Pulver and James M. Lasher."

This committee reported, at a meeting held soon after, that one of their number, Mr. James Frost, had tendered them a square half acre in a locality so suitable that they thought it unnecessary to make farther inquiry. Whereupon the donation of Mr. Frost was gratefully accepted by the meeting At a meeting held in the same place five days later, July 2, 1841, a committee of eight were appointed to solicit subscriptions. This committee pursued their work with varying success until they had secured sufficient to warrant the commencement of the work.

"Whereupon Silas H. Marsh, James M. Lasher and Daniel Nellis were appointed a building committee, with authority to contract for the erection of an edifice upon the best model they could find."

November 10, 1841, the committee entered into a contract with Mr. Thomas Gifford for the erection and completion of an edifice 38 x 50 feet, containing a gallery on three sides, and furnished with pulpit and pews of the best style of such country churches of that time.

The corner-stone was laid in June, 1842, and the building completed in November following. The house was dedicated December 7, 1842.

Rev. James Donald, a minister of the Presbyterian Church, and a member of the Presbytery of Albany, was called, and by the Classis of Montgomery duly installed as pastor of this church on Wednesday, June 7, 1843. The Rev. Charles Jukes preached the sermon and gave the charge to the pastor, and the Rev. James Stevenson gave the usual charge to the people. The first communion service of the church was held June 11, 1843. Previously to this the communion roll had been prepared, and was as follows:

Received by certificate, from the Protestant Reformed Dutch Church of Florida (the Minaville Church), Helen Lasher, Margaret Pulver, Ann Hansett, Margaret Pulver, Charlotte Pulver, Catherine Wiggins, Jemima Patterson, Elisabeth Bronk, Mrs. Catherine Bronk, Miss Catherine Bronk, Dorothy Dorne, Jesse Platt, Elsy Platt, Hannah Conklin, Israel Scriver, Rebecca Green, Dorothy Conklin.

From the Protestant Reformed Dutch Church of Schenectady, Daniel Nellis and Mary Nellis.

Received on confession of their faith and satisfactory evidence of their piety, Agnes Conklin, James Brown, Margaret Brown, Ann Maria Ryne, Margaret Templar, John Dougall, Hannah Dougall, Maria Dennison, Susan McMaster, Eliza Clark, James M. Lasher, Catherine Clogston, James H. Patterson, Prudence Patterson, making a communion roll of thirty-one members, exclusive of the four members of consistory—a membership in all of thirty-five.

The Rev. Mr. Donald closed his services on the last Sabbath of April, 1851. From this time until 1859 the church had no pastor, depending altogether upon such pulpit supply as could be obtained from Classis and otherwise. At this point the records show the following:

"The Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Duanesburgh having obtained leave of Classis to change their ecclesiastical relation, made application to the Presbytery of Albany to be received under their care at their annual meeting in January, 1859.

"After this they obtained leave of the Court to be known by the title and to hold their property under the incorporate title of the 'First Presbyterian Church of Duanesburgh.'

"On June 15, 1859, said church was fully received and entered on the roll by the Presbytery of Albany.

"On February 13, 1861, the *ecclesiastical name* was, by Presbytery, for the sake of convenience, and without interfering with the corporate title, changed on Presbytery Roll to the church of Mariaville."

During the year 1859 the Rev. David Edgar served the church as stated supply. In 1860 the Rev. David Lyon was called, and remained until March, 1876.

In June, 1877, the church secured certain ministerial services of Rev. R. A. Hill, pastor of the Princetown Presbyterian Church. Mr. Hill retained his pastoral relation to the Princetown Church, and in addition preached at Mariaville on Sabbath afternoons, and performed such pastoral services as lay in his power, continuing for five years, and as long as he remained at Princetown. In June, 1882, he received a call from the Seventh Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, Pa., which he accepted, and so severed his connection with Princetown and Mariaville.

Again the church was dependent upon temporary supply until November, 1883. At this time Rev. J. W. Johnston became stated supply, and has so acted until the present time.

In the early part of the year 1885 an effort was made to repair the old church. $2,500 were raised by subscription. Rev. J. W. Johnston, J. W. Waddell and A. N. Bronk were appointed a committee to have charge of the work, which was completed in July of the same year, the church edifice having been thoroughly renovated and modernized.

At the present time the session consists of Rev. J. W. Johnston, Moderator; and Elders James M. Lasher, Joseph Green, George Lasher and John Turnbull.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH OF DUANESBURGH.

But little is known of the history of the Baptists within the bounds of this church previous to the commencement of the present century, no records having been preserved of an earlier date. But it is well understood that there were some Baptist brethren and sisters among the early settlers who came soon after the close of the revolution. One such emigrant was Elijah Herrick, so well known fifty years ago as "Father Herrick." He had taken an active part in the struggle for independence, and soon after its termination

embraced Christianity, and subsequently entered the ministry, beginning his labors with the sparse population by which he was surrounded. He was one of those who early proclaimed the truths of the Gospel to the inhabitants of Duanesburgh. Having been inured to the privations and rigid discipline of the camp, he was well prepared to meet the fatigues and undertake the responsibilities of his new vocation. To his military training is attributed a remarkable punctuality, which characterized him through life, for he fulfilled his engagements regardless of weather or distance.

In 1800, according to the earliest record extant, there was a small society of Baptists in the northern part of Duanesburgh known as "Elder John Mudge's Church," but destitute of a pastor, and another in the adjoining town of Florida under the pastoral care of Rev. Reuben Mudge. These small churches being too feeble to support two ministers, mutually resolved to unite in a common organization. This union was effected by the usual observances July 29, 1800, and the church of Duanesburgh and Florida was constituted with seventeen members, nine of whom were women.

The fifth year after the new organization, the number of the members had increased from seventeen to sixty-four, and the sixth year witnessed the conversion of so many that the membership was increased to nearly one hundred by baptism. In 1809 nineteen were received by immersion, and the total number amounted to one hundred and thirty.

Conversions occurred nearly every year subsequent to this, varying in general from one to six and amounting in the aggregate to about ninety in thirty years. But deaths, removals and exclusions more than counterbalanced these and reduced the number more than one-half in that period of time. For many succeeding years but little transpired that is worthy of notice. There was a union meeting-house which the Baptists might occupy a part of the time, but which was little used on account of its unfavorable location, and in 1834 they were yet holding their meetings in schoolhouses and private dwellings at different places as expediency suggested. In 1835 a house of worship was erected sufficiently commodious for all ordinary occasions at that time. In 1840 there were only sixty communicants in the church, and but sixteen male members who could be relied upon to aid the organization steadfastly with their presence and substance. Nearly all of these had passed the meridian of life, and the most efficient laborers had before them but a few of their allotted "three-score years and ten." Fears were entertained that the church might be disrupted, but during the winter of 1842 and 1843 sixty-two converts were added to the church membership by baptism. A large number of these were between the ages of fifteen and twenty-five, the extremes being twelve and seventy. In the winter of 1853 another revival brought an accession of forty-nine members, all but ten of whom were heads of families.

Previous to 1857 no rupture had occurred in the church, but at this time internal dissensions arose. But in the midst of these difficulties a revival began which resulted in the addition by baptism of a number of new recruits greater than that of those who had withdrawn. Those who had not entirely departed from the church united hand in hand in working for the common good. In 1864 a parsonage was purchased which had long been needed, and in 1868 the old meeting-house was sold and a larger and better one was erected. Some slight repairs have been put on them from time to time. Following is a list of the successive pastorates:

Reuben Mudge, 1800–1805; Elnathan Finch, 1805–1810; Rev. Mr. Bolton, 1810–1811; Reuben Mudge, 1812–1813; Rev. Mr. Longworthey, 1813–1814; Bartimeus Braman, 1814–1819; Charles Howe, 1823–1833; Calvin Herrick, 1833–1843; Joseph Earl, 1843–1856; G. W. Abrams, 1857–1859; David Corwin, 1859–1861; W. F. Benedict, March, 1861, to November, 1862; D. B. Collins, 1863–1867; J. W. Starkweather, 1867–1870; E. Ashton, 1870–1871; J. S. Johnson, 1871–1872; I. Powers, 1873; Leonard Smith, April, 1878, to the present time.

THE TRUE REFORMED DUTCH CHURCH.

The church at Mariaville known by the above name, originated about forty years ago with persons living in that vicinity who were members of the church at Charlestown under the pastoral care of Rev. Henry V. Wyckoff. They met first as a reading society of worship at the house of Mr. Henry I. Smith. After some time had elapsed, they called Rev. Marcus Bellinger as their minister, and he preached in a school-house for a number of years. About 1858 or 1859 Rev. Perry Devenburgh assumed the pastoral care, and remained about twenty-five years, till his death in December, 1882.

The present house of worship was built about 1864 or 1865, and services have since been conducted therein. Since the death of Rev. Mr. Devenburgh the church has been connected with the Classis of Hackensack of the True Reformed Dutch Church, and has been supplied by ministers of that Classis.

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF QUAKER STREET.

The Christian Church of Quaker Street was organized after a series of meetings extending through February and March, 1859, under the labors of Revs. Henry Brown and B. F. Summerbell. Quite a number of persons united in the organization, under a covenant declaring that Christian character should be the test of their fellowship, and the Bible their rule of faith and practice. The name Christian was applied as pointing directly to Christ as the head of the Church.

Rev. Henry Brown was pastor until July, 1859, when, at his urgent request, the church obtained the services of Rev. Thomas Holmes, who remained until April, 1861. Since that time the pulpit has been filled by a number of different ministers, prominent among whom was Rev. Charles E. Peake, who served two terms, aggregating seven years. He was a victim of the wrecked steamer Narragansett, on Long Island Sound. Among others may be mentioned Revs. Philip Couchman and Henry Brown, and the present pastor, Rev. W. Jay Reynolds.

The church building was erected in 1859-60, and was dedicated in June of the latter year. Rev. B. F. Summerbell preached the dedicatory sermon, and was assisted in the services by Rev. John Ross, Rev. Henry Brown and Rev. Thomas Holmes, the pastor. The house underwent repairs about five years ago at an expense of about $1,500, and was rededicated by Rev. Austin Craig.

THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER.

The Church of the Redeemer (Universalist) was organized December 16, 1875, with sixteen members, as follows:

Dr. Joseph Braman and wife, Daniel Van Henn and wife, George Lester and wife, Fayette Peek, Murray Peek, DeWitt C. Chase, DeWitt C. Lester, Ida Belle Lester, Saxton M. Cheeney, Eunice Cheeney, Benjamin K. Elton, William Broeffle and Susannah Broeffle.

The organization was effected at the house of Dr. Joseph Braman, under the ministrations of Rev. D. C. Davis. The growth of this church was rapid and steady during the next few months. The membership was soon increased to thirty, and January 17, 1875, three persons were confirmed by baptism. For a time the interest continued unabated, but at length, owing to causes over which those most deeply interested had no control, it abated until services were held irregularly, and then ceased altogether.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF MARIAVILLE.

The Mariaville Methodist Episcopal Church was organized about twenty-five years ago. Solomon Pulver, Henry Mickle, Evert Van Anken, and others were among the early members. The ground upon which the church was erected was given to the Society by Messrs. Marsh and Delamater. During a portion of the time this church has been connected on one pastoral charge with the Methodist Episcopal Churches of Minaville and Fort Hunter. It has not for some time had a regular pastor, and is at present supplied.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF QUAKER STREET.

At Quaker Street there is a flourishing Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Rev. Mr. De Vol is the pastor. This organization owns a good-sized frame house of worship, located at the foot of the rise of ground separating the two parts of the village. Early meetings were held on the hill.

Kirby Wilber

KIRBY WILBER.

This well-known and highly-respected citizen of Quaker Street was born in that village September 25, 1820, a son of Kirby and Mercy (Allen) Wilber. His father came from Dutchess County about 1812, and was for a time engaged in tanning on a small scale. Soon, however, he opened a small custom shoe shop. In this shop, and with their father as an instructor, the Wilber brothers, R. P. U., E. G., W. K. and Kirby, gained their first knowledge of that business with which they were destined to be so prominently identified in after life.

Kirby Wilber was educated sparingly in the public schools of the time and place, and taking more naturally to business than to mechanical pursuits, at the age of fourteen he became a clerk in the old time store of Job Cleveland. Two years later he went to Schenectady, and was for a short time a clerk in the store of John Ohlen. Returning to his native town, he became a salesman in the store of James E. O'Neill in July, 1837. In the spring of 1840 he removed to Brainard's Bridge, Rensselaer County, and entered a store belonging to a manufacturing company, in which Seth Hastings, late of Albany, was one of the partners. There he was employed most of the time for about eight years, at the expiration of which time he bought the stock of goods of his former employers and engaged in trade for himself, continuing during the succeeding five years.

In the spring of 1853, Mr. Wilber disposed of his interests at Brainard's Bridge and returned to Quaker Street to take an interest in the boot and shoe manufacturing business which had been established by his brothers, his successful connection with which is noticed elsewhere. The present store of Wilber & Co. was opened in 1860 and was owned in connection with the factory until 1867, when the firm dissolved and was reorganized. The successive owners of the store since that date have been Kirby & E. G. Wilber ; Kirby, E. G., E. & Charles C. Wilber ; Kirby, E. G. & Charles C. Wilber ; and Kirby & Charles C. Wilber. E. Wilber withdrew in the spring of 1874, and E. G. Wilber in the spring of 1884, since when Kirby Wilber and his son, Charles C. Wilber, have conducted the business under the style of Wilber & Co.

In 1843 Mr. Wilber married Lucy Ann Crego, of Chatham, Columbia County, N. Y. She died in 1877. In 1880 Mr. Wilber married Mrs. P. J. Auchampaugh, of Quaker Street, who is still living. He has five children—a son and four daughters—by his first marriage. The son is Mr. Charles C. Wilber, his partner, mentioned above. Mr. Wilber is a Democrat, and a staunch and conscientious defender of the principles of his party, but he is not, except

in the best and truest sense, a politician. Not an office seeker nor a vociferous campaigner, he yet takes a proper interest in the public welfare, and, politically and otherwise, he has ever been actively interested in all measures calculated to advance the public good. Since 1859 he has been a member of the First Christian Church of Quaker Street.

So frequent mention is made of the name of the late R. P. U. WILBER in these pages, that some reference to the personal characteristics which made him so successful and so popular seems to be demanded. He was a man of industry and originality; a man of enterprise and perseverance; a man of great public spirit, and an almost unconquerable desire to do something which would benefit the community in which he lived. He was the originator of the business which has made Quaker Street so well known, and an early and liberal employer of skilled labor. It was his part to pave the way for the triumphs which came after he was gone from earth, and well and earnestly, and with wonderful forethought, did he perform his allotted task. During his busy and useful life it is doubtful if there was one good public interest that did not receive his moral support, his kindly encouragement and his financial aid. A more public-spirited man never lived in Duanesburgh, his means and opportunities considered. It has been nearly a third of a century since he died, but he is remembered with kindly regret by nearly every old resident of the town.

E. G. and W. K. WILBER'S names will be long known in Duanesburgh as those of men who nobly did their part in the work of human progress as it came to their hands.

VILLAGES AND HAMLETS.

The villages and hamlets of this town are Quaker Street (Village and Depot), Mariaville, Duanesburgh, Braman's Corners, Patterson's Corners and Green's Corners.

QUAKER STREET.

This village is divided by a somewhat steep ascent into two parts, known generally as Quaker Street and Quaker Street Depot, though during late years the terms Old and New Quaker Street have obtained some popularity. One post-office, located at Quaker Street proper, suffices for both villages. Their combined population is not far from 600. Evidences of thrift and enterprise are to be seen in all directions.

Quaker Street on the hill was early settled by the Briggses, Moshers, Hoags, and others, and was so named because the residences of numerous members of the Society of Friends were scattered along the road running through what is now its center. Quaker meetings were held there early in the present century. For many years there was only one store there, one of the first buildings erected after a few dwellings having been a Quaker meeting-house. The second store was built at least forty-five years ago. A prominent merchant in the old store (now Wilber's) was Lewis Freeman. Thomas Barnes, James Gale and Asa Marshall were among its earlier keepers. It later had many occupants, one of whom was Daniel T. Hoag, now of New York, till it passed into the hands of the Wilbers. The second store was occupied by Job Cleveland, Seneca Enders, Thomas Rushmore and Kirby Wilber, among others, and has been open only a few months during the past twenty-five years. The present store of Wilber & Co. has been in the management of the family and firm with which they have been connected since 1860.

Robinson P. U. Wilber began making shoes at Quaker Street for the retail trade in 1845. Three years later he began manufacturing for wholesale orders, employing about twelve men, and continuing until 1854, when he died. While he was on his death-bed the sale of the enterprise to his two brothers—Edwin G. and W. K. Wilber—was arranged and consummated. In 1857 Messrs. DeWitt Duane McDonald, Milton R. Hoag and Kirby Wilber became partners in the business, the firm name being changed to Wilbers, Hoag & Co. Mr. McDonald withdrew two years later, but re-entered the firm in 1861. In 1863 W. K. Wilber retired, but resumed his interest in 1865. There were no further changes in the style or personnel of the firm until 1867, when Mr. Hoag sold his interest. About this time the general store, which had been run in connection with the factory for about ten years, was taken into the building now owned by Kirby and Charles C. Wilber, Kirby and Edwin G. Wilber purchasing that and W. K. Wilber and D. D. McDonald retaining the ownership of the factory under the style of Wilber & McDonald. In 1872 the factory passed to the proprietorship of Mr. McDonald and William H. Davis, the firm name being McDonald & Davis. Mr. Davis retired in 1875, when Mr. McDonald and his son (Seward McDonald) became owners, under the firm name of D. D. McDonald & Son. Thirty to thirty-five men find constant employment in this factory, making heavy boots and shoes for men and women. Twelve hundred cases are manufactured yearly, and the monthly wage-list foots up to $600. In connection with their factory the firm conduct a retail boot and shoe store and a general grocery and flour and feed store. The store proper is a frame building, two stories high, 22 x 55 feet, and the factory is a two-story frame building, 35 x 40 feet. The products of McDonald & Son are placed mostly in Albany, Schenectady, Schoharie, Delaware, Otsego, Greene and Ulster Counties, though large shipments are made to Ohio. Mr. McDonald also owns a store at Quaker Street Depot.

The grocery of Ira Estes on Main street was opened about twelve years ago. The old W. S. Lang stand has been occupied for several years by Melville W. Mead's tin, hardware and furniture store. Mr. Mead is an enterprising business man and a prominent citizen. Mr. Estes, above mentioned, was a stock dealer of repute before he became a merchant, and is known as a man of brains and progressive ideas.

Lewis Hunt conducted a paint shop here for many years. Dying a few years since, he was succeeded by his son, Chauncey B. Hunt.

The old hotel was occupied for many years by William R. Wing, Simon Vedder, George Rich and others. It was burned in 1875, and soon afterward the American Hotel, on the same ground, was nearly completed by John J. Ladd. It passed from his possession by legal process and was finished by other parties. It has been occupied by E. Bigelow, Frank Bigelow, John J. Wilber and others, and is now in possession of Howland McComber.

In 1870 Arthur D. Mead & William McGraw began the manufacture of carriages. Their works were on Main street in the building now occupied by John Moon, blacksmith. Ten men were employed and about seventy-five wagons were made annually. A second blacksmith shop is that of Christian Mackley. W. H. Harden has carried on a small tailoring business for many years.

It was the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad which gave activity and growth to the enterprising village known as Quaker Street Depot and New Quaker Street. The first store was erected there by Hicks W. Sheldon soon after the completion of the railroad. He was succeeded by Mott T. Sheldon, Mead Sheldon and Van Wagner, and the building was finally closed as a store and converted into a tin shop.

About five years ago a store was opened at the Depot by W. K. Wilber & Son, which is now the property of L. A. Wilber. Milo J. Auchampaugh built a store here about ten years ago, and died not long afterward. He was succeeded in its occupancy by Elias Jones, and he by S. McKinney & Sons in 1885.

The tin shop in the old Sheldon store above mentioned was established by Dexter Clement, whose successor was A. Manchester, whom Manchester & Wilber succeeded. In the spring of 1885, Elmer J. Fake opened a drug store adjoining this establishment.

The Shoudy House was built by James Shoudy about twelve yars ago. He has ever since owned it. The present lessee and keeper is John Boyce. The Central Hotel was built in 1880 and managed until the spring of 1885 by George Passage, whose successor was William Van Benschoten. Dexter Clement erected a hotel building in 1883, and occupied it only a short time. It is now occupied as a residence and meat market by Emmet Schermerhorn. Whitney's railway eating saloon was opened about two years ago.

Quaker Street Depot is the terminus.

Francis Hoag

FRANCIS HOAG.

FRANCIS HOAG was born in Duanesburgh September 27, 1820. His early life was passed upon a farm, and his educational advantages were only such as were afforded by the common schools near by. His parents were of the good old Quaker stock, and his early religious training was in the faith and doctrines of the Society of Friends, to which faith he has clung through a long and successful life, and whose pure teachings did much to develop in him a beautiful character and an earnest, steadfast and thoughtful nature. Active, energetic, persevering, he has surmounted obstacles which seemed for the time to thoroughly block the way of his advance; but no worldly ambition ever led him to forget that strict integrity and honesty of purpose were called for at his hands.

At the age of twenty-four, Mr. Hoag married Eliza D. Carpenter, a young woman of rare merit, well calculated to be a help and strength to him in all the relations of life. In 1858 they moved to Albany, where he engaged in the wholesale provision trade, for a time in Exchange street and afterward in Dean street, in which business he continued successfully for nearly nineteen years. In business, as well as in social life, he won many warm friends. His noble manly, straightforward way of dealing, won him the confidence of men in leading business circles, and his credit was almost unlimited. In 1861, the death of his beloved wife brought to him the greatest sorrow of his life. Their union, during a period of more than fifteen years, had been an unusually harmonious one. The war of the rebellion had soon afterward entered upon its dreadful career, and from his private sorrows the mind of Mr. Hoag was providentially drawn to the sorrows of a great people. His sympathies were aroused, and he gave freely of his means and influence to aid the Union cause and lend succor to the wounded heroes in Southern fields and in Southern hospitals. December 30, 1862, he married his second wife, Mary J. Case, of Chatham, Columbia County, N. Y., and on the opening of the new year (1863) he brought her to brighten his desolate home. Two sons have been born to them: Francis Hoag, Jr., in January, 1867, and William M. Hoag, in September, 1874.

In 1877, having bought a farm near his old home at Quaker Street, he disposed of his business in Albany and moved his family to the country, building for himself a handsome residence, and settled quietly down to the enjoyment of a peaceful old age.

George Lasher

HON. GEORGE LASHER.

Hon. GEORGE LASHER was born in Duanesburgh September 20, 1834, a son of James McMillan Lasher, who was also born in Duanesburgh July 4, 1811. George Lasher, his grandfather, was one of the early settlers of the town. He was a native of America. His wife, Helen McMillan, was born in Scotland. Simon Kennedy, father of the wife of James McMillan Lasher, and maternal grandfather of the subject of this notice, was for a long time a resident of Schenectady County. His wife was Mary Perry, of Connecticut.

Mr. Lasher was educated in common schools and at Eastman's Commercial College in Poughkeepsie. He has been a merchant, and is at present engaged in farming. He cast his first vote for John C. Fremont for President, and has acted with the Republican party ever since. He has served his townsmen as Justice of the Peace; was Supervisor in 1876, 1878 and 1880; and was elected to the Assembly in 1880 by a majority of 382 over Edward W. Paige (Democrat), the Democratic majority in 1879 having been 299. In his responsible capacity as legislator he served with credit to himself and to the gratification of his constituents. As a private citizen he enjoys the fullest confidence of all who know him.

DE WITT DUANE McDONALD.

DE WITT DUANE McDONALD, son of Anson D. and Hannah (Macomber) McDonald, was born in Wright, Schoharie County, N. Y., December 15, 1827. He removed in infancy to Quaker Street and has since lived there. His educational facilities were limited to those afforded by the common schools, and even those he was unable to attend regularly, even the winter terms, after he was thirteen years old.

At that tender age, when most boys are yet treated like children and have no thought of the stern duties of life, young McDonald left home and began the battle of life in the humble capacity of a farmer's boy of all work. He grew from boyhood to manhood, still doing his daily labor behind the plow, hoe in hand, or in the fields of grain ready to be garnered, and became in all respects a practical and well-informed farmer; but it was not as a farmer that he was destined to make a place and name for himself among his fellow men.

At the age of twenty he entered the service of R. P. U. Wilber, at Quaker Street, to learn the trade of shoemaking. He soon mastered all of its details and came to be considered a thorough and skillful workman. He remained in

Mr. Wilber's employ until the latter's death and after that event in the employ of Messrs. E. G. & W. K. Wilber until the reorganization of the firm, when he became a member of it. His subsequent business career is given elsewhere in these pages. It only remains to us in this connection to call attention to the sterling qualities of the man, who, from a poor lad, illy educated and without means or influential friends, has made his way against adverse circumstances to the head of a large manufacturing business, and won the esteem and confidence of all who have known him boy and man.

August 3, 1853, Mr. McDonald married Rebecca Weaver, of Quaker Street, a daughter of Jacob and Deborah (Coffin) Weaver, who has borne him eight children, five of whom are living. Formerly an old-time Whig politically, Mr. McDonald gradually developed such principles as to ally him with the Republican party, of which he has been a member since its inception. He is a member of the First Christian Church of Quaker Street.

MARIAVILLE.

This small village was named in honor of a daughter of Judge James Duane.

This was the scene of some quite extensive business operations by Hon. Silas H. Marsh, who was once County Clerk of Schenectady County and represented his district in the Assembly. He was a man of enterprise and business ability, and was responsible for about all of the growth of the village up to the time his identification with it ceased. About 1830 he bought some land of "Katie" Duane and built a store and a grist-mill and a saw-mill. About fifteen years afterwards he disposed of the mercantile business to Jacob Quackenbush. After passing through other hands, it became the property of James M. Lasher & Sons in 1862. In 1879 it was purchased by Bronk & Bradshaw, and in 1881 by A. N. Bronk, the present owner.

For a time Marsh was the proprietor of a trip-hammer and shop, where the manufacture of axes was carried on on a small scale, leasing it to other parties, and finally selling it. It is now owned by Dr. Delameter and operated by Marcus Delameter. An old grist-mill here had years before been converted into a carding and fulling mill and been operated by Jeremiah Murray and William Murray. This was bought and torn down by Marsh, giving place to his grist-mill, which, with the saw-mill and store, was sold in 1862 to James M. Lasher & Sons. This firm consisted of James M., John K. and William M. Lasher. In 1865 John K. Lasher removed to New York, William M. following him in 1868, since when the firm has been James M. Lasher & Son, the junior partner being Hon. George Lasher. These gentlemen have done much to promote the prosperity of the locality, and are reckoned among Schenectady County's honored and substantial business men. Sixty or more years ago Dr. Staley built a saw-mill. It changed hands several times. Jeremiah Murray once owned it. It is now the property of Abraham Devenburg. Another saw-mill, built by Richard Walpole in 1844, has been converted into a cider and vinegar and broom-handle factory, and is owned by David W. Walpole. David Lander built a hotel about sixty years ago which was kept by different parties, among them the veteran landlord, Benjamin Wiltsie, until 1863, when it was converted into a cheese factory by a stock company who purchased it for that purpose. It was idle some time, and was finally purchased by James M. Lasher and converted into dwellings. Formerly a hotel, which had been made of two old dwellings moved together, was occupied part of the time as a hotel and part of the time as a store. It was reconstructed by Jeremiah Murray. About 1840 two other dwellings were joined and remodeled for hotel use. This public house was opened by Daniel Nellis. Many landlords succeeded him. It has been kept during the past twenty years by Benjamin Wiltsie, one of the oldest hotel men in Schenectady County.

Patterson & Strong and John Van Housen were once prominent merchants here. Besides the store of A. N. Bronk, the village now contains those of Miss Matilda Hansett, for some time postmistress, and J A. Bradshaw, who began trading during 1885. John Devenburgh is a carriage-maker.

DUANESBURGH.

This is a village of about one hundred inhabitants, located on the Schenectady branch of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company's system of railways, and contains, besides its business places of different kinds, a small depot and a post-office. The pioneer settlers of this place were of Scotch, English and Dutch stock, and their sturdy traits are easily discernible in the residents of to-day. The place was formerly called Jamesville, in honor of a wealthy Mr. James, who once owned considerable landed property in the vicinity. Its present name was adopted many years ago, though it is generally called by residents and their neighbors The Four Corners. As has been seen, the early attempts of Judge Duane to make Centre Square, a mile distant, the nucleus of a village, was a failure.

The house now owned and occupied by Dr. Stephen G. Delamater as a residence, was seventy-five years ago kept as a tavern by Joseph Gaige, who was for many years a Justice of the Peace. Mr. Gaige sold the tavern to his nephew, John Gaige, about sixty years ago, and it was subsequently owned by Julius Keyes and Henry C. Ham. The latter sold it to Dr. Delamater.

The present hotel, nearly opposite the building whose history has just been given, was built by John Post during the closing years of the revolutionary war. About 1820 a Mr. Edwards became the proprietor, and soon afterwards John Hogh bought it and retained control until 1830, when it was purchased by Truman Case, who owned and conducted it till 1874, when he died and it passed into the possession of his son, Josiah Case, who has since filled the roll of mine host at Duanesburgh, greatly to the satisfaction of his townsmen and the traveling public.

About sixty years ago, Mr. James E. O'Neill was sent here in the employ of Messrs. Brodwick & Duane, of Schenectady, widely-known merchants of their day. At first he sold goods for them on commission, walking to Schenectady every Saturday night to render a report of the week's business to his employers. It was not long before he was enabled to enter business on his own account. He erected the first store in the village and put in a stock of goods. He also bought a tan-yard west of the village, which had been established by one Gathan, and managed it successfully until 1840. His store was closed shortly after his death, which occurred in February, 1878. Mr. O'Neill had acquired considerable wealth as the result of a long life's honest industry and was a leading citizen of the town, well respected throughout the county.

The leading store in Duanesburgh is the one now owned and occupied by Mr. John L. Turnbull. The building was erected by Philip James Fredericks a little less than twenty-five years ago. He kept the store until his death, about 1870, when John S. Hoag purchased it, remaining in control until 1872, when the present proprietor became the owner. A general stock of dry goods and groceries is kept. Mr. Turnbull has been Town Clerk of Duanesburgh most of the time for the past decade, and is regarded as a stirring and energetic man.

The village school-house was removed to its present location forty years ago. It was previously located down by the creek, where it had stood for a time beyond the memory of any citizen.

A century ago, Dr. Abraham Delamater was a practicing physician in Duanesburgh and a surgeon as well. About the year 1800, his brother, Dr. Peter Delamater, came and for many years had an extensive ride. In 1843 Dr. Stephen G. Delamater, son of Dr. Peter Delamater, began here the practice of his profession, a service to the people which has been continued uninterruptedly ever since. Among the other early physicians were Dr. McDermott (1815–25) and Dr. Wilson (1825–35). While generally this locality has been remarkably free from those epidemics which rage from time to time in less favored places, it has not wholly escaped. Twenty years ago there was a diptheritic epidemic which carried off twenty people in the immediate vicinity of the village.

BRAMAN'S, PATTERSON'S AND GREEN'S CORNERS.

These localities are named in honor of the families of Braman, Patterson and Green. The first mentioned was

formerly known as Parlor Street, in honor of the Parlor family. Dr. Joseph Braman opened a store there as early as 1840, and fifteen years later sold it to Nathaniel Herrick. George Bradford occupied it later. The present merchant is George A. Snell. William Gardinier once kept a grocery there. The Parlors once had a tannery and carried on farming and other business.

We take pleasure in making mention of the following well-known citizens, who by their guaranteed support have helped to insure the publication of this valuable work: H. P. Allen, Mrs. A. E. Abrams, Samuel Brown, Martin Bradt, A. M. Bronk, C. W. Bronk, P. A. Brumagin, John O. Becker, Delos Braman, William Chadwick, John E. Cullings, G. W. Conover, Frank M. Chapman, S. G. De Lamater, D. C. Davis, Marcus De Lamater, C. I. Dodge, John Davenburg, George Dennison, Ira Estes, J. D. Featherstonhaugh, James Ferguson, A. M. Gaige, Joseph Green, William J. Gardner, Francis Hoag, David B. Hall, T. Roymen Herrick, John L. Jones, Alexander Liddle, George H. Love, Robert Lidell, George Lasher, Melville Mead, Alonzo Macomber, D. D. McDonald, R. W. McDougall, Alexander McDougall, James L. McMillan, J. K. Rhinehart, W. F. & J. H. Shute, J. L. Turnbull, Darius Tripp, J. H. Titus, E. G. Wilber, John D. Wood, I. R. T. Wood, James Wright, David W. Walpole, Benjamin Wiltsie, Kirby Wilber.

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GLENVILLE.

By Rev. E. E. TAYLOR.

GLENVILLE was named from the original patentee, Sanders Leendertse Glen. It was formed from the fourth ward of Schenectady, April 14, 1820. It is the only town in the county north of the Mohawk. In 1665 the country around Scotia was granted to Glen, a native of Scotland, who had removed to Holland in 1645 on account of religious persecutions. After several years spent there in mercantile pursuits, he migrated to the New Netherlands.

The greater part of the surface is covered with a thick deposit of drift, consisting principally of clay, with an occasional outcrop of slate, and underlaid with hard pan in the south and western part, and sand and gravelly loam in the eastern. The underlying rock is generally the shales of the Hudson River group, which crop out in the valleys and the bottom of ravines. In portions of this town this is underlaid by bird's-eye limestone, from which are obtained both lime and stone for building. This rock crops out on the banks of the streams and from the declivities of the steeper hills. The central and western parts are occupied by rugged and wooded hills, abruptly rising from the valley of the river to a height of 300 feet. The eastern part is nearly level. The Mohawk intervales are very fertile, and have been, to a considerable extent, devoted to the culture of broom corn.

The streams are Crabskill, Chaugh-ta-noon-da, Aalplaats and Jan Wemp's Creeks, and Verf Kill.

Sanders Lake, in Scotia, is about a mile in circumference.

Van Slyck's Island was granted to Jacques Van Slyck November 13, 1662, and later a new grant to Jaques Cornelise and Jan Barentse Wemp.

Hoffman's Ferry was established about 1790 by Harmanus Vedder, and called Vedder's Ferry until 1835. It was bought in 1835 by John Hoffman, from whom it took its present name. The present owner is Jeremiah Vanderhyden. The rate of passage is five cents for a single individual and ten cents for one horse and carriage. This is a railroad station of the Central Road, and is an insignificant place at present, with no hotel. It has a small store, and has a hay barn for storing hay in transit for the market. The business interests center on the opposite side of the river, in Rotterdam.

In 1820, when the town of Glenville was set off from the City of Schenectady, much of the unoccupied land that was held by the city was cut up and sold in twenty-acre lots to residents of the city for wood lots. This was sold in single lots only, and but one to the same person. This rendered farming on these lands for a long time impossible. It was only in December of 1883 that the city sold the last of its lots, and many of these twenty-acre lots are still held. This has been one cause of delaying the development of this part of the county.

Among the first settlers were the Glens, Sanderses, Vieles, Van Eppses, Ostroms, Tolls, Barhydts, Browns, Johnsons and Carpenters.

The following are the names and occupations of many of the principal persons in the town:

C. P. Sanders, farmer, milk business and gardener; ex-Judge W. T. L. Sanders; Charles P. Sanders, Jr., attorney; John B. Wilson, speculator; W. C. Carpenter, carpenter; Lorenzo Van Patten, blacksmith; Michael Whalen, blacksmith; J. V. Z. Weaver, farmer and Justice of the Peace; Lorenzo Lovett & Son, wholesale butchers; Willis C. Lovett, Justice of the Peace; Jacob H. Halenbeck, dealer in tin-ware, and is Overseer of the Poor; N. S. Cheesman, practicing physician; William Channer, broom business; G. F. Becktel, shoe store; James H. Gillett, cabinet-maker; Thomas Gould, Justice of the Peace; S. V. R. Ford, blacksmith, and has been Justice of the Peace; Lansing Slover, grocer; James Collins occupies one of the old Glen buildings, and is a son of Charles Collins, railroad contractor, etc.; Philip Becker, on the Reese Place; Philip R. Toll, farmer, two miles north of Scotia; Charles I. Toll and Philip R. Toll, farmers; Tunis Vrooman, farmer, three miles north from Scotia; Alexander Van Eps, farmer, east from Scotia; John S. Lansing, farmer and milk dealer, two miles north of

Scotia; A. A. Livingston, farmer and milk dealer, four miles northeast of Scotia; Joseph K. Passage, farmer; William Hasel, farmer, and occupies the old Viele Place, near Charles H. Tolls, one and one-half miles from Scotia, on the western turnpike; B. H. Clute, farmer, three miles from Scotia; Adam Swart and many others of the same name, six miles from Scotia, and descendants from first settlers; Charles H. Toll, extensive farmer, one mile from Scotia; Dan. Toll, farmer and broom manufacturer, two miles from Scotia; William Rector, farmer, five miles from Scotia; Charles W. Merselles, farmer, one and one-half miles north from Scotia; James T. Wyatt, farmer, four miles north from Scotia, and is now Supervisor; John Houck, farmer and Commissioner of Highways, two miles northeast from Scotia. Eastward: William Dougal, farmer; Charles Dawson, farmer, and with his father in saw and grist-mill just over the line in Charlestown; J. J. Van Eps, farmer, and keeps hotel; James Van Vorst, farmer; J. H. Seeley, farmer, near the Freeman Bridge; Henry Slover, farmer and milk dealer; John Oliver, farmer; Henry Palmer and Joseph Birch, farmers. Charles Closson keeps town house and has a store. The building has been used as a town house for the past twenty years. Dan. Frank, farmer; George S. and Henry Cornell, farmers.

In the western part of the town, W. S. Hammond, hotel and store; Philip Green, farmer; George P., John H. and Thomas Conde, farmers, and descendants of first settlers; Matthew R. Brown, farmer; J. D. Van Eps, farmer; George H. Van Buran keeps blacksmith and wheelwright shops; Peter Y. Vandeveer, farmer and assessor; James Ostrom, farmer; Thomas Parks, harness-maker; Johnson and Spencer and T. R. Patten, farmers; Matthew Halenbeck, wagon-maker; Solomon Halenbeck, farmer, and former Justice of the Peace for several years; Rockwell Harmon, farmer; Edwin Young and L. B. Rulison, physicians.

Hoffman's Ferry: Latin Johnson, farmer; Aaron Bradt, farmer.

WEST GLENVILLE.

West Glenville is a village ten miles from Schenectady, containing twenty-eight dwellings, two blacksmith shops, one wagon shop, one harness shop, one shoe shop, one meat shop, one hotel—now closed—and two churches. It is in the northeast part of the town. The First Reformed Church was organized in 1813, with an endowment from Schenectady. The church was built at once, and again rebuilt in 1872 at a cost of $8,500. There was half an acre connected for a burial ground, and there has since been added to it one and one-half acres, and the trustees are now making arrangements to again enlarge it.

The minutes show the membership of 1883 to be 278; and three Sunday-schools connected with the church, with an aggregate of 200 scholars.

The different pastors and dates of their settlement over the First Reformed Church, Glenville: 1. Rev. Peter Van Zandt, installed September 8, 1818, the town then being embraced as the Fourth ward, Schenectady; 2. Rev. Elbert Slingerland, installed July 8, 1824; 3. Rev. Seth Bunnell, installed December 8, 1835; 4. Rev. Wilson Ingalls, called February 4, 1840, and soon after installed; 5. Rev. Abram H. Myers, called February 2, 1852, and soon after installed; 6. Rev. Peter Burghardt, called September 5, 1855, and soon after installed; 7. Rev. George H. Peck, called December 13, 1861, and soon after installed; 8. Rev. John Miner, called February, 1864, and soon after installed; 9. Rev. William Randell, called February 9, 1874, and soon after installed; 10. Rev. William J. Hill, called May, 1882, and soon after installed; 11. Rev. M. F. Nickerson has received an informal call, and is expected to be installed very soon.

The Methodist Episcopal Society of West Glenville was organized in 1822 by Rev. Roswell Kelley, pastor, with seventy members. The first house of worship was erected in 1823, and the present house in 1848. The church is built of brick, and valued at $2,500, and will seat two hundred and fifty persons. This society was connected with the village of Charlton until 1877, when it was connected with a flourishing society at East Glenville, with a separate pastor. The present membership of the charge is one hundred and twenty-four. Its successive pastors have been Reverends T. Dodgson, C. Pomeroy, R. Kelley, John Fassett, W. Little, D. Poor, H. Williams, George C. Wells, L. D. Sherwood, W. T. Heard, H. Williams, John Thompson, J. S. Hart, J. F. Cope, W. F. Tiffany, R. Washburn, J. B. Wood, R. Patterson, S. S. Ford, William Earle, J. H. Coleman, D. T. Elliot; and since 1877 —— Sutton, F. R. Sherwood, Joel Martin, J. P. Crane, W. W. Whitney, and the present pastor, Rev. H. S. Allen. This church a year ago procured two acres for a burial ground.

EAST GLENVILLE.

East Glenville contains a neat Methodist Episcopal Church that has been lately rebuilt and refurnished, with a burial ground attached, and a flourishing society and Sabbath-school, and a Lodge of Good Templars.

The Town House is half a mile south of the Methodist Church. It was formerly a hotel, but at present has no license. A grocery store is kept in one part of it. This is all there is of the place.

High Mills is in the northeast part of the town. It is a small place, containing a grist-mill and saw-mill, a blacksmith shop, wagon shop, and a few other small shops. The town lately built at this place, across the Aalplaat Creek, a fine iron bridge in place of the old wooden structure that formerly existed here.

SCOTIA.

The village of Scotia lies between the Mohawk and Sanders Lake, about half a mile from Schenectady. Reeseville was a suburb of Scotia of seven hundred and twenty-eight houses, and was named after a wealthy gentleman by the name of Reese who moved into that neighborhood. The two places have since grown together, and are now

known only as Scotia. Scotia, the ancient name of Scotland, was the name given by its first settler. This tract commences at a point nearly opposite the eastern extremity of the city, and extends westerly along the north side of the Mohawk about two miles. The first patent conveying it was granted November 3, 1665, by Governor Richard Niccols to Sanders Lendertse Glen (*Anglice*, Alexander Lindsay Glen). Mr. Glen was an immediate descendant of the Earl of Crawford and Lindsey, whose family had been on the peerage roll up to 1399. Mr. Glen took to wife Catharine McDonald, the daughter of a Highland chieftain. He left Scotland in the year 1645, to avoid persecution in consequence of the stand he had taken in reference to certain religious disputes which then agitated the country. He sided with the unfortunate Charles the First, who vainly strove to introduce the English liturgy into Scotland. Mr. Glen first emigrated to Holland, and engaged in mercantile pursuits for a number of years. He finally came to New York, in company with a number of Dutch families. There and in Albany and in Schenectady he resided for several years. Some time previous to 1690 he moved to Scotia. The country seat of Mr. Glen is still owned by his descendants, the Sanders family. Although it bears the advanced age of one hundred and seventy-two years, it bids fair to outlive many of the flimsy structures which characterize the American architecture of the present century. The iron figures showing the date of its erection (1713) are still to be seen. During the French wars it was rendered defensible. At the foot of a small hillock a few yards east of the mansion, tradition points to the spot where the Mohawks occasionally performed their sacrifices.

As is elsewhere related, Captain Daniel Toll, during the French and Indian war, was the first victim of the Beukendaal massacre.

Scotia contains about ninety dwellings, two stores, one hotel, without license, two blacksmith shops, shoe store, wagon-maker's shop, and a few other places of business. It has a large district school-house, two churches, fire department, and a lodge of Good Templars.

The Sanders House in this village is one of its principal attractions. It is built a few feet to the north of where the first house stood, that was spared from destruction by the French and Indians in the terrible destruction and massacre at Schenectady in 1690, on account of favors shown previously by Mr. Glen to the French and Indians in a time of their suffering. The present stone house was built in 1713, and is still owned and occupied by the Sanders family. The present occupant is Charles P. Sanders, of the seventh generation, with a large household of Sanderses. Their present farm consists of 1,000 acres, 100 acres of which is used for market garden. One hundred cows are kept on the farm, besides a large quantity of other stock. Thirty acres are used for berries. The yield of these rich alluvial flats, thoroughly worked as these are, is astonishing. Mr. Sanders has one acre that yielded this year 1,300 bushels of carrots. Mr. Sanders has three milk wagons and four vegetable wagons for delivery daily to Schenectady, and ships a large quantity of vegetables to New York.

In 1873 a fire department was organized by voluntary subscriptions, two cisterns were built, one hand engine was purchased, with 400 feet of hose and cart. In 1877 this fire company was duly incorporated by the Legislature of the State, and provisions made for its support, at an annual expense not to exceed $250, to be levied and collected upon the school district as usual school taxes are.

The organization of this company was the outcome of a series of incendiary fires, which will long be remembered by those who were residents of the village during the winter of 1873–74. For all winter long, every resident in turn was fully armed and determined to mete out justice on the spot to the incendiary. From four to ten persons patrolled the streets each night from dark to daylight, at times through snow knee-deep and in blinding storms, around every house, barn and outbuilding in the place. In two years' time, within a radius of less than one mile, four dwellings in which families were living, one vacant house, two stores, one broom shop, two blacksmith shops, one rope-walk about 400 feet long, one straw barn, one large broom-corn dry-house, three large barns, together with other small outbuildings—all of these, with their contents, furniture, horses, cows, hogs, fowls, etc., were entirely destroyed, excepting one store and dwelling, from which a portion of the contents were saved. Several other buildings were set on fire, and the fire was extinguished with small damage. The largest of these fires, and the most exciting, was on the night of November 1st and morning of the 2d, 1873, when the large rope-walk and fifteen other buildings were on fire at the same time. Since the organization of the fire company the loss by fire has been very small.

The only bridges of note are across the Mohawk, of which two are toll road bridges, and four railroad bridges, all built of iron, of the latest style and best construction. The road bridge from Scotia to Schenectady deserves special mention. At this crossing was the first ferry over the Mohawk from Schenectady to Scotia. The first bridge was built in about 1807, and was in two immense spans with but one pier, which was in the center of the river. (This pier still remains, and is the center pier of the present bridge.) This first bridge when about completed, before a team had crossed it, fell of its own weight into the river.

A second structure was built in 1809, with two additional piers. Burr, the justly celebrated architect, planned and superintended the construction of it. In 1821 this bridge was reconstructed, having passed into the hands of the President, Directors, etc., of the Mohawk Bridge Co., by an Act of the State Legislature; the cost was $49,000, divided into 85 shares. Four additional piers were added, and a cover was made over the entire length. By these additions the appearance was very irregular, and the new piers steadily settled and leaned, so that the bridge became as zig-zag as a rail fence,

and its crazy appearance to those who passed through it in its last days, will not soon be forgotten. Yet so firmly was this wooden structure put together, that the process of taking it down was a task of great difficulty.

Over this bridge the Saratoga Railroad to Albany first crossed in 1832, and continued until 1835, when the Albany and Utica Railroad was built, and united with the Saratoga and built a double-track bridge half a mile below.

The Saratoga Railroad Company, when they first built their road across the Scotia bridge, in consideration of land furnished them by Mr. Sanders on the Scotia side for depot, freight-houses and repair shops, etc., bound themselves to stop trains there twice a day forever, and to do all their repairing there. The railroad company soon after, with more forethought, bought Mr. Sanders' claim against them for the sum of $1,500, and, as before stated, united with the Utica Railroad in 1835, and built a double-track bridge half a mile below this.

By a special act of the State Legislature in 1874, the town of Glenville came into possession of the old covered bridge and took it down, and built the present superb structure, an iron bridge of nine spans, and now permits the inhabitants of Glenville to pass over it free, charging toll to all others. This bridge was constructed by the Remington Manufacturing Company, Ilion, N. Y., at a cost of $61,000. C. P. Sanders, President; I. H. Toll, T. C.; Committee: S. Hallenbeck, I. W. Pangburn, S. V. R. Ford, M. C. Dyer; and C. Hilton, engineer.

The Utica and Albany Railroad, to obtain their charter, were required to build a dyke, for a highway, from the Scotia bridge to the Sanders' residence, a distance of half a mile, across the low flats that overflow yearly, and to keep it in repair. This dyke is fifteen feet high above the flats. When the Utica Railroad became a part of the New York Central, to obtain their charter they were obliged to take this dyke and keep it in repair. The Central is now trying to throw its maintenance upon the town. Fifteen years ago, Rev. F. F. Wilson secured sufficient funds, by voluntary subscription, to build a plank walk along this dyke, and in 1874 it was replaced by a stone flag walk through money obtained in the same manner.

There is an iron toll bridge three miles down the river, connecting Glenville with Niskayuna.

The New York Central crosses from Schenectady over a four-track bridge into Glenville, and runs nine miles through the town along the Mohawk westward.

The Boston and Hoosac Tunnel Railroad, built in 1883, runs three and one-half miles in this town, and crosses on an iron bridge into Rotterdam, there connecting with the West Shore road at Rotterdam Junction. It is a single track, although its charter and bridges provide for a double track.

The Delaware and Hudson Canal Company runs three and one-half miles in the town, passing out of Schenectady on a double-track iron bridge of their own, having left the Central's bridge.

The Delaware and Hudson Canal Company have also lately built another iron bridge across the Mohawk, one and a half miles below the city, for a side track.

CHURCHES.

The Second Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Glenville, at Scotia, was organized November 21, 1818. At its organization it was called the North Branch of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Schenectady, from the fact that its first members who resided on this side of the Mohawk were formerly connected with the Dutch Church in Schenectady. This name was retained till the year 1834, when the present one was adopted. The organization of this church was largely due to the efforts of the Rev. Andrew Yates, D.D., a professor in Union College, who for several years did missionary work among the people then settled here. The names of the first consistory of this church, were: Cornelius De Graff, John Haverly, John Van Patten and Aaron Van Antwerp, elders; Alexander Van Epps, Cornelius Viele, Simon Van Patten and Aaron R. Schermerhorn, deacons. The church edifice, built of brick, was completed and dedicated July 14, 1822. There was no settled pastor until the year 1826, it being supplied by Revs. Yates and Proudfit, of Union College. The following is the list of its pastors and the length of their pastorates: Rev. James Murphy, eight years; Rev. Hermon B. Stryker, three years; Rev. A. J. Stuits, four years; Rev. A. B. Crocker, six years; Rev. N. D. Williamson, four years; Rev. Elbert Slingerland, three years; Rev. Philip Berry, eighteen months; Rev. F. F. Wilson, six years; Rev. A. A. Bookstaver, about two years; Rev. A. Johnston, four years; Rev. H. Van Derwart, six years. The present pastor is Rev. D. K. Van Doren. He took charge of the church May 1, 1883. The first parsonage for the use of the minister was purchased October, 1829, of Barent Cramer. It was located in the village of Scotia, and cost three hundred dollars. The present parsonage is situated upon the church lot, and occupies the most beautiful and sightly location in this region. It was built in the year 1870, and belongs to the Ladies' Society connected with the church. This society was organized in the year 1850, and was incorporated in 1870.

In the rear and on either side of the church is the cemetery, including about an acre of ground, which was laid out in lots and inclosed by a stone wall in the year 1849. This stone wall was the work of John Chamberlain and John Sanders. The burial place prior to the year 1849 was along the highway that leads from the church to Scotia.

The interior of the church edifice has twice been repaired; the first during the pastorate of Rev. F. F. Wilson, when the high pulpit, that stood on pillars, and the old-fashioned square pews were removed; and again during the pastorate of Rev. H. Van Derwart, when a thorough internal renovation and remodeling took place at a cost of over $3,000. It is a gem in its present internal arrangement. The present consistory are: W. T. L. Sanders, William Rector, John Lansing and John Houck, Elders;

and Joseph Cornell, Peleg Thomas, Anthony Stalker, John McMichael, Deacons. The present membership of the church is one hundred and sixty-one. The Superintendent of the Sabbath-school is Hon. W. T. L. Sanders, who has occupied that important position for twenty-five years.

The Scotia Baptist Church of Glenville was organized July 1, 1840, with a membership of sixty-seven, which has increased to one hundred. The value of church property is $9,000.

The pastors have been: S. McCollum, 1840 to 1842; H. J. Moshier, 1842 to 1843; William Bowen, 1849 to 1850; Almon Virgil, 1851 to 1852; Rev. Mr. Green, 1853 to death; J. H. Kent, ordained January, 1855, to May, 1857; J. W. Jones, 1856 to 1861; T. S. Rudgers, 1862 to 1864; Simeon Knapp, ordained February, 1865 to death, May 15, 1867; C. L. Van Allen, 1867 to 1871; H. W. Webber, 1871 to 1873; J. R. Merriman, 1873 to 1876; T. H. Judson, 1877 (six months); T. G. Lamb, 1877 to 1878; Edward Conover, 1879 to 1883. The pastorate is now vacant.

The church for about twenty years has had a burial ground of four acres. These facts are furnished by W. G. Caw, Esq., clerk.

SCHOOLS.

There are eighteen districts and school-houses, of which fourteen are in the town and four are joint districts connecting with adjoining towns. School buildings are generally good. Scotia has a fine two-story brick structure, with two departments, employing two first-class teachers. Mr. Wemple is principal. It has 105 scholars. Whole number of scholars in the town between the ages of five and twenty-one years, 780. The pay of teachers is from one to two dollars per day.

THE TOLL FAMILY.

Anterior to the arrival in America of Karel Haensen Toll, nothing definite of the direct lineage is recorded. The name, however, is not unknown in foreign history.

In old records the name is variously written as Toll, Tol, Van Toll, Van Tholl, and Tollins.

Henrich Toll, surnamed "the Valiant," commanded the Dutch ship in which he bore the order for the surrender of the New Netherlands to the English, June 7, 1674.

Karel Haensen Toll was born in Norway about 1650. He was a mariner, and while on a cruise was captured off the coast of Central America and imprisoned in the fortress of Puerto Bello. He escaped, swam to a vessel, and reached New York probably in 1680. He soon came to Albany, and there married Tyobert Binckhout. In 1684 they removed to Schenectady and bought part of the seventh flat. In 1694 he was a member of the Dutch Church. He bought many parcels of land, some of them quite extensive, and once owned what is now the Court House lot in Schenectady. In 1715 he was elected to the first Assembly convened after the accession of George I, and served until 1726. He died at his home at Maalwyck on March, 1737. Much of the property of Karel Toll is still in the possession of his descendants. Maalwyck is retained by the heirs of his son Simon, and those of his son Daniel occupy Beukendaal.

Captain Daniel Toll, born July, 1691, married Grietje, daughter of Samuel Bratt, September 8, 1717. Seven children were born, three of whom were living when he made his will in 1747. His wife died in 1743. He was the first victim of the Beukendaal massacre. [An account of this massacre will be found in connection with the French and Indian Wars.]

Johannes Toll, son of Daniel, was born August 13, 1719, and married Eva Van Petten December 23, 1742. He died December 21, 1746, leaving a wife and one child.

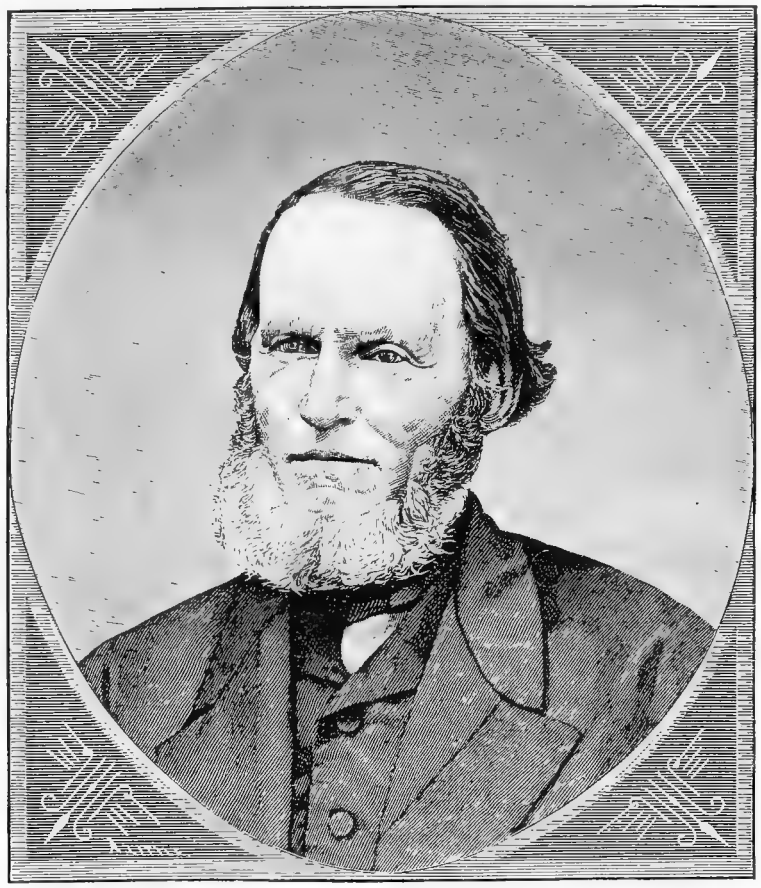
Carel Haensen Toll, son of Johannes, born February 1745, married Elizabeth, daughter of Philip Ryley, January 10, 1767. He inherited the Beukendaal estate. He also purchased other lands. Tunis Vrooman, John Winne and others now own part of these lands. He died at the homestead August 26, 1832, and Elizabeth also died there October 25, 1839. They had seven children, five daughters, all of whom made desirable marriages, and two sons, Johannes and Philip Ryley. Philip R. Toll married the daughter of Judge Isaac De Graff, of Schenectady. He served in the war of 1812 under General Wade Hampton. In 1834 he removed to Michigan, where he subsequently died.

Johannes Toll (John C.) was born September 13, 1780. He graduated from Union College in 1799, and subsequently entered the ministry of the Reformed Dutch Church. He lost his health in 1821, and removed to his farm, where he died October 21, 1849. His wife survived him until October 9, 1859. They had three sons and one daughter.

Philip Ryley Toll was born February 9, 1811, at Canajoharie, N. Y., and married Maria De Graff, of Amsterdam, N. Y., September 13, 1842. He died at the homestead April 7, 1883. He left a widow and one son and two daughters, the eldest being married to Mr. E. D. Hill, of Albany, N. Y., September 13, 1882.

The Toll homestead, now called Locust Vale, is at present managed by Frank R. Toll. It is situated on the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, four miles northwest from Schenectady, and contains 180 acres. The residence, farm buildings and soil make it one of the finest homes in the section. The residence is surrounded by thrifty orchards. Upon the premises are Toll's Vinegar Works, where during the last year 10,000 bushels of apples were made into cider.

Miss Maria Antoinette Toll kindly furnished a detailed history of the Toll family. We regret that lack of space forbids our publishing it in full—only a part appears above. Miss Toll is a daughter of the late Philip R. Toll, Esq., Glenville, of the Beukendaal (Beech Valley) Farm. She is a fine artist, having studied under Mr. Palmer, of Albany, and has lately opened a studio in Schenectady that is attracting much attention.



Wm Rector

WILLIAM RECTOR was born in Glenville (then the fourth ward of the city of Schenectady) December 4, 1806, a son of Zachariah and Maria (Moore) Rector, natives of Schodac, Rensselaer County. His education was limited to the course of instruction then afforded by the common schools of his native town. He was obliged to work to earn a living for himself, and also to aid his father's family, from the time he was a mere lad. May 12, 1834, he married Miss Susan Haverley, of Glenville. His mother died December 24, 1841, and his father November 15, 1845, when he inherited the latter's farm. In December, 1847, he purchased his present homestead, and moved thereon in March, 1848, from the family homestead, a mile north, where he has since lived. Mr. and Mrs. Rector have been spared through a long period of married life. They have had three children, two of whom, Christian Rector and Mrs. J. T. Wyatt, are living.

Mr. Rector has been a life-long Democrat, and has taken a creditable interest in public affairs. The concerns of his town have commanded his attention to a considerable degree, and he has served his townsmen as Assessor, Commissioner of Highways, and for twenty-seven years as one of the Trustees of the Town Fund. He, as has his family, has long been connected with the Dutch Reformed Church of Scotia, to the interests of which he has ever been a willing and liberal contributor.

BROOM CORN.

The first broom corn planted in the Mohawk Valley was about fifty years ago.

Isaac Toll, father of Charles B. Toll, present proprietor of the Maalwyck Farm, one and one-half miles west from Schenectady, was one of the first to engage in its production. George Canfield, of New Jersey, came to Glenville about 1840. He invented the hand-planter, the horse-planter, and greatly improved the broom-winder.

Mr. Charles H. Toll was one of the largest cultivators and consumers of broom corn in the world. He planted 100 acres, and converted into brooms the products of 1,000 acres yearly. Mr. Toll invented a machine for winding brooms

by steam, one for sewing them, and also one for inclosing bunches of brooms in manilla sacks. His sales here have been 47,000 dozen brooms annually, 20,000 dozen of which he manufactured.

Since 1877 the broom-corn interest has declined in Glenville. The competition of western lands is the cause. Parties from Glenville have gone to different parts of the country and given instructions in the business. Glenville farmers have lately engaged quite extensively in the milk business, supplying the people of Schenectady, and now only a few small broom factories remain in the town. [In connection with the history of the industries of Schenectady, a more general account of broom corn appears.]

We take pleasure in making mention of the following well-known citizens, who, by their guaranteed support, have helped to insure the publication of this valuable work: J. G. Lansing, P. A. Livingston, C. W. Marcellus, Joseph K. Passage, Wm. Rector, Charles P. Sanders, Jr., F. R. Toll, James Van Vorst and J. D. Van Epps.

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NISKAYUNA.

By Rev. E. E. TAYLOR.

INTRODUCTION.

THE name of this town is said to be derived from the term Nis-ti-go-oo-ne, or Co-nis-ti-glo-no, by which it is known on the old maps. The name signifies extensive corn flats. The term was also applied to portions of Watervliet and Halfmoon, and the first ward of Schenectady. Upon the advent of the whites, this place was occupied by a tribe of Indians known as the Conistigione.

Niskayuna was formed from Watervliet, Albany County, March 7, 1809, with a population of 681; and a part of Schenectady was annexed in 1853. Niskayuna contains 10,471 acres. It lies on the Mohawk in the east part of the County. Its surface is mostly upland, terminating in steep bluffs upon the river valley. The intervales are very rich and productive. A strip of land, about a mile wide, extending back from the summits of the bluffs, has a hard clay soil, and a considerable portion of it is swampy and unfit for cultivation; further south the soil is sandy. Population of the town in 1880 was 990.

The following are the names, which tradition has preserved, of a few of the chiefs of the Connestigiune band, who inhabited this section of country: Ron-warrigh-wok-go-wa, signifying in English the great fault-finder or grumbler; Ka-na-da-rokh-go-wa, signifying a great eater; Ro-ya-na, a chief; As-sa ve-go, big knife; A-voon-ta-go-wa, big tree. Of these, the first made the greatest objections to alienating their lands to the whites, and in every deed was careful to have a covenant inserted, by which the rights of hunting and fishing were preserved to them. It was a common saying of his that "after the whites have taken possession of our lands, they will make kaut-sore (literally 'spoon food' or soup) of our bodies." Yet he was on the most friendly terms with the whites, and was never backward in extending to them his powerful influence and personal aid during their expeditions against the Canadians during the French war. He took great delight in instructing the boys of the settlers in the arts of war. He was constantly complaining that the government did not prosecute the war against the French with sufficient vigor. The council fire of the Connestigiune band was held about a mile south of the village.

Niskayuna was visited in 1687 by a spy from the Adirondacks, the allies of the French. Hunger drove him to the house of a Dutchman by the name of Van Brakle, where he devoured an enormous quantity of the food set before him, which happened to be pork and peas. Although his movements had been marked with more than usual caution, the eagle eye of "the Grumbler" detected him. He waylaid him on leaving the house of his entertainer, and after a short conflict made him bite the dust. Having severed the head of the corpse from the body, he repaired to the house of Van Brakle, and threw the head into the window, exclaiming to the owner, "behold the head of your pea-eater."

The first settlement of this town was made by an independent class of Hollanders—like the pioneers of Schenectady—who located outside the manor line to avoid the conflicting exactions of the Patroons, and the trading government of the New Netherlands. It was settled at an early date, about the same time that Schenectady was.

EARLY SETTLERS.

Among the early settlers were the Clutes, Vedders, Van Vrankens, Groots, Tymersons, Consauls, Pearses, Van Brookhovens, Claas Jansen, and Krygiers (now written Cregier).

From an old document it appears that Harmon Vedder obtained a patent for some land here in 1664.

The mention of Captain Martin Krygier revives the memory of an old Holland soldier who is buried on this soil, and was one of Governor Stuyvesant's most trusted friends, ambassadors and

officers; who had fought for him in many battles, and was his strong right arm in the front rank in every hour of danger. His descendants still reside in Niskayuna and some of them probably on the old homestead farm.

Niskayuna is honored in holding such a deposit of the old colonial times, and his descendants, who are numerous in the State, should revere his memory.

Among others worthy of note are Johannes Clute, who settled in Niskayuna in 1684 on lands he received by will from his rich uncle, Captain Johannes Clute, of Albany. He married Baata, daughter of Garret Van Slichtenhorst, and granddaughter of Brant Arantse Van Slichtenhorst, who was director (head man) of the colony of Rensselaerwyck in 1646, and who proved to be a foeman worthy of Governor Stuyvesant's most bitter animosity. She was also the granddaughter of the indomitable Colonel Philip Pieterse Schyler. In 1629, her husband, Johannes, being a prisoner in Canada, this remarkable woman, with great ability managed all his business affairs. Johannes Clute died November 26, 1725, and was buried in Niskayuna. He left surviving him three sons and five daughters.

John Duncan, a young Scotchman, with his wife, Martha March, came to Schenectady in 1755. He was possessed of a good capital, and opened an extensive mercantile establishment on an improved and extensive scale, and was very successful. He subsequently purchased all of the present town of Princetown and titles to lands; these are now held under grants from himself and sons. He built a country seat called the Hermitage (that after his decease burned down) on his farm of 800 acres in the town of Niskayuna, a part of which is at present owned and occupied by ex-Senator Charles Stanford. The place is on the Schenectady and Albany turnpike, about three miles from the City of Schenectady. At the Hermitage, Mr. Duncan died May 5, 1791, aged 69 years, much esteemed for generous hospitality and unostentatious benevolence.

Shortly after the Hermitage was burned down, the place came into the hands of the Schuylers, who built a house on a rise of ground about one hundred yard snorth of the site where the Hermitage stood—the site of the Hermitage is distinctly marked by its old well that stood by the door, which the writer was shown while visiting the place. The Schuylers, after living here a number of years, sold the place to Captain Hand, and after a few years he sold the place to John I. Vrooman, and he sold it to Josiah Stanford in March, 1859. Josiah Stanford died 1861, and in 1865 Senator Charles Stanford, son of Josiah, bought the place of the heirs, rebuilt, enlarged and modernized the dwelling, and converted the place into a first-class stock farm. Mr. Stanford owns several valuable farms, and is largely connected with many leading enterprises in the City of Schenectady. He is a large stockholder in and a Director of the Water-works, and in the McQueen Locomotive works.

Spoor Jan Symonse lived in Niskayuna in 1664. His daughter Antjo was killed by the French and Indians at Schenectady in 1690.

Clute.—There were three individuals of this name who early became residents of Albany or Niskayuna—Captain Jan, his nephew Johannes, and Frederick Clute.

Captain Jan Clute came to Beverwyck about 1656, from Nuremburg, and became a trader and considerable land holder in Beverwyck, Loonenburgh (opposite Hudson), Niskayuna, etc. He was held in great esteem by the Indians, from whom he obtained large grants of land. It is not known that he had any other relative here than Johannes Clute, his nephew, who on his death in 1683 became his heir.

Johannes Clute.—Through embarrassment, caused either by his own or his uncle's debts, Johannes was obliged to part with a portion of his land soon after the death of his uncle. To add to his other troubles he was taken prisoner in 1692 by the Indians and carried captive to Canada. While absent, his affairs were managed by his wife, Baata Van Slichtenhorst. On the 28th of June she cited Sanders Glen and Barent Wemp, Administrators of Sweer Teunise Van Vechten's estate, before the Court of Albany, demanding of them nine pounds six shillings and six-pence "for ye remaining pay^{t} of a negro named Jacob, sold by old John Cloet to Sweer Teunise, and produce ye book of s^{d} John Cloet, Senior, kept by her husband, John Cloet, Junior." The defendants asked time. By his wife Baata, daughter of Gerret Van Slichtenhorst, he had eight children. He was buried in Niskayuna, November 26, 1725.

Frederick Clute came from Kingston to Niskayuna in 1703, and bought one hundred and fifty acres of land from Johannes Clute. What relationship, if any, existed between them is not known. He married Francyntje Du Mond, or Dumont, probably in Kingston, before removing to Niskayuna with six children, and had four afterwards.

All the Clutes in this region are believed to be descendants from either Johannes or Frederick.

Robert H. Wendell, a son of Hendrick Wendell, Jr., of Albany, was born February 7, 1760. He was an attorney-at-law, and married Agnes, daughter of Peter Fonda. He died at his country seat, on the Troy turnpike, within a short distance of Schenectady, July 7, 1848, aged eighty-eight years and five months.

H. R. Wendell

HENRY R. WENDELL.

The Wendell family, which is so creditably represented at Schenectady, Albany and elsewhere in this part of the county, is of Holland extraction, and during many generations has ranked as one of the leading families of Albany and vicinity. Three brothers of the name were among the early settlers in this county. In time a descendant of one of these married Helen Van Rensselaer, daughter of Hendrick Van Rensselaer and Catrina Van Brough, his wife. Catrina Van Brough was the daughter of Johannes Van Brough and Catrina Jans, his wife. Catrina Jans was the daughter of Roeloff Jans and Anneke Jans, his wife, who, after his death, became the wife of Dominie Everhardus Bogardus. Thus it will be seen that all of the descendants of Jacob Wendell and his wife, Helen Van Rennselaer, are descendants from the celebrated Anneke Jans, whose possessions, both in her own right and through her marriage with Dominie Bogardus, embraced much of what is now highly valuable property in and near New York City, including the Trinity Church property, which has figured so prominently in the public prints for many years. The unique coat of arms of the Wendell family is in possession of Miss Agnes L. Wendell, of Schenectady.

Henry Wendell was a son of Jacob Wendell above-mentioned, and was born in Albany. He married Mary Lansing, of the old Albany family of that name, and to them was born Robert H. Wendell, father of Henry R. Wendell. Henry Wendell held under the crown, and later, under the sovereignty of the State, the office of High Sheriff, with a jurisdiction quadruple the extension it has at present. At the breaking out of the revolutionary war, both he and his son, Robert H. Wendell (who was born in Albany, February 7, 1760), joined the cause of liberty, and engaged each year in the perils of the same. Robert served in the counties of Herkimer, Schoharie and Saratoga; was engaged in the principal battles and skirmishes on the Mohawk, and more particularly at West Canada Creek, where the British force from Canada, under the command of Colonel Butler, Major Ross and Brandt, was met and routed, and Butler killed. The war over, he was educated professionally, and

at the age of twenty-four removed to Schenectady and commenced practice as an attorney. He was the oldest attorney on the list, and during his career an active pleader as well as counselor. Schenectady then claimed Robert H. Wendell as her onward legal son, and at his decease an honored sire in the legal circle. Some years he spent, now asserting, now defending rights, till disease came and he was forced to quit his profession. He removed to College Hill and built his house and improved his lands—changed pursuits, and brought to bear on agriculture a sound and philosophic judgment; and thus lived till he died (July 7, 1848), when in the memory of those who knew his virtues, he left a recollection sweet as pure, and a eulogy in their hearts for one who cherished for his fellow-men true benevolence, and for his country devoted patriotism. His wife, Agnes Fonda, was born in Schenectady March 26, 1760, and died on College Hill March 30, 1828.

Henry R. Wendell, son of Robert H. Wendell and Agnes Fonda, his wife, was born at the corner of State street and Mill lane, Schenectady (now the Y. M. C. A. property), where his father resided, September 18, 1784, and died on College Hill, at the Wendell homestead, March 13, 1868, aged eighty-three years. His youth was spent in the house of his father at Schenectady, and in the household of General Matthew Trotter, of Albany. He prepared for college at the best schools in Albany, and in due time was graduated from Union College. It is not strange that the son of one revolutionary patriot and the grandson of another should have inherited a martial spirit, nor that it should have been rendered active and intensified by the events which preceded the outbreak of the war of 1812-14. He was one of the first to offer his services in defense of his country, and on the 3d of January, 1812, he was commissioned as ensign in the Sixth Regiment of Infantry. He was placed in charge of a recruiting rendezvous at Schenectady soon afterward, and met with much success in raising volunteers. In July following he received orders to close the recruiting station and join Captain Nelson's company, then lying with other troops at Greenbush. Not long afterward the entire command was ordered to the Niagara frontier, and Mr. Wendell did gallant service and braved many dangers at Black Rock, Queenston, Lewiston and Fort Niagara, and later at Plattsburgh and Sackett's Harbor. He was promoted to be a second lieutenant January 12, 1812, and to be a first lieutenant March 27, 1814. His several commissions are preserved by his daughter, Miss Agnes L. Wendell, and a record left by him shows that he did not terminate his military career until August, 1815, when he was constrained to resign by a probability of being brought into conflict with the civil authorities of Schenectady, near which place he was at that time stationed. Documents which are still in existence show that he merited and received the commendation of his commanding officers. After the war he lived for a time at Niskayuna, at Alexander's bridge (since the construction of the canal called the aqueduct), where he combined the duties incident to attending to the bridge—store-keeping, farming and tavern-keeping. Later he removed to Schenectady and passed the balance of his life on College Hill. November 22, 1817, he was married by the Rev. Charles Stebbins, of Schenectady, to Miss Parmela Perry, daughter of Benjamin and Love Perry, who was born in Salisbury, Conn., April 11, 1790, and died December 18, 1870, aged eighty years.

Children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Henry R. Wendell as follows: Anna Maria, who married Mr. James M. Moyston, and died February 4, 1865; Margaret, who married Mr. E. Willard Trotter, and died March 13, 1868; Agnes L., who is still living at the Wendell homestead; and Abby, who died January 5, 1880.

Mr. Wendell is remembered by nearly all of the older residents of the city as one of the few who lived beyond the period of the old Schenectady into that of the busy, enterprising Schenectady of to-day. He was an interesting conversationalist, and was rich in historical reminiscences of this section. He was a man of good mental ability, high honor and genial social qualities, and it is to be regretted that he was the last male of his family in direct line.

WARS AND FORTIFICATIONS.

In 1746 Governor Clinton recommended to build a line of block-houses for fortifications west from Fort Massachusetts to the Mohawk Castle at Fort Hunter, which was adopted. One of them was built at Canastagioone (Niskayuna).

[See French and Indian Wars, and Forts and Garrisons for complete account.]

PROVINCIAL INTERPRETER.

Hilitie, the eldest daughter of Cornelis Antonisen, married Peter Danielse Van Olinda, of Niskayuna. She was for many years employed as provincial interpreter with the Indians by the government at $50 per annum. The Mohawk sachems in 1667 gave her the Great Island in the Mohawk River at Niskayuna. She and her husband sold the island in 1669 to Captain Johannes Clute. The island is now owned and occupied by the Quaker Community of Watervliet. The sachems also gave land at the Willow Flats below Port Jackson, and at the Boght on the Mohawk in Watervliet. She died February 10, 1807, leaving three sons, Daniel, Jacob, and Matthew. The last died unmarried. Daniel, the oldest son, born June 11, 1696, married Lysbeth Kregear, a granddaughter of the old Burgomaster Martinus Gregier. Jacob, the second son, married Eva, daughter of Class De Graff, and left four sons, named Peter, William, Martin, and Nicholas; also one daughter, Helena, who, on the 16th of June, 1723, married Johannes Quackenbos.

THE NISKAYUNA PATENT.

This tract lay to the east and south of the Schenectady patent, and extended from the Ael-Plaats south to the north line of the Manor of Rensselaerwyck.

On the 5th of August, 1738, a patent was obtained for this land by Arent Bradt and Jacob Glen,

in trust for the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Schenectady. It was then estimated to contain 2,500 acres, but owing to an error in measurement, rectified in 1788, fell considerably short of that amount.

[See Church History for account of land grants.]

RIVER FLATS.

It is two centuries and a quarter since this valley was settled. It lies in a beautiful intervale on the margin of the Mohawk River, the great highway to the West.

These flats were tilled for generations before 1661 by the Indians, and they still yield rich harvests, in many cases to the descendants of the original white settlers—indeed to some whose ancestors antedated the Dutch regime.

The alluvial deposits of this valley are constantly enriched by the annual floods. This constitutes the widely known Mohawk Flats, which, though cultivated by the white man for more than two hundred years, have lost none of their unsurpassed fertility.

In the early period of the settlement no other land was tilled, hence they were called the land, arable land or bouwland, all else being denominated woodland, and little valued. In addition to their fertility, these flats presented another advantage to the first settlers—they were mainly free from wood and ready for the plough and seed. For ages they had been the native's corn land, whilst the adjacent forests and rivers furnished him with flesh and fish.

The great sand belt which passes across the towns of Rotterdam, Niskayuna, and Glenville, from south to north, was once covered with a heavy growth of pines, while the highlands lying north and west of it produced the usual varieties of hardwood.

Arent Van Curler, in letters written at the time, mentioned the many natural advantages of this section.

That a few fur-traders and bosloopers early roved among the Mohawks, married, and raised families of half-breeds, cannot be denied; indeed there are respectable families in the valley to this day whose pedigree may be traced back to these marriages.

The Ballston Turnpike crosses the Mohawk at Alexander's bridge, built in 1805, four miles below Schenectady, where there is a succession of falls and a low rolling dam across the river. But the mills are things of the past.

The Erie Canal is carried over the Mohawk here into Niskayuna upon a magnificent aqueduct, 748 feet long and 25 feet above the stream, and falls immediately by three locks 21 feet, running through this town westward to Schenectady, a distance of five miles.

The Troy and Schenectady Railroad, built in 1843, runs through this town a distance of ten miles. It is a single-track road, and at present runs four passenger trains a day each way.

Union Street, Schenectady, leading to Niskayuna, was formerly known as Niskayuna Street, and was so named in honor of the old Niskayuna settlement just outside of the manor of Rensselaerwyck, whose inhabitants were very intimate with those of Schenectady, and many families were related.

College Hill was called Niskayuna Bergh.

The Aqueduct is a railroad station on the Troy and Schenectady Railroad six miles from Schenectady. Across the Mohawk, on the opposite side is the village of Rexford Flats, where the people of this vicinity receive their mail.

Niskayuna is a small hamlet in the southeast corner of the town. It contains the Reformed Church, of eventful memory, a store and post-office, and a hotel kept by William H. Miller, and a few dwellings. There is also a flourishing lodge of Good Templars of eighty members. The lodge holds its meetings in the vestry of the church.

Shaker Island is a half mile east of the Niskayuna post-office, containing eighty acres, owned and occupied by the Shaker families of Watervliet. It is used simply for farming purposes.

Shortly after the revolution, the Albany and Schenectady Turnpike Company built a stone tramway from Albany to Schenectady, to expedite the hauling of goods and for a stage road. This road is much of it still in good repair, and toll is still collected upon it. The road passes about three miles through Niskayuna.

Lishakill Hamlet is situated near the eastern line of this town, so that the people of this part of the town get their mail and attend church at Lishakill. The Second Reformed Church here is in the town of Watervliet, but belongs to the Schenectady Classis.

The following novel marriage is said to have occurred somewhere in this vicinity, and is well worth preservation. About 150 years ago, according to tradition, when clergymen were not as plenty as they now are, a young gentleman and his affianced were anxiously awaiting the happy day which was to see them united in the silken bonds of matrimony. They resided on the north side of the Tomhannœk Creek, and the clergyman who had been engaged to tie the knot lived on the south side of the same stream. As the fates would have it, heavy rain fell the night previous to the nuptial day, which rendered the creek impassable. Its waters were rising and its current becoming more rapid every hour. The clergyman arrived at the appointed time at a place where he had been in the habit of fording the creek, but it was as much as his life was worth to attempt to cross it then. He turned his horse's head to return, when he was hailed by two voices on the opposite side of the stream. They were those of the groom and bride, who intreated him to stay. After some debate it was agreed that the ceremony should proceed. In the meantime the friends of the betrothed arrived from the bride's house in the neighborhood. Then was presented a singular spectacle; "the like thereof was never seen before," and probably will not be again. The dominie read the marriage service on the margin of the creek, while the parties stood and responded on the opposite side. After the ceremony was over

the groom tossed a few guilders across the creek, which the dominie picked up and pocketed as his fee, mounted his horse and proceeded homeward, and the married couple did the same.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.—There are in the town of Niskayuna four school districts and as many school-houses, with as many teachers employed. Average cost of school-houses $600. There are annually taught 298 scholars (besides many that attend the school in the City of Schenectady). The average price paid to teachers is $7.50 per week. C. W. Van Sanford is the School Commissioner.

TOWN OFFICERS.—Supervisor, Thomas W. Winne; Justice of the Peace, John H. Putnam; Assessor, C. W. Miller; Collector, Henry C. Rankin; Town Clerk, Thomas D. Tree.

COUNTY OFFICERS.—(See Officers.)

REFORMED CHURCH AT NISKAYUNA.

I. ITS ORGANIZATION.

The precise date of organization of the Reformed (Dutch) Church of Niskayuna cannot be determined. It was probably organized by the Classis of Albany, to which it belonged until the organization of the Classis of Schenectady. The first book of minutes of the Classis of Albany being lost by fire, the facts and dates are for the most part lost with it. The regular records of this church begin with 1784. There is a list of baptisms dated 1783. Among loose papers in the archives of the consistory, is a subscription list dated 1773. There must have been records even before this, but they cannot be found. From the fact that the first church building was erected not later than 1760, and that before that there stood on the same spot a "Galat House," or prayer-house, which was used for worship on the Sabbath, and as a school-house during the week, it seems safe enough to date the formal organization of the church at about 1750. In 1784 a Dutch Church was organized at the Boght, and from the relations afterwards sustained with Niskayuna, it was evidently a child of this church. In the year 1803 that part of the congregation lying upon the north side of the Mohawk was organized into the Reformed (Dutch) Church of Amity, it becoming the second child of Niskayuna Church. In 1852 the southern part of the congregation was organized into the Reformed (Dutch) Church of Lishas' Kill, which was the third and last child of this church. Thus has this church become the mother of churches and brought forth a three-fold increase, still remaining strong and healthy in her own home life.

ITS BUILDINGS.

First of all we find the "Galat House," or prayer-house, already mentioned. No record or tradition of the date of its erection can be found. It stood at the foot of the hill in Niskayuna Village, on the old road from Troy to Schenectady. This building gave way to a church, built on the same spot about 1760. This church was a square building, with four-sided roof running up to a point in the middle. It had a gallery on the side opposite the pulpit, and below it had raised benches along the walls for the men, and benches on the floor in the middle for the women. It stood until 1828, when a new church was erected upon the present site. This new site and building was on the north side of the Troy and Schenectady turnpike, nearly half way between the two cities. The church building was 50 x 65 feet. It was dedicated March 6, 1829, and stood until July, 1852. The present edifice then took its place. It is a neat and substantial brick building, with white bell-tower, and was put up at a cost of a little over $4,000. There is a pleasant chapel and Sabbath-school-room, the only one ever erected, standing near the church, which was built in 1871. In 1832 there was a parsonage built on the west side of the church, the present site, at a cost of $626.27. This house stood in constant use until 1873, when the present large and handsome house was erected at a cost of $2,725 and the material of the old house.

ITS MINISTRY.

During the early period up to 1790, according to an abstract of history deposited in the corner-stone of the present church building, the congregation enjoyed the labors of Rev. Sansom Occum, a Mohican Indian, from Connecticut; "Lorenzo Dow," the eccentric Methodist itinerant; Rev. D. Romeyn, Rev. Mr. Westerlo, Rev. Elias Van Benschoten, and others. This was the time of desolation and suffering and privation caused by the revolution. In 1790, in connection with the church at the Boght, the Rev. John Demarest was called. He served the two congregations until 1803, when he resigned and went to a new charge in New Jersey. This same year the connection of this church and the Boght was dissolved, and the church of Niskayuna was vacant for three years. In the meantime the northern part of the congregation was organized into the Church of Amity; and in 1806 the two congregations, Niskayuna and Amity, united in calling Rev. Thomas Romeyn. He was pastor of the joint charge for twenty-one years, from 1806 to 1827. Up to the beginning of his ministry the service had all been in Dutch. He began preaching alternately in Dutch and English. In 1811 it was voted unanimously that the proportion should be three of English to one of Dutch. In 1816 it was again unanimously decided to have all English preaching.

In the same year of Mr. Romeyn's removal, 1827, the two congregations of Niskayuna and Amity again united in calling Rev. John McKelvey, a young graduate of the Theological Seminary at New Brunswick. He left after a three years' pastorate. In the next year, 1831, the churches, still united, called Rev. John Van Wagnen. During his pastorate, in 1834, the partnership with the church of Amity was dissolved, and he remained for one year pastor of Niskayuna alone. In 1835 he resigned, going to another charge in Linlithgo, N. Y. In 1836, the church of Niskayuna alone called Rev. Henry A. Raymond. He had a long, prosperous and acceptable ministry of nearly fifteen years. He resigned in 1850, and moved to the church of Owasco, N. Y. In 1851

the church called Rev. Goyn Talmage. His ministry was short, but full of lasting work. He peacefully divided the unwieldy congregation into two, and instead of the one old wooden church, he left two of brick, each in its appropriate place and fit to serve succeeding generations, all paid for. In 1855 he resigned, and went to Greenpoint, N. Y. The two churches, Niskayuna and Lishas' Kill, then united in calling Rev. Cornelius L. Wells, who remained with them two and one-half years, when he was called to the Third Reformed Church of Jersey City. In October of the same year, 1858, the two churches called the Rev. John A. De Baun, D. D., who remained their faithful and honored and loved pastor for nearly twenty-five years, until April, 1883, when he was called to Fonda, N. Y., and resigned. In October, 1883, the partnership between the two churches was dissolved, and Niskayuna congregation called the present pastor, Rev. C. P. Ditmars.

ITS GROWTH AND PRESENT STATUS.

During all these years the increase of the church and community must of course have been great, else from the mother church so many children could not have been separated. When Rev. John Demarest came in 1790 he found 74 members During all those years, from that date until now, there must have been received into the church here at least 1,000 members.

The present statistics are as follows: families, 120; members in full communion, 223; baptized non-communicant members, 110. Raised this year for congregational purposes about $1,400; for benevolence about $300.

The present consistory is as follows: Rev. C. P. Ditmars, President; Cornelius Van Vranken, Fletcher Onderdonk, Garret I. Van Vranken, Abram L. Vedder, Elders; W. H. H. Freleigh, Wendall Milbanks, Benjamin H. Lansing, Wesley Miller, Deacons.

There is a Sabbath-school connected with the church, of about fifteen teachers and one hundred and fifty scholars. Its Superintendent is Mr. G. W. Freleigh; Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Jacob V. Pearse; Treasurer, Mr. John V. Green.

There is also a cemetery adjoining the church property, and belonging to it. It consists of three acres, pleasantly situated upon the hillside and top, and is kept in good condition, being under the care of the sexton of the church. It may be noted there is a residence for the sexton in one corner of the church grounds, in which he lives, and there are large and commodious horse-sheds, giving shelter for more than fifty teams.

SOME OF THE PROMINENT RESIDENTS AT THE PRESENT TIME.

C. O. Hamlin, farmer, ex-Supervisor, four miles from Schenectady, on Albany turnpike; Thomas W. Hinne, farmer and Supervisor, on the Troy road, six miles from Schenectady; Thomas D. Tree, Town Clerk, four miles east of Schenectady; G. G. Maxon & Son, Aqueduct road, three miles from Schenectady; Cornelius & Aaron Van Vranken and other Van Vrankens, farmers, east of the Troy road, from five to seven miles from Schenectady. The Van Vrankens are numerous, fifteen of them in one part of this town, farmers. Their residences are known as the Van Vranken neighborhood. Among them are: J. D. Van Vranken, Freleigh Van Vranken, and Mrs. A. M. Van Vranken, all farmers. The Vedders are also a numerous family. There are eight families of them, farmers. Lewis Brewer, farmer and philanthropist, Troy road, two miles from Schenectady; Clark V. Warden, farmer and ex-Sheriff, near Senator Stanford's place; Charles W. Whitbeck, farmer, near Rexford Flats; Garret L. Whitbeck, on turnpike, four miles from city; P. E. Whitbeck, on turnpike, four miles from city; C. Reynolds, farmer, Troy road, six miles from Schenectady; George Reynolds, farmer, Troy road, six miles from Schenectady; John Van Antwerp, farmer, four miles northeast from city; William Craig, farmer, on the top of the bluff south of the Aqueduct on the old Craig Place; Jeff. Thompson, farmer, on the old Vedder Place, one mile south of the Aqueduct; Ezra, Casper and Martin Ham are farmers, three and a half miles east of Schenectady; Conrad, Jacob, Thomas and Frank Mesick are farmers, about five miles east of Schenectady; John McShea, Attorney of Niskayuna Village, ex-County Clerk and Justice of the Peace; Henry Lansing is an old and respected settler, and lives west of Lishas' Kill; J. V. Clute, farmer, on Troy and Schenectady turnpike; Matthew Winne, Postmaster, Niskayuna Village.

Ex-Senator CHARLES STANFORD is a native of Watervliet, Albany County. His father, Josiah Stanford, was a native of New England; he was a man of sterling character and of unusual business ability, and gained a competency by his business successes. He died in 1862. His son inherited the ambition of his father, and after receiving a good practical education, he at once entered upon a life of enterprise. In 1850 he went to California, and there, with three others, opened the largest commercial house in California at that time. In 1859, in connection with two of his brothers, he established a large commercial house in Melbourne, Australia, and soon after branches in Sydney and New Zealand. One of his brothers, the Hon. Leland Stanford, was elected Governor of the State of California in 1861. He is the President of the Central Pacific Railroad.

In 1854 the interests of his firm required that one of its members should reside near New York City, and in 1861 he took up his residence in Schenectady County, purchased a large farm in the town of Niskayuna, where he has since resided. In 1863 he was elected member of Assembly, and re-elected in 1864; in 1865 was elected Senator of the Fourteenth District. During this campaign he established the *Schenectady Daily Union*. Mr. Stanford is now in feeble health and confined to his home. Much of the enterprise in Schenectady owes its existence to him.

G. G. MAXON, President of the Mohawk National Bank has a fine summer residence on the Aqueduct road, about two and a half miles from the City of

Francis McCann

Schenectady. The house is surrounded with an attractive park, containing some beautiful statuary. There are two beautiful figures, one representing Spring and the other Summer.

There is a farm connected with this residence of 127 acres, the whole costing $40,000. He has also another farm, a little to the south of this, of 150 acres, valued at $20,000.

FRANCIS McCANN.

FRANCIS McCANN was born in County Dublin, Ireland, January 15, 1813. In 1833 he came to America, and located in Niskayuna, where he has since lived. In 1837 he bought the old Vedder Farm on the Troy road, and he has since bought several other properties in Watervleit, Albany County, and in the city of Schenectady. His property comprises about 300 acres, and some valuable city lots and residences.

Mr. McCann is a Democrat and has long been a staunch adherent to the leading principles of his party. As a citizen he commands the respect of all who know him and the confidence of all his fellow-townsmen. He has held the offices of Commissioner of Highways and Overseer of the Poor, and at this time is an Excise Commissioner. He is a member of St. John's Catholic Church of Schenectady.

In March, 1837, Mr. McCann married Maria Bradt, of Niskayuna, who died December 15, 1879. He has since made his home with his stepson, William V. Bradt, who occupies his house on the Troy road. Now in his seventy-third year, hale and robust, he is quietly passing the closing years of his life, doing a little farm work now and then for exercise and as a reminder of his more active years.

WILLIAM STEERS owns a fine farm of 150 acres, opposite Senator Charles Stanford's place. Mr. Steers has lived here for the last twenty-five years, and has filled some of the principal town offices. He and his brother established the express between Albany and Schenectady. They continued it for eighteen years, and then sold it to other parties. It has continued to the present, and is now owned by Pease & Waterman.

A. V. P. LANSING (lately deceased), commonly known as "Uncle Lansing," was an old settler and the father of a large and respectable family, living near Lishas' Kill. Rev. Dr. John Lansing, of Brooklyn (lately deceased), was a son of Uncle Lansing.

We take pleasure in making mention of the following well-known citizens,who, by their guaranteed support, have helped to insure the publication of this valuable work : I. V. Clute, Francis McCann, J. H. Putnam, J. D. Van Vranken, A. M. Van Vranken, Freleigh Van Vranken, William Vedder, Matthew Winne.

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PRINCETOWN.

By Rev. E. E. TAYLOR.

PRINCETOWN was formed March 20, 1798, from a portion of the patent of Schenectady, which had been ceded to the Reformed Dutch Church of that city, and from lands originally patented to George Ingoldsby and Aaron Bradt in 1737. This was subsequently sold to William Corry, who formed a settlement there which was long known as Corry's bush, and Corry sold his interest to John Duncan. The town itself was named after John Prince, of Schenectady, who was then in the Assembly as a member from Albany County, and resided at Schenectady.

JOHN DUNCAN was a Scotchman, of Schenectady, and about 1760 purchased nearly all the present town of Princetown (then called Corry's bush), and titles to lands there are now held under grants from himself or his sons.

JAMES BRADSHAW, the father of Samuel Bradshaw, and the grandfather of Walter Bradshaw, was only one or two years old at this time, and at that age was brought by his father and mother to Princetown, where they settled upon the farm which has ever since been in the possession of the family. James Bradshaw died August 29, 1858, aged eighty-three years five months and thirteen days. James Bradshaw, Sr., and his wife, Elizabeth Bullock, were married in England, and had two children before they sailed for this country. James Bradshaw, Jr., above referred to, was the third child. There were ten children in all, three daughters and seven sons. From these sons must come the other branches of the Bradshaw family settled throughout Princetown. These are nearly all the principal names connected with the early history of this town. About the time of the revolutionary war and previous thereto, is found in connection with the history of the New Scotland Church the following names, familiar now in Princetown, Allen, Hunter and Van Valkenburgh.

The streams are Norman's Kill, in the south, Platt's Kill in the center, and Zantzee Kill in the northwest. Upon this stream, on the farm of Ebenezer Dougall, is a cascade sixty feet high, and from this point to the Mohawk are numerous falls or cascades. The soil is best adapted to grazing, and hay and grain are the principal products.

Its surface consists of a broken upland, gently descending toward the southeast, with a stiff argillaceous mold resting on a compact of ponderous hard-pan, with ledges of limestone, calcareous and siliceous sandstone argillite.

The town contains 15,450 acres ; is mainly an oblong square, ten and a half miles long north and south, and two and a half miles wide. It is seven miles southwest of Schenectady, and sixteen miles from Albany by the Cherry Valley turnpike that runs through the town. It lies between the towns of Duanesburgh on the south and Rotterdam on the north. The town is a little west from the center of the county.

Princetown Academy, a Presbyterian institution, was opened here on an extensive scale in 1853 (an enterprise begun under the pastorate of the Rev. David Tully, D. D.) and was discontinued in 1856 on account of financial embarrassments and dissensions arising from the same.

Princetown Hamlet is a small borough containing a post-office, a store, a blacksmith shop, the First Presbyterian Church and burying ground, and a few scattered houses.

Kelley's Station is a small hamlet in the southeast corner of the town, eight miles south from Schenectady and three miles east from Duanesburgh Four Corners, consisting of a railroad station of the Schenectady and Quaker Street branch of the Delaware and Hudson road, a store and post-office kept by Andrew Kelley, a blacksmith shop, two or three dwellings, and a Union cheese factory in operation.

Gifford's is a small hamlet, situate on the Cherry Valley turnpike about three miles northwest of Kelley's Station, containing a hotel, kept by J. Gifford, a store, blacksmith shop, Reformed Church and parsonage, and a few dwellings.

Rynex Corners is a small hamlet on line of the town of Rotterdam and Princetown, eight miles west of Schenectady on the Fort Hunter road, consisting of a store and post-office kept by William H. Mudge, hotel by James W. Gregg, a Union cheese factory, not now in operation, a blacksmith shop and six dwellings. Religious services were held in the upper room of the cheese factory once in two weeks in 1884, where a large

congregation were gathered in the summer of 1884 by Rev. E. E. Taylor, of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.—There are in the town of Princetown seven school districts and seven school-houses, and as many teachers employed. The average cost of school-houses is $600. There are annually taught 273 scholars, besides many that attend the schools in the City of Schenectady. The average price paid to teachers is $6.50 per week. C. W. Van Sanford is the School Commissioner.

TOWN OFFICERS.—Supervisor, James Weast; Justices of the Peace, Lawrence Dougall, A. G. Davis, I. A. Rynex; Assessor, J. A. Laws; Collector, James J. Weast; Town Clerk, G. P. Templer.

COUNTY OFFICERS.—(See Officers.)

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH.

The history of this organization begins with the year 1818, in which year Dr. Nott, President of Union College, held occasional services in the school-house on the State road. At this time there were but two persons in the whole community who professed to be Christians—Joseph Phillips and his wife, who were members of the Presbyterian Church of Schenectady.

Professor Macauley and Professor Yates, of Union College, also occasionally preached. Services were held every two or three weeks, on the Sabbath afternoon or evening. This continued until Jeremiah Searl came and labored as a missionary. He remained for a few months, and was then called to the church at Rotterdam. Mr. Searl was succeeded by Rev. Whyting, who remained about six months. The school-house had now become too small to accommodate those who wished to hear the Word of God explained, and it was determined to build a church, and on July 8, 1821, an association was formed and the following elders and deacons were chosen: Elders, George Passage, Philip G. Vought, George G. Passage and Henry R. Furbeck; Deacons, James Phillips and Henry Dutcher.

In the spring of 1822 the church building was commenced, and completed the same year at a cost of about twelve hundred dollars. For two years after the completion of the church the pulpit was supplied by different ministers, of whom are mentioned in the records, Rev. Dr. Yates, of Schenectady, and Rev. Mr. Halliday, of Duanesburgh.

On the twenty-eighth day of December, 1824, James B. Hardenburgh was ordained to the pastoral charge of the united congregations of Helderburgh and Princetown, and served six months. Robert J. Blair was next called, November 1, 1825, to serve these churches, and was ordained and installed January 25, 1826. He remained here until August, 1827, when, upon the 25th day of the same month, at a meeting of the consistory, it joined with him in an application to the Classis to dissolve the pastoral connection, and to apply to have the connection between the churches of Helderburgh and Princetown severed, both of which applications were granted.

From 1827 to 1830 the church of Princetown did not have the regular services of a pastor. In 1830 Rev. Peter Stryker preached three months, after which there is no record of any stated supply until 1833, when Lewis R. Lockwood was called, who continued as pastor about one year. During Mr. Lockwood's ministry, steps were taken to secure a parsonage. One acre and three-quarters of land were purchased, without any restrictions, of Alex. Gifford, for the sum of one hundred dollars, one-half paid on the delivery of the deed and the balance the following spring. In 1834 Rev. John Nott took charge of the church as stated supply. This year the church was repaired and the society assumed the name of the First Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Princetown. Mr. Nott preached most of the time from 1834 to 1838. In 1838, Rev. Wilson Ingals, tutor in Union College, supplied the pulpit. During the years 1839 to 1841, Rev. John Vandervogue, who resided within the bounds of the congregation, was stated supply. January, 1842, Rev. W. P. Davis was called, who remained until October, 1847. Mr. Davis was followed by Rev. Joseph Rosekrans, who remained until 1851, and was followed by Rev. N. Bogardus, who remained about eighteen months. After Mr. Bogardus left, until 1855, Rev. John Nott served them most of the time. In 1855 Rev. D. D. Hall preached as stated supply until 1863. In the spring of 1864 Rev. J. H. Rickett was engaged as pastor, and remained a little over a year. In October, 1865, Rev. I. B. Hall began his labors the second time, and continued as pastor until the spring of 1869. During the year of 1871 H. A. Raymond preached, and was the last who occupied the pulpit in the old church. The 1st of July, 1873, the present pastor, Rev. J. Kelley Rhinehart, began his labors, being the third settled pastor, although many others have served the church at different times. There have been three special revivals—the first during the ministry of the Rev. W. P. Davis; the second during the ministry of Rev. D. B. Hall, who was assisted by Rev. James B. Campbell; and the third under the labors of the present pastor in 1876. As the result of this last revival, seventy persons were added to the church; and again in 1880, when twenty-six more were added to the church.

The present membership is 243. Henry Smith, Isaac Scrafford, William Blessing and William Young, Deacons; Adam M. Blessing, John Young, James T. Wemple and J. Quackenbush, Elders.

In 1869 the people began to manifest greater activity and zeal, and sheds were built at a cost of $952.64. This is in excess of much done by the people. Next the parsonage was remodeled and repaired at an expense of $1,500. Then a new church was built at a cost of $8,114.12. Through the efforts of the ladies the church was furnished; the amount raised by them was $700. The church is now free from debt. The present successful pastor, Rev. J. K. Rhinehart, has been with this people nearly twelve years.

Previous to 1873, Sabbath-schools were held in the several school districts; since then a congrega-

tional school has been held in the church, with most gratifying results. Number of scholars, 130; teachers, 20; total, 150. Superintendent, John T. Blessing.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The First Presbyterian Church of Princetown, Schenectady Co., N. Y., was organized under the authority of the Presbytery of New York more than one hundred years ago; afterwards it came within the bounds of the Presbytery of Dutchess, which was formed from the New York Presbytery, and finally was one of the few churches which in 1790 constituted the Presbytery of Albany. In 1790 the Presbytery of Albany was established by order of the Synod of New York and New Jersey. The Presbytery of Albany held its first meeting at Albany on the 9th of November, 1790.

In a history of the Schenectady patents by Prof. Pearson, is the following paragraph: "The first minister who is known to have preached to the congregation (First Presbyterian Church, Schenectady) statedly, is the Rev. Alexander Miller." Mr. Miller was a pupil of Rev. James Findley, a graduate of Princetown College in 1764; a student of theology under Dr. Rogers, of New York; was licensed 1767, and ordained by the Presbytery of New York, 1770, which is the date of his settlement here. Mr. Kelley (an elder at that time) states that Mr. Miller left in 1781, during the summer. Mr. Miller also preached at Currie's Bush (Princetown) in connection with his charge here.

The Currie's Bush Church in which Mr. Miller preached, was the original First Presbyterian Log Church of Princetown. At that time the building was a log church located on what is known as the old Boyd farm, the ground on which the church stood being now owned by Jonathan Templer. It was a two-acre lot, not far from the old hickory tree which stands nearly on the line between Messrs. Bradshaw and Templer, and east of the present entrance to the Walter Bradshaw farm, the church lot joining Mr. Bradshaw's east line at this place. For a long time after the old log church had disappeared, the lot lay open to commons; it has since been fenced and become a part of the Templer farm. So far as can be ascertained, this log church was built about 1770, the date of Mr. Miller's settlement at Schenectady; and the church took its name, Currie's Bush Church, from the settlement in which it was located. In this log church Mr. Miller preached a stated supply, in connection with his Schenectady charge, between the years 1770 and 1781.

Mr. Miller was followed at Schenectady by Rev. John Young in the year 1787, who was ordained June 14, 1788. The records of the Presbytery show that the Currie's Bush Church united with the Schenectady Church in the call for the services of Mr. Young, and that he was duly installed over them both. He gave one-third of his time to Currie's Bush (or Princetown) and was the second minister of the Princetown Church. Mr. Young requested a dissolution of the pastoral relation at the meeting of the Presbytery, November 10, 1790, on the ground of non-payment of salary (by the Schenectady Church) and of ill-health. The church had not yet settled its indebtedness to Mr. Miller, who was still seeking payment, and the church at Currie's Bush applied to the Presbytery for two-thirds of Mr. Young's time, on the ground that the church in Schenectady was no longer able to support him.

Mr. Young's pastoral relation was dissolved December 9, 1790, but the impression obtains, from the records of the Presbytery, that he continued to supply Currie's Bush Church after that time, and a subsequent call was made by that and the New Scotland Church for his services, he to preach two-thirds of his time at Currie's Bush and one-third at New Scotland, and the churches each to pay accordingly. But Mr. Young was dismissed from Albany Presbytery to the Presbytery of Montreal, Canada, June 25, 1793.

In the resolution of the Synod of New York, constituting the Presbytery of Albany, in connection with the names of other ministers and churches, about half a dozen in number, it is stated, "John Young, of Schenectady and Currie's Bush, members of the Presbytery of New York, be set off as a distinct Presbytery, by the name and title of the Presbytery of Albany." So that the Currie's Bush Church was the first church set off to constitute the Presbytery of Albany. Mr. John Young was elected the first clerk of the Albany Presbytery. At a meeting of the Presbytery December 9, 1790, when Mr. Young requested the dissolution of the pastoral relation, it is recorded that the Commissioners appeared from both the churches—Schenectady and Currie's Bush—and the dissolution being effected, Currie's Bush requested of the Presbytery supplies, and Mr. Young was appointed as such supply until the next meeting of the Presbytery.

Mr. John Crawford was the Elder from the Currie's Bush Church at the first meeting of the Albany Presbytery, November 9, 1790; Mr. Samuel McKee at the meeting of Presbytery December 8, 1790, and Mr. Walter Maxwell, March 1, 1791.

The following Elders represented the Currie's Bush Church at the meeting of the Presbytery held on the dates set opposite their respective names: Samuel McKee, January 10, 1792; Walter Maxwell, March 6, 1792; John Crawford, September 4, 1792. These, then, were the three Elders of the Currie's Bush Church at that time, but their names do not appear on the records of the Albany Presbytery after that time. They evidently about that time united with the Presbytery of New York of the Associate Reformed Synod (or United Presbyterian Church), and secured the services of the Rev. James Mairs for a part of his time.

Previous to this arrangement with Mr. Mairs, and between July, 1792, and July, 1793, the Albany Presbytery furnished the following supplies to the Currie's Bush Church: Rev. Methuselah Baldwin, Rev. Simeon Hosack, Rev. Messrs. McDonald, Schenck, Lindsey, Sturgis and Judd.

Rev. James Mairs, who also preached at Galway, Charlton and Florida, continued from Feb-

ruary 19, 1794, to May 6, 1795, when the arrangement proving unsatisfactory to all concerned, it was discontinued.

Then came Rev. James McKenney, who preached principally in the Currie's Bush Church, and may have taken Galway as a part of his charge. Mr. McKenney's object was the establishment of a reformed Presbyterian Church, and for this he worked. The result was a division, out of which came an offshoot of the Currie's Bush Church, in the shape of the Duanesburgh Presbyterian Church.

This division occurred in 1800, and the new Duanesburgh enterprise flourished for a time, while the Currie's Bush (Princetown) Church declined and struggled hard for life. But on February 19, 1805, the Duanesburgh Church applied to the Albany Presbytery and was taken under its care, and united with Princetown in securing the services of Rev. William Boardman, who was ordained and installed over these churches February 28, 1805, and continued in charge of the same until February 21, 1809.

At the next meeting, held February 21, 1806, the pastoral relation between Mr. Boardman and the Princetown Church was dissolved. Mr. John Robinson was the Elder from the Church at this meeting of the Presbytery, and consented to the dissolution upon the ground that the membership was so small they could not continue to meet the necessary expenses. On March 29, 1809, the pastoral relation between Mr. Boardman and the Duanesburgh Church was dissolved for the same reason. Rev. John J. Christie supplied the Princetown Church for a part of the year 1809, and also Rev. Kirby. Mr. James McMillan, of the Duanesburgh Church, appearing as the Elder from Princetown, at Presbytery, February 16, 1813, indicates the absorption of this church by that at Princetown.

Rev. Thomas Holiday, pastor of New Scotland Church, supplied the Princetown Church from 1813 to 1829, in connection with his New Scotland charge.

After Mr. Holiday came Rev. Thomas Fraser, who supplied the church from June 10, 1829, to May 18, 1834; Rev. William Hamilton from October 10, 1835, to June 2, 1838; Rev. James Finley from January, 1839, to June, 1843; Rev. Jeremiah Boice Coney from the fall of 1843, to May 16, 1848, when he died. He is buried in the graveyard, on the north of the present church, and the congregation erected a monument to his memory, upon which is inscribed: "In memory of the Rev. J. Boice Coney, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Princetown, who died May 16, 1848, in the fifth year of his pastorate of this church and the seventh of his ministry, and the thirty-eighth of his age."

Rev. David Tully was the pastor from June, 12, 1850, to September 20, 1855; Rev. George W. McMillen from November 17, 1857, to January, 1863; Rev. George Harkness from September 17, 1865, to June 15, 1869. Under Mr. Harkness the tokens at communion seasons were abolished.

Rev. Robert A. Hill from November 12, 1870, to June 14, 1882. During the pastorate of Mr. Hill the organ and the Presbyterian Hymnal took the place of the "Old Version of the Psalms," and the "rotary eldership" mode was introduced and other measures of reform instituted. Of course at the time there was some opposition to these innovations, but in most cases time and familiarity with these new customs have made them unobjectionable, and the church has been strengthened and prospered thereby.

After Mr. Hill came Rev. Clarence W. Backus as stated supply, from April 29, 1883, to July 14, 1884, at which time he accepted a call to Victor, N. Y. During the different periods when the church has been vacant, besides those already named, the following ministers have acted as supplies: Rev. Dr. Eliphalet Nott, President of Union College; Rev. Dr. Robert Proudfit, Professor at Union College; Rev. Dr. J. Trumbull Backus, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Schenectady, until recently; Rev. Mr. Newcomb, about one year, 1863; Rev. John Clancy, about one year, 1856; Rev. David Lyon, Rev. David G. Bullions, Rev. William J. Blain, Rev. Jeremiah Wood, of Mayfield.

During the last year the church has been materially strengthened, as will be seen in the following report to the presbytery at its last meeting.

"A new record book and a new register have been purchased, the former being Vol. IV. The roll of church members has been revised, rules for the election of elders have been enacted, and a confession and covenant of this church adopted which is to be publicly assented to by persons joining the church on confession of their faith. A cornet has been introduced as aid to the musical part of the worship."

This church stands out by itself among the Princetown hills, without any village surroundings. Owing to its high elevation; the hilly character of its roads and their liability to become impassable at certain seasons of the year owing to snow-drifts and mud; the distance from the church of many of their homes; and at times the inclemency of the weather, there is of necessity some irregularity in the attendance upon religious services—notwithstanding which, during the past year, the regular Sabbath morning service has been uninterruptedly observed. Twenty-six persons have been added to the church upon confession of faith.

The Sabbath-school membership has increased during the past year from 80 to 230. The Catechism is taught in the school.

The Elders who have served this church since 1820 are: John Young from 1800 to 1822; James McMillan, 1812, to August 11, 1836; Jas. Ferguson, 1820, to October 2, 1851; William Gordon, Jr., 1820 to 1858; John Robinson, 1820, to March 24, 1833; Jonathan I. Clayton, 1812 to 1837; James Cantley, May 20, 1821, to October 2, 1824; James McMillan, October 16, 1836, to January 26, 1884; William Gifford, October 16, 1836, to August 3, 1863; Samuel McMillan, October 16, 1836, to October, 1862; James McNee, October 16, 1863, to January 7, 1875; James Weast, January 4, 1852, to February 4, 1873; William S.

Kelley, January 4, 1852, to September 20, 1855; John Conning, January 4, 1855, to January 20, 1877; James Wingate, January 4, 1852, to January 14, 1869; Samuel J. McMillan, September 14, 1866, and took letter; Daniel M. Rogers, September 14, 1866, to February, 1874.

The present Elders are: James Turnbull, elected September 14, 1866; Samuel A. Weast, elected September 14, 1866; Hugh H. McMillan, elected June 8, 1876; Walter Bradshaw, elected June 8, 1876.

John A. Bradshaw, organist; Frank Bradshaw, cornet.

The stone church was built about 1790. The present church was built 1820. Since then it has been enlarged once. The parsonage and church are at the present time in good repair. There is a burying ground connected with and adjoining the church. The present pastor is the Rev. John J. Henning, from Argyle, Washington County, N. Y., who was duly ordained and installed January 20, 1885. The Rev. T. G. Darling, D.D., of Schenectady, preached the opening discourse, the Rev. Mr. Henning, father of the new pastor, delivered the charge to the pastor, and the Rev. Mr. Johnson, of Mariaville, gave the charge to the congregation. All seems pleasant and promising now to this congregation.

SOME OF THE PROMINENT RESIDENTS OF PRINCETOWN.

Andrew Kelley, store and post-office, Kelley's Station; Duncan Ferguson, one mile southwest of Kelley's Station, farmer; Richard Hunter, near Kelley's Station, farmer; Frederick Springer, one mile north of Kelley's Station, farmer; John Martin, one mile north of Kelley's Station, farmer; Thomas Wingate, one and a half miles north of Kelley's Station, farmer; Solomon Kelley, one mile north of Kelley's Station, farmer; Alexander Gifford, hotel, Gifford's Post-office; Thomas Passage, two miles northwest of Gifford's Post-office, farmer; William Scrafford, near Gifford's Post-office, farmer; Archibald Cullings, one and a half miles north of Gifford's Post-office, farmer; James Gregg, Rynex Corners, farmer; Andrew Gregg, near Rynex Corners, farmer; Calvin Robison, near Rynex Corners, farmer; Romaine Robison, near Rynex Corners, farmer and Supervisor; Thomas Ennis, near Rynex Corners, farmer; James Rynex, near Rynex Corners, farmer and Justice of the Peace; John W. Weast, one and a half miles west of Rynex Corners, farmer and Supervisor; David Houghton, two miles north of Rynex Corners, farmer; Walter Bradshaw, two miles west of Rynex Corners, farmer; Frederick Bradshaw, two miles west of Rynex Corners, farmer; Jonathan Templer, one mile west of Rynex Corners, farmer; Andrew McMillin, two miles west of South Schenectady, farmer; Robert Van Valkenburgh, south of South Schenectady, farmer; Samuel A. Weast, one mile west of South Schenectady, farmer; Alex. Donnan, northwest part of town, farmer; Alex. Clogston, one mile west of Princetown Church; William Lauder, near Mariaville, farmer; John A. Marlette, west part of town, farmer; James Smealie, northwest part of town, farmer; William Staley, northwest part of town, farmer; Archibald Tinning, west part of town, farmer; John Walker, west part of town, farmer; Daniel Darron, south part of town, farmer; John C. Flansburgh, near Princetown Church, farmer; Charles Ostrander, near Rynex Corners, farmer.

DUNCAN FERGUSON represents one of the first families of his town. From old documents in his possession, it appears that his grandfather, John Ferguson, purchased the homestead in 1775 of Richard and George Duncan, once proprietors of the town. This property is located about half a mile southwest of Kelley's Station. The price then paid was ten shillings per acre. He was a native Scotchman, came from Perthshire, and built his first log-cabin on the spot now occupied by the family cemetery. He emigrated about 1773 or 1774. He brought with him his wife and daughter, Jane. James, John, Alexander and Duncan were born in Princetown. John died when young; James located adjoining his father, and there lived until his death, when he was seventy-two years of age; Alexander succeeded to the ownership of the homestead, and died at seventy-five years of age; Duncan married Hannah, daughter of Thomas Gifford, one of the original settlers of South Princetown, who located on the place of Duncan Ferguson's present home, and raised a family of eight children, of whom Duncan is the oldest. He was first married to Ann E., daughter of John Bryant, of Fultonville, N. Y. She died in 1874, and Minnie Turnbull, of Rotterdam, became his second wife, and she died in the spring of 1881, leaving one daughter, Leah. The family cemetery before mentioned was furnished by the ancestors, and is one of the best private cemeteries in the country.

JAMES FERGUSON, of Duanesburgh, was son of Captain James Ferguson, who was a son of James, the son of the original Duncan Ferguson. The subject was born in Duanesburgh, June 26, 1848. Captain John Ferguson was twice married, first to Mrs. Eveline Curry, who died leaving three children, Mary, Helen and Martha, who are all married and living in the West. For a second wife he married Arvilla Northrup, of the town of Berne, Albany County. Her children were nine in number, James, the subject of this sketch, being the third. He married, December 24, 1874, Miss Helen E., daughter of Elisha Hungerford, of Colesville, N. Y., and they have two sons, Samuel and John. Charles, the first-born, died in 1883, at six years of age.

ANDREW SMEALLIE is one of the representative farmers of Princetown. He was born in that town January 9, 1814. His father, James Smeallie, was a native of Scotland, born April 18, 1786; emigrated to America 1811. His mother, two brothers, John and Andrew, and a sister, Agnes, followed in 1816. He married Mary, daughter of John Smeallie, October 1, 1812. Andrew is the oldest of their children. Others are: John, born March 3, 1816; William, May 1, 1818; James M., June

12, 1820; Robert, April 21, 1822; Peter C., June 5, 1824, and died August 21, 1827; Jane, born December 22, 1826. Andrew married Ann E., daughter of Abram Dorn, one of the first settlers of the town, August 21, 1851, and they have had one son, Abram D., born January 21, 1853, who died in Texas April 5, 1884.

JOHN MARLETTE is a prominent and successful farmer. He was born in Schoharie, N. Y., September 2, 1802. His father, Giles Marlette, a native of Montgomery County, was son of John Marlette, a Frenchman by birth and a major in the the revolutionary army under General La Fayette. Giles was the youngest but one of six children, and married Rachel, daughter of Garret Newkirk, of Montgomery County. Of their nine children, John Marlette is the oldest. He came to Rotterdam April 21, 1821, and worked for one Pulman in a public house where now is the village of Pattersonville. He was married in 1824 to Miss Nancy McMaster and located on his present home that same year. Rachael (Mrs. L. M. Clements, of Schenectady); John A. and William, farmers of Princetown; and T. Luther, of the mercantile firm of Marlette & Clements, of Pattersonville, are his living children. Maria, William and Giles are deceased. T. Luther, the popular merchant at Pattersonville, married Miss Eveline, daughter of Seely and Adeline (Montgomery) Patterson, August 12, 1869, and have one son, Seely.

JOSEPH TINNING, who owns and occupies one of the first located and finest farms in Princetown, is a native of the town of Glen, Montgomery County, and is a son of James and Hannah (Bradt) Tinning. He was born June 18, 1833. He married Ann, daughter of William A. Milmine, of Florida, Montgomery County. She died June 5, 1859, and he was again married to Miss Mary, daughter of Thomas Coulter, of Duanesburgh, by whom he has three sons and three daughters, Bertha, Archibald, Mary, Elizabeth, Louis, and William. His father, James Tinning, was a native of Scotland, and emigrated to America from Dumfries County in 1821. He married his wife in the town of Glen. He died March 27, 1868.

GEORGE J. HOLTON is one of the enterprising young farmers of Princetown, and at present the only one of his family in the town. He was born October 27, 1855. His father, George Holton, who died June 5, 1862, married Miss Margaret J., daughter of Nicholas Peek, who was one of the first Dutch settlers of the Mohawk Valley. George Holton had five children: George J., Sarah L., Hannah, Thomas S. (deceased), and William J. After Mr. Holton's death, Mrs. Holton married Thomas Shipley, by whom she had one daughter, Cora, born March 2, 1881. George J. Holton married Miss Emma J., daughter of Winslow Sterling, of Princetown. She was born February 13, 1860. They have a daughter, Florence, born July 5, 1882, and a son, Melvin, born May 20, 1884.

DANIEL TAWS located in Princetown during the days of its very early settlement. He came from Scotland to America some years previous to the opening of the revolution, and was a soldier of that war. Of his six sons James was the oldest, and married Jane Mulroy, and settled on the homestead and had two sons, John (deceased) and David, who now occupies the homestead. They had also two daughters, Janet (deceased) and Sarah. The estate now comprises 244 acres.

DAVID ELDER lives in the neighborhood of the Scotch Church, and is a native of Scotland. His father, William Elder, came from Kinrosshire, Scotland, in 1827, bringing with him a family of five sons, leaving a married daughter in Scotland. He located in the town of Florida, Montgomery County. His sons in due course of time entered business life, John as a merchant in New York City and later went to California; Robert became a civil engineer and was employed by the United States Government in the Western States; David developed into a first-class school teacher, following the profession in Montgomery and Schenectady Counties. He served as School Commissioner of the latter county three years, 1883–85. He married March 15, 1848, Miss Janet, daughter of Thomas Dougall, by whom he had four children: Margaret, now Mrs. W. W. Barlay, of Des Moines, Iowa; John A.; Thomas D.; and William J. James Elder, the youngest brother of David, taught school about twenty years in Montgomery County, and is now a farmer in Minnesota.

DANIEL DONNAN was a Scotchman. He emigrated to America in 1803. Was born in 1776. He married in Princetown, Mary, daughter of John McKerlie, also a Scotchman by birth, who emigrated in 1774 and reached Princetown in 1775, and purchased of George Wasson the farm in the west part of the town now owned and occupied by William Donnan, a grandson. The estate then comprised one hundred and fifty acres; the improvements consisted of a small log house and barn, and a small clearing. During the revolutionary war he was an active member of the Home Guards. He had six sons and four daughters: David married Mary McKerlie in 1805. They had seven sons and one daughter; John was born October 15, 1806, and died 1882; James lives in Amsterdam; Andrew is in Livingston County, N. Y.; Alexander, Samuel and William are in Princetown; and David is in Pennsylvania. William married Catherine, daughter of James Tinning, of Florida, Montgomery County, and has one daughter, Mary, living, and Martha and Owen are deceased. He lives on the old homestead. Alexander located adjoining the homestead; married June 7, 1844, to Miss Jane, daughter of William and Nancy (McKey) Conning. Has had six children: David A. (deceased), William, George, Essit and Nathan W. David is at Independence, Iowa; John A. is a farmer in Princetown; and William, assistant cashier in a banking institution at Leroy, N. Y. Samuel's place also joins the old homestead. He was married November 7, 1884, to Miss Helen, daughter of Thomas and Margaret Dougall (deceased). They were among the first settlers of Princetown. Their children are William J., a farmer of Duanes-

burgh, Margaret A., Edwin C., Rensselaer and Mary N. Mrs. Donnan died July 31, 1884.

James Bradshaw was the founder of the family in this county. He was a native of Derbyshire, England. Born September 25, 1743. Emigrated to America in 1775 with his wife, Elizabeth Bullock, who was born in the same county August 23, 1743. They first located in Cherry Valley, Otsego County, N. Y., and in 1777 removed to Princetown, at what was known as Curry's Bush, and located five hundred acres of land, a part of which was in Princetown and a part in Duanesburgh. He erected a large stone house about half a mile west of the present house of Walter Bradshaw, of Princetown. Of their ten children, three were born in England: John, June 14, 1769; Helen, February 12, 1771, who married Thomas Wasson and located in Princetown; Elizabeth, January 6, 1773, married John Barlow and located in Montgomery County. James was born on the voyage to America, March 17, 1775. George was the fifth of the family, born in Princetown, November 10, 1776; Thomas, September 28, 1778; Robert, July 11, 1780; Benjamin, March 11, 1782; Mary, March 19, 1784, married Charles Tullock, of Duanesburgh; Joseph, November 18, 1786. James, the fourth of this generation, married Delana Briggs, born in Rhode Island, June 20, 1776 They had nine children: Charlotte, born March 12, 1804, and married Henry Pulver; Samuel, born October 8, 1805; George, September 3, 1807; Martha M., December 31, 1809, married John M. Quick, of Rotterdam; Ruth, February 27, 1812, and married James Mulach and located in Jackson County, Mich.; Walter B., August 20, 1814, and died at twelve years of age; Ann, born March 17, 1817, married Samuel Wingate and located in Duanesburgh; James W., July 22, 1820; Helen, October 22, 1822, and died at seven years of age. The venerable Samuel Bradshaw, formerly of Princetown, now living in Schoharie County, is in his seventy-ninth year; Mrs. Ann Wingate, of New York City; and Mrs. Elizabeth Mallench, are the only ones of this generation now living. Samuel B. Bradshaw married Sarah Kelley and they had three children, the first of whom died in infancy. Walter B. was the second, born January 8, 1837; he has been twice married, first to Maria, daughter of James Allen, of Rotterdam, March 5, 1857; she died December 17, 1857, leaving a son and daughter: Allen and Maria (twins); the latter died when two years old. In 1863, Allen married Miss Hannah E., daughter of James B. Bradshaw, who was born August 25, 1842, by whom he has one daughter, Lorena. Allen, his oldest son, married Emma, daughter of Benjamin Wiltsie, June 26, 1879; their children are Edith, Walter B. and Clarence W. Solomon K. Bradshaw married Maria, daughter of James B. Bradshaw, and has one son, Samuel, who lives in the house of his birth in Rotterdam.

We take pleasure in making mention of the following well-known citizens, who by their guaranteed support have helped to insure the publication of this valuable work:

Walter Bradshaw, A. B. Cullings, Wm. Donnan, Samuel Donnan, Alex. Donnan, Daniel Darrow, David Elder, Duncan Ferguson, George J. Holton, Andrew Kelly, John Marlette, Charles Ostrander, J. K. Rhinehart, Romaine Robinson, Andrew Smeallie, Joseph Tinning, David Taws.

HISTORY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROTTERDAM.

By Rev. E. E. TAYLOR.

ROTTERDAM was formed from Schenectady, April 14, 1820, and was formerly the third ward. Another part of the city was annexed in 1853, and a part taken from the town and added to the city in 1865. The town contains 24,422½ acres. Population in 1880, 2,326. It lies near the center of the county, upon the south bank of the Mohawk. The surface consists of a broken, hilly region in the northwest, a level intervale extending from the center towards the south, and a high plain in the east. A part of the soil upon the west hills is a tough clay, underlaid by shale, which frequently crops out. The central valley or plain, five miles in extent, was called by the Dutch the "Bouwlands," or farm-lands. The soil is a deep alluvial. The east plateau is sandy and has formerly been regarded as barren, but of late years has shown its adaptation for orchards and especially for small fruits.

Among the early settlers were Wilhelmus Van Otto,——Van Curazoa (a native of the Island of Curacao), Ryer Schermerhorn and Simon Veeder. The house of Van Otto stood on the site of the one afterward occupied by Simon Veeder. At the time of the revolution there were families living by the names of Delamont, Van Pelton, and Braugham.

SOME OF THE OLD LANDMARKS.

Arent Bradt, born 1684, built the ancient brick house now standing southwest of the first lock above the city, about 1730. Arent was a full cousin of Captain Arent Andreas Bradt. He married Catrina, daughter of Jan Pieterse Mabee; she died in 1773, aged eighty-two years two months and seventeen days.

The Van Guysling farm, situated on the bouwlands in Rotterdam, and occupied by the Van

Guyslings as early as 1664, remained in that family until 1865, when Cornelius Van Guysling died without issue. The Van Guysling house is a wooden structure and is a remarkable specimen of early Dutch architecture. It is the oldest house in the valley, unless the Mabee House out-dates it.

A part of one of the buildings at the Schermerhorn Mills, near Schenectady, dates about 1715 to 1720.

The Mabee House. [A description and cut of this ancient building is given in a previous chapter.]

Johannes Peek's house, built in 1711, and now occupied by D. D. Schermerhorn, is situated a little south of the junction of the Boston and Hoosac Tunnel and West Shore Railroad.

Harman Albertse Vedder is the ancestor of all the Vedders in this county. He settled in Schenectady in 1663. His farm covered what is now known as the homestead of Col. D. D. Campbell.

ROTTERDAM FLATS.

In the summer of 1661, Arent Van Curler, or Corlear, leader of the first settlement, made formal application to Governor Stuyvesant for permission to settle upon the Great Flats lying west of Schenectady.

The bouwlands, the great tract of bottom land west of Schenectady, embracing several hundred acres of arable land, was anciently called the Groote Vlachte. It was mainly cleared land when the white man first occupied it in 1662, and had been the Mohawk's maize land for, perhaps, centuries. This, and other parcels of like soil along the Mohawk, formed the main inducement for the Hollanders to settle here; in them they recognized the *polders*, or lowland of the Fatherland.

The bouwlands were originally divided into twenty-three separate parcels and assigned to fifteen individuals.

Broom corn was first introduced into this town by the Shakers of Watervliet and Niskayuna, and has been extensively cultivated upon the alluvial flats and is still one of the most extensive products of the soil.

Mr. Martin De Forrest, of Schenectady, now seventy-two years old, says he well remembers that, sixty years ago, the first piece of broom corn planted in Rotterdam was on a morgen of land, or 2.0076 acres, near the city of Schenectady, by the Shakers from Watervliet. It attracted much attention and its peculiar adaptation to this alluvial soil soon brought it into general cultivation. Mr. Sanders Van Eps, then an extensive farmer in Rotterdam, was one of the first to raise it in large quantities and to manufacture it into brooms.

REMARKABLE FEAT.

It is said that Ryer Schermerhorn, the father of Bartholomew and grandson of the first Ryer, was a man of remarkable perseverance, energy and determination. An illustration cannot be out of place at this point. It is handed down by well established authority, that shortly after the termination of the revolutionary war, when the long contested suit of Ryer Schermerhorn against the Trustees of the Schenectady Patent was pending in our Supreme Court, Ryer Schermerhorn, the plaintiff, was unexpectedly informed, by his counsel, Judge James Duane, that certain documents then in the hands of one Apple, at New York, must be in court at Albany within eight days from that time, or his cause would be greatly endangered. Bear in mind there were no telegraphs, no steamboats, no stage routes; but miserable roads, only a weekly mail, and that the sloops took generally two weeks, sometimes three, to accomplish the distance between Albany and New York. Nothing daunted, Schermerhorn started, single-handed, in a canoe from Albany; went to New York, procured the necessary documents, and on the morning of the first session of court, much to the surprise and gratification of his counsel, delivered him the desired papers. This certainly would be called something of a feat for a young man of the present day.*

THE ERIE CANAL.

The Erie Canal by three locks runs eight miles through this town along the line of the Mohawk.

The Erie Canal was first completed as far as Lockport, twenty-six miles from Lake Erie, and soon after to Lake Erie. Mr. Peter Christler (an ex-Canal Collector) in the *Schenectady Union*, January 18, 1885, gives the following table as to the development of the canal:

YEARS.	DEPTH OF WATER.	BOAT TONNAGE.
1824.	2 ft. 6 in. to 3 ft.	16 to 40
1836.	3 ft. to 3 ft. 6 in.	30 " 40
1846.	5 ft.	40 " 70
1856.	6 ft.	60 " 120
1862.	6 ft. to 9 ft.	150 " 220
1883.	7 ft.	250

Time from Buffalo to Albany has with little variation averaged about eight days. Average cargo at the present time is 160 tons.

In 1884 there was carried over the canal 5,666,057 tons. It was through this avenue, when other ways were closed during the late war, that the Government conveyed to the Western army a great amount of their supplies in addition to what the railroads could do, and in this service the canal was taxed to its utmost capacity. It is estimated that at this time there were from 8,000 to 10,000 boats on the canal.

RAILROADS.

The New York Central, with a four-track road, runs about four miles in this town, coming in at the east and going out at the City of Schenectady, where it crosses over into Glenville and follows the Mohawk westerly.

The Delaware and Hudson Canal Branch Railroad, from Schenectady to Quaker Street, with a single track, runs seven miles in the town.

The West Shore, with two tracks, runs twelve miles in the town and was built in 1883.

* Sanders' "Early History of Schenectady."

The Athens branch, from Schenectady to Athens, built in 1868, was sold to the West Shore.

The Creeks of this town are the Zantzee, Plata, Poentics and the Normanskill.

The Mohawk River runs along the northern boundary for ten miles. About one mile above the city is what has from the first been known as the Sixth Flat's rift.

The Schermerhorn Flouring Mill is situated near the city on the Plank road. This mill seat has been occupied here for more than a century and a half. Garret Veeder, second son of Simon Valkertse Veeder, the fourth named original proprietor of Schenectady, owned the lands about the mill seat, and obtained a lease from the church of Schenectady of this mill privilege about 1718, which afterward became the Schermerhorn Mill Farm. This mill is one of the best in the county, and is highly prized by the town of Rotterdam.

Ryer Schermerhorn, during the revolution, built the stone house opposite the grist-mill about 1770, and the purpose was entertained at one time of taking it for a fort.

There was a log house near the mill that was used for a place of retreat in times of peril, and the name of "Schuylenburgh" was given to the place, it signifying in Dutch the shelter or a place of safety.

SOUTH SCHENECTADY.

South Schenectady came into being by the building of the West Shore Railroad in 1883, which connected with and crossed the Delaware and Hudson River Railroad two miles southwest of Schenectady. South Schenectady has now a large hotel called the Thompson House, built and kept by William H. Fogerty. Its capacity for boarders is quite large and it is well filled. The West Shore Railroad has here a large round-house, freight-house and depot. There are within half a mile twenty dwellings; a grocery; a store and post-office, kept by Andrew Kelley & Son; a blacksmith shop; the butcher's shop of Allen Estes; H. Herrick's watch-making and repairing shop; a large hay barn for storage of hay in transit, located beside the Delaware and Hudson Railroad, owned by Smith Close & Alfred Ford, who also have in connection with their business a coal yard. James Turnbull is also erecting a hay barn, and has also opened a coal yard near the track of the West Shore Railroad.

Religious services were commenced in this place in the summer of 1884 by Rev. E. E. Taylor, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who during that season preached in the open air, the congregation being gathered on the steps of the freight-house of the West Shore Railroad, and later in the fall Mr. Fogerty, of the Thompson House, built a hall in connection with the hotel, and at once tendered it to Mr. Taylor, and meetings have been held there for a time.

The Delaware and Hudson Railroad have a large reservoir here for watering their engines.

This place had a great opportunity in 1884, in the offer by the West Shore Railroad to locate their machine shops here, and the building of the round-house was its commencement, but the exorbitant price demanded, and a liberal offer about the time from Frankfort, led them to locate there, where they now employ several hundred men, and a large business is there being built up.

PATTERSONVILLE.

Pattersonville is a small village at Hoffman's Ferry, at the west end of the county, containing fifteen dwellings, a hotel called the Pattersonville Hotel, two stores, a wagon shop, blacksmith shop and shoe shop, a railroad depot and storehouse.

The Pattersonville Hotel, kept by W. H. Patterson, is large and new, with ample accommodations. W. H. Patterson is the proprietor of the store at the west end of the village, near the depot; and T. L. Marlette & J. M. Clement are the proprietors of the store at the Ferry. In connection with their store they have a large hay barn, and buy and export hay. They also have a coal yard, and are doing a thriving business. Dr. Alexander Ennis lives here, and is a practicing physician and surgeon. The West Shore Railroad have erected a fine depot and freight-house for themselves and the Boston and Hoosac Tunnel Railroad, which runs upon their track at this point. More than one-half of this place has been built up since these railroads reached here. The new buildings are of a fine order, and the place bids fair for a more rapid growth.

The Junction is two miles east of Pattersonville, and is formed by the Boston and Hoosac Tunnel and West Shore Railroads. The Boston and Hoosac Tunnel crosses over the Mohawk from the town of Glenville at this point into Rotterdam, and unites with the West Shore. The West Shore Railroad have built here a large round-house, a railroad station, and offices for the joint delivery and exchange of freight. These buildings are used in common by both roads, the Boston and Hoosac paying rent for the use of the same.

Duck & Fish, of Decatur, Illinois, have just built extensive stock yards and barns here. The capacity of the present yards is eight hundred cattle; these will no doubt be enlarged, and the business become one of great importance.

The Mabee House is a fine new hotel, large and commodious for boarding purposes, etc., and a number of other fine buildings have been erected, and others will soon be built. Thus by the introduction of the railroads into this town, South Schenectady, the Junction and Pattersonville have sprung into being.

MOHAWKVILLE.

Mohawkville commences from the terminus of Centre street, Schenectady, and extends along the highway about a mile into Rotterdam. There are fifty-four dwellings, a grocery store, a school-house and a Good Templars' building. At the top of

the hill, rising from the city, is what has been long known as Engine Hill. It was here that a stationary engine was placed in 1831, when the first railroad of this part of the country was built from Albany to Schenectady, and this engine drew the railroad cars, with ropes, from Schenectady up the hill, as it was too steep for the engine of the train to draw them ; on this account it was called Engine Hill. At the south end of Mohawkville was located Crane's factories, and therefore that was called Cranesville. The Good Templars' building, for lodge purposes, is a neat structure, erected last year at a cost of about $1,500. It owes its existence mainly to the influence and means of Mrs. John H. Chambers, who has taken an unusually active part in organizing and maintaining a temperance society in this place, the effect of which is there is not a drop of spirituous liquor sold in the place or near it.

JONATHAN CRANE, of whom honorable mention should be made, was born February 5, 1790, in North Mansfield, Conn., and in 1814 came to Schenectady. In 1819 he purchased lands in Mohawkville, where he erected factories that to this day constitute the chief industry of the place. In connection with his factories an oil mill was erected, and its first superintendent was Mr. Dillon, and after him Peter Christler, now of Schenectady. A brake factory was also established, and a screw factory. Mr. Crane was the chief leader in transferring the screw manufacturing from England to this country. The main factory was afterward turned into a flax and corn-husk factory, and then again into a twine factory, which has continued for the past thirty years to the present. The factory was thoroughly repaired in 1882 by a company known as The Mohawk Twine Company, and business was pushed to the utmost capacity until the latter part of 1884, when, on account of the depression in the market, work was suspended. There were thirty-five hands employed. The present prospects indicate an early resumption of business. Mr. Crane was a man of marked fidelity, and of decided moral principles. He was a prominent temperance leader, and with others organized the first temperance society in Schenectady. He readily engaged in every good work. He formed the first Sunday-school in the county in his own house in Schenectady. He was emphatically a good man, both as a citizen and a Christian, and did much to advance the interests of mankind.

In the year 1830 the first passenger railway in this country was building from Albany to Schenectady. Mr. Crane's home was near his mills, and these were in the suburbs of the city, where the railway was to pass, so that he frequently saw the men at work. The slow, difficult process of excavating the sand was noticed by him, and his active mind immediately began seeking for a remedy. At last it was found in an invention which was named the circular receiver. Its patent is dated October 1, 1830, and is signed by the distinguished names of Andrew Jackson, Martin Van Buren, and J. W. McPherson Berrian. The principle of this machine is simple, and can be seen to-day, somewhat modified, in the ordinary turn-table used by all railroads.

The rapid increase in the number of railways created a demand for this invention, and presented a broad field for contractors. To put his invention into practice, Mr. Crane took a contract on the Albany road, and when this was finished he went to New England and assisted in the construction of many railways there, including the Hartford and New Haven, the Providence and Stonington, the Boston and Providence, the Boston and Albany and the Boston and Maine Railways.

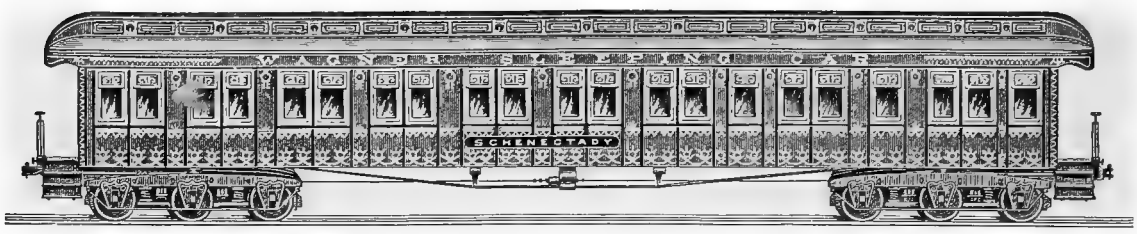
JOHN R. FREEMAN & BROTHERS' oil mill is about two miles from Schenectady, a little west from the Duanesburgh road. Previous to 1855 the place was occupied by Mr. Peek as a cloth factory. In 1855, Freeman & Bro. started an oil mill which ran until 1871, when it was converted into a flax and husk mill. The goods made are better known as green tow. The mill continues the same to the present time. Like most other industries at this present time, work is suspended to a great extent. The Freeman Bros. have a paint, etc., store on Wall street, in Schenectady. They are among the most respected of our citizens.

THE MCQUEEN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS are located on the Mohawk Flats, between the Jones Car Works and the Westinghouse Agricultural Works, near the City of Schenectady, on nine acres of land costing $5,000, with a branch railroad track to the Delaware and Hudson Railroad. These works consist of two immense brick structures, one 125 feet x 306 feet, the other 74 feet x 402 feet, and an annexed engine-house 30 x 50 feet, erected at a cost of $60,000. It is a stock company, capital $300,000, 28 per cent of which has been assessed. Over half the stock is held by New York parties. The principal stockholders of this company are Walter McQueen, Charles Stanford, N. I. Schermerhorn, and George G. Maxon. President, Charles Stanford. Office is at 190 State street, Schenectady. Secretary, John De Remer; Treasurer, F. W. Jessop. Trustees : George G. Maxon, Walter M. McQueen, John McEncroe, Charles Stanford, N. I. Schermerhorn, T. W. Jessop, and John D. Remer.

There is no machinery yet in the buildings, and the directors are waiting for sufficient encouragement in business demand, above the pressure of the present times, to expand and put in operation these works.

SCHENECTADY CAR COMPANY.

This company was organized in 1872, with a stock capital of $400,000. The company purchased the farm of N. I. Schermerhorn for $50,000, and erected buildings and purchased material at a cost of $84,000. The buildings after erection stood idle about four years, and then work was commenced and carried on for about four months. In 1875 J. M. Jones and Co. purchased the works—including twelve acres of land, buildings, machinery and stock, valued at $90,000—for $25,000. They at once resumed work making street cars,



with a force of 400 men up to about three years ago, when the street car work was transferred to the company's works at Troy, and the company reorganized under the incorporated title of The Jones Car Manufacturing Company, and commenced building railroad and Wagner palace cars. They put up five additional new buildings. The works went into the hands of a receiver, Mr. E. Nott Schermerhorn, in the spring of 1884, and work was continued for the completion of orders on hand until the fall. An offer of sale by the receiver and creditors was made for $85,000, for buildings, machinery and stock.

These works are situated on the Mohawk Flats, about half a mile from the City of Schenectady. They have a branch track, connecting with the Delaware and Hudson Railroad near by.

January 30, 1885, these works were leased to Mr. Walter A. Jones, the legalized agent of the Jones Car Manufacturing Company, for eighteen months, with the privilege of purchase, within that time, for $60,000. Work was at once resumed in the repairing and manufacture of Wagner's palace and sleeping cars for the New York Central Sleeping Car Company.

February 4, 1885, the Jones Car Works Company was reorganized and incorporated with a capital of $50,000; Walter A. Jones, President. In June following, the New York Central Sleeping Car Company purchased the lease of the Jones Company, and at the present time manage the works, under the direction of Dr. W. Seward Webb, President, and T. H. Munsell, Superintendent.

SECOND REFORMED CHURCH OF ROTTERDAM.

This church was organized by the Classis in 1813. The first book of records cannot at present be found. March 15, 1824, the church was incorporated under the State laws, the consistory acting as trustees. A meeting of church members, preliminary to incorporation, was held January 12th and March 15th, the consistory including the Minister, Rev. Jeremiah Searle; Elders Lawrence Schermerhorn, Peter Becker and Oliver Springer; Deacons John J. Vischer, Philip De Forest and John Putnam. These went before Judge Henry Yates, of Schenectady, and procured the necessary papers, properly signed and attested, and the church was duly incorporated. The articles of incorporation are recorded in the County Clerk's office in Church Book of Records, page 25.

Fifteen years after the organization, in 1828, there were seventy-four members in full communion, and residing within the bounds of the congregation. May 21, 1843, it is noted that one hundred and twenty-five partook of the communion, which probably approximated the membership of the church at that time. After this date no account is given of the church membership until 1875, when there were fifty-two in communion and one hundred families in the congregation. April, 1884, there were seventy-seven in communion and fifty families in the congregation. The church had one remarkable revival in May, 1832, when fifty members were added to the church—forty-eight on confession of faith and two by certificate; Rev. Joshua Boyd, pastor.

The church was incorporated under the title of The Second Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of the Third Ward of the City of Schenectady. It is now known as The Second Reformed Church, Rotterdam. (Rotterdam was the Third Ward of Schenectady until 1820.) From 1823 to 1836, this church and the First Reformed Church of Rotterdam were united and placed under the same pastorate. Rev. Jeremiah Searle, a licentiate, was called to the pastorate April, 1823, and continued until 1827. After an interval of several months, the two churches united in calling Rev. Joshua Boyd. He began his labors February, 1828, and continued joint pastor until May, 1836, when the relation of the two churches was dissolved by the Classis. This second church immediately called Rev. J. Boyd, who continued his labor from May, 1836, to May, 1840. From June, 1840, to May, 1841, the Rev. John Nott was stated supply, and in May, 1841, he was called to the pastorate of the church, and continued to serve as such until May, 1854. The succeeding two years and a quarter the church was without a pastor, depending upon such supplies as it could obtain, and was at the same time rebuilding its church edifice. August, 1856, Rev. Cyril Spaulding was called to its pastorate, and continued therein until October, 1860. Shortly after the dismissal of Rev. Cyril Spaulding, Rev. R. L. Schoonmaker began preaching there, and was finally employed as stated supply for one year, beginning March 1, 1861, but before the year closed he was called to its pastorate. He began his pastoral labors September, 1861, and continued therein until January, 1869. The church, after he left, made two ineffectual calls: one upon Rev. D. Vermilye, March, 1869, and the other on Rev. S.

F. Searle, May, 1869, and afterward succeeded in getting Rev. William P. Davis, who began his labors 1869, and ended them June, 1873. The next three years the church was without a pastor. August, 1873, an unsuccessful call was made upon Rev. W. P. Davis. During the year April, 1874, to 1875, a minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Rev. M. J Slover, acted as stated supply. This pulpit was also supplied by different preachers from Sabbath to Sabbath until May, 1876, when Rev. Ira Van Allen began his pastoral labors; his pastorate continued until Ma[illegible]883, when Rev. Lauren Vanderveer was called to the pastorate, and still continues its earnest and successful pastor; thus from 1823 to the present—sixty-three years—the church has had eight pastors, besides supplies.

CONSISTORY.—By charter the consistory was composed of seven members: the minister, three elders and three deacons. This continued from 1824 to 1837. In 1837, by act of Legislature the charter was amended, and the consistory enlarged to its present size of nine members: the minister, four elders and four deacons. In 1842, when Rev. John Nott was pastor, two additional elders were chosen contrary to the charter, and in 1883 two additional deacons were chosen. This large and illegal consistory of thirteen members continued only two years. In 1845 they returned to the charter number, and it has not been deviated from since.

CHURCH PROPERTY.—November 27, 1820, the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Schenectady conveyed to the minister, elders and deacons of the Second Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, etc., for the consideration of one dollar to them paid, one acre two roods and five perches of land situated south of the Princetown road and the road now leading to South Schenectady, being the land on which the church and sheds stand, and including what is now known as the Old Cemetery.

March 31, 1857, John Schermerhorn and Rebecca, his wife, for the consideration of two hundred dollars, conveyed to the church officers two acres of ground situated north of Princetown road, on which the parsonage and barn now stands, known as the parsonage lot.

April 2, 1880, John Phillips, for the consideration of six hundred and eleven dollars, conveyed to the church officers $6\frac{11}{100}$ acres of land adjoining the old cemetery on the southeast, now known as the New Cemetery.

February 5, 1881, the church officers secured from the trustees of the town of Rotterdam for one dollar, a commutation release of the rental of, and the virtual title to, thirty-seven rods of land lying northeast of the old cemetery and south of the public road.

The church now owns the cemetery plot of land, containing about $7\frac{7}{8}$ acres; and the parsonage lot, containing two acres.

During 1822 the first church edifice was built. It was a wooden structure 38 x 32 feet, with a projection eight feet deep in front, on which a steeple was constructed. It fronted nearly northeast. It was a plain structure The pulpit was high and boxed, and the center of the church had high box-pews. A gallery twelve feet wide ran along the sides. The cost of this edifice was $1,200.

In 1855 the church edifice was remodeled. The steeple had been blown off in a storm, and it became necessary to make thorough repairs. The building was enlarged to 46 x 32 feet, and in 1861 a bell costing $125 was placed in the belfry. The total cost was about $2,200.

In 1870 the church was again remodeled by an addition of eighteen feet, making the building now 64 x 32 feet, with an alcove for the pulpit, and the whole neatly finished at a cost of about $2,000. The seating capacity is 300. There are also a fine lot of sheds 175 feet long, containing twenty-two stalls, costing, in addition to much work being done free, $400.

PARSONAGE.—The parsonage was built in 1857, a two story and a half frame building, at a cost of $1,643.72, and a two-story barn. The total expenses, $2,432.72. Total value of the entire church propery is about $7,000.

ENDOWMENT.—The city of Schenectady sold certain lands, the proceeds from which were devoted to the support of the Gospel in the local churches. This church received its share, $3,806.54, February 5, 1820, which it solemnly covenanted to keep unimpaired and for the sole purpose of the support of the Gospel. Of this sum $1,000 is now out at interest at six per cent. About $2,500 was used in building and completing the parsonage, and the balance has been lost.

August 7, 1883, Dr. Andrew Truax, druggist, of Schenectady, presented the church with $5,000; the income to be used for the support of the ministry. This is now in a mortgage bearing interest at five per cent.

SABBATH-SCHOOL.—The Sunday-school was first commenced under the pastorate of Rev. Joshua Boyd. Since 1870 it has been especially prosperous. Its report for 1884 was six officers, six teachers, seventy-eight adult scholars, and thirty-two primary; total, one hundred and eight. Average attendance, sixty-four. Superintendent, John K. Tullock; Assistant, John C. Perry; Secretary, Miss Minnie V. Schermerhorn; Treasurer, Miss Mary E. Robinson; Librarian, Mr. John Schermerhorn; Assistant, Mr. William Marlette.

PRESENT OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH.—Rev. Lauren Vandeveer, Pastor; Robert Schermerhorn, John C. Perry, Simon J. Schermerhorn, and Peter W. Ham, Elders; J. Frank Sager, John Van Epps, Albert Miller, and Abram P. Van Dyke, Deacons.

THE FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF ROTTERDAM.

This was organized in 1784 by the Classis of Albany under the title of Second Reformed Dutch in the Patent of Schenectady, with John Wemple, Martin Van Slyck, Harmanus Vedder, and Christopher Peek as the Elders.

It is impossible now to tell just who or how many the first original members were, or how many were received into the communion of the church during the period before the first pastorate. Several names of families, however, who were then prominent in the church are still represented in it. Such are the Wemples, Vedders, Peeks, Van Slyks, Bradts, and Veeders.

Tradition says that the first place where worship was held was in the upper part of an old frame building, the basement of which was used as a parsonage, or as a residence for the sexton when not occupied by the pastor. It was situated on the north side of the Mohawk River, a short distance back of the hotel at Hoffman's Ferry, on the road leading to Glenville. The room was unfurnished, without walls or pews, rough boards or benches being placed around the sides of the building. In this room services were held probably every three or four weeks, as the same ministry supplied Minaville and a church in the town of Duanesburgh.

After some years this building was sold and removed to a farm now owned by Latin Johnson. After standing there for a short time it was taken down and some of the timbers are now in a shed belonging to Aaron B. Bradt, one of the Elders of the church at the present time, near Hoffman's Ferry.

The congregation began at once to build the present church edifice, which is a plain wooden structure with a tower, and located on the south side of the Mohawk, about a mile east of where the old building stood, on a fine lot donated by the Veeder family, some of whose descendants are still members of the congregation. The church was not, however, finished until about the middle of 1823, when a committee was appointed, consisting of Nicholas A. Bradt, Gavet Quackenbush, Aaron Spitzer, and John W. Peek, to solicit funds to complete it. During seven years the congregation worshipped in it in this unfinished condition. Like the former, this building had neither walls nor pews, and was supplied only with benches brought from the old place of worship.

During 1845 this building underwent quite extensive repairs. The galleries were lowered, the pulpit changed from the rear of the church to the front, the upper and lower windows being united and the building new roofed, and painted inside and out. And again in 1856, and also in 1864, some slight changes and improvements were made.

The first settled pastor of whom there is any record, was the Rev. Thomas Romeyn. He was pastor of the church, in connection with that of Minaville and Duanesburgh, from 1800, to January 1, 1806, when the pastoral relation was dissolved, and he took charge of the churches of Niskayuna and Amity, where he labored until 1827. After leaving Niskayuna and Amity he retired to his farm in Glenville, where he lived until his decease, 1857.

After the removal of Mr. Romeyn in 1806, the church was destitute of a settled pastor until 1818, when the Rev. Peter Van Zandt took charge as pastor or supply in connection with the First Church of the Fourth Ward of the City of Schenectady, now the First Reformed Church of Glenville.

He continued his labors with this church until 1822, when he took charge of a mission at Oakhill, Green County, N. Y. The records show five persons received into the communion of the church on the confession of their faith, and seventy-one infants were baptized during his ministry of five years. Up to 1823 the church had borne the title of the Second Reformed Dutch Church of Schenectady, when it was changed to that of the First Reformed Dutch Church of Rotterdam.

During the year 1823 the Second Reformed Church of Rotterdam was organized, when that, together with the First Church, united in calling the Rev. Jeremiah Searl, who had just been licensed by the Classis of Albany to preach the Gospel. He held the pastorate of the two churches from April 26, 1823, to February 1, 1827. From these churches he was called to the First Church, Coxsackie, and continued there until 1851, being almost a quarter of a century. After an interval of a few months the two churches united in calling the Rev. Joshua Boyd, who had graduated from Union College in 1814; studied theology with the Rev. John McDowell, of Elizabethtown, N. Y.; and was licensed by the Presbytery of New Jersey in 1826. After staying for a short time at Herkimer and Fallsburgh he was called to the pastorate of these churches, and continued with them until May 3, 1836, when the two consistories applied to the Classis of Schenectady for a dissolution between them, and immediately after this Mr. Boyd was recalled to the Second Church, where he continued to labor until 1840.

During the ministry of these devoted and faithful servants, for near half a century, there is no evidence of any marked revival of religion. There was, however, some ingathering under the labors of each. But the seed which they had sown was destined to spring up and yield a plentiful harvest during the period from 1837 to 1840, when the Rev. John Nott supplied the church, and eighty-two persons were received on confession of their faith. This was the most extensive revival of which there is any record in the history of this church. Now again the church was destitute of a pastor for about two years, but was supplied occasionally by Prof. Andrew Yates, of Union College, and a Rev. Mr. Callehan, of New York. On the last of October, 1842, the consistory resolved to employ the Rev. John Van Desolow, who continued to supply the church until 1844, when, in June of that year, Rev. Cornelius S. Mead, who had just graduated from the Auburn Theological Seminary, and was licensed by the Presbytery of Cayuga, was called to the pastorate of the church. He remained until December, 1849, when he received and accepted a call to the Reformed Church of Herkimer. In 1850 the Rev. Charles Jakes, of Stone-Arabia, was called, and on the 29th of October of that year was installed by a committee of the Classis of Schenectady. His pastorate continued until November 10, 1862, when the Master

called him to his rest and reward. Since May 1, 1863, Rev. J. C. Lowe has been the pastor of the church. This church has been organized for nearly, if not quite fully, a century, and has had during that period seven pastors, the longest being that of the present and three stated supplies. It is impossible to tell the number of persons who have been received into the communion of the church during its existence, owing to the imperfect records which have been kept. At no time during the history of the church has the membership been large. At the present time there are on the records one hundred and twenty-one. The oldest living members of the church at the present time are Jeremiah Schuyler, who is ninety years of age; Albert Vedder, who is eighty-five; and Mrs. Eliza Bradt and Mrs. Seeley Patterson, who are both over seventy.

While the Rev. John Nott was supplying the church in 1840, it is probable that the first Sabbath-school was organized, with John Marlette, a prominent and useful member of the church, as its superintendent. His successors were Alexander Dow, Winslow Steeling and John Wiltsie. The number of scholars in the school at the present time is about one hundred and thirty. The present church property, consisting of a comfortable church building, lot and parsonage, is worth about seven thousand dollars.

ROTTERDAM METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Rotterdam was organized in 1846 by Presiding Elder Lindsey, and consisted of sixty members. Rev. S. Coval and William R. Brown were the first pastors. A house of worship was erected about the same time. The church was rebuilt and enlarged in 1846 at a cost of about $4,000. James Fisher, Sr., purchased the site for the church and burying ground of Daniel D. Campbell in 1844, and presented it to the society. Mr. Fisher came from England in 1818. He had a large and respectable family. He has now in the ministry one son-in-law, the Rev. William J. Sands, now stationed at Crescent, N. Y., and two grandsons, Rev. John C. Fisher and Rev. Martin L. Fisher. He was an honored citizen and an exemplary Christian. He died February 11, 1871, aged eighty-seven years four months and twenty-seven days, and is buried in the cemetery adjoining the church.

This society was up to 1867 connected with the church at Guilderland, and the Rev. E. E. Taylor served both churches, assisted by Rev. John N. Short. During this year, under the indefatigable labors of Mr. Taylor, not only was this church rebuilt, but a new church was built at the State road at a cost of about $4,000, known as the Parker Church, Mr. Charles Parker, of the Dey street eating-house, New York, having his residence near by, and contributing largely toward the enterprise. The church at Guilderland (near Sloan's Hotel) was also rebuilt and enlarged at a cost of near $4,000, and a new church built, three miles east of Sloan's Hotel on the Plank road near McGowan's Hotel, at a cost of $3,500; the result was the erection of two separate pastorates, Rotterdam and State road, three miles apart, both having sustained themselves uninterruptedly to this present time, and doing a good work in these communities. The Rotterdam Church is two and a half miles south of Schenectady.

The following are the names of the several pastors in the order they have served this church since 1867. 1867–8, Rev. Stephen Palmer; 1869–70, Rev. Damos Brough; 1871–72, Rev. Manly Witheral; 1873–4, Rev. P. F. Youlen; 1875–6, Rev. F. G. Rainy; 1877–79, Rev. P. P. Harrower; 1880, Rev. A. Lawrence; 1881–83, Rev. E. E. Taylor; and Rev. W. O. Tower, the present pastor, who is exerting himself in building for the society a beautiful parsonage on the corner near the church, which is nearly completed. There has always been connected with this church a Sunday-school. The present membership of the church is 130; Sunday-school scholars, 100.

Colonel DANIEL D. CAMPBELL occupies a fine residence in Rotterdam about two miles from Schenectady. Mrs. Campbell, widow of Judge Daniel Campbell, made her will May 27, 1811, leaving considerable sums to her various relatives, but made her great nephew, Daniel David Campbell Schermerhorn, her residuary devisee and legatee on condition of changing his name Schermerhorn to Campbell, which, after her decease, was accomplished by legislative enactment; and that great-nephew, with many virtues, now resides among us, known and respected as Colonel Daniel D. Campbell.

PLANK ROAD.

The only remains of once extensive plank roads in various parts of this county, is a short piece of about one mile, starting from the city of Schenectady, running south to part of the former plank road to Duanesburgh. This road is now owned by the widow Pearson, and a toll of two cents each way is charged for one horse, and proportionately for more.

Simon J. Schermerhorn

Simon J. Schermerhorn was born in Rotterdam, N. Y., near the old Arant Bradt Place, September 26, 1827, and is the seventh, and his children the eighth, generation who have lived in the place he now occupies. His ancestor, Jacob Janse Schermerhorn, was one of the first settlers, who was born in 1662 in Waterland, Holland. He came to Beverwyck quite early in life, where he prospered as a brewer and trader. In 1648 he was arrested at Fort Orange, by order of Governor Stuyvesant, on a charge of selling arms and ammunition to the Indians. His books and papers were seized, and himself removed a prisoner to Fort Amsterdam, where he was sentenced to banishment for five years, with the confiscation of all his property. By the interference of some leading citizens the first part of his sentence was struck out, but his property was never recovered.

These severe proceedings against Schermerhorn formed subsequently a ground of complaint against Stuyvesant to the States General. Nothing daunted by his misfortunes he began anew, and before his death, in 1689, acquired a large property for the times. He made his will May 20, 1688, and the year following died at Schenectady, where he had resided for some years.

The following is the pedigree to the present:

Ryer, son of Jacob Janse; married Ariaantje, daughter of Arant Arentse Brodt, in July, 1676.

Jacobus, son of Ryer, born January 31, 1720; married Annatje P. Vrooman September 4, 1742. He died July 28, 1762; she died September 7, 1770. He was the great grand-father of S. J. Schermerhorn.

Annatje P. Vrooman was a daughter of Peter Vrooman, who was killed by the French and Indians at the Beukendaal massacre in the town of Glenville in 1690.

Johannes, son of Jacobus, married Catherine Bradt November 13, 1778, daughter of Jacobus Bradt, the owner and occupant of the old Bradt House. He died January 7, 1814, aged 48 years 11 months and 8 days.

Jacob I., son of Johannes and father of Simon J. Schermerhorn, married Maria Vedder. He died April 20, 1849 in his sixty-first year; she died

August 19, 1832, in her forty-fifth year, leaving six children, two boys and four girls: John J., Simon J., Catherine, Anna, Sarah, and Alida.

Simon J. Schermerhorn was married February 4, 1857, to Helen, daughter of Harmon Veeder, who died in Wostina, July 31, 1850, aged fifty-two years and six months. Mrs. Schermerhorn is deserving of special mention as an efficient worker in all the church interests coming within the range of her proper relations; and for her work's sake, and the spirit in which it is performed, is entitled to rank with "the honorable women." Their children are: Jacob Edwin, born October 12, 1858, and died January 12, 1861; Mary Veeder, born January 6, 1860; Sarah, born March 19, 1862; John, born July 12, 1863; Alice Augusta, born January 23, 1865; Andrew Truax, born December 7, 1866; Jacob I., born June 7, 1870, died July 29, 1870; Simon, born April 3, 1874.

The homestead originally purchased by Jacob Janse Schermerhorn has been occupied down to the present by his descendants for seven generations; and other lands of late have been purchased (about 50 acres) a part of which is from the Old Arent Bradt Estate, on which still stands, in an excellent state of preservation, the oldest building of the county, the Arent Bradt House, described in a separate paragraph in the history of this town.

The present farm is in a high state of cultivation. The barns and out-buildings are new, ample and well constructed. The dwelling, built in 1857, is of brick, of modern construction, and stands about 300 yards east of the Old Arent Bradt House, on a rise of ground near the bluff that rises about 100 feet above it to the Highlands rising toward the south. From the house is an excellent view of the Mohawk Valley and the country beyond, while itself stands also in full view of the City of Schenectady.

The family burying ground of four generations is about 200 yards east of the dwelling, but the fine cemetery adjoining the second Reformed Church of Rotterdam is now generally used.

Mr. Schermerhorn has held several important positions in the gift of the people. He was a war Democrat of persistent loyalty. He was elected unanimously a member of the State Assembly, 1862, and evinced a commendable zeal for the welfare of his country in that eventful time. He has been a member of the Board of Supervisors for three terms, and has served one term as School Commissioner.

So popular is Mr. Schermerhorn with his constituency, that he never had any opposition whenever he consented to be a candidate for office, and the people have sought and would have gladly given him many other positions of trust if he had consented, but his disinclination to office holding and love of home, has led him to decline many official honors. He has been an honored, and active and consistent member of the Second Reformed Church of Rotterdam for twenty-five years, and is one of its elders, a faithful Christian, and an upright and highly respected citizen.

SUMMER RESIDENCE OF DR. BACKUS.—Rev. J. Trumbull Backus, D. D., of 6 Union street, Schenectady, has a beautiful summer residence in Rotterdam, less than two miles southwest from the city. Its commanding position excites admiration. It stands upon the top of the bluff and near its edge, surrounded by a thin forest. The bluff rises about one hundred and fifty feet from the valley of the Mohawk, and is about half a mile from the river. It affords one of the finest natural prospects in the whole country. It has a fine view of the Mohawk Valley each way for several miles, and takes in the whole of the City of Schenectady. The view stretches out also across the river over Glenville and a part of Saratoga County; and, turning the gaze southward, the vision sweeps over the plains of Rotterdam and Guilderland beyond, and takes in the Grand Old Helderberghs and Catskill Mountains, while to the left loom up the Green Mountains of Vermont, and to the north a spur of the Adirondacks.

Dr. Backus was installed Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Schenectady December 6, 1832, and remained its popular and successful pastor until June 18, 1873; and now, like a shock of corn with golden hue, in the grand majesty of life's success, he waits "The Harvest Home."

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.—There are in the town of Rotterdam 14 school-houses, 14 districts, and as many teachers employed. The average cost of school-houses is $600. There are annually taught 822 scholars (beside many who attend the schools in Schenectady, that have superior advantages). The average price paid to teachers is $7.50 per week. C. W. Van Santvoord is School Commissioner.

TOWN OFFICERS.—Supervisor, John C. Myers; Justice of the Peace, Peter McGee; Assessor, Anthony Wallard: Collector, John J. Van Patten; Town Clerk, Willis Burdick; Coroner, Dr. Alex. Ennis, Pattersonville.

COUNTY OFFICERS.—(See Officers.)

THE BRADT FAMILY.

Nicholas A. Bradt was born in the old Arant Bradt House, near the first lock of the Erie Canal west of Schenectady, August 18, 1773, and died July 8, 1850. He married Margaret Mabee and they had two children: Abraham N., born August 16, 1793, who married Maria Vedder in 1819. They had six children: Margaret, Jemima, Nicholas, Simon, Sarah, and Harmanus.

Cornelius, the second son of Nicholas A., married Nancy Kerns in 1830, and they had six children: Margaret, Susan, Gazena, Nicholas, Rebecca, and Cornelius.

Nicholas, son of Abraham N., was born September 14, 1824, and married Hester Bradt in 1857, and lives on the old Woe-Stina Place, seven miles west of the City of Schenectady, near the round-house of the West Shore Railroad. Farm consists of one hundred and ten acres. He has seven children, named Maria, Helen, Abram, Frank, Maggie, Lizzie, and A. Vedder. Abram,

the last named son, owns the old family homestead of one hundred and fourteen acres, formerly owned by his great-great-grandfather, which adjoins that of his father's.

Francis Bradt was born in Niskayuna January 3, 1833, and was brought to Rotterdam by his parents and is a descendant of John A. Bradt, born March 9, 1770, and died July 14, 1846. He married Wilmot Mabee January 20, 1793, and she died in the eighty-seventh year of her age. They had six children: Cornelius, Abraham, Hester, Aaron, Sarah, Catherine and Frederick, the latter being the only one of the six now living. Aaron Bradt was born August 12, 1800, and died in the fifty-third year of his age. He married Eliza C. Vedder, February 15, 1832. Eliza C. Bradt is the sole survivor of a family of nine children and is in the seventy-ninth year of her age. Has had five children: Francis, Hester, Helen, John and Aaron.

Francis Bradt was born January 3, 1832. He married Maggie Veeder, November 18, 1874; had one child, Aaron J. Bradt, now in the seventh year of his age. Hester Bradt was born November 13, 1834, and married Nicholas Bradt November 28, 1857. Helen Bradt, born May 11, 1837, and died at the age of twenty-one years. John Bradt, born October 6, 1839, married M. Elenor Dorn December 28, 1871. Aaron B. Bradt, born May 24, 1841, married Catherine E. Gregg, 1867; had one child, Cora Bradt, now in the seventeenth year of her age.

Francis and John Bradt are now living on the farm purchased by their great-great-grandfather, Abraham Bradt, in 1765, of Peter Daniel Van Antwerp, containing about sixty acres, for $2,500. A few years after the purchase, produce brought a high price, but had to be sent to New York for market. Wheat was from $3 to $4 per bushel; peas, $2; etc.

The barn built by Abraham Bradt is still standing and in use, and stands as firm and solid as ever; the timbers and siding are of yellow pine, the shingles of white pine, three feet long and three-quarters of an inch thick and are still of good service; the nails were all made by hand, and are of wrought-iron. The barn is 40 x 60 and was built in 1775 and has cost the owners but a very small amount for repairs. The place is seven miles west of the City of Schenectady, in the Valley of the Mohawk.

THE DE FOREST FAMILY.

Jacob De Forest was born in Greenbush, Rensselaer County, N. Y., May 28, 1771, and died in Rotterdam, June, 1854.

He married Anna Lansing February 2, 1784, by whom he had five children: Cornelia, Jacob, Tennetta, Sarah, and Obadiah L.

He came to Rotterdam in 1807 and soon after his wife died. He married for his second wife Mary Wiley, July 30, 1808, by whom he had four children: Anna, John, Martin, and James.

Jacob De Forest, Jr., was born October 23, 1777, and married Ann Schermerhorn. They had nine children, four daughters and five sons. These five sons all enlisted in the Union army of the late civil war, and by their valor gained marked distinction. They are Colonel Jacob J. De Forest, now of Duanesburgh; S. De Forest, Quarter-master, now in Cleveland, Ohio; John De Forest, Lieutenant, deceased; William F. De Forest, now of San Francisco, Cal.; and Martin J. De Forest, now in the New York Post-office. He lost a leg in the war.

Martin De Forest, son of Jacob De Forest, of Rensselaer County, N. Y., whose residence is 31 Church street, Schenectady, is the agent of Hon. D. D. Campbell, of Rotterdam. His wife was Elizabeth M. Schermerhorn, daughter of Hon. Bartholomew Schermerhorn (deceased), late of the town of Rotterdam. They have had five children, two sons and three daughters. But two survive, viz., Mary, wife of Chas. N. Yates, and Catherine A., wife of Robert Moir, who is regarded by the community where he resides as a respectable and honorable business man.

Obadiah L. De Forest has been sheriff of Schenectady County, and his son Jacob has also held the same office. Another of his sons, Henry S., is at present Recorder of the City of Schenectady.

The De Forests are a highly respected family.

Halsted Close is a farmer and speculator known widely here and in the City of Schenectady. He was born in Clifton Park, Saratoga County. For five generations past the Close family have been prominent in the social and business interests of that town. Mr. Close was born in the year 1817. His father's name was Benjamin Close and his mother's maiden name was Sarah Morehouse. He came to Schenectady County in 1861, and engaged in mercantile pursuits. He established the present business of Stearns & Co., and sold to them in 1868. He opened the present business of Losee B. Close in State street—a flour and feed store, with a steam power for grinding. In this business he was financially successful. He married Phebe, daughter of Abram G. Losee, of Clifton Park. They have had four children: Mary E., deceased, who married Abram Vedder, of Glenville, and after her death Mr. Vedder married Mr. Close's second daughter, Samantha; Losee B. Close, grain merchant in State street; and Smith Close, Schenectady. Besides city property he owns farms in Rotterdam and in Saratoga County. Mr. Close's farm, where he lives, is in South Schenectady, and he is now taking an active part in developing a village at this point. He has founded a large hay barn beside the track of the Delaware and Hudson Railroad for buying and transportation, and he also has a coal-yard at the same place.

William H. Fogerty, of South Schenectady, is the proprietor of the Thompson House, a large and commodious hotel. He erected the Thompson House in the fall of 1883, and in the fall of 1884 added a hall for public purposes. It is used for religious services once in two weeks. Mr. Fogerty is a native of Montgomery County, born at Port Jackson, and is a son of James Fogerty,

deceased, and was for many years an employee of Colonel D. D. Campbell, He married Eliza, daughter of James Lockwood. His father, James Fogerty, married Maria, daughter of David J. Williams (deceased), of Montgomery County. He served in the war of 1812 under General Scott. He was at the battle of Plattsburgh in 1813. He was captured by the Indians and carried into Canada, but eventually returned. Mr. and Mrs. Fogerty have one daughter, Bessie.

ELIAS VAN WORMER, farmer, in the town of Rotterdam. He was born in the town of Guilderland, and is a son of Frederick Van Wormer and grandson of Abram Van Wormer. Frederick Van Wormer came to Rotterdam in the year 1828, and located on what is now the H. Veeder Farm. He brought with him four children: Harriet, Elias, Elizabeth and Abraham, who were born in Guilderland. Jacob, Frederick, Sarah J., Alexander and Mary were born in Rotterdam. He died in 1876. His wife's maiden name was Catharine Smith, of Rotterdam. She died in 1854.

JOHN M. VEEDER, near Pattersonville, is a farmer and fruit culturist. His farm of 150 acres adjoins the property of the First Reformed Church. The place was formerly owned by Mr. Veeder's father-in-law, Daniel Johnson, who for several years kept a hotel at this place. Mr. Veeder was four years Supervisor of his town. The West Shore Railroad and Erie Canal pass through his farm, which is bounded on the north by the Mohawk River. He is a descendant from the old Dutch families, as is indicated by his name.

JOHN M. QUICK was born in New Scotland, Albany County, November 20, 1809, and married March 24, 1836, to Martha M. Bradshaw, who was born in Duanesburgh December 29, 1809. He was a son of Gratus and Mary (McCoftry) Quick, natives of Rhinebeck, N. Y., who were of Scotch parents. He located and spent his life on the farm now owned and occupied by his son, George G., in Rotterdam, and died April 15, 1864. His wife died June 14, 1877. He had five children: George G., born December 25, 1843, who married Miss Sarah Thayer, of Seneca Falls, N. Y., June 7, 1848. They had three children: Martha M., Jennie M., and John C. Mary married E. Shufelt; Samuel W., born 1849, married Miss Hattie Darrow, born June 10, 1852, daughter of H. B. Darrow, who died in 1875. He owns and occupies the old Darrow homestead in Rotterdam. Has one son, Andrew, born July 20, 1878. John M. had three children, now deceased—William, Charlotte and James. Ruth married J. W. Clark, of Jackson County, Michigan.

SEBASTIAN PUTNAM is one of the thrifty farmers of Rotterdam, living on the road leading to Princetown, on the corner where the Fort Hunter road crosses, three miles from Schenectady. It is one of the situations ever admired by the passer-by. He is a son of John and Maggie (Vrooman) Putnam. John was born in the city of Schenectady August 31, 1780, and died May 1, 1881. His wife was born in Niskayuna March 17, 1787, and died December, 1830. They had seven sons and three daughters, of whom Sebastian, Oliver and Clarissa are all who now survive. Sebastian Putnam married Margaret, daughter of David Waddell (deceased), of Duanesburgh, and they have five children living: Mary A.; Maggie A., now Mrs. Franklin Schermerhorn, of Rotterdam; Sarah A., who is Mrs. Schermerhorn; Philip; Fordelia E. Other children—Erastus, David and Mary—are deceased.

Mr. Putnam's grandparents, Aaron and Elizabeth (Spinster) Putnam, were among the first settlers of Rotterdam; and his grandfather Vrooman, of Niskayuna.

PROMINENT RESIDENTS.

Pattersonville and vicinity, whose post-office is Pattersonville:

Rev. J. C. Low, Dr. Alex. Ennis, physician and surgeon; Thomas L. Marlette, grocer, etc.; Jacob Swart, wagon-maker; Jonathan Staley, farmer; William Staley, farmer; J. W. Briggs, farmer and grocer; John M. Veeder, farmer and Supervisor; Simon Veeder, farmer; Oliver Putnam, farmer; Thomas H. Trumbell, farmer; Nicholas Brodt, farmer; Francis Brodt, farmer; John Brodt, farmer; D. Schemerhorn, farmer; Tilfair C. Rynex, farmer, Rynex Corners.

Post-office in Schenectady:

J. Crawford, hotel and grocer; H. M. Aken, farmer, Supervisor, Justice of the Peace twenty years, a School Commissioner six year, and Justice of Sessions two years; John J. A. Schermerhorn, farmer; Aaron Becker, farmer; John P. McCue, farmer; N. M. F. Clute, farmer; A. J. Gregg, farmer; Harmon Van Slyck, farmer; Jno. S. Van Slyck, farmer; William Swanker, farmer; Edward S. Santer, farmer; John V. Van Patten, farmer; N. H. Van Potten, farmer; S. J. Schermerhorn, farmer, has been School Commissioner and Member of Assembly; John J. Schermerhorn, farmer; J. S. Schermerhorn, farmer; Ebenezer Schermerhorn, farmer; Daniel D. C. Schermerhorn, farmer; John A. Van Epps, farmer; William Phillips, farmer; Robert Schermerhorn, farmer; J. L. Countermine, farmer; John Putnam, farmer; John D. Ladd, clerk; John Valkenburgh, farmer; Samuel A. Brodt, farmer, has been School Commissioner and Supervisor; Willliam A. Wasson, farmer, has been Commissioner of Highways three years; William Osborne, hotel-keeper, five miles west of Schenectady; Adam Masser, hotel-keeper, two miles west of Schenectady; Hon. John D. Campbell, two miles west of the city; L. S. Hutchinson, hotel, two miles south of city; D. D. C. Van Pattan, hotel, two and one-half miles south of city; George W. Sigsbee, hotel, three miles south of city; W. H. Fogerty, hotel, South Schenectady; Spencer Moore (G. Westonhouse & Co.), one and one-half miles south of city; Thomas Bullock, farmer, two miles south of city; William Chambers, commercial traveler, two miles south of city; Colonel D. D. Campbell, gentleman and landholder, two miles south of city; Henry M. Chrisler, two and one-half miles south of city;

Nicholas I. Clute, two miles south of city; James Countermine, two and one-half miles southwest of city; George Fisher, three miles south of city; James Fisher, three miles south of city; George S. Hunt, three and one-half miles south of city; Solomon R. Bradshaw, three and one-half miles southwest of city; William Phillips, three and one-half miles southwest of city; James A. Rynex, four miles west of city; William T. Radcliffe, one mile south of city; George B. White, four miles south of city; William Scrafford, two miles south of city; James Turnbull, four miles west of city; William Vandyke, three miles south of city; H. C. Weast, five miles southwest of city; S. W. Quick, farmer, Rynex Corners.

We take pleasure in making mention of the following well-known citizens, who by their guaranteed support have helped to insure the publication of this valuable work: Nicholas Bradt, Francis Bradt, Abraham Bradt, Walter Bradshaw, D. D. Campbell, J. L. Countermine, N. M. F. Clute, Wm. H. Fogerty, Andrew Gregg, J. C. Low, John D. Ladd, T. L. Marlett, Sebastian Putman, W. H. Patterson, S. W. Quick, Tilfair C. Rynex, Simon J. Schermerhorn, Daniel D. C. Schermerhorn, John J. A. Schermerhorn, John J. Schermerhorn, John S. Schermerhorn, Robert Schermerhorn, Edward S. Santer, Jonathan Staley, William Staley, J. S. & H. Van Slyck, John M. Veeder, John A. Van Epps, Elias Van Wormer.